

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: Chair Walter McNutt, on January 27, 2011 at 8:09 AM, in Room 317B
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chair (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Rob Cook (R)
Rep. Ron Ehli (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Sen. Jon Sonju (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Catherine Duncan, Legislative Branch
Mary Ann Mackay, Committee Secretary
Christine Hultin-Brus, OBPP

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, 1/24/2011

00:00:37 Chairman McNutt
00:00:44 Ms. Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
00:01:32 Chairman McNutt

HEARING ON HB 6

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:35 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 6, Renewable Resource Grants.

00:03:16 Chairman McNutt

Renewable Resource Grant Program Overview:

00:03:30 Alice Stanley, Chief, Resource Development Bureau, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:03:58 Sen. Williams arrived.

EXHIBIT(jlh21a01)

00:12:53 Chairman McNutt

00:12:56 Pam Smith, Program Manager, Renewable Resource and Grant Program, DNRC, presented written testimony from Lincoln County, Big Fork Storm Water Advisory Commission, Hill County Conservation District, Clinton Irrigation District, Culbertson, and Livingston Ditch Water Users Association

EXHIBIT(jlh21a02)

EXHIBIT(jlh21a03)

EXHIBIT(jlh21a04)

EXHIBIT(jlh21a05)

Dams and Irrigation Projects

00:20:03 Ms. Stanley

00:22:07 Sen. Sonju left.

00:25:19 Ms. Stanley

00:25:29 Gary Amestoy, Consultant, in favor of Irrigation Development Grant Program

00:31:03 Ms. Duncan

00:32:11 Chairman McNutt

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, DNRC, Hydropower

Feasibility Study

00:32:53 Ms. Smith

00:33:00 Tim Davis, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC

Renewable Resource Grant Loan, Fiscal Analysis:

00:32:22 Ms. Duncan

00:36:02 Chairman McNutt

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, DNRC, Trust Land Management Division, Smith Lake Dam Rehabilitation:

00:36:10 Ms. Smith

00:36:25 Tom Schultz, Administrator, Trust Land Management Division, DNRC

EXHIBIT(jlh21a06)

00:39:54 Chairman McNutt

**Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Chadbourne Diversion Dam
Repair and Selective Passage Retrofits**

00:40:02 Ms. Smith
00:40:20 Bruce Rich, Chief, Fisheries Bureau, FWP
[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a07\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a08\)](#)
00:43:46 Chairman McNutt

City of Lewistown, East Fork Dam Repair

00:43:56 Ms. Smith
00:44:11 Roger Kruckenberg, Director of Public Works, Lewistown
00:44:56 Chairman McNutt

Teton Conservation District, Eureka Reservoir Improvements

00:45:03 Ms. Smith
00:45:20 Gary Passmore, Teton Conservation District
00:45:43 Charles Crane, Secretary, Teton Cooperative Canal Company
[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a09\)](#)
00:47:36 Jim Andersen, Chouteau City Council and business man
00:47:56 Russ Baker, Farmer, Chouteau
00:48:08 Tammy Baker, Chouteau
00:48:17 Alan Rolo, local watershed group
00:48:30 Mr. Crane
00:48:44 Lawrence Siroky, Manager, Dam Safety Program
[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a10\)](#)
00:49:56 Erling Juel, Thomas Dean and Hoskins (TDE) Engineering, Great Falls
00:50:30 Sen. Sonju returned.
00:51:54 Jeff Tiberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation District
(MACD), supports this & all projects including Carbon, Pondera, Lower
Musselshell and Park
00:52:38 Ms. Smith

Tin Cup Water and Sewer District, Tin Cup Lake Dam Improvements

00:52:38 Ms. Smith
00:53:01 Rep. Cook left.
00:53:07 Tex Marsalex, Tin Cup Water and Sewer District, Darby, Assistant General
Manager
00:56:38 Rep. Cook returned.
00:57:32 Chairman McNutt

Pondera Conservation District, Pondera County C Canal

00:57:42 Ms. Smith
00:58:00 Vern Stokes, Manager, Pondera County Canal, Valier
00:59:34 Sen. Brown arrived.
00:59:39 Rep. Ehli left.
[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a11\)](#)
01:02:03 Scott Aspenlieder, WWC Engineering, Helena
01:03:23 Chairman McNutt

01:03:34 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA) , in support of many projects including Pondera County Canal and other projects who are members of MWRA

01:04:39 Chairman McNutt

Buffalo Rapids Project, District 1 Irrigation District System Improvements, Lateral 26.4

01:04:43 Ms. Smith

01:05:01 Rep. Matthew Rosendale, HD 38

01:07:49 Scott Aspenleider, WWC Engineering

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a13\)](#)

01:09:56 Chairman McNutt

Pondera Conservation District, Irrigation Infrastructure Improvements, Pondera Wasteway Rehabilitation and Water Quality Improvements

01:10:02 Ms. Smith

01:10:17 Boyd Burnett, Morrison Maierle, Inc., Helena

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a14\)](#)

Questions from Committee:

01:14:49 Sen. Brown

01:15:00 Mr. Burnett

01:15:28 Rep. McChesney left.

01:15:34 Sen. Brown

01:15:45 Mr. Burnett

01:16:16 Chairman McNutt

Helena Valley Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements, Pump No.2 Rehabilitation

01:16:22 Ms. Smith

01:16:44 Jim Foster, Manager, Helena Valley Irrigation District

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a15\)](#)

01:19:37 John Baucus, Rancher, Helena Valley Irrigation District and Chairman of Board of Commissioners of the District

01:20:50 John Rundquist, Director of Public Works, Helena

01:21:40 Sen. Dave Lewis, SD 42, Helena

Fort Belknap Indian Community, Water Conservation Project

01:22:52 Ms. Smith

01:23:05 Randy Perez, staff member, Fort Belknap Indian Community

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a16\)](#)

01:26:29 Robert Neihart, WWC Engineering, Helena

Sidney Water Users Irrigation District, Increasing Irrigation Efficiency, District 1 & 2, Phase 3

and

Sidney Water Users Irrigation District, Increasing Irrigation Efficiency ,District 5, Lateral 2

01:27:25 Ms. Smith

01:27:42 Gary Amestoy, on behalf of Raymond Bell, acting President, Sidney Water Users Association

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a17\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a18\)](#)

01:31:46 Sen. Williams left.

01:32:11 Sen. Williams returned.

01:33:24 Rep. Cook returned.

01:36:24 Mr. Amestoy

Clinton Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements Schoolhouse Pipeline

01:36:52 Ms. Smith

01:37:05 Robert Neihart, representing Pat Byrne, President, Clinton Irrigation District

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a19\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jlh21a20\)](#)

01:40:22 Break

01:59:39 Resume

Sen. Williams, Rep. McChesney and Rep. Sesso left during break.

Sen. Sonju, Sen. Brown, Rep. Cook, Rep. Ehli and Chairman McNutt present when meeting resumed.

Tin Cup Water and Sewer District

01:59:48 Sen. Bob Lake, SD 44, Hamilton

02:00:12 Rep. Pat Connell, HD 87, Corvallis

02:00:38 Chairman McNutt

East Bench Irrigation District, Main Canal Check Structure Rehabilitation

02:00:43 Ms. Smith

02:00:58 Dennis Miotke, Manager, East Bench Irrigation District, Dillon

02:05:59 Chairman McNutt

Lower Musselshell Conservation District, Lower Musselshell Delphia Melstone Irrigation Structure Rehabilitation/Canal Lining

02:06:04 Ms. Smith

02:06:17 Lynn Rettig, Manager, Delphia Melstone Canals and Water Users Association

02:06:42 Rep. McChesney returned

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, CSKT-Jocko Upper S Canal Lining

and

Flathead Joint Board of Control, FJBC-Jocko Upper J Canal Diversion Structure

02:10:04 Ms. Smith

02:10:25 John Metropolous, on behalf of Flathead Joint Board of Control

02:10:43 Sen. Williams returned.

02:12:58 Steve Hughes, Chairman of Flathead Joint Board of Control

Malta Irrigation District, Malta Irrigation District-Dodson North Canal Siphons Replacement Project

02:15:09 Ms. Smith

02:15:27 Tara Kaufman, Malta Irrigation District

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a21\)**](#)

02:17:33 Erling Juel, TDE Engineering, Great Falls

Lockwood Irrigation District, Irrigation System improvements, Intake Canal Spillway Replacement

02:21:14 Ms. Smith

02:21:28 Carl Peters, Manager, Lockwood Irrigation District

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a22\)**](#)

Fort Shaw Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements

02:24:47 Ms. Smith

02:25:00 Rich Boyd, Fort Shaw Irrigation

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a23\)**](#)

02:27:30 Erling Juel, TDE Engineering, Great Falls

Montana DNRC Water Resource Division Projects

East Fork Rock Creek Diversion and Fish Screen Project

and

Martinsdale Supply Canal

and

Cooney and Deadman's Basin Dams-Automated Instrumentation Project

02:31:53 Ms. Smith

02:32:34 Kevin Smith, Chief, State Water Projects Bureau, Water Resource Division,
DNRC

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a24\)**](#)

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a25\)**](#)

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a26\)**](#)

02:35:03 Sen. Williams left.

Daly Ditches Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements, Hedge Canal

02:40:26 Ms. Smith

02:40:46 Molly Skorpik, Morrison Mairele, Missoula

[**EXHIBIT\(jlh21a27\)**](#)

02:44:42 Paul Bartini, Manager, Daly Ditches

Greenfields Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements, Big Coulee

02:45:23 Ms. Smith

02:45:34 Bob Hardin, Manager, Greenfields Irrigation District

02:46:38 Sen. Sonju left.

02:47:59 Alan Rolo, Sun River Watershed

Park Conservation District, Irrigation System improvements, Park Branch Paradise Canal

02:48:46 Ms. Smith

02:49:06 Jacqie Nelson, Administrator, Park Conservation District and Coordinator of
Upper Yellowstone Watershed Basin, on behalf of Park Conservation District

EXHIBIT(jlh21a28)

Fort Peck Tribes, Irrigation System Improvements Lateral L-2M Rehabilitation

02:54:27 Ms. Smith

02:54:37 Scott Aspenlieder, WWC Engineering, on behalf of Fort Peck Water Users
Association

EXHIBIT(jlh21a29)

Bitterroot Irrigation District, Irrigation System Improvements, Livingston Ditch

02:58:04 Ms. Smith

02:58:26 Molly Skorpik, Morrison and Maierle, Inc., Missoula

EXHIBIT(jlh21a30)

03:02:29 John Crowley, Manager, Bitterroot Irrigation District

City of Roundup, Musselshell Watershed Sustainable Irrigation Management

03:04:13 Ms. Smith

03:04:30 Bill Milton, Rancher and Musselshell Watershed Project Coordinator

EXHIBIT(jlh21a31)

03:06:34 Rep. Ehli returned.

03:06:53 Lynn Rettig, Manager, Delphi Musselshell Canals

03:07:53 Leon Hammond, Water Project Manager, Upper Musselshell Water Users
Association, Harlowton

Park Conservation District, Irrigation Infrastructure Improvements, Livingston Ditch

03:08:55 Ms. Smith

03:09:11 Ms. Nelson, Administrator, Park Conservation District and Coordinator, Shields
Valley Watershed and Coordinator, Upper Yellowstone Watershed Basin

EXHIBIT(jlh21a32)

03:09:59 Ms. Nelson, representing Dave Haug, President, Livingston Ditch Water Users
Association

Carbon Conservation District, Irrigation System Improvements, White Horse Canal

and

Irrigation Improvements Project, Pleasant Valley Canal Rehabilitation

03:14:16 Ms. Smith

03:14:36 Alvin Nelson, Supervisor, Carbon Conservation District, Luther, rancher, on
behalf of White Horse Canal

Pleasant Valley

03:18:28 Mr. Nelson, Pleasant Valley Canal Company

EXHIBIT(jlh21a33)

03:19:54 Bill Jones, Pleasant Valley Canal Company, representing self and nineteen
additional water users

03:23:28 Joe Hartley, Beartooth Resources, Conservation and Development (RC&D)

Toston Irrigation District, Crow Creek Pumping Plant Rehabilitation

03:24:20 Ms. Smith

03:24:36 Rep. Kelly Flynn, HD 68, Townsend

EXHIBIT(jlh21a34)

03:25:57 Shawn Higley, on behalf of Toston Irrigation District

03:28:13 Ms. Smith

03:28:22 Chairman McNutt

Questions from Committee:

03:28:27 Rep. Cook

03:29:08 Sen. Williams returned.

03:29:16 Ms. Stanley

03:32:38 Rep. Cook

03:33:01 Ms. Stanley

03:33:52 Rep. Cook

03:34:04 Ms. Stanley

03:34:13 Chairman McNutt

Comments:

03:34:22 Ms. Duncan

03:34:36 Ms. Stanley

03:35:49 Chairman McNutt

ADJOURNMENT

03:36:04 Adjournment:

Mary Ann Mackay, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jlh21aad.pdf](#))