

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chairman Kelly Gebhardt, on March 30, 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. Aubyn Curtiss (R)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (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 52, 3/27/2009

Executive Action: HB 40; HB 425; HB 52

Vice Chair Barrett took up the position as Chair before executive action.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 40

HB 40 was previously amended on 03/23/2009.

00:00:34 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **HB 40 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Kaufmann, Sen. Peterson, Sen. Steinbeisser and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy. Sen. Perry will carry the bill in the Senate.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 425

00:02:52 **Motion:** Sen. Hansen moved that **HB 425 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

00:03:06 Sen. Gebhardt
00:03:44 Sen. Perry
00:03:55 Sen. Gebhardt
00:04:12 Sen. Kaufmann came to the committee.
00:05:04 Sen. Tropila
00:05:35 Sen. Steinbeisser came to the committee.
00:05:53 Sen. Gebhardt
00:06:22 Sen. Tropila
00:06:51 Chairwoman Barrett
00:07:06 Sen. Tropila
00:07:13 Sen. Gebhardt
00:07:19 Sen. Tropila
00:07:26 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Service Division (LSD)
00:07:51 Sen. Gebhardt
00:08:00 Sen. Tropila

00:08:20 **Motion:** Sen. Tropila moved that **HB 425 BE AMENDED**.
EXHIBIT (nas70a01)

Discussion:

00:09:00 Sen. Gebhardt
00:09:07 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 425 BE AMENDED** carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Peterson and Sen. Wanzenried voted by proxy.

00:09:39 **Motion:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **HB 425 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:10:27 Sen. Kaufmann
00:11:15 Sen. Gebhardt
00:11:59 Chairwoman Barrett
00:12:10 Ms. Nowakowski, LSD
00:13:06 Sen. Tropila

00:13:36 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **HB 425 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 6-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Hansen, Sen. Kaufmann, Sen. Keane, Sen. Tropila, and Sen. Wanzonried voting no. Sen. Peterson and Sen. Wanzonried voted by proxy.

00:14:46 Chairwoman Barrett
00:14:50 Sen. Gebhardt left the committee.

HEARING ON HB 52

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:14:59 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 52, Fund hydrogeologic study.
EXHIBIT(nas70a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:21:14 Krista Lee Evans, Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI); Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC)
00:22:23 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:23:03 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
00:23:47 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Relators (MAR)
00:25:02 Gary Amestoy, Richmond Economic Development Corporation
00:29:54 Vanessa Clark, Montana Association of Water Well Drillers (WWD)
00:30:23 Holly Franz, Upper Clark Fork Steering Committee; Clark Fork Task Force

Opponents' Testimony:

00:31:15 Amy Sassano, Governor's Office

Informational Testimony:

00:31:52 John Metish, Montana Mines and Geology (MMG)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:32:21 Sen. Keane
00:32:27 Rep. McNutt
00:32:31 Chairwoman Barrett
00:33:12 Rep. McNutt
00:35:09 Chairwoman Barrett
00:35:25 Mr. Metish, MMG
00:35:55 Chairwoman Barrett
00:36:20 Ms. Sassnao, Governor's Office

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:50 Rep. McNutt
00:38:35 Sen. Gebhardt came to the committee and took up the position as Chair for executive action.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 52

00:39:37 Chairman Gebhardt

00:39:42 **Motion:** Sen. Steinbeisser moved that **HB 52 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:39:53 Sen. Barrett
00:40:21 Chairman Gebhardt
00:40:27 Sen. Barrett
00:40:55 Sen. Kaufmann

00:41:28 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 52 BE CONCURRED IN** carried 9-2 by voice vote with Sen. Hansen and Sen. Kaufmann voting no. Sen. Peterson and Sen. Wanzienried voted by proxy. Sen. Perry will carry the bill in the Senate.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:20 P.M.

Lindsey Hern, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([nas70aad.pdf](#))