

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Gerald (Jerry) Bennett, on March 27, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett, Chair (R)
Rep. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Virginia Court, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Alan Doane (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Ed Lieser (D)
Rep. Ryan Lynch (D)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Jennifer Eck (D)
Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Rebecca Shaw, 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: SB 88, 3/12/2013; SB 278, 3/12/2013

HEARING ON SB 88

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:21 Sen. Dick Barrett (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 88, Provide for the
Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument Water Compact.
00:37:02 Rep. Fitzpatrick entered.
00:39:21 Rep. Hoven entered.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:39:40 Chris Tweeten, Chair, Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission
(MTRWRCC)

00:43:05 Melissa Hornbein, Attorney, MTRWRCC

EXHIBIT(nah66a01)

00:54:09 Carl Seilstad, Fergus County Commissioner

EXHIBIT(nah66a02)

00:56:33 Ron Poertner, Central Montana Resource Advisory Council, Winifred, MT

00:58:17 Laura Boyce, Resident, Winifred, MT

00:59:47 Laurie Riley, Resident

01:00:44 Luke Stulz, Rancher, Winifred

EXHIBIT(nah66a03)

01:01:41 Mike Murphy, Executive Director, Montana Water Resources Association
(MWRA)

01:02:46 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

01:04:11 Ariel Overstreet, Communications Director, Montana Stockgrowers Association
(MSA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:04:14 Bill Schenk, Legal Counsel, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

01:05:04 Chad Krause, Hydrologist, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:05:44 Rep. Williams

01:07:06 Rep. Warburton

01:07:32 Sen. Barrett

01:07:38 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

01:09:00 Rep. Warburton

01:09:05 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

01:09:12 Rep. Court

01:10:58 Sen. Barrett

01:11:04 Rep. Warburton

01:11:15 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

01:11:46 Rep. Warburton

01:12:35 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

01:12:40 Chair Bennett

01:12:56 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

Closing by Sponsor:

01:13:19 Sen. Barrett

HEARING ON SB 278

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:17:02 Sen. Jim Peterson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 278, Ratify C.M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge water compact.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:23:24 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a04\)](#)

01:32:55 Rep. Shaw entered.

01:35:11 Hertha Lund, Attorney, Lund Law, PLLC

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a05\)](#)

01:41:01 Carl Seilstad, Fergus County Commissioner

01:45:05 Dirk Van Hying, Stakeholders Group

01:49:58 Bill Berg, Resident, Fergus County

01:51:47 Lesley Robinson, Phillips County Commissioner

01:53:18 Mike Murphy, MWRA

01:54:07 Sandra Youngbauer, Fergus County

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a07\)](#)

01:55:01 Chris King, Petroleum County Commissioner

01:56:03 Skip Ahlgren, Petroleum County Commissioner

01:56:36 Laurie Riley, Resident

01:57:38 Curt Donsbach, Rancher

02:00:12 Ron Poertner, Winifred, MT

02:01:44 Jeff Teberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation District

02:02:17 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

02:03:46 Ariel Overstreet, MSA

02:04:03 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:04:27 Bill Schenk, FWP

02:04:46 Rick Potts, Refuge Manager, CM Russell Wildlife Refuge

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:06:16 Rep. Doane

02:08:25 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

02:08:26 Rep. Doane

02:08:27 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

02:09:27 Rep. Doane

02:09:31 Melissa Hornbein, MTRWRCC

Closing by Sponsor:

02:09:54 Sen. Peterson

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah66a09\)](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:13:11

Rebecca Shaw, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah66aad.pdf](#))