

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By Vice-Chairman Ralph Heinert, on January 17,  
2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Ralph Heinert, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)  
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)  
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)  
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)  
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)  
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch  
Nancy Kraft, 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 104, 1/9/2007; HB 107, 1/9/2007;  
HB 144, 1/9/2007  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON HB 144**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:57 Rep. Arlene Becker (D), HD 52, opened the hearing on HB 144, Clarify waste management laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:33 Rick Thompson, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:05:55 Chairman McNutt arrived

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:10:39 Roy Kemp, Public Health & Human Services (PHHS)

00:10:58 Gene Allison, Department of Labor & Industry

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:11:33 Rep. Ankney

00:11:56 Mr. Thompson

00:12:46 Rep. Mendenhall

00:13:22 Mr. Kemp

00:15:18 Rep. Mendenhall

00:15:35 Mr. Thompson

00:17:40 Rep. Barrett

00:18:38 Mr. Thompson

00:19:43 Rep. Lambert

00:20:23 Mr. Thompson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:24:45 Rep. Becker

**HEARING ON HB 107**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:26:20 Rep. Dave Gallik (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 107, Increase public water supply fees.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:28:31 Jon Dilliard, DEQ

**EXHIBIT(nah11a01)**

00:33:47 Arvid Hiller, Mountain Water Company

**EXHIBIT(nah11a02)**

00:37:05 Bill Leonard, Whitefish

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:40:15 Steve Wade, Montana Rural Water Systems

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a03\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:41:51 Rep. Cohenour  
00:42:25 Mr. Dilliard  
00:45:29 Rep. Erickson  
00:46:08 Mr. Dilliard  
00:49:53 Rep. Ross  
00:50:20 Mr. Dilliard  
00:53:51 Rep. Ankney  
00:54:05 Mr. Dilliard  
00:54:42 Rep. Mendenhall  
00:55:33 Mr. Dilliard  
00:58:17 Kate Miller, DEQ  
00:59:41 Rep. Cohenour  
01:00:19 Mr. Dilliard  
01:01:53 Rep. Heinert  
01:02:42 Mr. Dilliard

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:02:52 Rep. Gallik

01:06:08 Break

**HEARING ON HB 104**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:10:41 Rep. Kevin Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 104, Revise exempt water rights laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:20:51 Mary Sexton, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a04\)](#)

01:31:19 Tim Burton, Helena City Manager

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a05\)](#)

01:37:20 Ron Alles, Chief Administrative Officer, Lewis & Clark  
County

01:39:18 Stan Bradshaw, Trout Unlimited

01:41:10 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Society

01:42:12 Bob Lane, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a06\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:45:39 Glenn Oppel, Montana Association of Realtors

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a07\)](#)

01:54:58 Abigail St. Lawrence

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a08\)](#)

02:06:46 Clayton Fiscus

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a09\)](#)

02:12:29 David Brown

02:13:43 Scott Davis, Pond & Stream Consulting

02:16:46 Jacqueline Lenmark, The Montana Water Well Drillers  
Association

02:21:31 Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a10\)](#)

02:25:48 Terry Lindsay, Montana Water Well Drillers Association

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a11\)](#)

02:27:31 John Bloomquist, Montana Stockgrowers' Association

02:31:45 Tim Ravndal, Montana Multiple Use Association

02:33:26 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

02:34:41 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

02:35:17 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)

02:35:47 Tracy Turek

02:38:44 Joe Roberts, Montana Association of Registered Land  
Surveyors

02:39:14 Walt Sales, Association of Gallatin Agricultural  
Irrigators

**Informational Testimony:**

02:40:52 Russell Levens, DNRC

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:41:22 Rep. Lambert

02:42:15 Rep. Furey

02:42:53 Ms. Sexton

02:44:21 Rep. Erickson

02:45:34 Mr. Levens

02:45:51 Rep. Van Dyk

02:47:05 Ms. St. Lawrence

02:49:11 Rep. Cohenour

02:49:53 Ms. St. Lawrence

02:53:06 Michael Nicklin  
02:55:25 Rep. Cohenour  
02:55:53 Ms. Sexton  
02:57:59 Rep. Ross  
02:58:29 Mr. Levens  
03:00:40 Rep. Hands  
03:00:57 Mr. Murphy  
03:02:26 Rep. Hands  
03:03:15 Mr. Oppel  
03:03:45 Rep. Mendenhall  
03:05:08 Ms. Sexton  
03:07:45 Rep. Barrett  
03:08:05 Ms. Sexton  
03:08:42 Rep. Barrett  
03:09:16 Mr. Lane  
03:13:06 Rep. McNutt  
03:13:53 Rep. Van Dyk  
03:14:13 Rep. Cohenour  
03:14:32 Mr. Lane  
03:14:56 Rep. Mendenhall  
03:15:15 Mr. Lane  
03:17:29 Rep. Hendrick  
03:18:04 Rep. Furey  
03:19:01 Ms. Sexton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:20:03 Rep. Furey

**ADJOURNMENT**

03:26:43 Adjournment: 6:20 P.M.

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REP. WALTER MCNUTT, Chairman

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NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([nah11aad.pdf](#))**