



LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mary Ann Dunwell
Russel (Russ) Tempel
Jeremy Trebas
Terry Vermeire

HOUSE MEMBERS

Larry Brewster
Tom France
Steve Gist
Greg Oblander

COMMITTEE STAFF

Toni Henneman - Research Analyst
Julie Johnson - Attorney
Daniel Rosenberg - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

July 12, 2023
Capitol Room 137
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Larry Brewster, Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Greg Oblander (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Toni Henneman, Research Analyst
Julie Johnson, Attorney
Daniel Rosenberg, Secretary

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

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

COMMITTEE ACTION

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

10:00:29 Russel (Russ) Tempel-R, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
The committee secretary took roll.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF

10:00:55 Daniel Rosenberg, Secretary, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
10:01:03 Sen. Vermeire
10:01:19 Sen. Dunwell
10:01:45 Rep. Oblander
10:02:00 Rep. Gist
10:02:19 Rep. France
10:03:14 Sen. Trebas
10:03:45 Rep. Brewster
10:04:37 Toni Henneman, Research Analyst, LSD
10:05:09 Julie Johnson, Attorney, LSD Legal Office
10:05:33 Sen. Tempel

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Toni Henneman, Research Analyst, LSD

10:06:25 Toni Henneman
10:10:25 Julie Johnson
10:11:04 Daniel Rosenberg

Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines for Interim Committees

10:11:42 Toni Henneman [\(Exhibit 1\)](#)

Committee Questions/ Discussion

10:20:00 Rep. Gist asked about proxies.

MOTION

10:20:43 Rep. Brewster made a motion to adopt the rules as described.

VOTE

10:21:05 The motion passed unanimously.

Election of officers – Chair

10:21:07 Sen. Tempel asked for officer nominations. [\(Exhibit 2\)](#)
10:21:22 Rep. Gist nominated Rep. Brewster as Chair.
10:21:36 Sen. Dunwell

MOTION

10:21:56 Sen. Tempel made a motion to elect Rep. Brewster as Chair.

VOTE

10:22:08 The motion passed unanimously.

Election of officers – Vice Chair

10:22:54 Rep. Brewster

10:23:00 Rep. France nominated Sen. Dunwell as Vice Chair.

10:23:31 Rep. Gist

10:23:47 Sen. Dunwell

MOTION

10:23:56 Rep. Brewster made a motion to elect Sen. Dunwell as Vice Chair.

VOTE

10:24:10 The motion passed unanimously.

Summary of 2023 Local Government Legislation

10:24:39 Toni Henneman ([Exhibit 3](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

10:26:58 Sen. Dunwell asked about short term rental bills passed during the session.

10:30:14 Rep. Brewster

Committee budget and website overview

10:31:25 Toni Henneman

INTRODUCTION OF WORK PLAN – Toni Henneman, Research Analyst, LSD

10:36:00 Toni Henneman ([Exhibit 4](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

10:47:31 Rep. Gist asked about the review process for initiatives.

Public Comment

10:49:00 Bob Story, Montana Tax Payers Association

10:52:55 Neil Cardwell, City Manager of Belgrade

10:57:34 Anne Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center

10:59:27 Tanner Avery, Policy Director at Frontier Institute

11:00:41 Mike Veselik, Economic Program Manager, City of Bozeman

Committee Questions/ Discussion

11:02:08 Rep. France asked Neil Cardwell about Belgrade's parks and conservation needs and tax increment financing districts.

11:06:33 Sen Trebas asked Neil Cardwell about the new growth and annexation strategy in Belgrade.

11:08:34 Rep. Oblander asked Neil Cardwell about discussions between Belgrade and Manhattan.

11:11:08 Rep. Oblander followed by asking about the scale of building in Belgrade.

11:12:21 Sen. Dunwell asked Neil Caldwell about multi-family home development and what percentage are short-term rentals or long-term homes.

11:14:39 Sen. Dunwell followed by asking about the red tape around development in Belgrade.

11:19:20 Rep. Gist asked Neil Caldwell if there is a plan to slow growth in Belgrade.

MONTANA LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS & MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES REPRESENTATIVE REMARKS

11:21:46 Jason Rittal, Deputy Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)

11:30:02 Kelly Lynch, Executive Director of Montana League of Cities and Towns

Public Comment

11:37:06 None

Committee Questions/ Discussion

11:37:20 Sen. Dunwell asked Kelly Lynch about SB 382 and the communities affected.

11:38:27 Sen. Dunwell followed by asking about a ballot initiative regarding property taxes.

11:39:04 Rep. Gist asked Kelly Lynch about workshops regarding city planning and legislation that could be provided to legislators.

11:40:37 Rep. France asked Jason Rittal about the commonalities and differences between counties when providing services.

11:43:05 Rep. Oblander asked Jason Rittal about the counties in MACO.

11:43:49 Rep. Oblander followed by asking about ideas regarding sending out notifications to the public.

11:45:42 Sen. Dunwell asked Jason Rittal about SB 442.

11:46:43 Rep. France asked Jason Rittal about SB 442.

Public Comment

11:47:36 S.K. Rossi, Advocacy and Policy Director, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

11:48:44 Mary Harlow, Montana State League of Women Voters

RECESS

11:50:49 Reconvened at 13:03:51

WORK PLAN MEMBER TOPICS – Toni Henneman, Research Analyst, LSD Background information - Monitor 2023 Housing Legislation

13:04:32 Toni Henneman ([see Exhibit 4](#))

13:10:49 Sen. Dunwell

13:12:35 Sen Trebas

13:13:22 Rep. Brewster

13:15:14 Toni Henneman
13:16:11 Rep. France
13:17:28 Toni Henneman
13:18:18 Rep. France

Background information - Local Impacts of Housing State Inmates

13:19:16 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))
13:21:02 Rep. Oblander
13:24:39 Rep. Gist
13:25:14 Toni Henneman
13:20:06 Rep. Oblander
13:26:28 Rep. France
13:27:22 Sen. Dunwell
13:29:10 Rep. Brewster

Background information - Local Fire Protection Consolidation Strategies

13:29:47 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))
13:31:36 Rep. Gist
13:32:35 Sen. Dunwell

Background information - Long-term Care System

13:33:07 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))
13:34:11 Sen. Dunwell
13:36:37 Rep. Oblander
13:38:15 Rep. Oblander
13:38:47 Rep. Gist

Background information - Rental Affordability

13:39:47 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))
13:41:13 Sen. Dunwell
13:42:11 Rep. France
13:43:38 Rep. Oblander
13:44:45 Rep. Gist
13:45:26 Rep. France
13:46:35 Sen. Dunwell

Background information - Property Tax - Local Government Focus

13:47:57 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))
13:49:43 Sen. Dunwell
13:50:51 Sen Trebas
13:52:04 Sen. Dunwell
13:52:41 Rep. Brewster

Background information – Statutory Duties/ Additional Agenda Items

13:54:12 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 4](#))

Public Comment

14:00:04 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors
14:08:49 Neil Cardwell, City of Belgrade
14:13:09 Jason Rittal, MACO
14:18:32 Mike Veselik, City of Bozeman
14:19:54 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
14:22:10 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns
14:24:03 Nick VanBrown, Lead Data Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION**Work plan decision matrix**

14:29:03 Toni Henneman ([Exhibit 5](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

14:30:30 Rep. Gist
14:31:30 Sen. Dunwell

Work plan decision matrix

14:33:35 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 5](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

14:35:19 Rep. France
14:36:01 Sen. Dunwell
14:36:46 Rep. Gist

Work plan decision matrix

14:37:01 Toni Henneman continued the presentation. ([see Exhibit 5](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

14:43:05 Rep. Trebas
14:43:32 Rep. Oblander
14:44:33 Rep. France
14:45:35 Sen. Dunwell
14:47:32 Rep. Oblander
14:49:40 Sen. Dunwell
14:50:58 Rep. Gist
14:51:54 Rep. Oblander
14:53:03 Sen. Dunwell
14:53:40 Toni Henneman

14:54:50 Rep. Gist
14:55:39 Sen. Dunwell
14:56:49 Rep. France
14:57:44 Sen. Dunwell
14:58:23 Rep. Gist
15:02:00 Toni Henneman

MOTION

15:02:40 Rep. Oblander made a motion to adopt the work plan as proposed currently.

Discussion on the Motion

15:02:48 Rep. Gist
15:03:26 Sen. Dunwell

VOTE

15:04:25 The vote passed unanimously.

Committee Questions/ Discussion

15:04:33 Rep. France

Adopt meeting dates

15:06:13 Toni Henneman ([see Exhibit 4](#))

Committee Questions/ Discussion

15:07:49 Rep. Oblander
15:08:13 Toni Henneman
15:08:46 Rep. Gist
15:09:47 Sen. Dunwell
15:11:43 Rep. Brewster adopted the meeting dates in September and November 2023.

Public comment on any item in LGIC's subject matter jurisdiction

15:12:15 Jeffrey Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:14:52