

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on April 5, 2007 at 8000 A.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)  
Sen. John Cobb (R)  
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Greg Lind (D)  
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)  
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)  
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, 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 & Date Posted: HB 6, 4/2/2007; HB 7, 4/2/2007; HB 443, 4/2/2007; HB 444, 4/2/2007; HB 116, 4/2/2007; HB 3; HB 443-444, 4/2/2007; SJ 27, 4/2/2007

Executive Action: None.

00:00:00

00:00:49 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division re: technical changes

**HEARING ON HB 6**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:23 REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30, opened the hearing on HB 6, Renewable resource grants.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:37 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:03:35 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

[EXHIBIT\(fcs73a01\)](#)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:21 Sen. Laible to Cathy Duncan

00:10:58 Sen. Cooney to Cathy Duncan

00:11:11 Sen. Lind to Cathy Duncan

00:11:35 Sen. Lind to Ray Beck

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:12:07 Rep. Kasten

**HEARING ON HB 7**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:13:35 **REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30**, opened the hearing on **HB 7**, Reclamation and development grants.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:14:29 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

00:15:18 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:16:28 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:16:51 Sen. Lewis to Ray Beck

00:17:39 Sen. Barkus to Ray Beck

00:18:49 Sen. Hawks to Ray Beck

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:19:44 Rep. Kasten

**HEARING ON HB 443**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:20:07 **REP. JANNA TAYLOR (R), HD 11**, opened the hearing on **HB 443**, Appropriate funds to study leasing of water from Hungry Horse dam.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:23:21 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:26:06 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources  
and Conservation

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:26:24 Sen. Tash to Rep. Taylor

00:26:56 Sen. Tash to Director Mary Sexton

00:27:53 Sen. Bales to Director Mary Sexton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:29:49 Rep. Taylor

**HEARING ON HB 444**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:30:37 **REP. JANNA TAYLOR (R), HD 11**, opened the hearing on **HB 444**, Continuation of water use management by Clark Fork Basin task force.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:33:11 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

00:34:56 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources  
and Conservation

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:35:14 Sen. Tash to Sen. Jackson

00:38:29 Sen. Wanzenried to Sen. Jackson

00:42:28 Sen. Williams to Director Mary Sexton

00:45:56 Sen. Williams to Rep. Taylor

00:48:49 Sen. Schmidt

00:48:52 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Taylor

00:50:48 Sen. Williams to Rep. Taylor

00:51:12 Sen. Schmidt to Sen. Jackson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:55:21 Rep. Taylor

**HEARING ON HB 116**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:57:01 **REP. RICK RIPLEY (R), HD 17**, opened the hearing on **HB 116**, Revise resource indemnity trust funding laws.

**EXHIBIT**(fcs73a02)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:05:02 Sen. Rick Laible, SD 44

01:05:57 Rep. John Sesso, HD 76

01:11:44 Sarah Carlson, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

01:12:32 Gary Amestoy, Chester Irrigation Project Steering Committee

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:14:29 Jeff Hagener, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

01:18:05 Richard Oppen, Department of Environmental Quality

01:23:21 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

01:25:30 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited

**Informational Testimony:**

01:26:15 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

01:27:34 Barbara Smith, Legislative Fiscal Division

01:27:47 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:28:13 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Sesso

01:35:36 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Ripley

01:36:14 Sen. Hawks to Barbara Smith

01:37:45 Sen. Laible to Barbara Smith

01:41:00 Sen. Lind to Rep. Ripley

01:42:52 Sen. Lewis to Rep. Ripley

01:43:56 Sen. Bales to Rep. Ripley

01:45:20 Sen. Lind to Barbara Smith

01:47:03 Sen. Hawks to Barbara Smith

01:49:11 Sen. Tropila to Director Richard Oppen

01:51:41 Sen. Tropila to Director Jeff Hagener

01:52:22 Sen. Wanzelried to Rep. Ripley

01:54:56 Sen. Wanzelried to Director Richard Oppen

02:00:05 Sen. Wanzelried to Director Jeff Hagener

02:04:10 Sen. Hansen

02:04:21 Sen. Schmidt to Director Mary Sexton

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:05:19 Rep. Ripley

**HEARING ON HB 3**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:07:29 **REP. EVE FRANKLIN (D), HD 24**, opened the hearing on **HB 3**, Supplemental appropriations.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:12:52 John Chappuis, Department of Health and Human Services

**EXHIBIT(fcs73a03)**

02:17:58 Mike Ferriter, Director, Department of Corrections

02:25:21 Ann Bachman, Department of Natural Resources and  
Conservation

**EXHIBIT(fcs73a04)**

02:28:34 Randi Hood, Chief Public Defender

02:33:13 Jim MacDonald, Warden, Crossroads Corrections Center

02:33:59 David Ewer, Budget Director

02:37:16 John Blacker, Department of Transportation

02:38:07 Lois Menzies, Court Administrator, Supreme Court

**EXHIBIT(fcs73a05)**

02:40:01 George Harris, Acting Executive Officer, Board of  
Livestock

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:41:00 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

**Informational Testimony:**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:42:15 Sen. Wanzenried to Director Mike Ferriter

02:44:01 Sen. Lewis to Director Mike Ferriter

02:44:51 Sen. Weinberg to Rep. Franklin

02:46:50 Sen. Schmidt to Larry Fasbender, Deputy Director,  
Department of Justice

02:47:37 Sen. Bales to Director Mike Ferriter

02:48:16 Sen. Bales to Rhonda Shafer, Department of Corrections

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:49:34 Rep. Franklin

02:52:21 Sen. Schmidt reopened hearing on HB 443 and HB 444

**HEARING ON HB 443 and HB 444**

**Proponents Testimony:**

02:52:23 Gerald Mueller, Clark Fork Basin Task Force

**EXHIBIT**(fcs73a06)

**HEARING ON SJ 27**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:58:49 **SEN. DAN WEINBERG (D), SD 2**, opened the hearing on **SJ 27**, Mental Health study to implement appropriation for that purpose.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:01:54 John Chappuis, Department of Public Health and Human Services

03:03:46 Joyce DeCunzo, Administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division

03:05:35 Anita Roessmann, Montana Advocacy Program

03:06:21 Sen. Greg Lind, SD 50

03:06:54 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health

**Opponents' Testimony:**

03:07:37 Eric Pritchard, Helena

**Informational Testimony:**

03:12:49 Susan Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:13:15 Sen. Lind to Eric Pritchard



03:13:50 Sen. Lewis to Eric Pritchard

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:15:20 Sen. Weinberg

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 12:15 P.M.

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SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

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PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fcs73aad.pdf](#))**