FINAL agenda (as of Jan. 14, 2022)

Water Policy Interim Committee
Jan. 18-19, 2022
Room 137
Agenda times are approximate

Tuesday, Jan. 18

1 p.m. Call to order
• Roll call
• Meeting overview—Mr. Mohr

1:05 p.m. A background on water rights: Where to go for relevant information
• Mr. Mohr
• Anna Pakenham Stevenson, administrator, Water Resources Division (DNRC)
• Hon. Steven R. Brown, assoc. water judge, Montana Water Court
• Public comment
• Committee discussion and action, if necessary

2 p.m. Adjudication update (85-2-281, MCA)
• Laura Hinck, adjudication supervisor (DNRC)
• Ms. Pakenham Stevenson
• Hon. Judge Brown
• Sara Calkins, administrator, Montana Water Court
• Public comment
• Committee discussion and action, if necessary
2:30 p.m.  CSKT water rights compact: Establishment of Flathead Reservation Water Management Board
   • Lt. Gov. Kristen Juras
   • Ms. Pakenham Stevenson
   • Public comment
   • Committee discussion

3 p.m.  Comprehensive Review of Water Administration and Management: Draft Key Water Challenges and Proposed Action Plans
   • Lt. Gov. Juras
   • Ms. Pakenham Stevenson
   • Public comment
   • Committee discussion and action, if necessary

3:30 p.m.  Instream leasing report (85-2-436, MCA)
   • Stephen R. Begley, water conservation specialist, Lands Division (FWP)
   • Public comment
   • Committee discussion and action, if necessary

4 p.m.  Water storage in Wyoming: Wyoming Water Development Office
   • Jason Mead, deputy director, Wyoming Water Development Office
   • Public comment
   • Committee discussion

4:30 p.m.  U.S. Forest Service water reservations (85-20-1401, MCA)
   • Arne Wick, manager, Compact Implementation Program (DNRC)
   • USFS
   • Public comment
   • Committee discussion and action, if necessary

5 p.m.  Recess
Wednesday, Jan. 19

8:30 a.m.  Reconvene

8:35 a.m.  Ground Water Investigation Program (85-2-525, MCA): Prioritization of future projects  
- Ginette Abdo, manager, Ground Water Investigation Program (MBMG)  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion and action, if necessary

9 a.m.  Study of Flathead River erosion (SJ28): Boat use estimates, 310/404 permits, bank stabilization, and historical maps and photos  
- Mr. Mohr  
- Samantha Tappenbeck, interim resource conservationist, Flathead Conservation District  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion and action, if necessary

10 a.m.  American Rescue Plan Act: Irrigation grants  
- Autumn Coleman, chief, Resources Development Bureau (DNRC)  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion and action, if necessary

10:30 a.m.  Study of selenium standards for Lake Koocanusa (HJ37): Update from Special Committee  
- Sen. Sales  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion and action, if necessary

10:45 a.m.  Agency rulemaking update: Narrative nutrient standards (SB358)  
- Joe Carroll, attorney, Legal Services Office (LSD)  
- Amy Steinmetz, administrator, Water Quality Division (DEQ)  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion and action, if necessary

11:30 a.m.  Interim committee review of proposed ballot issue: Designation of outstanding resource waters  
- Mr. Carroll  
- Public comment  
- Committee discussion
11:55 a.m.  Administrative matters
  • Future meeting locations, dates
  • Direction to staff

Noon    Adjourn

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(jasonmohr@mt.gov, (406)444-1640) as soon as possible before the meeting date.