

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on February 16, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Ed Lieser, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Sherri Row, 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: HJ 17, 2/11/2015; HR 2, 2/11/2015; SB 188, 2/11/2015

00:00:08 Chairman White
 00:02:09 Chas Van Genderen, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
 00:04:28 Rep. Noland arrived
 00:04:50 Maren Murphy, Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(nah35a01)

00:10:50 Mary Sexton, Parks Board
 00:14:52 Chas Van Genderen, FWP
 00:19:21 Rep. Regier arrived
 00:20:44 Chariman White
 00:22:48 Chas Van Genderen, FWP
 00:24:08 Rep. Shaw
 00:24:15 Chas Van Genderen, FWP
 00:25:02 Chairman White
 00:25:17 Chas Van Genderen, FWP
 00:25:21 Chairman White

HEARING ON SB 188**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:26:11 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 188, Revise liability for forest or range fires.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:38 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
 00:32:03 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association
 00:36:01 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 00:36:58 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association
 00:37:21 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
 00:38:19 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union
 00:38:51 Jay Bodner, Montana Stock Growers Association / Montana Cattle Women (MSGA/MCW)
 00:39:47 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities
 00:40:23 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:41:23 Lynda Barker, self
 00:42:52 Rep. Jerry Bennett arrived
 00:49:11 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
 00:57:16 Ross Johnson, Attorney for Lynda Barker

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

00:59:35 Rep. McConnell
 01:00:19 Ross Johnson, Attorney for Lynda Barker

01:01:07 Rep. McConnell
01:01:23 Ross Johnson, Attorney for Lynda Barker
01:02:00 Rep. Fitzpatrick
01:03:09 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:08:42 Rep. Olsen
01:09:21 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:09:57 Rep. Olsen
01:10:12 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:10:30 Rep. Dunwell
01:11:28 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
01:12:08 Rep. Dunwell
01:12:18 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
01:12:47 Rep. Staffanson
01:13:44 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:14:12 Rep. Flynn
01:14:39 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:15:08 Rep. Flynn
01:15:14 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:15:20 Rep. Flynn
01:15:29 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:16:22 Rep. Williams
01:17:16 Sen. Vincent
01:17:44 Rep. Williams
01:17:52 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:18:17 Rep. Williams
01:18:29 Joe Kolman, LSD
01:18:53 Rep. Williams
01:19:01 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:19:40 Rep. Williams
01:20:23 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:20:39 Rep. Williams
01:21:03 Max Davis, Attorney for the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
01:21:37 Rep. Bob Brown
01:22:35 Sen. Vincent
01:22:54 Rep. Olsen
01:23:56 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
01:25:25 Chairman White
01:25:36 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
01:26:25 Chairman White
01:27:21 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association
01:27:36 Rep. Williams
01:28:32 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

Closing by Sponsor:

01:29:41 Sen. Vincent

HEARING ON HJ 17

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:32:52 Rep. George Kipp (D), HD 15, opened the hearing on HJ 17, Revise laws related to national park concession contracts.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:39:34 Melinda Kipp, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), Blackfeet Reservation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:40:22 Rep. McConnell
01:40:41 Rep. Kipp
01:41:47 Rep. Bob Brown
01:42:13 Rep. Kipp
01:42:14 Rep. Bob Brown
01:42:16 Rep. Kipp
01:42:34 Rep. Williams
01:42:43 Rep. Kipp
01:43:29 Rep. Williams
01:43:41 Rep. Kipp
01:44:11 Rep. Williams
01:44:32 Rep. Kipp
01:45:51 Chairman White
01:47:54 Rep. Kipp

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:24 Rep. Kipp

HEARING ON HR 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:50:18 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HR 2, Resolution recognizing the service of 75 years of smoke jumpers.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:52:25 Jim Phillips, Smoke Jumper
02:01:28 Rod Bullis, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:03:17 Chairman White
02:03:45 Jim Phillips

Closing by Sponsor:

02:04:10 Rep. Curdy

02:06:46 Chairman White

ADJOURNMENT

02:07:53 Adjournment

Sherri Row, Secretary

sr

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah35aad.pdf](#))