

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Kerry White, on January 14, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)  
Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Ed Lieser, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Zach Brown (D)  
Rep. Virginia Court (D)  
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)  
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)  
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Keith Regier (R)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch  
Sherri Row, 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 168, 1/12/2015

00:00:12 Chairman White

### **HEARING ON HB 168**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:28 Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 168, Define combined appropriation for exempt wells in certain cases.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:20 Tim Davis, Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:05:52 Dustin Stewart, Executive Director, Montana Building Industries Association (MBIA)  
00:11:30 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)  
00:13:03 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC), Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)  
00:14:18 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association (MBA), Montana Independent Bankers (MIB)  
00:15:21 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)  
00:15:59 Mark Aagenes, Conservation Director, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)  
00:16:43 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)  
00:17:54 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
00:18:21 Jerry Hamlin, Developer, Small Business Owner

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:19:45 Rep. Noland  
00:20:24 Abigail St. Lawrence, MAR  
00:21:01 Rep. McConnell  
00:21:26 Dustin Stewart, MBIA  
00:22:11 Rep. Court  
00:23:10 Dustin Stewart, MBIA  
00:24:15 Rep. Flynn  
00:24:48 Dustin Stewart, MBIA  
00:25:26 Rep. Olsen  
00:25:55 Dustin Stewart, MBIA

#### **Closing by Sponsor:**

00:26:35 Rep. Fitzpatrick  
  
00:26:54 Chairman White

### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 46**

00:27:50 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 46 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

00:28:08 Rep. McConnell

00:28:27 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:30:24 Chairman White

00:31:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Bob Brown, Rep. Flynn, Rep. Mortensen, Rep. Noland and Rep. Regier voting no. Rep. Williams voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 49**

00:32:09 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 49 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

00:32:20 Joe Kolman, LSD

00:32:50 Chairman White

00:33:05 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Williams voted by proxy.

00:33:34 Chairman White

00:34:21 Joe Kolman, LSD

[EXHIBIT\(nah08a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah08a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah08a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah08a04\)](#)

00:37:02 Chairman White

00:38:30 Rep. Zach Brown

00:38:59 Chairman White

**ADJOURNMENT**

00:39:50      Adjournment

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Sherri Row, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nah08aad.pdf](#))