

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Gordon R. Hendrick, on January 26, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick, Chair (R)
Rep. Betsy Hands, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)
Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)
Rep. Pat Connell (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Alan Hale (R)
Rep. Bill Harris (R)
Rep. Cleve J. Loney (R)
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lauren Head, 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: HB 121, 1/21/2011; HB 260, 1/21/2011

HEARING ON HB 121**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 00:02:28 Rep. Betsy Hands (D), HD 99, opened the hearing on HB 121, Creating a coal development protection program with a statutory appropriation.
- 00:02:48 Rep. Warburton joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

- 00:06:17 Mike Volesky, Governor representative
- 00:10:00 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Opponents' Testimony:

- 00:11:22 Brenda Lindlief-Hall, Tongue River Water Users Association
[EXHIBIT\(nah20a01\)](#)
- 00:16:40 Julia Page, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
- 00:21:17 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony:

- 00:24:36 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council (MCC)
[EXHIBIT\(nah20a02\)](#)
- 00:27:55 Todd O'Hair, Cloud Peak Energy

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

- 00:29:49 Rep. Loney
- 00:30:13 Mrs. Sexton
- 00:30:48 Rep. Loney
- 00:30:58 Mrs. Sexton
- 00:31:57 Rep. Harris
- 00:32:41 Mrs. Sexton
- 00:33:50 Rep. Harris
- 00:34:35 Mrs. Sexton
- 00:35:41 Rep. Bennett
- 00:36:06 Ms. Page
- 00:37:07 Rep. Bennett
- 00:37:14 Ms. Page
- 00:38:12 Rep. Bennett
- 00:38:30 Ms. Page
- 00:38:41 Rep. Barrett
- 00:39:36 Ms. Page
- 00:39:42 Rep. Barrett
- 00:40:14 Ms. Page
- 00:41:19 Rep. Reinhart

00:41:47 Ms. Lindlief-Hall
00:42:15 Rep. Reinhart
00:42:35 Mr. Clinch
00:43:58 Rep. Reinhart
00:44:21 Rep. Miller joined the meeting.
00:44:22 Mr. Clinch
00:44:49 Rep. Reinhart
00:45:05 Mr. Clinch
00:45:33 Rep. Harris
00:45:55 Mr. O'Hair
00:46:08 Rep. Harris
00:46:53 Mr. O'Hair
00:47:37 Rep. Williams
00:48:01 Ms. Lindlief-Hall
00:48:05 Rep. Williams
00:48:24 Ms. Lindlief-Hall

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:55 Rep. Hands

HEARING ON HB 260

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:52:06 Rep. Tom Burnett (R), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 260, Revise state spending for wildland fire suppression.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:56:37 Patrick Heffernan, Montana Wood Products Association (MWPA)
01:06:02 Rich VanAuken, Teton County

Informational Testimony:

01:09:21 Mary Sexton, DNRC
[EXHIBIT\(nah20a03\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(nah20a04\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:18:30 Rep. Barrett
01:20:34 Rep. Burnett
01:22:01 Rep. Barrett
01:22:30 Rep. Burnett
01:22:56 Rep. Connell
01:24:31 Mrs. Sexton

01:24:52 Rep. Connell
01:25:51 Mrs. Sexton
01:26:15 Rep. Connell
01:26:47 Mrs. Sexton
01:27:13 Rep. Harris
01:27:38 Rep. Hands left the meeting.
01:27:55 Mrs. Sexton
01:28:36 Rep. Harris
01:29:00 Mrs. Sexton
01:30:01 Rep. Harris
01:30:22 Mrs. Sexton
01:30:55 Rep. Hoven
01:31:34 Mrs. Sexton
01:32:00 Rep. Miller
01:32:28 Mrs. Sexton
01:33:05 Chairman Hendrick
01:33:49 Rep. Burnett
01:34:17 Chairman Hendrick
01:34:29 Rep. Hands rejoined the meeting.
01:34:42 Rep. Bennett left the meeting.
01:34:45 Rep. Burnett
01:35:37 Rep. Barrett
01:36:01 Rep. Bennett rejoined the meeting.
01:36:07 Mrs. Sexton
01:36:36 Rep. Barrett
01:36:49 Rep. Loney
01:37:04 Mrs. Sexton
01:37:58 Rep. Loney
01:38:09 Mrs. Sexton
01:38:41 Rep. Williams
01:39:27 Rep. Burnett
01:40:50 Rep. Williams
01:41:03 Vice Chair Hoven
01:41:52 Mrs. Sexton
01:42:32 Vice Chairman Hoven
01:42:36 Mrs. Sexton

Closing by Sponsor:

01:43:21 Rep. Burnett
EXHIBIT(nah20a05)
01:45:31 Chairman Hendrick
01:46:15 Mr. Kolman

ADJOURNMENT

01:48:04 Adjournment:

Lauren Head, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah20aad.pdf](#))