

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on February 4, 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) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D) - arrived after roll call
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 221, 1/28/2015; SB 20, 1/28/2015

00:01:35 Sen. Hamlett entered the hearing.

HEARING ON SB 221

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:38 Sen. Debby Barrett (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 221, Transfer of Willow Creek dam to water users association.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:56 Bill Buttelman, Willow Creek Water Users Association (WCWUA)

00:04:33 Sen. Ankney entered the hearing.

00:10:23 Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:11:19 Leslie Kinne, Willow Creek Water Users Association

00:12:50 Brian Ohs, Montana Trout Unlimited

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:30 Sen. Phillips
00:13:55 Mr. Davis, DNRC
00:14:10 Sen. Barrett
00:14:50 Sen. Kaufmann
00:15:06 Mr. Davis
00:15:23 Sen. Kaufmann
00:15:40 Mr. Davis
00:16:46 Sen. Kaufmann
00:17:03 Mr. Davis
00:17:19 Sen. Kaufmann
00:17:34 Mr. Davis
00:17:57 Sen. Hoven
00:18:20 Mr. Davis
00:19:00 Sen. Hamlett
00:19:14 Mr. Davis
00:19:24 Sen. Connell
00:19:54 Mr. Davis
00:20:10 Chairman Vincent
00:20:45 Mr. Buttelman, WCWUA
00:21:15 Robert Sitz, Sitz Angus Ranch
00:22:28 Chairman Vincent
00:22:40 Mr. Davis
00:23:02 Chairman Vincent
00:23:13 Mr. Davis

00:23:22 Chairman Vincent
00:23:46 Mr. Davis

Closing by Sponsor:

00:24:16 Sen. Barrett
00:26:08 Vice Chair Ripley assumes the role as Chair.

HEARING ON SB 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:41 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 20, Reallocate metal mines license tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:32:07 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)
00:37:06 Mark Lambrecht, Treasure State Resource Industry Association (TSRIA)
00:37:57 Tim Ranf, vice president, Pioneer Technical Services Inc.

[EXHIBIT\(nas25a01\)](#)

00:41:24 Jay Skoog, executive director, American Council of Engineering Companies of Montana
00:42:54 Ronda Wiggers, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mines

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:43:48 Autumn Coleman, supervisor, Abandoned Mine Lands Section, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:44:19 Sen. Keane
00:44:48 Sen. Vincent
00:44:57 Sen. Keane
00:45:07 Sen. Vincent
00:46:11 Sen. Keane
00:46:34 Sen. Vincent
00:47:12 Sen. Keane
00:47:25 Sen. Vincent
00:47:41 Sen Keane
00:47:56 Ms. Coleman, DEQ
00:48:31 Sen. Keane
00:48:43 Ms. Coleman
00:48:53 Sen. Larsen
00:49:10 Ms. Coleman

00:49:21 Sen. Larsen
00:49:25 Ms. Coleman
00:49:52 Sen. Larsen
00:50:04 Ms. Coleman
00:50:34 Sen. Larsen
00:51:05 Ms. Coleman
00:51:45 Sen. Hoven
00:52:03 Ms. Coleman
00:52:13 Sen. Hoven
00:52:19 Ms. Coleman
00:52:40 Sen. Hoven
00:52:45 Ms. Coleman
00:53:07 Sen. Fielder
00:53:28 Ms. Coleman
00:53:59 Sen. Fielder
00:54:11 Ms. Coleman
00:54:37 Sen. Fielder
00:54:43 Sen. Vincent
00:54:49 Sen. Fielder
00:54:59 Sen. Vincent
00:55:35 Sen. Fielder
00:55:46 Sen. Vincent
00:56:01 Jenny Chambers, administrator, Remediation Division, Department of
Environmental Quality (DEQ)
00:57:06 Sen. Fielder
00:57:12 Ms. Chambers, DEQ
00:57:38 Sen. Fielder
00:57:58 Ms. Chambers
00:58:21 Sen. Phillips
00:58:53 Ms. Coleman
00:59:14 Sen. Phillips
01:00:02 Sen. Vincent
01:01:26 Sen. Ankney
01:02:00 Ms. Coleman
01:02:07 Ms. Chambers
01:02:59 Sen. Ankney
01:03:32 Ms. Chambers
01:05:27 Sen. Hamlett
01:06:00 Sen. Vincent
01:06:15 Sen. Hamlett
01:06:33 Sen. Vincent
01:06:53 Vice Chair Ripley
01:07:30 Ms. Chambers
01:09:02 Vice Chair Ripley
01:09:08 Ms. Chambers

Closing by Sponsor:

01:09:32 Sen. Vincent

Committee Business:

01:14:05 Chairman Vincent assumes the role as Chair.

01:14:07 Chairman Vincent

[EXHIBIT\(nas25a02\)](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas25aad.pdf](#))