



Water Policy Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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ALEXIS SANDRU, Legal Staff
JACELYN STERLING, Secretary

FINAL agenda Water Policy Interim Committee

October 11-12, 2023

Room 172

Agenda times are approximate

Wednesday, October 11

1 p.m. Call to order—Chairman Walsh

- Roll call

1:05 p.m. Meeting overview

- Jason Mohr, committee staff

1:15 p.m. Study of water storage

- DNRC
 - Storage in the State Water Plan
 - Anna Pakenham Stevenson, administrator, Water Resources Division (Department of Natural Resources and Conservation)
 - Governor's biennial storage report (85-1-704, MCA)
 - Brian Holling, chief, State Water Projects Bureau (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

2:15 p.m. Weather modification feasibility study (HB 2)

- Michael Downey, water resource planner, Planning, Implementation & Communications Bureau (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

2:45 p.m. British Columbia and water quality in the Elk-Kootenay/ia watershed

- Lindsey Krywaruchka, administrator, Water Quality Division (Department of Environmental Quality)
- Robert Sisson, U.S. commissioner, International Joint Commission
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

3:15 p.m. Update from Nutrient Work Group (SB 358 (Repeal numeric nutrient standards for water quality (2021)))

- Lindsey Krywaruchka (DEQ)
- Eric Sivers, policy analyst, Water Quality Division (DEQ)
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

3:45 p.m. Administrative rule review

- Alexis Sandru, committee legal staff
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

4 p.m. Recess

Thursday, October 12

9 a.m. Comprehensive water review

- Anna Pakenham Stevenson (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

9:30 a.m. Water rights adjudication update (85-2-281, MCA)

- Nate Ward, chief, Water Rights Bureau (DNRC)
- Hon. Russ McElyea, Water Court
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

10 a.m. Background presentations for HB520 (Study of private ponds)

- Eileen Ryce, administrator, Fisheries Division (FWP)
- Nate Ward (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

11 a.m. Policies related to water commissioners

- Jason Mohr, committee staff
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

11:30 a.m. Public comment on any issue within the jurisdiction of WPIC

11:45 a.m. Administrative matters

- Future WPIC meeting dates
- Future committee field trips
- Directions to staff
- Public comment
- Committee questions, discussion

Noon Adjourn