

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Edward B. Butcher, on February 8, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Edward B. Butcher, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Carol Lambert, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)  
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)  
Rep. Julie French (D)  
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)  
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Jim Keane (D)  
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)  
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)  
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)  
Rep. Diane Rice (R)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Mary Caferro

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary  
Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch

**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: HJ 17, HJ 23, HB 484

**HEARING ON HJ 17**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:24 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HJ 17, Resolution urging US to allow interstate shipping of Montana processed/inspected meat.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:13 Barbara Broberg, Montana Women Involved in Farm Economics  
00:05:05 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana  
00:06:56 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers Union  
00:09:25 Mike McGinley, Owner, Beaverhead Meats  
00:12:30 Errol Rice, Montana Stock Growers Association  
00:13:36 Megan Brower, Montana Farm Bureau  
00:14:07 Karla Johnson, Montana Cattle Women

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:14:51 Carol Olmstead, Bureau Chief, Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, Department of Livestock

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:17:26 Chairman Butcher  
00:17:42 Ms. Olmstead  
00:17:49 Chairman Butcher  
00:18:15 Ms. Olmstead  
00:19:11 Chairman Butcher  
00:19:39 Ms. Olmstead  
00:19:57 Chairman Butcher  
00:20:21 Ms. Olmstead  
00:20:49 Chairman Butcher  
00:21:21 Ms. Olmstead  
00:22:08 Chairman Butcher  
00:23:16 Rep. Windy Boy  
00:23:32 Ms. Olmstead  
00:23:40 Chairman Butcher  
00:25:06 Mr. McGinley  
00:27:09 Rep. Malcolm  
00:27:14 Chairman Butcher  
00:27:56 Mr. McGinley  
00:29:53 Rep. Lambert  
00:30:58 Mr. McGinley

00:31:12 Rep. Lambert  
00:32:26 Ms. Olmstead  
00:33:34 Rep. Heinert  
00:34:00 Ms. Olmstead  
00:34:42 Rep. Windy Boy

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:35:05 Rep. Cohenour

**HEARING ON HJ 23**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:36:24 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HJ 23, Urge farm bill priorities.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:37:48 Mike McGinley, County Commissioner, Beaverhead County  
00:38:56 Darren Arganbright, President, Montana Grain Growers Association  
00:39:39 Errol Rice, Montana Stock Growers Association  
00:40:49 Barbara Broberg, Montana Women Involved in Farm Economics  
00:41:20 Karla Johnson, Montana Cattle Women  
00:41:35 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana  
00:43:20 Megan Brower, Montana Farm Bureau  
00:43:40 Tracy Houck, Executive Director, Farmers Union  
00:47:57 Katie Kassmier, Farmers Union

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:52:13 Rep. Windy Boy  
00:53:09 Ms. Houck  
00:53:18 Rep. Mendenhall  
00:54:53 Rep. Cohenour  
00:55:00 Ms. Houck  
00:57:24 Rep. Mendenhall  
00:58:31 Ms. Houck  
01:00:06 Rep. Mendenhall  
01:01:33 Ms. Houck  
01:02:14 Rep. Lambert

01:02:58 Ms. Kassmier  
01:04:10 Rep. Lambert  
01:04:44 Ms. Kassmier  
01:05:14 Rep. Jones  
01:05:56 Rep. Windy Boy

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:06:11 Rep. Cohenour

**HEARING ON HB 484**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:08:26 Rep. Debby Barrett (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB 484, Ag protection, enhancement & develop comm to address comp for wildlife damage.

[EXHIBIT \(agh28a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(agh28a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:20:59 Errol Rice, Montana Stock Growers Association  
01:22:05 Megan Brower, Montana Farm Bureau  
01:22:46 Mark Kambich, Rancher  
01:25:50 Rep. Diane Rice  
01:26:29 Karla Johnson, Montana Cattle Women  
01:27:00 Rep. Carol Lambert  
01:28:03 Darren Arganbright, President, Montana Grain Growers Association  
01:28:28 Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County Commissioner  
01:28:47 Barbara Broberg, Montana Women Involved in Farm Economics

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:29:32 Robert Throssell, Montana Wildlife Federation  
01:35:26 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon  
01:37:41 Tony Schoonen, Public Lands Representative & The Anaconda Sportsmen Association  
01:42:19 Tim Border, Rancher  
01:43:34 Joelle Selk, Montana Bow Hunters Association  
01:44:10 Leroy Mehring, Skyline Sportsmens Association  
01:45:49 Stan Frasier, Helena Hunters and Anglers Association  
01:48:49 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

[EXHIBIT \(agh28a03\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:56:35 Rep. Villa  
01:57:31 Rep. Barrett  
01:58:42 Rep. Villa  
01:59:27 Rep. Barrett  
01:59:33 Rep. Villa  
02:00:08 Rep. Barrett  
02:01:26 Rep. Villa  
02:01:35 Rep. Barrett  
02:02:46 Rep. Villa  
02:03:08 Rep. Barrett  
02:04:02 Rep. Villa  
02:04:17 Rep. Barrett  
02:04:23 Mr. Smith  
02:05:26 Rep. Jopek  
02:06:23 Rep. Barrett  
02:06:52 Rep. Jopek  
02:07:07 Rep. Barrett  
02:08:31 Rep. Jopek  
02:09:01 Chairman Butcher  
02:09:35 Rep. Jopek  
02:09:55 Chairman Butcher  
02:10:21 Rep. Barrett  
02:12:07 Rep. Keane  
02:12:35 Mr. Smith  
02:13:56 Rep. Keane  
02:14:06 Mr. Smith  
02:17:13 Rep. Keane  
02:17:22 Mr. Smith  
02:17:30 Krista Evans  
02:17:49 Rep. Keane  
02:18:03 Ms. Evans  
02:18:29 Mr. Smith  
02:18:41 Rep. Mendenhall  
02:20:15 Mr. Smith  
02:20:40 Rep. Mendenhall  
02:21:05 Mr. Smith  
02:21:51 Rep. Mendenhall  
02:21:59 Mr. Smith  
02:22:18 Rep. Mendenhall  
02:23:09 Mr. Rice  
02:25:59 Rep. Mendenhall  
02:27:06 Mr. Rice  
02:27:55 Rep. Augare  
02:29:27 Rep. Barrett  
02:30:01 Rep. Augare  
02:30:11 Rep. Barrett  
02:30:29 Rep. Augare

02:31:03 Rep. Barrett  
02:31:56 Rep. Ross  
02:32:25 Rep. Barrett  
02:32:30 Rep. Rice  
02:32:32 Rep. Jopek  
02:32:46 Rep. Rice  
02:34:46 Rep. French

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:35:28 Rep. Barrett

**Additional Exhibits:**

Document Pertaining to HJ 17, Hearing Date 02/08/07

**[EXHIBIT \(agh28a04\)](#)**

Document Pertaining to HJ 23, Hearing Date 02/08/07

**[EXHIBIT \(agh28a05\)](#)**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

02:43:59 Adjournment

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REP. EDWARD B. BUTCHER, Chairman

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DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([agh28aad.pdf](#))**