MINUTES LOG
April 12, 2022
Room 137/Zoom
Helena, Montana

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MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:
Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Rep. Derek Harvey (D)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)

STAFF PRESENT:
Susan Fox, Executive Director
Todd Everts, Attorney
Fong Hom, Secretary
CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
09:01:40  Presiding Officer Mark Blasdel called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. The committee secretary took roll. (Attachment 3)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUCCESSION PLANNING
Public Information Report on Process

Committee Questions/Discussion
09:09:38  Sen. Cohenour asked Sen. Blasdel about the process of interviewing the one candidate today.
09:10:49  Sen. Ellsworth gave an overview of the hiring process.
09:12:36  Sen. Cohenour said her concern is the process that we are going through and the timing, and the Council relying on moving someone forward that might result in leaving people behind who also are well-qualified for the position.
09:19:14  Sen. Cohenour said that the subcommittee is not the Council and her big concern is about the interview process.
09:20:23  Sen. Pomnichowski said she doesn't consider that the work of the subcommittee is finished. There are other qualified candidates and they should, on their merits, be granted a full interview before Legislative Council.
09:21:27  Sen. Flowers asked Rep. Knudsen to summarize the qualifications that was used to assess each applicant.
09:22:45  Sen. Flowers asked Rep. Knudsen if it was her opinion that out of the 28 candidates that the subcommittee reviewed that the single candidate who is coming before us is the only person that met those qualifications.
09:23:22  Rep. Knudsen said that her opinion is immaterial.
09:24:09  Sen. Flowers said that, based on Rep. Knudsen's comments, what he didn't hear is the subcommittee deciding to bring forward qualified applicants, but that the subcommittee is bringing forward only one candidate that they agreed on.

Public Comment
09:24:54  Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, HD 84

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ADJOURNMENT
09:28:52  Sen. Blasdel adjourn the meeting at 9:28 a.m.