

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Keith Regier, on March 6, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Keith Regier, Chair (R)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Tom Berry (R)  
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)  
Rep. Roger A. Hagan (R)  
Rep. Doug Kary (R)  
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Mike Lang (R)  
Rep. David (Doc) Moore (R)  
Rep. Rae Peppers (D)  
Rep. Tom Steenberg (D)  
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)  
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Molly Miltenberger, Committee Secretary  
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

**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: SJ 6, 3/6/2013; SB 92, 2/19/2013; HB 540, 2/19/2013; HB 575, 2/19/2013

00:06:22 Chair Regier

**HEARING ON SJ 6**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:07:54 Sen. Alan Olson (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SJ 6, Interim study of the impacts of Montana's renewable portfolio standard.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:10:39 Kyla Maki, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)  
00:13:41 Matt Elsaesser, Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment Foundation (SAVE)  
00:14:15 Art Noonan, Northwest Energy (NWE)  
00:16:50 Jeff Fox, Montana Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project (RNP)  
00:18:35 Clayton Elliott, Members of the Northern Plains Resource Council (Northern Plains)  
00:19:30 Ben Brouwer, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)  
00:19:56 Steve Tyrrel, President, Montana Wind Resources  
00:21:33 Sam Thompson, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:22:44 Sen. Olson

**HEARING ON SB 92**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:23:27 Sen. Alan Olson (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 92, Revise strip and underground mining laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:25:04 Chris Yde, Program Supervisor, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
[EXHIBIT\(feh48a01\)](#)  
00:29:45 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council  
00:31:11 Bob Gilbert, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:31:35 Clayton Elliott, Members of the Northern Plains Resource Council (Northern Plains)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:34:37 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:35:16 Rep. Boland  
00:35:46 Mr. Yde, DEQ  
00:36:26 Rep. Boland  
00:36:48 Mr. Yde, DEQ  
00:37:27 Chair Regier  
00:37:40 Mr. Elliott, Northern Plains

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:41:10 Sen. Olson  
  
00:41:12 Meeting recessed.  
00:42:45 Meeting resumed.

**HEARING ON HB 540**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:43:02 Rep. Steve Lavin (R), HD 8, opened the hearing on HB 540, Revise state emergency system laws to distribute unrecovered funds.

**EXHIBIT(feh48a02)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:45:19 Chris Lounsbury, Director, Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Missoula County

**EXHIBIT(feh48a03)**

00:52:24 Jean Curtiss, Commissioner, Missoula County  
00:53:53 Kevin Myhre, City Manager, Lewistown  
00:56:09 Gary MacDonald, Roosevelt County  
00:57:26 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officer Association (MSPOA)  
00:58:59 Larry Epstein, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police (MACOP)  
00:59:44 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:03:15 Bonnie Lorang, General Manager, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS)

**EXHIBIT(feh48a04)**

**EXHIBIT(feh48a05)**

01:14:38 Bill Wade, General Manager, Midriver Communications  
01:16:25 Erin Lutts, Midriver Communications  
01:20:08 Lisa Shea, Cellular One  
01:23:39 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive, Dawson County

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:25:43 Rep. Boland  
01:25:52 Ms. Shea  
01:26:41 Rep. Boland  
01:26:59 Ms. Lorang, MITS

01:29:22 Rep. Boland  
01:29:53 Rep. Lang  
01:30:36 Ms. Lorang, MITS

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:34:04 Rep. Lavin

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a06\)](#)

**HEARING ON HB 575**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:35:59 Rep. Tom Berry (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 575, Generally revise 9-1-1 laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:38:27 Bonnie Lorang, General Manager, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a09\)](#)

02:03:01 Bill Wade, General Manager, Midriver Communications

02:06:48 Gary MacDonald, Roosevelt County

02:07:58 Erin Lutts, Midriver Communications

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a10\)](#)

02:15:08 Kevin Myhre, City Manager, Lewistown

02:18:28 Ron Devlin, Fallon County

02:20:16 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive, Dawson County

02:23:40 Leo Dutton, Sheriff, Lewis and Clark County, Chairman, Statewide Mobile Data Terminal (MDT)

02:27:58 Joseph Sands, Professional Firefighters

02:29:07 Lisa Shea, Cellular One

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:29:36 Geoff Feiss, General Manager, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

02:40:16 Chris Lounsbury, Director, Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Missoula County

02:42:31 Jean Curtiss, Commissioner, Missoula County

02:45:22 Linda Stoll, Customer, Verizon Wireless

02:48:33 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:51:10 Rep. O'Hara

02:51:31 Ms. Lorang, MITS

02:57:38 Chair Regier

02:57:44 Ms. Lorang, MITS

02:58:17 Rep. Zolnikov

02:59:48 Ms. Stoll

02:59:59 Rep. Zolnikov

03:00:14 Ms. Stoll  
03:00:42 Rep. Moore  
03:01:02 Ms. Lorang, MITS  
03:01:49 Rep. Moore  
03:02:00 Ms. Lorang, MITS  
03:03:17 Rep. Boland  
03:03:49 Rep. Steenberg  
03:04:35 Ms. Lorang, MITS  
03:05:16 Rep. Steenberg  
03:05:38 Ms. Lorang, MITS  
03:06:15 Rep. Kary  
03:06:45 Mr. Feiss, MTA  
03:07:07 Rep. Kary  
03:07:13 Mr. Feiss, MTA  
03:08:05 Chair Regier  
03:08:22 Mr. Feiss, MTA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:10:48 Rep. Berry

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 551**

03:12:53 Chair Regier

**[EXHIBIT\(feh48a11\)](#)**

03:13:30 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. O'Hara moved that **HB 551 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Hagan and Rep. McNally voted by proxy.

**Discussion**

03:14:16 Rep. Swanson

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 03:14:38

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Molly Miltenberger, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([feh48aad.pdf](#))**