



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 67th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mark Blasdel
Jill Cohenour
Jason Ellsworth
Pat Flowers
JP Pomnichowski
Cary Smith

HOUSE MEMBERS

Kim Abbott
Laurie Bishop
Wylie Galt
Derek Harvey
Casey Knudsen
Rhonda Knudsen

COMMITTEE STAFF

Todd Everts - Attorney
Susan Fox - Executive Director
Fong Hom - Secretary

MINUTES LOG RULES SUBCOMMITTEE March 7, 2022 Room 102 Helena, Montana

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MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Sen. Cary Smith (R)

STAFF PRESENT:

Todd Everts, Attorney
Susan Fox, Executive Director
Fong Hom, Secretary

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 2](#))

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- 13:01:26 Presiding Officer Casey Knudsen called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. The committee secretary took roll. ([Attachment 3](#))
- 13:02:05 Rep. Knudsen gave opening remarks.

LEGISLATIVE RULE REVISION PROCESS OVERVIEW

- 13:02:45 Todd Everts, Chief Legal Counsel, gave an overview of the rules revision process.

POTENTIAL RULE CHANGE TOPICS

Joint Rules

- 13:07:20 Mr. Everts gave a presentation on the potential rule changes to Joint Rules of the Montana Senate and House of Representatives. ([Exhibit 1](#))

Discussion

- 13:31:51 Rep. Abbott asked about priority bills.
Rep. Knudsen commented on the issue of being able to re-prioritize bill drafts.
Sen. Smith commented on placeholders.
Sen. Flowers asked how often placeholder bills are used during session. He also discussed Section 1, COVID-19 Response, 1-40, and 1-50.
Sen. Smith commented on the ability for legislators and the public to participate in the session remotely.
Rep. Knudsen discussed posting amendments online for all committees.
Susan Fox asked if the subcommittee wanted to incorporate that after a legislator has approved the amendment, the amendment can be posted online.

Senate Rules

- 13:51:33 Mr. Everts gave a presentation on the potential rule changes to Senate Rules. ([Exhibit 2](#))

Discussion

- 13:54:40 Sen. Flowers asked about committee appointments, specifically the process for Committee on Committees.
Sen. Smith asked Sen. Flowers if his concern is that the Committee on Committees should be made up of Democrats and Republicans.
Sen. Flowers said that his suggestion is that the Committee on Committees should reflect the makeup of the body, that if the Senate is evenly divided, then the allocation of the Committee on Committees is evenly divided.
Sen. Smith said that he is opposed to considering any changes to the makeup of the Committee on Committees.
Rep. Abbott commented.
- 14:06:09 Ms. Fox discussed the Committee of the Whole Amendments rule found on Page 23, and said that this is a rule that the subcommittee might want to

consider whether or not to have the full amendment in the Journal. There are no rules in the Joint Rules or the House Rules that specifically addresses this. Rep. Knudsen suggested that Ms. Miller and Ms. Tschida come up with something for the Journal.

Ms. Fox discussed Joint Rules regarding the Special Select Committee on Judicial Accountability and Transparency and Rule 30-80, appointment of committees other than standing or statutory interim committee, the issue of who can appoint a special or select committee.

Ms. Fox discussed transmittal deadlines.

House Rules

14:11:10 Mr. Everts did not have any proposed changes to the House of Representatives Rules. [\(Exhibit 3\)](#)

14:11:30 Carolyn Tschida, House Clerk, discussed H10-120, Legislative aides, and suggested using the term "Legislative Interns" rather than "Legislative Aides". She discussed H40-30, Cosponsors. It is currently under Order of Business No. 11, and should be under Order of Business No. 10.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Next Steps

14:14:07 Rep. Knudsen suggested that the staff provide more information on what some of the amendment integration in context would look like for recording in the House and Senate Journals.

ADJOURNMENT

14:15:11 Rep. Knudsen adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.