

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chairman Mike Jopek, on March 31, 2009 at 3:24
P.M., in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Jopek, Chairman (D)
Rep. Julie French, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. David Howard (R)
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)
Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D)
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)
Rep. Bob Wagner (R)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Rep. Edward B. Butcher, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Timothy Furey (D)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, Committee Secretary

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 343, 3/27/2009

Executive Action: None

00:01:44 Rep. Regier, Rep. Butcher, and Rep. Furey joined the committee.

HEARING ON SB 343**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:15 Sen. Verdell Jackson (R), SD 5, opened the hearing on SB 343, Regulation of zebra mussel and other invasive species.

EXHIBIT (agh71a01)

00:03:03 Chairman Jopek left the committee and turned the gavel over to Vice Chairwoman French.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:51 Ron de Yong, Director, Department of Agriculture

EXHIBIT (agh71a02)

00:17:25 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

00:18:06 Jeff Tiberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Water Districts; Montana Association of Conservation Districts

00:18:46 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association; Montana Farm Union

00:19:49 Ariel Overstreet, Montana Stockgrowers Association; Montana Cattle Women, Inc.

00:20:13 Jan Metzmaker, President, Whitefish County Water and Sewer District; Flathead Basin Commission

00:20:45 Cyndy Andrus, Tourism Advisory Council

EXHIBIT (agh71a03)

00:22:20 Chris Hunter, Fisheries Division Administrator, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT (agh71a04)

00:23:24 Pam Bucy, Confederation Salish and Kootenai Tribes

00:23:39 Tom Ebzery, Avista Corporation; Trout Unlimited

00:24:49 Mark Lambrecht, PPl Montana, LLC

00:25:42 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

00:26:12 Casey Perkins, Montana Audubon

00:26:29 Caryn Miske, Executive Director, Flathead Basin Commission; Clark Fork River Basin Task Force

EXHIBIT (agh71a05)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:27:24 Mark Reller, Bonneville Power Administration
00:31:00 Chairman Jopek joined the committee. Vice Chairwoman French returned the gavel to Chairman Jopek.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:31:16 Rep. Howard
00:31:41 Mr. Hunter
00:31:57 Doctor Eileen Ryce, Aquatic Species Coordinator, FWP
00:33:05 Rep. Howard
00:33:14 Ms. Ryce
00:34:41 Rep. Wagner
00:35:15 Mr. de Yong
00:36:31 Rep. Wagner
00:37:09 Mr. de Yong
00:37:40 Rep. Regier
00:38:54 Sen. Jackson
00:40:05 Rep. Butcher
00:40:55 Ms. Ryce
00:42:32 Rep. Butcher
00:42:46 Ms. Ryce
00:43:06 Rep. French
00:43:29 Sen. Jackson
00:43:34 Rep. French
00:43:47 Sen. Jackson
00:44:00 Rep. French
00:44:11 Sen. Jackson
00:44:45 Rep. McClafferty
00:45:08 Ms. Ryce
00:45:55 Rep. Howard
00:46:20 Sen. Jackson
00:47:46 Rep. Howard
00:48:02 Sen. Jackson
00:49:01 Rep. Fleming
00:49:49 Mr. de Yong
00:50:17 Ms. Ryce
00:52:19 Chairman Jopek

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:26 Sen. Jackson
00:53:29 Chairman Jopek
00:53:44 Sen. Jackson
00:54:00 Chairman Jopek

00:55:02 Rep. Dickenson
00:55:23 Chairman Jopek
00:55:46 Rep. Dickenson
00:55:57 Chairman Jopek
00:56:01 Rep. Furey
00:56:05 Chairman Jopek

ADJOURNMENT

00:56:15 Adjournment: 4:20 P.M.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT (agh71a06) Testimony supporting SB 343

EXHIBIT (agh71a07) Information pertaining to SB 286

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT (agh71aad.pdf)