

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on January 12, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)

Members Excused: Sen. John Brenden (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Taylor Fridrich, 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 56, 1/8/2015; SB 58, 1/8/2015; SB 82, 1/8/2015; SB 88,
1/8/2015

HEARING ON SB 58

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:35 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 58, Revise public notice for certain water rights.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:42 Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
00:04:17 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC) and Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
00:04:45 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
00:05:16 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:05:52 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:06:28 Sen. Connell

HEARING ON SB 56

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:07:12 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 56, Revise river bed laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:08 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC) and Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
00:11:01 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
00:11:59 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:12:42 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:13:41 John Grimm, administrator, Real Estate Management Bureau, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:57 Sen. Kaufmann
00:14:18 Mr. Grimm, DNRC
00:14:55 Chairman Vincent
00:15:47 Mr. Grimm

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:12 Sen. Hamlett

HEARING ON SB 82

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:25 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 82, Expand water policy interim committee duties.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:26 Tammy Johnson, executive director, Montana Mining Association (MMA)
00:21:09 Rhonda Wiggers, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)
00:21:55 Jack Walsh, Montana Building Industry Association
00:22:22 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Realtors

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:23:14 Sen. Keane
00:23:57 Sen. Hamlett
00:25:14 Sen. Keane
00:25:34 Sen. Hamlett
00:26:06 Sen. Kaufmann
00:26:22 Sen. Hamlett
00:26:47 Sen. Kaufmann
00:27:30 Sen. Hamlett

Closing by Sponsor:

00:27:58 Sen. Hamlett
00:28:47 Recess
00:32:16 Sen. Brenden entered hearing.
00:33:48 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 88**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:03 Sen. John Brenden (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 88, Establish contracting laws for conservation districts.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:37:25 Mark Bostrom, administrator, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

EXHIBIT(nas06a01)

00:39:08 Elena Evans, executive director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

00:39:47 Mark Thompson, vice chairman, Sweetgrass Conservation District (SCD)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:41:24 Steve Wade, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

Informational Testimony:

00:43:15 Laurie Zeller, bureau chief, Conservation Districts, DNRC

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:39 Sen. Keane
00:44:01 Sen. Brenden
00:44:09 Sen. Keane
00:44:27 Sen. Brenden
00:44:47 Sen. Keane
00:45:11 Sen. Brenden
00:45:19 Sen. Keane
00:45:23 Sen. Brenden
00:45:35 Chairman Vincent
00:45:42 Ms. Zeller, DNRC
00:45:50 Sen. Keane
00:46:04 Ms. Zeller
00:46:19 Sen. Keane
00:46:34 Chairman Vincent
00:46:45 Sen. Kaufmann
00:47:13 Mr. Bostrom, DNRC
00:48:28 Sen. Hoven
00:49:04 Sen. Brenden
00:49:48 Sen. Hoven
00:49:59 Sen. Brenden
00:50:30 Sen. Ripley
00:50:54 Ms. Zeller
00:51:14 Sen. Ripley

00:51:19 Ms. Zeller
00:51:43 Sen. Ripley
00:52:08 Ms. Zeller
00:52:33 Sen. Keane
00:52:53 Ms. Zeller
00:53:33 Sen. Keane
00:54:30 Sen. Kaufmann
00:54:53 Ms. Zeller
00:55:24 Sen. Kaufmann
00:55:39 Ms. Zeller
00:55:43 Sen. Larsen
00:56:10 Ms. Zeller
00:56:17 Sen. Larsen
00:56:31 Ms. Zeller
00:56:58 Sen. Larsen
00:57:11 Ms. Zeller
00:57:19 Sen. Hamlett
00:57:41 Sen. Brenden
00:58:19 Chairman Vincent
00:59:12 Ms. Zeller
01:00:01 Chairman Vincent
01:00:23 Ms. Zeller
01:00:40 Chairman Vincent
01:01:24 Ms. Zeller
01:01:44 Chairman Vincent
01:02:08 Ms. Zeller
01:02:20 Chairman Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:27 Sen. Brenden
01:04:44 Chairman Vincent

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:07 PM

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

Additional Documents:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas06aad.pdf](#))