

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on April 10, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)  
Sen. John Cobb (R)  
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Greg Lind (D)  
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)  
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)  
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 830, 4/4/2007; HB 574, 4/4/2007;  
HB 8, 4/4/2007; HB 480, 4/4/2007;  
HB 9, 4/4/2007; SB 568, 4/4/2007

Executive Action: None.

00:00:01 Chairwoman Schmidt

**HEARING ON HB 830**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:03:06 **REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30**, opened the hearing on **HB 830**, Appropriate money for construction & maintenance of public buildings and systems.

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a01)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:27 Sen. Jim Peterson, SD 15

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a02)**

00:10:55 David Ewer, Budget Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

00:13:56 Tim Gill, Montana Livestock Agriculture Credit

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a03)**

00:16:53 Betty Babcock, Former Montana First Lady

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a04)**

00:19:28 Mick Robinson, Montana University System (MUS)

00:20:59 Rep. Brady Wiseman, HD 65

00:27:47 Dick Clark, State Chief Information Officer (CIO), Department of Administration (D of A)

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a05)**

00:29:52 Jeff Brandt, Deputy CIO, D of A

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a06)**

00:39:52 Mary Angela Collins, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a07)**

00:44:48 Lois Menzies, Court Administrator, Supreme Court

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a08)**

00:46:37 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority

00:48:06 Paul Reichert, Montana Heritage Commission

00:50:31 Mary Oliver, Montana Heritage Commission, et al

00:54:07 Rep. Diane Rice, HD 71

00:54:47 Matt Cohn, Montana History Foundation

00:55:19 Chere Jiusto, Montana Preservation Alliance

00:56:12 Kevin Olson, Montana Law Enforcement Academy

00:57:04 Mark Dempke, 911 and Communications Manager, Sanders County

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a09)**

01:01:18 Deb Matteucci, DPHHS, Department of Corrections (DOC)

01:04:35 Brad Talca, James Talca Construction, Great Falls

01:08:02 Ed Amberg, Director, Warm Springs State Hospital

01:13:27 Mary Phippen, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court, and Montana Magistrates' Association

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a10)**

01:14:57 Jim Kembel, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police, and Montana Police Protective Association

01:15:56 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

01:17:00 Chuck Lee, Fallon County Dispatch Center

01:21:28 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

- 01:22:02 Sue Clark, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- 01:22:54 Andy Poole, Deputy Director, Department of Commerce (D of Comm)
- 01:23:08 Jim Lynch, Department of Transportation (DOT)
- 01:23:44 Steve Pilcher, Montana Stockgrowers' Association
- 01:24:27 J.D. Lynch, Aquila Vision, Missoula
- 01:24:58 Ronda Wiggers, Great Falls and Helena Chambers of Commerce
- 01:25:35 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
- 01:26:06 Jim Cashell, Gallatin County Sheriff, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
- 01:26:55 Alan Michaels, Chief of Police, Glendive
- 01:29:35 Denver Henderson, Associated Students, University of Montana
- 01:30:48 Gail Abercrombie, Montana Contractors' Association, and for Montana Subcontractors Association
- 01:31:45 Bill Unger, Administrator, State Crime Laboratory
- 01:32:09 Mike Mahoney, Warden, Montana State Prison, Department of Corrections (DOC)
- 01:32:44 David Gibson, Qwest
- 01:33:22 Pat Keim, Montana Heritage Commission

**Opponents' Testimony:**

- 01:34:20 Anita Roessmann, Montana Advocacy Program

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a11)**

- 01:41:32 Geoffrey Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a12)**

- 01:55:55 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce
- 01:56:22 Jay Preston, Ronan Telephone Company

01:57:58 Phil Maxwell, 3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

**Proponents Testimony:**

02:01:32 Evan Barrett, Office of Economic Development,  
Governor's Office

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a13)**

**Informational Testimony:**

02:08:06 Gary Evans, Vision Net

02:11:48 Amy Carlson, Governor's Budget Office (OBPP)

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a14)**

02:14:31 Tom O'Connell, State Architect, Architecture and  
Engineering Division, Department of Administration  
(D of A)

02:15:14 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division, LFD

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:20:00 Sen. Barkus to Mick Robinson, MUS

02:24:06 Sen. Barkus to Deb Matteucci, DPHHS/DOC

02:25:21 Sen. Barkus to Dick Clark, D of A

02:28:22 Sen. Brueggeman to Dick Clark, D of A

02:31:06 Sen. Laible to Cathy Duncan, LFD

02:32:53 Sen. Laible to Dick Clark, D of A

02:33:35 Sen. Laible to Jeff Brandt, D of A

02:43:07 Sen. Bales to Jeff Brandt, D of A

02:47:45 Sen. Lewis to Jeff Brandt, D of A

02:48:08 Sen. Brueggeman to Jeff Brandt, D of A

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:50:23 Rep. Kasten

**HEARING ON HB 574**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:56:58 **REP. CYNTHIA HINER (D), HD 85**, opened the hearing on **HB 574**, Assist Deer Lodge in rebuilding Rialto theater.

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a15)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:00:10 Rep. John Ward, HD 84  
03:01:48 Steve Owens, Board of Directors, Rialto Theater  
03:04:04 Lee A. Jewell, Board of Directors, Rialto Theater  
03:08:15 Lana Durn, student  
03:09:27 Matt Blair, student  
03:10:43 Gail Mizner, Board of Directors, Rialto Theater  
03:14:16 Chere Jiusto, Montana Preservation Alliance  
03:16:54 Mike Mahoney, Concerned Citizen  
03:17:23 Gail Lambert, Concerned Citizen  
03:17:50 Ron Mjelde, Board Member, Rialto Theater  
03:20:04 Sen. Dave Lewis, SD 42, and for Sen. Jesse Laslovich,  
SD 43

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

03:21:10 Rolene Schliesman, Montana Historical Society

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:22:52 Rep. Hiner

**HEARING ON HB 8**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:23:19 **REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30**, opened the hearing on **HB 8**, Renewable resource bonds and loans.

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a16)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:26:11 Ray Beck, Administrator, Conservation and Resource Development Program, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

03:26:55 John Tubbs, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC

03:27:41 Annemarie Robinson, Bear Paw Development, and Rocky Boy North Central Water Systems

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a17)**

03:29:47 Clint Jacobs, Manager of Dry Prairie Rural Water Project

03:32:05 Steve Wade, Montana Rural Water Systems

03:32:42 Gary MacDonald, Roosevelt County Commissioner

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

03:33:29 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division, LFD

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:33:44 Sen. Tropila to Ray Beck, DNRC

03:34:28 Sen. Tropila to John Tubbs, DNRC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:35:39 Rep. Kasten

**HEARING ON HB 480**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:36:41 **REP. BOB LAKE (R), HD 88**, opened the hearing on **HB 480**, Fund restoration and maintenance of Daly mansion.

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a18)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:41:20 Sharon Schroeder, President, Daly Mansion Preservation Trust

03:43:32 Kim Morris, Executive Director, Daly Mansion

03:44:58 Ed Bartlett, Travel Industry Association of Montana

03:45:46 Pat Keim, Daly Mansion Project

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:46:44 Rep. Lake

**HEARING ON HB 9**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:48:09 **REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30**, opened the hearing on **HB 9**, Cultural and aesthetic grants.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:48:59 Ellen Crain, Montana Cultural Trust

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a19)**

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a20)**

03:51:28 Arnie Fishbaugh, Montana Arts Council

03:53:23 Denise King, Montana Historical Society

03:54:21 Alan R. Scott, Helena Symphony

03:56:39 Kathy Bramer, Helena Symphony Board of Directors

04:01:17 Jacqueline Lenmark, Montana Cultural Advocacy

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

04:04:22 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division, LFD

04:05:51 Kristin Hanburgoyne, Montana Arts Council

04:06:07 Carleen Layne, Montana Arts Council

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

04:06:42 Rep. Kasten

**HEARING ON SB 568**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

04:08:41 **SEN. DAVID WANZENRIED (D), SD 49**, opened the hearing on **SB 568**, Provide for certain fund transfers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

04:10:27 Judy Smith, HomeWORD

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a21)**

04:14:40 Michael O'Neil, Montana Home Choice Coalition

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a22)**

04:18:22 Sheila Rice, Montana Homeownership Network

04:21:25 Jim Morton, Montana Human Resource Development Council Directors' Association

04:22:05 Mary McCue, Human Resource Development Council

04:23:31 Maureen Martin, Section 8 Housing, Department of Commerce (D of Comm)

**EXHIBIT (fcs75a23)**

04:24:05 Stewart Doggett, Montana Manufactured Housing and RV Dealers

04:24:32 Claudia Clifford, Associate Director, AARP Montana

04:24:53 Glenn Oppel, Montana Association of Realtors

04:25:09 Tim Davis, Montana Smart Growth Coalition

04:25:43 Olivia Riutta, Working for Economic Equality and Liberation (WEEL)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

04:26:33 Matthew Rude, Montana Board of Housing (MBH),  
Department of Commerce (D of Comm)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

04:27:06 Sen. Laible to Matthew Rude, MBH -D of Comm

**Closing by Sponsor:**

04:28:18 Sen. Wanzenried

**RECESS**

Recess: 12:40 P.M.

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SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

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PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fcs75aad.pdf](#))**