

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on January 26, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. John Brenden (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) - arrived after roll call

Members Excused: None

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 112, 1/21/2015; SB 159, 1/21/2015; SB 160, 1/21/2015

HEARING ON SB 112**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:39 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 112, Require TMDL development for certain water bodies.

00:04:07 Sen. Phillips entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:23 Aimee Grmoljez, Arch Coal (AC)

[EXHIBIT\(nas17a01\)](#)

00:06:21 Chris Stoneback, Arch Coal (AC)

00:12:11 Bud Clinch, executive director, Montana Coal Council (MCC)

00:13:56 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

00:15:55 Cary Hegreberg, executive director, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

[EXHIBIT\(nas17a02\)](#)

00:18:43 Leo Berry, attorney, Great Northern Properties (GNP)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:20:08 Archie Hayes Jr., Tongue River Water Users Association (TRWUA)

00:25:35 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

00:27:36 Sen. Ripley entered the hearing.

00:30:10 Mark Fix, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nas17a03\)](#)

00:33:45 Kate French, Bones Brothers Ranch (BBR)

[EXHIBIT\(nas17a04\)](#)

00:37:18 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon (MA)

00:40:10 Dawson Dunning, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

00:44:25 Shelbi Dantic, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

Informational Testimony:

00:44:55 George Mathieus, administrator, Planning Prevention and Assistance Division, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:45:22 Sen. Brenden

00:46:01 Mr. Berry, GNP

00:47:11 Sen. Brenden

00:47:25 Sen. Keane

00:47:57 Mr. Mathieus, DEQ
00:48:25 Sen. Keane
00:48:41 Mr. Mathieus
00:49:04 Sen. Keane
00:49:25 Mr. Mathieus
00:49:55 Sen. Keane
00:50:27 Sen. Phillips
00:50:50 Mr. Mathieus
00:51:53 Sen. Phillips
00:52:10 Mr. Mathieus
00:52:20 Sen. Phillips
00:52:37 Mr. Mathieus
00:52:52 Sen. Kaufmann
00:53:24 Mr. Mathieus
00:54:00 Sen. Kaufmann
00:54:27 Mr. Mathieus
00:54:48 Sen. Kaufmann
00:55:05 Mr. Mathieus
00:55:21 Sen. Kaufmann
00:55:31 Mr. Mathieus
00:55:37 Sen. Ripley
00:55:55 Mr. Mathieus
00:56:02 Sen. Ripley
00:56:20 Mr. Mathieus
00:56:57 Sen. Ripley
00:57:06 Mr. Mathieus
00:57:15 Sen. Larsen
00:57:44 Mr. Mathieus
00:58:25 Sen. Larsen
00:58:46 Mr. Mathieus
00:59:09 Sen. Hamlett
00:59:28 Mr. Mathieus
00:59:35 Sen. Hamlett
00:59:54 Mr. Mathieus
01:00:36 John North, chief legal counsel, DEQ
01:01:44 Sen. Hamlett
01:02:34 Mr. Mathieus
01:03:08 Sen. Hamlett
01:03:16 Mr. Mathieus
01:03:22 Sen. Connell
01:03:54 Mr. Mathieus
01:04:14 Sen. Hoven
01:04:49 Mr. Clinch, MCC
01:06:46 Sen. Keane
01:07:02 Mr. Mathieus
01:07:13 Chairman Vincent
01:07:30 Mr. Stoneback, AC
01:07:41 Chairman Vincent
01:09:08 Mr. Mathieus
01:10:06 Chairman Vincent

01:10:49 Ms. Hedges, MEIC
 01:10:52 Chairman Vincent
 01:11:08 Ms. Hedges, MEIC
 01:11:13 Chairman Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

01:11:23 Sen. Ankney
 01:15:47 Recess
 01:23:31 Sen Larsen left the hearing.
 01:25:30 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 159

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:26:19 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 159, Revise water standards for E. Montana tributaries.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:28:30 Chris Stoneback, Arch Coal (AC)
 01:32:07 Bud Clinch, executive director, Montana Coal Council (MCC)
 01:37:55 Leo Berry, attorney, Great Northern Properties (GNP)
 01:39:03 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:40:05 Archie Hayes Jr., Tongue River Water Users Association (TRWUA)
[**EXHIBIT\(nas17a05\)**](#)

01:41:50 Clint McRae, Rocker Six Cattle Company (RSCC)
[**EXHIBIT\(nas17a06\)**](#)

01:44:26 Mark Fix, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
[**EXHIBIT\(nas17a07\)**](#)

01:46:45 George Mathieus, administrator, Planning Prevention and Assistance Division,
 Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
 01:47:27 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
 01:48:31 Kate French, Bones Brothers Ranch (BBR)
[**EXHIBIT\(nas17a08\)**](#)

01:49:47 Steve Muggli, Muggli Brothers Inc. (MBI)
 01:55:27 Shelbi Dantic, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
 01:55:49 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon (MA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:56:20 Sen. Keane
 01:57:03 Mr. Mathieus, DEQ
 01:58:25 Sen Keane
 01:58:36 Mr. Mathieus
 01:58:57 Sen. Ripley
 01:59:20 Ms. Hedges, MEIC
 01:59:34 Chairman Vincent
 02:00:24 Mr. Mathieus
 02:01:10 Chairman Vincent
 02:01:36 Mr. Muggli, MBI
 02:01:53 Chairman Vincent
 02:02:12 Mr. Muggli
 02:03:04 Chairman Vincent
 02:03:16 Mr. Muggli

Closing by Sponsor:

02:03:27 Sen. Ankney

HEARING ON SB 160

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:05:31 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 160, Add definitions for natural condition of stream.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:07:35 Chris Stoneback, attorney, Arch Coal (AC)
[EXHIBIT\(nas17a09\)](#)
 02:10:55 Bud Clinch, executive director, Montana Coal Council (MCC)
 02:11:15 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:11:57 Archie Hayes Jr., Tongue River Water Users (TRWUA)
 02:13:11 Mark Fix, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
 02:15:22 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony:

02:16:12 George Mathieus, administrator, Planning Prevention and Assistance Division, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:16:39 Sen. Phillips
02:17:35 Mr. Mathieus, DEQ
02:18:06 Sen. Phillips
02:18:32 Mr. Mathieus
02:18:51 Sen. Kaufmann
02:19:51 Mr. Mathieus
02:20:24 Sen. Kaufmann
02:20:38 Mr. Mathieus
02:21:05 Sen. Keane
02:21:27 Mr. Stoneback, AC
02:22:09 Sen. Keane
02:22:20 Mr. Stoneback
02:22:35 Sen. Keane
02:23:20 Mr. Mathieus
02:23:46 Chairman Vincent
02:25:10 Mr. Mathieus
02:25:23 Chairman Vincent
02:25:51 Mr. Mathieus

Closing by Sponsor:

02:26:00 Sen. Ankney

Committee Business:

02:29:25 Chairman Vincent

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:33 P.M.

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas17aad.pdf](#))