



## TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE 68th Montana Legislature

### SENATE MEMBERS

Mike Fox  
Theresa Manzella  
Barry Usher  
Shelley Vance

### HOUSE MEMBERS

Denise Baum  
Scot Kerns  
Denley Loge  
Zack Wirth

### COMMITTEE STAFF

Katy Callon - Research Analyst  
Joe Carroll - Attorney  
Daniel Rosenberg - Secretary

# MINUTES LOG

May 08, 2024  
Capitol Room 102  
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.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <https://leg.mt.gov>. From the home page, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu for the date of the meeting. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From there, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to. The written Minutes Log, along with links to the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed. Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Theresa Manzella, Presiding Officer (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum, Vice Presiding Officer (D)  
Sen. Mike Fox (D)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Denley Loge (R)  
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

### MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. Barry Usher (R)

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

### STAFF PRESENT:

Katy Callon, Research Analyst  
Joe Carroll, Attorney  
Daniel Rosenberg, Secretary

### AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

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

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

#### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

08:30:23 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

#### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

08:32:10 Katy Callon, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
[EXHIBIT 1](#)

#### **BIG SKY PASSENGER RAIL**

##### **Panel Discussion**

08:34:13 Rep. Zack Wirth joined the meeting.

08:34:23 David Strohmaier, Chair, Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority  
[EXHIBIT 2](#)

08:42:41 Chase Kitchen, Governmental Affairs Manager, Amtrak

08:53:07 Matt Jones, Executive Director of Public Affairs, BNSF  
[EXHIBIT 3](#)

09:03:29 Samantha Beyl, Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority Rosebud County Director and MSU Extension

09:10:51 Rob Stapley, Administrator, MDT Rail, Transit, and Planning Division  
[EXHIBIT 4](#)

##### **Public Comment**

09:23:23 Nicholas Lauer, Heidelberg, Germany  
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

09:37:07 Sen. Andrea Olsen, SD 50

##### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

09:39:49 Rep. Denley Loge

09:40:24 Chase Kitchen

09:41:33 Rep. Denley Loge

09:42:06 David Strohmaier

09:43:43 Sen. Shelley Vance

09:44:12 Chase Kitchen

09:44:55 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum

09:46:39 Rob Stapley

09:48:36 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

09:52:55 David Strohmaier

09:55:01 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum

09:56:15 David Strohmaier

09:57:26 Rob Stapley

## **MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATES**

### **Transition Update from Acting Director**

09:58:21 Larry Flynn, Acting Director, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

### **House Bill 55 Implementation Update**

10:02:45 Larry Flynn

[EXHIBIT 6](#)

[EXHIBIT 7](#)

### **Three Forks Rest Area Update**

10:06:28 Larry Flynn

### **Public Comment**

10:08:29 None

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

10:08:37 Rep. Denley Loge

10:08:49 Larry Flynn

10:09:52 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

10:14:47 **Recessed**

10:27:03 **Reconvened**

### **ALTERNATIVE PROJECT DELIVERY METHODS**

10:27:24 Dustin Rouse, Chief Engineer, MDT

10:40:55 David Smith, Executive Director, Montana Contractors Association

[EXHIBIT 8](#)

### **Public Comment**

10:47:40 Marty Schuma, President & CEO, Dick Anderson Construction

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

10:50:22 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum

10:51:10 David Smith

10:52:59 Rep. Denley Loge

10:53:19 Dustin Rouse

10:55:13 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

11:03:00 David Smith

11:04:39 Rep. Zack Wirth

11:05:24 David Smith

11:06:41 Sen. Shelley Vance

11:08:34 Rep. Denley Loge

11:08:55 David Smith

11:09:53 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

### **U.S. 93 BELL CROSSING ROUNDABOUT PROJECT DISCUSSION**

11:11:17 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

**Overview of Project**

11:14:37 Larry Flynn

**Public Comment**

11:39:27 Melissa Greenwood, Manager of Communications, Ravalli Electric Cooperative

11:43:19 Scott Ralston, CDL Instructor, Bitterroot Valley

11:50:31 Steve Ralston, Darby

11:53:52 Rep. Ron Marshall, HD 87

11:59:41 Duane Williams, Executive Director, Montana Trucking Association

12:04:16 Fred Thomas, Ravalli County Electric Cooperative

12:09:49 Jean Belangie-Nye, Chair, Bitterroot Trail Preservation Alliance

**Committee Questions/ Discussion**

12:19:14 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

12:22:00 Larry Flynn

12:28:18 Rep. Denley Loge

12:29:23 Larry Flynn

12:29:40 Rep. Denley Loge

12:30:10 Rep. Scot Kerns

12:30:59 Larry Flynn

12:36:25 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

12:36:53 Larry Flynn

12:42:37 Rep. Denley Loge

12:43:06 Larry Flynn

12:43:25 Rep. Denley Loge

12:43:49 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

12:43:59 Katy Callon

12:44:12 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

12:44:22 **Recessed**

13:31:09 **Reconvened**

**MONTANA & AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES – PANEL & LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK  
REVIEW**

**Introduction**

13:31:41 Katy Callon

**Panel Discussion**

13:32:36 Renee Gibson, Director of Government Affairs, Autonomous Vehicle Industry  
Association (AVIA)

[EXHIBIT 9](#)

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

13:37:02 Rep. Denley Loge  
13:37:36 Renee Gibson  
13:39:03 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
13:39:33 Renee Gibson

### **Panel Discussion – Cont.**

13:41:54 Tim VanReken, Executive Director, Headwaters Tech Hub  
13:44:34 Adam Gilbertson, Senior Vice President, Field Technology & Innovation, RDO Equipment Co.  
13:55:12 Sydnee Journal, Senior Manager, Government Relations, Aurora  
[EXHIBIT 10](#) (PowerPoint Presentation viewable in the video recording)  
14:04:17 John Suh, Vice President, New Horizons Studio, Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc.

### **Review of House Bill 339 (2023) & South Dakota's 2024 Autonomous Vehicle Legislation**

14:11:57 Katy Callon  
14:12:10 Joe Carroll, Staff Attorney, LSD  
14:15:20 Katy Callon  
[EXHIBIT 11](#)  
14:28:03 Joe Carroll

### **Public Comment**

14:29:32 Erin Foley, Teamsters Union  
14:33:12 Jean Belangie-Nye

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

14:35:59 Rep. Denley Loge  
14:37:19 Sydnee Journal  
14:40:10 Rep. Denley Loge  
14:40:15 Joe Carroll  
14:41:09 Rep. Zack Wirth  
14:41:33 Adam Gilbertson

### **COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSES**

14:42:50 Brad Marten, Administrator, MDT Motor Carrier Services  
[EXHIBIT 12](#)

### **Follow-Up to Committee Questions**

14:47:57 Joe Carroll

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

14:48:41 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
14:49:00 Brad Marten

## **MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION UPDATES**

14:50:58 Laurie Bakri, MVD Division Administrator  
[EXHIBIT 13](#)

### **Committee Questions / Discussion**

15:01:52 Rep. Denley Loge  
15:02:02 Laurie Bakri  
15:02:34 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
15:02:56 Sen. Shelley Vance  
15:03:15 Laurie Bakri

### **Public Comment**

15:05:42 Jean Belangie-Nye

15:08:49 **Recessed**

15:25:02 **Reconvened**

## **ELECTRIC VEHICLES – FIRE SAFETY, TOWING CONSIDERATIONS, & JUNK VEHICLE FEES**

### **Fire Safety**

15:25:27 Troy Peterson, North Central Regional Manager, MSU Fire Services Training School  
[EXHIBIT 14](#)  
15:31:48 Katy Callon  
[EXHIBIT 15](#)

### **Junk Vehicle Fees & Towing Considerations**

15:32:22 Amy Steinmetz, Administrator, Waste Management & Remediation Division, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
15:38:29 Rick Thompson, Bureau Chief, Waste Management Bureau

### **Committee Questions/ Discussion**

15:38:48 Rep. Denley Loge  
15:39:58 Amy Steinmetz  
15:40:57 Rep. Zack Wirth  
15:41:47 Sen. Mike Fox left the meeting.  
15:42:17 Amy Steinmetz  
15:42:55 Rep. Denley Loge  
15:44:08 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum

### **Public Comment**

15:44:30 None

## **MDT BICYCLING THE BIG SKY MAP**

15:44:56 Shelby Clark, Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator, MDT  
[EXHIBIT 16](#) (pdf version)

**Public Comment**

15:49:06 Jean Belangie-Nye

**Committee Questions / Discussion**

15:55:20 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
15:55:28 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
15:55:59 Sen. Shelley Vance  
15:57:30 Rep. Denley Loge  
15:58:08 Rep. Zack Wirth  
15:58:40 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
15:58:57 Shelby Clark  
16:01:56 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:02:31 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:02:52 Shelby Clark  
16:03:18 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:04:13 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW & UPDATE ON TITLE 60 & 61 DRAFT LEGISLATION**

16:05:13 Joe Carroll  
[EXHIBIT 17](#)

**Committee Questions / Discussion**

16:08:10 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:08:15 Joe Carroll

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW & UPDATE ON TITLE 60 & 61 DRAFT LEGISLATION – CONTINUED**

16:08:47 Joe Carroll  
[EXHIBIT 18](#)

**Committee Questions / Discussion**

16:15:48 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:16:34 Joe Carroll  
16:16:45 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:17:24 Joe Carroll  
16:18:33 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:18:47 Joe Carroll  
16:19:14 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:19:17 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:19:32 Rep. Zack Wirth  
16:19:55 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:21:06 Rep. Denley Loge

16:21:26 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:21:31 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:21:45 Rep. Zack Wirth  
16:22:12 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:22:57 Joe Carroll  
16:24:36 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:24:57 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:25:36 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:25:44 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:27:19 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:27:32 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:28:08 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:28:44 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:28:56 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:29:05 Joe Carroll  
16:30:08 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:30:45 Rep. Zack Wirth  
16:31:00 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

**PUBLIC COMMENT on any item in TIC's subject matter jurisdiction**

16:31:37 None

**COMMITTEE WORK SESSION**

**Next Meetings – July 10 & September 4**

16:31:58 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

**Identify Any Additional Information/Panels for Follow-Up on Committee Topics**

16:32:35 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:32:40 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:33:30 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:34:16 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:34:52 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:36:36 Joe Carroll  
16:37:32 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:37:43 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:40:57 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:41:32 Rep. Zack Wirth  
16:42:15 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:42:20 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:42:56 Rep. Zack Wirth  
16:43:31 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum



16:44:21 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:45:45 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:46:20 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:47:22 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:48:05 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:50:04 Sen. Shelley Vance  
16:54:32 Vice Presiding Officer Denise Baum  
16:55:13 Rep. Denley Loge  
16:56:01 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

**Request Provisional Draft Legislation, If Applicable**

16:56:43 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella  
16:56:44 Joe Carroll  
16:57:52 Presiding Officer Theresa Manzella

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:58:22