

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ALAN OLSON**, on January 17, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Alan Olson, Chairman (R)
Rep. George G. Groesbeck, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)
Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Rep. Dave Gallik (D)
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Diane Rice (R)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Legislative Branch
Cindy Peterson, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 88, 1/11/2007; HB 33, 1/11/2007;
HB 170, 1/11/2007; HB 244,
1/11/2007; HJ 4, 1/11/2007

Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON HJ 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:25 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HJ 4, urge opposition to relaxation of mail delivery standards.

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:53 Janet Kosnik, American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:47 Rep. Cohenour

HEARING ON HB 244

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:45 Rep. Brady Wiseman (D), HD 65, opened the hearing on HB 244, expand promotional activities of telecommunications providers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:15 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service
Commission

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a04\)](#)

00:15:33 Mary Wright, Montana Consumer Counsel

00:16:01 David Gibson, Qwest

00:17:42 Jeff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:30 Rep. Wiseman

00:19:19 Break

00:28:23 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 33

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:29:44 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 33, revise 9-1-1 emergency phone system laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:42 Jeff Brandt, Information Technology Services,
Department of Administration

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a07\)](#)

00:44:24 Jim McKeon, Miscellaneous Tax Unit Manager, Department
of Revenue

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a08\)](#)

00:49:04 Kevin Myhre, Chief of Police, Lewistown, and Montana
Association of Chiefs of Police

00:53:37 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers
Association

00:54:55 Cliff Christian, American Heart Association and
American Stroke Association

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a09\)](#)

00:56:14 Jim Kembel, Montana Chiefs of Police

Opponents' Testimony:

00:56:53 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a10\)](#)

01:02:39 Dennis Lopach, Tracfone

01:05:21 Michael Strand, Montana Independent Telecommunications
Systems

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a11\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:10:27 Rep. McNutt

HEARING ON HB 170

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:11:58 Rep. Bill Thomas (D), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 170, net metering for wind turbines.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:14:26 Alena Nardinger, Nardinger Irrigation

01:20:02 Myrl Nardinger

Opponents' Testimony:

01:29:44 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

01:31:17 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

01:40:14 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Co-ops

Informational Testimony:

01:41:17 Greg Jergeson, Montana Public Service Commission

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a13\)](#)

01:43:27 Russell Doty, New World Wind Power

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:46:41 Rep. Jones

01:46:55 Mr. Nardinger

01:49:09 Rep. Windy Boy

01:50:09 Rep. Groesbeck

01:51:04 Mr. Flynn

Closing by Sponsor:

01:53:44 Rep. Thomas

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a14\)](#)

HEARING ON HB 88

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:56:16 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB
88, Regulate electrical generation facility waste.
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a15\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:04:01 Rep. Teresa Henry, HD 96, Missoula
02:05:28 Ed Thamke, Department of Environmental Quality
02:10:18 Pamela Morris, Citizens for Clean Energy (CCE)
02:14:39 Donna Kramer, CCE
02:17:58 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

Opponents' Testimony:

02:20:26 Rep. Jim Keane, HD 75, Butte
02:22:36 Dan Flynn, IBEW
02:23:32 Mark Lambrecht, Regulatory Affairs Manager, PPL Montana
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a16\)](#)
02:25:59 Tom Ebzery, Puget Sound Energy, Portland General
Electric, Pacificorp and Avista
02:27:14 Keith Allen, IBEW, Local 233
02:28:34 J.D. Lynch, Montana State Buildings Trade
02:29:21 Duane Mellinger, IBEW, Local 233
02:29:44 Todd O'Hair, RioTinto
02:30:23 John Forkan, Montana Association of Plumbers and
Pipefitters
02:30:45 Steve Wade, Great Northern Power
02:31:24 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association

Informational Testimony:

02:32:44 Jeff Chaffee, Southern Montana Electric Generation and
Transmission Cooperative, Inc.
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a17\)](#)
02:35:07 Haley Beaudry, Colstrip Energy Limited Partners and
Yellowstone Energy Limited Partners
02:37:07 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:40:31 Rep. Windy Boy
02:42:00 Mr. Thamke
02:43:41 Rep. Gallik
02:44:29 Mr. Thamke

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02:45:38 Rep. Gallik
02:46:32 Mr. Chaffee
02:46:48 Rep. Gallik
02:48:20 Mr. O'Hare
02:49:19 Rep. Gallik
02:50:11 Mr. Chaffee
02:51:16 Rep. Gallik
02:52:05 Mr. Chaffee
02:52:14 Rep. Groesbeck
02:54:11 Mr. Fitzpatrick
02:55:40 Rep. Stahl
02:56:29 Rep. Dickenson
02:56:47 Mr. Thamke
02:57:10 Rep. Stahl
02:57:16 Mr. Thamke
02:58:40 Rep. Gallik
02:58:59 Rep. Olson
02:59:12 Mr. Thamke
02:59:45 Rep. Gallik
03:00:07 Mr. Fitzpatrick
03:00:51 Rep. Stahl
03:01:10 Mr. Fitzpatrick
03:01:53 Rep. Stahl
03:02:01 Mr. Fitzpatrick
03:02:30 Rep. Olson
03:08:14 Mr. Thamke
03:08:55 Rep. Olson
03:09:00 Rep. Gallik
03:09:17 Rep. Windy Boy
03:10:25 Mr. Chaffee

Closing by Sponsor:

03:10:49 Rep. Dickenson
EXHIBIT(feh11a18)

ADJOURNMENT

03:14:51 Adjournment

REP. ALAN OLSON, Chairman

CINDY PETERSON, Secretary

AO/cp