

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ALAN OLSON**, on February 7, 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 346, 2/2/2007; HB 448, 2/2/2007
Discussion: HB 25
Executive Action: HB 328, HB 237, HJ 13

HEARING ON HB 346

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:57 Rep. Deborah Kottel (D), HD 20, opened the hearing on
HB 346, authorize municipal utilities to provide
electricity supply to jurisdiction.

EXHIBIT (feh27a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:15:13 Jordon Love, City of Great Falls

EXHIBIT (feh27a02)

00:19:42 Dona Stebbins, Mayor, City of Great Falls

00:20:26 Cheryl Patton, Executive Director, Great Falls Housing
Authority

00:22:33 Candace Payne, Southern Montana Electric Generation and
Transmission Co-op

Opponents' Testimony:

00:23:40 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service
Commission (PSC)

EXHIBIT (feh27a03)

00:27:45 Gerald Mueller, Missoula

00:33:34 Patrick Judge, Montana Environmental Information Center
(MEIC)

00:36:47 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

00:45:40 Don Judge, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club

00:48:22 Charles Bocock, Great Falls

00:49:33 Mary Jolley, Great Falls

00:52:33 Jeff Monheim, Great Falls

00:53:09 Donna Kramer

00:54:11 Cheryl Reichert, Great Falls

00:57:45 Aart Dolman

EXHIBIT (feh27a04)

01:01:59 Chuck Magraw, Natural Resources Defense Council and
Renewable Northwest Project

Informational Testimony:

01:02:48 John Alke, Montana Dakota Utilities

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:05:00 Rep. Gallik

01:06:04 Mr. Love

01:06:26 Rep. Gallik

01:07:36 Rep. Kottel
01:07:50 Mr. Love
01:08:25 Rep. Gallik
01:08:51 Mr. Love
01:09:08 Rep. Gallik
01:09:34 Mr. Love

Closing by Sponsor:

01:10:01 Rep. Kottel

HEARING ON HB 448

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:16:17 Rep. Deborah Kottel (D), HD 20, opened the hearing on
HB 448, clarify utility customer choice.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:20:00 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns
01:23:49 Jordon Love, City of Great Falls
01:26:21 Dona Stebbins, Mayor, City of Great Falls
01:27:18 Candace Payne, Southern Montana Electric Generation and
Transmission Co-op

Opponents' Testimony:

01:27:53 Charles Bocock, Great Falls
01:28:55 Cheryl Reichert, Great Falls
01:30:24 Aart Dolman, Great Falls
01:32:09 Mary Jolley, Great Falls
01:32:42 Donna Kramer, Great Falls
01:34:14 Patrick Judge, MEIC
01:35:27 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana PSC
[EXHIBIT \(feh27a05\)](#)
01:39:57 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy
01:44:50 Don Judge, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club

Informational Testimony:

01:45:34 Brad Molnar, Commissioner, Montana PSC

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:13 Rep. Kottel

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 328

01:59:06 **Motion:** Rep. Rice moved that HB 328 **DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:59:20 Rep. Stahl

01:59:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote with Rep. Groesbeck voting aye by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 237

02:00:31 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that HB 237 **DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:00:48 Rep. Rice

02:01:10 Rep. Olson

02:01:21 Rep. Jones

02:02:00 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Boggio made a substitute motion that HB 237 **BE TABLED.** Substitute motion carried 7-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gallik, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Windy Boy voting no and Rep. Groesbeck voting no by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 13

02:03:46 **Motion:** Rep. Rice moved that HJ 13 **BE ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

02:04:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-4 by voice vote with Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gallik, Rep. Thomas, and Rep. Windy Boy voting no.

DISCUSSION ON HB 25

02:04:43 Todd Everts, Environmental Research Analyst,
Legislative Environmental Policy Office

EXHIBIT (feh27a06)

EXHIBIT (feh27a07)

02:05:34 Rep. Windy Boy
02:05:40 Rep. Olson
02:06:27 Rep. Windy Boy
02:06:35 Rep. Olson
02:07:05 Rep. Gallik
02:07:32 Rep. Himmelberger
02:08:05 Rep. Gallik
02:08:38 Rep. Olson
02:09:04 Mr. Everts
02:09:43 Rep. Olson
02:10:07 Mr. Everts
02:10:29 Rep. Windy Boy
02:11:12 Mr. Everts
02:12:20 Rep. Olson

ADJOURNMENT

02:14:14 Adjournment:

REP. ALAN OLSON, Chairman

CINDY PETERSON, Secretary

AO/cp