

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Kerry White, on January 23, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)  
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Virginia Court (D)  
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)  
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)  
Rep. John Fleming (D)  
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)  
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Lexi Goble, Committee Secretary  
Joe Kolman, 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 110, 1/13/2017  
Executive Action: HB 124, HB 140, HB 211, HJ 3

**HEARING ON HB 110****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:57 Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 110, Revise laws for filing of exempt water right claims.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:09:29 Abigail St. Lawrence, Bloomquist Law firm  
00:12:00 John Peterson, Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:12:57 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)  
Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)  
00:14:49 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

**EXHIBIT(nah16a01)**

00:16:15 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Rights Association (MWRA)  
00:17:13 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

00:18:46 Rep. Abbott left the meeting.

00:19:00 Matt Graveley, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:20:30 Rep. Fleming  
00:21:17 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:22:17 Rep. Flynn  
00:24:41 Rep. Hamlett  
00:30:12 Chair White  
00:31:45 John Tubbs, DNRC

**EXHIBIT(nah16a02)**

00:32:17 Rep. Flynn  
00:33:14 John Tubbs, DNRC  
00:34:17 Chair White  
00:34:31 John Tubbs, DNRC  
00:34:43 John Peterson, DNRC  
00:35:32 Chair White  
00:35:36 John Peterson, DNRC  
00:35:51 Rep. Fleming  
00:37:15 John Peterson, DNRC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:22 Rep. Hamlett

00:38:30 Vice Chair Z. Brown left the meeting.

00:38:31 Rep. Court Left the Meeting.

00:39:57 Recess  
01:12:20 Reconvened

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 124**

01:12:38 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 124 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Court and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 3**

01:14:36 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HJ 3 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

01:15:12 Rep. Flynn

01:15:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Court and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

01:16:23 Chair White

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:16:47

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Lexi Goble, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([nah16aad.pdf](#))**