

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Harry Klock, on February 16, 2011 at 3:12 PM, in Room 172
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Harry Klock, Chair (R)
Rep. Keith Regier, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)
Rep. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Rep. James Knox (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Mary McNally (D)
Rep. Mike Menahan (D)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)
Rep. Ken Peterson (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Derek Skees (R)
Rep. Sterling Small (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)

Members Absent: Rep. Robyn Driscoll, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Legislative Branch
Cara Gold, Committee Secretary

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 503, 2/14/2011; HB 504, 2/14/2011; HB 506, 2/14/2011

00:00:10 The Chair welcomed the committee, reviewed the rules and the committee agenda.

HEARING ON HB 504

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:39 Rep. Max Yates (R), HD 74, opened the hearing on HB 504, Require landowner compensation for merchant transmission lines.

00:02:10 Rep. Driscoll entered the hearing.

00:03:37 Rep. Driscoll left the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:04 Rachel Roberts, Concerned Citizens of Montana

00:06:29 John Brower, Self

00:07:01 Rep. Driscoll returned to the hearing.

00:09:03 Bill Petrovish, Self

00:09:32 Susan Pullman, Self

00:10:28 Brad Molnar, Self

00:13:16 Colleen Teeling, Aspen Valley Landowners Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:14:24 John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a03\)](#)

00:25:41 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 44

00:25:55 Rep. Knox left the hearing.

00:26:32 Darryl James, Montana Alberta Tie Ltd. (MATL)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:30 Rep. Phillips

00:28:00 Rep. Yates

00:28:28 Rep. Phillips

00:28:57 Rep. Yates

00:29:57 Rep. Phillips

00:30:10 Rep. Yates

00:30:16 Rep. Peterson left the hearing.

00:30:29 Rep. Knox returned to the hearing.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:48 Rep. Yates

00:31:48 Rep. Peterson returned to the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 503

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:32:26 Rep. Franke Wilmer (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 503, Revise underground utility laws.

00:33:01 Rep. Small left the hearing.

00:34:30 Rep. Peterson left the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:36:33 John Fitzpatrick, NWE

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a07\)](#)

00:44:12 Rep. Peterson returned to the hearing.

00:45:35 Joel Tierney, Public Service Commission (PSC)

00:45:56 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

[EXHIBIT\(feh38a08\)](#)

00:46:40 Rep. Phillips left the hearing.

00:49:24 Rep. Stahl entered the hearing.

00:50:37 Rep. McNally left the hearing.

00:51:13 Rep. Phillips returned to the hearing.

00:51:48 Rep. O'Hara left the hearing.

00:52:28 David Gibson, Qwest Communications

00:53:12 Dale Schultz, Montana Utility Coordinating Council (MUCC)

00:54:34 Rep. Stahl left the hearing.

Opponents' Testimony:

00:54:45 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
EXHIBIT(feh38a09)
00:59:07 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS)
00:59:37 Rep. McNally and Rep. O'Hara returned to the hearing.
01:00:58 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
(Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE) asked Mr. Youngberg to show
their opposition also.)
01:01:42 Gary Forrester, Knife River Cooperation
01:04:28 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
01:05:36 Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association
01:05:53 Jessie Luther, Montana Contractors Association

Informational Testimony:

01:06:55 Jack Kane, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:07:11 Rep. Regier
01:07:37 John Fitzpatrick
01:07:56 Rep. Stahl returned to the hearing.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:08:10 Rep. Wilmer

HEARING ON HB 506

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:10:15 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 506, Transfer
management of certain federal public lands.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:11:15 Roger Nummerdor, Self
EXHIBIT(feh38a10)
01:12:51 Doug Carpenter, Self
01:13:28 Patrick McCain, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

01:15:17 Stan Frasier, Self
01:16:14 Larry Copenhaver, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
01:18:37 Casey Perkins, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony:

01:19:33 Tom Butler, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:20:03 Rep. Menahan

01:20:13 Rep. Phillips

01:20:28 Tom Butler

01:20:37 Rep. Klock

01:20:51 Rep. Knox

Closing by Sponsor:

01:21:02 Rep. Skees

01:30:21 Rep. Knox

01:30:29 Rep. Klock

ADJOURNMENT

01:30:35 Adjournment

Cara Gold, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh38aad.pdf](#))