

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chairman Mike Milburn, on March 9, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Milburn, Chairman (R)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Gerald Bennett (R)
Rep. Anders Blewett (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. Tom McGillvray (R)
Rep. Mike Menahan (D)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Shirley Chovanak, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, 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: SB 107, 3/4/2009; SB 113, 3/4/2009;
SB 111, 3/4/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:03 Chairman Milburn
00:01:51 Rep. Vincent
00:03:10 Chairman Milburn
00:03:25 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:03:38 Joe Kolman, Legislative Fiscal Division

00:03:57 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Pomnichowski moved to **CREATE A COMMITTEE BILL** based on **HB 14**. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Reps. Mendenhall, Van Dyk, Reinhart, and Dickenson voted by proxy.

HEARING ON SB 107

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:06:20 Sen. Dave Lewis (R), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 107, Require training on mechanized fuels reduction and fire suppression equipment.

EXHIBIT (nah52a01)

00:03:00 Rep. Dickenson arrived.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:13:01 Janice Grosfield, Drummond, Montana Logging Association (MLA)

00:17:08 Richard Grady, Rancher

EXHIBIT (nah52a02)

00:19:46 Jason Todhunter, MLA

00:21:09 Sen. Jim Keane, SD 38, Butte

00:21:44 Sen. Rick Ripley, SD 9, Wolf Creek

00:21:55 Gary Weist, Get 'Er Done Wiest, LLC

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:24:48 Bob Harrington, Forestry Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:27:21 Butch Weeden, Director, Fire Service Training School

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:03 Rep. Dickenson

00:28:31 Mr. Weist

00:30:30 Rep. Mendenhall arrived.

00:31:30 Rep. Dickenson

00:32:03 Mr. Weist

00:32:50 Rep. Hands
00:33:11 Sen. Lewis
00:33:27 Rep. Hands
00:33:39 Sen. Lewis
00:34:43 Rep. Hands
00:35:03 Sen. Lewis
00:35:05 Rep. Hands
00:35:13 Sen. Lewis
00:35:53 Rep. Hands
00:36:24 Mr. Harrington
00:37:32 Rep. Hands
00:37:46 Mr. Harrington
00:38:22 Rep. Hands
00:38:45 Mr. Harrington
00:39:11 Rep. Vincent
00:40:18 Mr. Harrington
00:42:52 Rep. Vincent
00:43:07 Mr. Harrington
00:44:44 Rep. McGillvray
00:45:06 Sen. Lewis
00:45:56 Rep. McGillvray
00:46:08 Sen. Lewis
00:46:58 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:47:33 Mr. Weeden
00:47:57 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:48:15 Mr. Weeden
00:48:38 Rep. Pomnichoski
00:49:25 Sen. Lewis
00:49:53 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:50:30 Mr. Harrington
00:52:53 Rep. Miller
00:53:15 Mr. Harrington
00:53:50 Rep. Hoven
00:54:32 Mr. Weist
00:55:33 Rep. Hoven
00:55:40 Mr. Weist
01:00:07 Rep. Hoven
01:00:29 Mr. Harrington
01:00:30 Rep. Reinhart arrived.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:37 Sen. Lewis
[EXHIBIT \(nah52a03\)](#)

HEARING ON SB 111

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:03:13 Sen. Rick Ripley (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 111, Clarifying DNRC initial wildland fire attack authority.

EXHIBIT (nah52a04)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:04:56 Richard VanAuken, Teton County

01:06:28 Mr. Todhunter

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:07:14 Mr. Harrington

EXHIBIT (nah52a05)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:10:32 Rep. Hoven
01:11:08 Mr. Harrington
01:11:39 Rep. Vincent
01:12:45 Mr. Harrington
01:15:35 Rep. Vincent
01:16:23 Mr. Harrington
01:17:52 Rep. Reinhart
01:18:16 Sen. Ripley
01:19:02 Rep. Reinhart
01:19:22 Mr. Harrington
01:19:53 Rep. Reinhart
01:20:08 Mr. Harrington
01:20:31 Sen. Reinhart
01:20:40 Mr. Harrington
01:21:06 Rep. Hendrick
01:21:34 Mr. Harrington
01:22:32 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:23:11 Mr. Harrington
01:24:05 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:24:29 Mr. Harrington
01:25:37 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:26:14 Mr. Harrington
01:27:04 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:27:17 Mr. Harrington

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:57 Sen. Ripley

01:28:25 Chairman Milburn

HEARING ON SB 113

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:29:53 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 113, State land fuel reduction pilot program.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:32:47 Mr. Grady

01:35:53 Mr. Todhunter

01:36:37 Ms. Grosfield

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:37:51 Tom Schultz, DNRC

01:38:37 Mr. Harrington

01:40:00 Rep. Van Dyk arrived.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:40:09 Rep. Dickenson

01:40:33 Mr. Harrington

01:40:58 Rep. Vincent

01:41:16 Mr. Harrington

01:42:05 Rep. Vincent

01:42:28 Mr. Harrington

01:42:44 Rep. Hoven

01:43:02 Mr. Harrington

01:43:58 Rep. Hoven

01:44:06 Mr. Harrington

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:06 Sen. Keane

01:48:01 Chairman Milburn

01:48:15 Rep. Pomnichowski

01:50:15 Chairman Milburn

01:50:21 Rep. Cohenour

01:50:33 Mr. Kolman

01:50:50 Chairman Milburn

ADJOURNMENT

01:51:04 Adjournment: 4:55 P.M.

Shirley Chovanak, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([nah52aad.pdf](#))