

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on March 6, 2013 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

- Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)
- Sen. John Brenden, Vice Chair (R)
- Sen. Debby Barrett (R)
- Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
- Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
- Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
- Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
- Sen. Matthew M. Rosendale Sr (R)
- Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
- Sen. Edward Walker (R)

Members Excused:

- Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
- Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
- Sen. Jim Keane (D)
- Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mary Kulawik, 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: SB 355, 2/27/2013; SR 10, 2/27/2013

00:35:20 Sen. Kaufmann entered the hearing.

00:35:34 Chairman Vincent turned over Chair responsibilities to Vice Chair John Brenden.

PRELIMINARY HEARING ON SR 10

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:35:47 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SR 10, Confirm certain Governor's appointees.

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a02\)](#)

00:36:30 Sen. Larsen entered the hearing.

00:37:00 Sen. Hamlett entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:07 Sen. Vincent

00:38:02 Sen. Vincent resumed the chair.

HEARING ON SB 355

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:48 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 355, Water court review of claims exempt from filing.

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a05\)](#)

00:51:39 Sen. Walker left the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:54:15 Russ McElyea, Associate Water Judge, Water Court-Bozeman (WCB)

00:57:17 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC) and Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

00:59:31 John Bloomquist, Attorney, Water Adjudication Advisory Committee (WAAC)

01:05:00 Sen. Keane entered the hearing.
01:06:25 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
01:08:26 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) and Montana
Cattlegirls (MC)
01:10:17 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
01:12:20 Holly Franz, PPL Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:12:58 Anne Yates, Chief Legal Counsel, Montana Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:13:28 Sen. Fielder
01:14:05 Chairman Vincent
01:14:17 Holly Franz, PPL
01:14:55 Sen. Larsen
01:15:50 Anne Yates, DNRC
01:16:05 Sen. Phillips
01:16:44 Holly Franz
01:17:11 Sen. Phillips
01:17:40 Chairman Vincent
01:22:28 John Bloomquist, WAAC
01:23:54 Sen. Barrett
01:24:32 Russ McElyea, WCB

Closing by Sponsor:

01:26:12 Sen. Hamlett

Committee Business:

01:28:48 Chairman Vincent
01:29:12 Sen. Brenden

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:59 P.M.

Mary Kulawik, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas48aad.pdf](#))