

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Vice Chair Ripley, on March 16, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R) - arrived after roll call  
Sen. John Brenden (R)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D) - arrived after roll call  
Sen. Jim Keane (D) - arrived after roll call  
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)  
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)  
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)

**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: HB 39, 3/9/2015; HB 46, 3/9/2015; HB 49, 3/9/2015

00:00:32 Vice Chair Ripley assumed the role as chair.

**HEARING ON HB 39**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:11 Rep. Jean Price (D), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 39, Allow electronic fund transfers for trust lands.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:20 Shawn Thomas, administrator, Trust Lands Management Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:04:16 Sen. Keane entered the hearing.

00:04:30 Sen. Kaufman and Sen. Ankney entered the hearing.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:04:50 Rep. Price

**HEARING ON HB 46**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:05:17 Rep. Mitch Tropila (D), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 46, Revise rental payment calculation for commercial lease of state trust land.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:10:06 Shawn Thomas, administrator, Trust Lands Management Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:12:59 Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

00:13:48 Will Soller, Legislative Audit Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:14:13 Sen. Fielder

00:14:37 Rep. Tropila  
 00:16:06 Sen. Brenden  
 00:16:55 Rep. Tropila  
 00:17:42 Sen. Brenden  
 00:18:16 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
 00:19:18 Sen. Hoven  
 00:19:45 Mr. Thomas  
 00:20:18 Sen. Hoven  
 00:20:23 Mr. Thomas

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:52 Rep. Tropila

**HEARING ON HB 49**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:21:55 Rep. Zac Perry (D), HD 3, opened the hearing on HB 49, Revise reporting on state trust lands.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:23:27 Shawn Thomas, administrator, Trust Lands Management Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:25:43 Sen. Keane  
 00:26:10 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
 00:26:48 Sen. Keane  
 00:27:28 Mr. Thomas  
 00:27:36 Sen. Brenden  
 00:30:04 Mr. Thomas  
  
 00:30:09 Sen. Ankney left the hearing.  
  
 00:30:39 Sen. Brenden  
 00:30:47 Mr. Thomas  
 00:31:14 Sen. Brenden  
 00:31:22 Mr. Thomas  
 00:31:38 Sen. Larsen  
 00:32:04 Mr. Thomas  
 00:32:07 Sen. Larsen  
 00:32:21 Mr. Thomas  
 00:32:51 Sen. Larsen

00:33:09 Mr. Thomas  
00:33:44 Sen. Larsen  
00:34:16 Mr. Thomas  
00:34:46 Sen. Larsen  
00:34:53 Mr. Thomas  
00:35:24 Sen. Fielder  
00:35:41 Mr. Thomas  
00:36:05 Sen. Fielder  
00:36:12 Mr. Thomas  
00:36:29 Sen. Fielder  
00:37:00 Mr. Thomas  
00:38:15 Sen. Fielder  
00:38:28 Mr. Thomas  
00:38:46 Sen. Phillips  
00:39:12 Mr. Thomas  
00:39:54 Sen. Connell  
00:40:33 Mr. Thomas  
00:41:20 Sen. Connell  
00:42:16 Mr. Thomas  
00:42:46 Sen. Ripley  
00:42:59 Mr. Thomas

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:43:24 Rep. Perry

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:46 P.M.

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Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([nas54aad.pdf](#))**