

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chairman Kelly Gebhardt, on March 16, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Kelly Gebhardt, Chairman (R)
Sen. Debby Barrett, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Aubyn Curtiss (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lindsey Hern, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 375, 2/25/2009; HB 557,
2/25/2009

Executive Action: HJ 4; HJ 7

HEARING ON HB 557

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:59 Rep. Tony Belcourt (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 557, Generally revise laws related to regional water systems.

00:02:51 Sen. Curtiss came to the committee.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:08 Clint Jacobs, Manager, Dry Prairie Rural Water

[EXHIBIT\(nas58a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas58a02\)](#)

00:03:35 Sen. Steinbeisser came to the committee.

00:07:15 Sen. Tropila came to the committee.

00:12:05 Annmarie Robinson, Rocky Boy, Manager, North Central Montana Regional Water Authority

[EXHIBIT\(nas58a03\)](#)

00:14:18 Dan Keil, Montana Rural Water Systems

00:15:04 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:10 Sen. Barrett

00:16:36 Mr. Murphy, MWRA

00:17:13 Sen. Barrett

00:17:25 Mr. Murphy, MWRA

00:17:50 Mr. Jacobs, Dry Prairie Rural Water

00:18:10 Sen. Curtiss

00:18:31 Mr. Jacobs, Dry Prairie Rural Water

00:19:10 Sen. Curtiss

00:19:34 Mr. Jacobs, Dry Prairie Rural Water

00:20:45 Chairman Gebhardt

00:21:17 Mr. Jacobs, Dry Prairie Rural Water

00:21:59 Chairman Gebhardt

00:22:18 Rep. Belcourt

00:22:29 Chairman Gebhardt

00:22:47 Rep. Belcourt
00:23:17 Chairman Gebhardt

Closing by Sponsor:

00:23:49 Rep. Belcourt
00:24:50 Chairman Gebhardt

HEARING ON HB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:25:18 Rep. Mike Phillips (D), HD 66, opened the hearing on HB 375, Create a bipartisan committee to evaluate climate change initiative.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:29:14 John Alke, MDU Resource Group
00:33:27 Mark Lambrecht, Regulatory Affairs Manager, PPL Montana; Speaking on behalf of NorthWestern Energy
00:37:20 Todd O'Hair, Rio Tinto Energy America Services Company (RTEA)
00:40:25 Casey Perkins, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:41:24 Sen. Keane
00:41:45 Mr. O'Hair, RTEA
00:43:53 Sen. Keane
00:44:07 Mr. O'Hair, RTEA
00:44:48 Sen. Perry
00:45:01 Mr. Alke
00:45:29 Sen. Perry
00:45:49 Mr. O'Hair, RTEA
00:46:07 Sen. Perry
00:46:18 Mr. Lambrecht, PPL Montana, NorthWestern Energy
00:46:32 Sen. Perry
00:46:59 Sen. Barrett
00:47:10 Rep. Phillips

00:47:14 Sen. Barrett
00:47:23 Rep. Phillips
00:48:18 Sen. Barrett
00:48:53 Rep. Phillips
00:48:57 Sen. Barrett
00:49:00 Rep. Phillips
00:49:46 Sen. Barrett
00:50:03 Rep. Phillips
00:50:30 Sen. Barrett
00:50:49 Rep. Phillips
00:51:04 Chairman Gebhardt
00:51:39 Rep. Phillips
00:52:38 Chairman Gebhardt
00:53:44 Rep. Phillips

Closing by Sponsor:

00:55:34 Rep. Phillips

Sen. Peterson left the committee before the start of HB 593.

HEARING ON HB 593

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:58:15 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 593, Revise environmental laws.

01:00:10 Sen. Kaufmann came to the committee.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:00:32 John Fitzpatrick, Self

[EXHIBIT\(nas58a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas58a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:10:47 Mike Green, Atlantic Richfield/British Petroleum Company (ARCO)

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:17:36 Sen. Tropila

01:18:08 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self

01:22:25 Sen. Barrett
 01:22:37 Chairman Gebhardt, stated that with permission Rep. Villa left to answer questions on the House floor.
 01:22:56 Rep. Art Noonan, HD 74, Butte, Co-sponsor on HB 593
 01:23:15 Sen. Barrett
 01:23:31 Rep. Noonan
 01:24:15 Sen. Barrett
 01:25:05 Rep. Noonan
 01:25:30 Sen. Tropila
 01:26:44 Mr. Green, ARCO
 01:28:29 Sen. Curtiss
 01:28:54 Mr. Green, ARCO
 01:29:35 Sen. Curtiss
 01:29:54 Mr. Green, ARCO
 01:31:14 Sen. Curtiss
 01:31:44 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:34:31 Sen. Curtiss
 01:34: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:35:25 Sen. Curtiss
 01:35:51 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:36:24 Sen. Barrett
 01:36:55 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:38:40 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:38:50 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:39:34 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:39:51 Mr. Fitzpatrick
 01:40:29 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:41:28 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:43:11 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:43:59 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:45:00 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:45:35 Mr. Fitzpatrick, Self
 01:45:43 Chairman Gebhardt

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:52 Rep. Noonan, closed in place of Rep. Villa.

01:50:02 Chairman Gebhardt

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 4

01:51:43 **Motion:** Sen. Perry moved that **HJ 4 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:51:54 Sen. Kaufmann
 01:52:20 Chairman Gebhardt
 01:52:26 Sen. Kaufmann

01:52:33 Sen. Perry withdrew the motion Be Concurred on HJ 4.
01:52:43 Chairman Gebhardt

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 7

01:53:05 **Motion:** Sen. Steinbeisser moved **HJ 7**.

Discussion:

01:53:21 Sen. Wanzenried
01:54:11 Chairman Gebhardt
01:54:39 Sen. Keane
01:55:47 Sen. Curtiss
01:56:20 Chairman Gebhardt
01:56:24 Sen. Wanzenried
01:56:43 Sen. Keane

01:57:27 **Vote:** Motion that **HJ 7 BE CONCURRED IN** carried 8-1 by
voice vote with Sen. Kaufmann voting no. Sen. Hansen
will carry the bill in the Senate.

Committee Business:

01:58:08 Chairman Gebhardt
01:58:30 Sen. Keane
01:58:59 Chairman Gebhardt
01:59:19 Sen. Keane
01:59:44 Chairman Gebhardt

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:01 P.M.

Lindsey Hern, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([nas58aad.pdf](#))