

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

**Call to Order:** Chair Rick Ripley, on April 11, 2013 at 8:00 AM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Rick Ripley, Chair (R)  
Sen. Edward Walker, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. John Brenden (R)  
Sen. Taylor Brown (R)  
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)  
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)  
Sen. Jim Keane (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)  
Sen. Alan Olson (R)  
Sen. Jason Priest (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)  
Sen. Roger Webb (R)

##### **Members Excused:**

Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)  
Sen. Llew Jones (R)  
Sen. Matthew M. Rosendale Sr (R)  
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)  
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch  
Taryn Purdy, 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 354, 4/8/2013; HB 378, 4/8/2013; HB 420, 4/8/2013; HB 565, 4/8/2013; HB 586, 4/8/2013; HB 599, 4/6/2013; HB 625, 4/6/2013; HB 627, 4/6/2013; HB 633, 4/6/2013

**HEARING ON HB 354**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:25:01 Rep. Pat Connell (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 354, Establish a wildfire project suppression fund.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:28:19 Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:29:18 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:29:53 Rep. Connell  
00:30:17 Bob Harrington, State Forester, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:31:51 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:32:03 Mr. Harrington, DNRC  
00:33:29 Sen. Keane  
00:33:47 Ms. Sassano, OBPP  
00:37:07 Sen. Keane  
00:37:45 Rep. Connell  
00:38:01 Sen. Keane  
00:38:09 Sen. Rosendale entered the meeting.  
00:38:19 Sen. Webb  
00:38:40 Rep. Connell  
00:39:34 Sen. Lewis  
00:39:52 Rep. Connell  
00:40:21 Sen. Lewis  
00:40:31 Sen. Olson  
00:40:55 Ms. Sassano  
00:41:07 Sen. Hamlett  
00:41:31 Rep. Connell

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:42:20 Rep. Connell

**HEARING ON HB 378**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:43:17 Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 378, Provide for inflation, increase basic ent., & per ANB payment.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:44:39 Nancy Hall, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:44:53 Rep. McClafferty

**HEARING ON HB 420**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:45:14 Rep. Daniel Salomon (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 420, Fund food and agricultural development centers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:47:00 Paul Tuss, Executive Director, Bear Paw Development Corporation (BPDC) and Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

00:48:16 Sen. Buttrey and Sen. Sesso entered the meeting.

00:49:39 Tiffany Melby, Bear Paw Development Corporation (BPDC)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a01\)](#)

00:50:01 Karen Powell, Triple Divide Spirits

[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a02\)](#)

00:55:06 Stephanie Laport Patts, representing herself

[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a03\)](#)

00:57:40 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana

[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a04\)](#)

00:59:41 Commissioner John Prinkki, Carbon County Commission

01:00:55 Jolene Bach , Great Falls Development Corporation (GFDC)

01:02:31 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:03:45 Sen. Tropila

01:03:59 Mr. Tuss, BPDC

01:05:08 Sen. Hamlett  
01:05:32 Ms. Bach, GFDC  
01:06:21 Sen. Hamlett  
01:06:46 Rep. Salomon

**Closing by Sponsor:**

1:06:59 Rep. Salomon

Sen. Sesso, Sen. Priest, Sen. Olson and Sen. Lewis left the meeting.

**HEARING ON HB 565**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:08:56 Rep. Kelly McCarthy (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 565, Establish a bioscience initiative.

01:11:53 Sen. Rosendale left the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:17:44 Dave Poulsen, Montana Bioscience Alliance (MBA)  
01:19:12 Aidan Myhre, Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK)  
01:20:34 Tom Ebzery, Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)  
01:21:14 Mike Foster, Catholic Hospitals

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:22:29 Rep. McCarthy

**HEARING ON HB 586**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:24:24 Rep. Mike Cuffe (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 586, Revise aquatic invasive species laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:32:46 Tim Baker, Natural Resource Advisor, Office of the Governor (GOV)  
01:33:51 Gary Spaeth, representing Jefferson County

**[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a05\)](#)**

01:36:32 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)  
01:36:55 George Golie, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)  
01:37:27 Tom Ebzery, Avista Corporation  
01:38:10 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
01:38:30 Bob Gilbert, Walleyes Unlimited of Montana, Citizens for Balanced Use  
01:39:52 Shelby DeMars, Montana Weed Control Association (MWCA)  
01:40:39 Mike Bolesky, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)  
01:41:38 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)  
01:42:17 Ray Beck, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a06\)](#)

01:43:42 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)  
01:44:33 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Conservation Districts (MCD)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:45:09 Sen. Brenden  
01:45:38 Sen. Olson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:45:50 Rep. Cuffe

### **HEARING ON HB 599**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:48:13 Rep. Joanne Blyton (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 599, Provide funding for road projects.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:51:15 Commissioner John Prinkki, Carbon County  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a07\)](#)

02:00:16 Rep. Duane Ankney, HD 43  
02:02:02 Jeff Schmidt, General Manager, Red Lodge Mountain  
[EXHIBIT\(fcs76a08\)](#)

02:05:08 Bob Gilbert, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties (MAOGCC)  
02:05:59 Ed Bartlett, Billings Area Chamber of Commerce  
02:06:14 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

02:09:57 Lynn Zanto, Montana Department of Transportation (DOT)  
02:13:32 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Transportation (DOT)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:13:40 Sen. Keane  
02:14:47 Mr. Flynn, DOT  
02:15:34 Sen. Keane  
02:15:48 Mr. Flynn  
02:15:57 Sen. Brenden  
02:16:11 Mr. Flynn  
02:16:25 Sen. Lewis  
02:18:20 Commissioner Prinkki, CCC  
02:20:38 Sen. Keane  
02:21:04 Ms. Zanto, DOT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:21:27 Rep. Blyton

**HEARING ON HB 625**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:23:59 Rep. Duane Ankney (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 625, Implementing the provisions of House Bill 2.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:25:08 Kathy McGowan, Montana Mental Health Centers (MMHC)  
02:25:32 Rose Hughes, Montana Health Care Association (MHCA)  
02:26:01 Erin McGowan-Finchum, Montana Children's Initiative (MCI)  
02:27:27 Mike Foster, Montana Catholic Hospitals and for Billings Clinic  
02:28:04 Bill Warden, Billings Deaconess Hospital, Benefis Healthcare, St. Peter's Hospital

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:28:36 Rep. Ankney

**HEARING ON HB 627**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:29:28 Rep. Ryan Osmundson (R), HD 29, opened the hearing on HB 627, Establish worker training and economic development accounts.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:31:06 Diana Ferriter, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

**Informational Testimony:**

02:37:00 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:37:13 Sen. Tropila

02:37:31 Ms. Wilkinson, LFD

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:38:00 Rep. Osmundson

**HEARING ON HB 633**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:38:29 Rep. Ron Ehli (R), HD 88, opened the hearing on HB 633, Provide for an interim select committee on efficiency in government.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:42:49 Sen. John Sonju, HD 4

02:47:08 Jeff Feiss, General Manager, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

02:48:03 Erin McGowan-Fincham, Montana Children's Initiative (MCI)

02:49:26 Bill Warden, Billings Deaconess Hospital, Benefis Healthcare, St. Peter's Hospital

02:50:36 Janie McCall, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch and Intermountain

02:52:47 Mike Foster, Montana Catholic Hospitals and Billings Clinic

02:53:46 Kathy McGowan, Montana Community Mental Health Centers (MCMHC) and Montana Advocates for Children (MAC)

02:54:53 Rose Hughes, Montana Healthcare Association (MHA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:56:34 Sen. Buttrey  
02:57:40 Sen. Sonju  
02:59:12 Sen. Caferro  
02:59:44 Sen. Sonju

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:01:31 Rep. Ehli

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:45 A.M.

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Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([fcs76aad.pdf](#))**