

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Gordon R. Hendrick, on January 24, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick, Chair (R)  
Rep. Betsy Hands, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Brian Hoven, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)  
Rep. Virginia Court (D)  
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)  
Rep. Alan Hale (R)  
Rep. Bill Harris (R)  
Rep. Cleve J. Loney (R)  
Rep. Mike Miller (R)  
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)  
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Pat Connell (R)

**Members Absent:** Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)

**Staff Present:** Lauren Head, Committee Secretary  
Joe Kolman, 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 49, 1/19/2011; HB 79, 1/19/2011

**HEARING ON HB 49****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:10 Rep. Betsy Hands (D), HD 99, opened the hearing on HB 49, Authorize the sale of bonds to fund Blackfeet water compact.

00:02:39 Rep. Reinhart joined the meeting.

00:03:39 Rep. Connell joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:35 Sen. Auguare, SD 8

00:09:21 Sen. Jones, SD 14

00:15:12 Chris Tweeten, Chairman, Reserve Water Rights Compact Commission (RWRCC)

00:20:08 Rusty Tatsey, Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC)

00:24:10 Reis Fisher, BTBC

00:27:27 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:29:08 John Bloomquist, Pondera County Canal and Reservoir Company

00:32:18 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

00:33:20 Larry Mires, Executive Director, St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group (SMRWG)

**EXHIBIT**(nah18a01)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:35:26 Rep. Loney

00:35:55 Mr. Fisher

00:36:17 Rep. Harris

00:36:55 Mr. Tweeten

00:37:12 Mr. Bloomquist

00:38:19 Rep. Harris

00:38:44 Mr. Bloomquist

00:39:13 Rep. Flynn

00:39:36 Mr. Tweeten

00:39:39 Rep. Flynn

00:39:49 Mr. Tweeten

00:40:20 Rep. Miller

00:40:37 Mr. Bloomquist

00:40:43 Rep. Miller

00:40:47 Mr. Bloomquist

00:41:13 Rep. Miller

00:41:21 Mr. Bloomquist

00:41:55 Rep. Miller

00:42:08 Mr. Bloomquist  
00:42:19 Rep. Miller  
00:42:31 Mr. Bloomquist  
00:43:21 Rep. Miller  
00:43:32 Mr. Bloomquist  
00:43:40 Rep. Miller  
00:43:48 Mr. Tweeten  
00:44:54 Mrs. Sexton  
00:45:18 Rep. Miller  
00:45:28 Mrs. Sexton  
00:45:47 Mr. Tweeten  
00:46:36 Rep. Williams  
00:47:24 Mr. Tweeten  
00:48:48 Rep. Williams  
00:48:58 Mr. Tweeten  
00:49:59 Chairman Hendrick  
00:50:29 Mr. Bloomquist

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:51:33 Rep. Hands  
00:52:08 Rep. Connell  
00:52:37 Chairman Hendrick

**HEARING ON HB 79**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:52:51 Rep. Lila Walter Evans (R), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB 79, Authorize spending authority for Blackfeet mitigation account interest payments.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:56:28 Chris Tweeten, RWRCC  
01:00:12 Rep. Reinhart left the meeting.  
01:01:21 Rusty Tatsey, BTBC  
01:01:43 Reis Fisher, BTBC  
01:03:01 John Bloomquist, Pondera County Canal and Reservoir Company  
01:03:44 Larry Mires, SMRWG

**EXHIBIT(nah18a02)**

01:05:05 Mary Sexton, DNRC  
Sen. Aguare and Sen. Jones support HB 79 per Rep. Connell. (See time stamp 00:52:08)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:05:32 Rep. Miller  
01:05:59 Mrs. Sexton  
01:06:16 Bill Schultz, Program Manager, RWRCC  
01:06:57 Rep. Connell  
01:07:50 Mr. Kolman  
01:08:30 Rep. Connell  
01:08:53 Mr. Kolman  
01:09:06 Mr. Schultz  
01:09:25 Vice Chairman Hoven  
01:09:48 Mr. Tweeten  
01:10:26 Mr. Schultz  
01:11:06 Vice Chairman Hoven  
01:11:23 Mr. Schultz  
01:11:32 Mr. Tweeten  
01:13:09 Rep. Harris  
01:13:38 Mr. Tweeten  
01:14:03 Rep. Harris  
01:14:36 Mr. Tweeten  
01:15:32 Rep. Loney  
01:15:46 Mr. Tweeten

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:16:37 Rep. Evans  
  
01:17:02 Chairman Hendrick  
01:18:15 Mr. Kolman  
01:18:23 Chairman Hendrick  
01:18:57 Mr. Kolman  
01:19:44 Chairman Hendrick

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:19:51      Adjournment

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Lauren Head, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([nah18aad.pdf](#))**