

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Walter McNutt, on March 21, 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: SB 178, 3/15/2007; SB 248,
3/15/2007
Executive Action: SB 178; SB 248; SB 51; SB 145

HEARING ON SB 178

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:16 Sen. Dave Lewis (R), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 178, Remove Milltown Dam reference in Clark Fork steering committee law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:48 Holly Franz, Pacific Power and Light
00:03:21 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
00:03:35 Candace West, Attorney General's Office

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:04:15 Sen. Lewis

HEARING ON SB 248

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:38 Sen. Bob Story (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 248, Ratify USFS water compact.

EXHIBIT (nah60a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:50 Lorents Grosfield, Reserve Water Rights Compact Commission
00:14:31 Kathy McAllister, Northern Region of the United States Forest Service

EXHIBIT (nah60a02)

00:17:04 Faye Bergan, Reserve Water Rights Compact Commission
00:33:19 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
00:35:53 Candace West, Attorney General's Office
00:38:35 Bob Lane, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

EXHIBIT (nah60a03)

00:40:54 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrower's Association and Montana Public Lands Council; and for John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:05 Rep. Erickson

00:44:08 Ms. McAllister

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:33 Sen. Story

00:46:49 Break

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 178

00:53:10 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 178 **BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Van Dyk, Pomnichowski, and Dickenson voted by proxy. Rep. Sesso will carry this bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 248

00:54:06 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 248 **BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

00:54:17 Rep. Barrett

00:55:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Van Dyk and Dickenson voted by proxy. Rep. McNutt will carry this bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 51

00:54:59 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 51 **BE CONCURRED IN**.

00:55:55 **Motion:** Rep. Mendenhall moved that SB 51 **BE AMENDED**.

EXHIBIT (nah60a04)

Discussion:

00:57:44 Rep. Hands

00:57:54 Rep. Mendenhall

00:59:30 Rep. Erickson

01:00:34 Krista Evans

01:01:35 Rep. Mendenhall

01:02:41 Rep. Erickson

01:03:39 Rep. Heinert
01:04:46 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:06:53 Rep. Heinert
01:07:37 Rep. Cohenour
01:09:26 Rep. Ankney
01:10:06 Rep. Dickenson
01:11:54 Rep. Small-Eastman
01:12:58 Rep. Hendrick
01:13:28 Rep. Hands
01:16:07 Rep. Lambert
01:16:48 Rep. Erickson
01:17:41 Rep. Vincent
01:18:26 Rep. Cohenour
01:20:25 Rep. Ankney
01:20:52 Rep. Pomnichowski
01:22:26 Rep. Ankney
01:23:21 Rep. Mendenhall

01:24:36 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-7 by roll call vote with Reps. Ankney, Cohenour, Dickenson, Hands, Pomnichowski, Small-Eastman, and Van Dyk voting no.

01:25:33 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 51 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 15-1 by voice vote with Rep. Lambert voting no. Rep. Dickenson will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 145

01:26:49 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 145 **BE CONCURRED IN**.

01:27:01 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that SB 145 **BE AMENDED**.
EXHIBIT (nah60a05)

Discussion:

01:29:33 Rep. Barrett
01:29:53 Rep. McNutt
01:30:29 Rep. Ross
01:30:52 Krista Evans
01:31:18 Rep. Heinert
01:31:44 Rep. Erickson
01:31:52 Ms. Evans
01:32:01 Rep. Erickson
01:33:41 Rep. Mendenhall
01:35:10 Rep. Ross
01:36:06 Rep. Ankney
01:36:41 Rep. McNutt
01:38:49 Rep. Lambert
01:39:14 Rep. Mendenhall

01:39:57 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-4 by roll call vote with Reps. Barrett, Hendrick, Mendenhall, and Vincent voting no.

01:40:56 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that SB 145 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

01:41:42 **Motion:** Rep. Mendenhall moved that SB 145 **BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT \(nah60a06\)](#)

Discussion:

01:45:19 Rep. Ross

01:45:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:45:57 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 145 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

01:46:22 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. McNutt moved that SB 51 **BE AMENDED.**
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[EXHIBIT \(nah60a07\)](#)

01:47:38 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 51 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

01:48:56 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. McNutt moved that SB 51 **BE AMENDED.**
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[EXHIBIT \(nah60a08\)](#)

01:49:31 **Motion:** Rep. Heinert moved that SB 145 **BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:49:50 Rep. Lambert

01:50:57 Ms. Evans

01:51:22 Rep. Mendenhall

01:52:31 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-2 by roll call vote with Reps. Mendenhall and Vincent voting no. Rep. Heinert will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

01:53:51 Adjournment: 5:15 P.M.

REP. WALTER MCNUTT, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah60aad.pdf](#))