

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Debby Barrett, on March 16, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Debby Barrett, Chairman (R)
Sen. Greg Hinkle, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kevin McCue, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 481, 3/14/2011; HB 568, 3/14/2011

Executive Action: HB 568 - Be concurred in
HB 481 - Be concurred in
HB 352 - Be concurred in as amended

HEARING ON HB 481

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:11 Rep. Tony Belcourt (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 481, Revise state land laws for regional water systems.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:32 Steve Wade, lobbyist, Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority (DPRWA) and North Central Montana Regional Water Authority (NCRMWA)

EXHIBIT(nas59a01)

00:05:13 Jeff Tiberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

00:05:36 Gary Amestoy, lobbyist, Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority

00:07:48 Melissa Lewis, lobbyist, City of Shelby

00:08:49 Mike Murphy, lobbyist, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:50 ____ Rep. Belcourt

HEARING ON HB 568

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:11:05 Rep. Bob Wagner (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 568, Privatize state-owned cataract dam project.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:33 Larry Young, Cataract Water Users Association (CWUA)

00:19:13 Todd Brennan, Cataract Water Users Association (CWUA)

00:20:38 Diane Rice, self, and on behalf of Bill Jackson, Dave Maichel, Brian Ohs, and Lezlie Kinney, Water Commissioner, Willow Creek Water Storage Project

00:23:37 Tim Davis, Water Resources Administrator, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:25:09 John Bloomquist, lobbyist, Cataract Water Users Association (CWUA)

00:26:54 Robert Sitz, Cataract Water Users Association (CWUA)
 00:27:12 Barry Rice, Vice President, Cataract Water Users Association (CWUA)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:17 Sen. Kaufmann
 00:28:43 Mr. Davis, DNRC
 00:29:57 Sen. Larsen
 00:30:17 Mr. Young
 00:30:49 Sen. Tropila
 00:31:00 Mr. Davis
 00:31:32 Sen. Hamlett
 00:32:02 Mr. Davis
 00:32:45 Sen. Brenden
 00:33:03 Mr. Bloomquist, CWUA
 00:36:31 Sen. Barrett

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:41 Rep. Wagner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 568

00:42:39 **Motion:** Sen. Tropila moved that **HB 568 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:43:05 Sen. Barrett

00:43:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keane, Sen. Peterson, Sen. Vincent and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy. Sen. Barrett will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 481

00:44:10 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Brenden moved that **HB 481 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Keane, Sen. Peterson, Sen. Vincent and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy. Sen. Brenden will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 352

00:45:18 **Motion:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **HB 352 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:45:26 Ms. Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:45:42 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **HB 352 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 13-1 by voice vote with Sen. Wanzenried voting no. Sen. Keane, Sen. Peterson, Sen. Vincent and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT(nas59a02)

00:46:35 **Motion:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **HB 352 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:46:51 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:47:05 Ms. Nowakowski

00:47:40 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Kaufmann, Sen. Keane, Sen. Steinbeisser, Sen. Tropila and Sen. Wanzenried voting no. Sen. Keane, Sen. Peterson, Sen. Vincent and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy. Sen. Peterson will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

00:49:44

Kevin McCue, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas59aad.pdf](#))