

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

**Call to Order:** Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on January 14, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Chair (R)  
Rep. Christopher Pope, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Derek Skees, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)  
Rep. Alan Doane (R)  
Rep. Neil Duram (R)  
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)  
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Wylie Galt (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Robyn Brown, 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 78, 1/8/2019; HB 93, 1/9/2019

15:01:14 Chair Zolnikov

**HEARING ON HB 78**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:38 Rep. Zac Perry (D), HD 3, opened the hearing on HB 78, Require public hearings for utility planning.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:04:04 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)  
15:05:36 Randy Pinocci, Commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)  
15:06:22 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)  
15:07:41 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:08:23 David Hoffman, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

**Informational Testimony:**

15:10:56 Laurie Rennick, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:11:29 Chair Zolnikov  
15:11:35 Rep. Hayman  
15:11:56 Brian Fadie, MEIC  
15:13:20 Rep. Hayman  
15:13:36 Brian Fadie, MEIC  
15:14:25 Chair Zolnikov  
15:15:40 Brian Fadie, MEIC  
15:16:22 Chair Zolnikov  
15:17:01 Robyn Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)  
15:18:09 Chair Zolnikov  
15:18:29 Robyn Arnold, PSC  
15:19:06 Chair Zolnikov  
15:19:12 Rep. Custer  
15:19:35 Rep. Perry  
15:19:46 Robyn Arnold, PSC  
15:20:22 Chair Zolnikov

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:20:36 Rep. Perry

**HEARING ON HB 93**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:21:25 Rep. Derek Skees (R), HD 11, opened the hearing on HB 93, Revise small water and sewer utility regulation.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:26:18 Leroy Beeby, self  
15:30:05 Lee Wolfe, Integrated Water Systems  
15:31:51 Mac Smith, Small Water Utilities

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:33:32 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Council (MCC)  
[EXHIBIT\(feh06a01\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(feh06a02\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:**

15:41:04 Justin Kraske, Public Service Commission (PSC)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:42:15 Chair Zolnikov  
15:42:22 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:43:35 Chair Zolnikov  
15:44:27 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:45:37 Chair Zolnikov  
15:45:55 Mac Smith, Small Water Utilities  
15:47:47 Chair Zolnikov  
15:48:02 Mac Smith, Small Water Utilities  
15:48:28 Chair Zolnikov  
15:48:36 Vice Chair Pope  
15:49:23 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:49:57 Vice Chair Pope  
15:50:18 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:50:25 Vice Chair Pope  
15:51:18 Justin Kraske, PSC  
15:52:14 Vice Chair Pope  
15:53:48 Justin Kraske, PSC  
15:55:06 Chair Zolnikov  
15:55:18 Rep. Hayman  
15:55:55 Justin Kraske, PSC  
15:57:05 Rep. Hayman  
15:57:37 Justin Kraske, PSC  
15:58:57 Rep. Olsen  
15:59:36 Justin Kraske, PSC  
16:01:25 Rep. Olsen  
16:01:32 Tony O'Donnell, Commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)  
16:05:10 Rep. Olsen  
16:06:01 Commissioner O'Donnell, PSC  
16:07:26 Rep. Olsen  
16:07:56 Commissioner O'Donnell, PSC

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16:08:31 Rep. Duram  
16:09:08 Justin Kraske, PSC  
16:10:09 Chair Zolnikov  
16:10:22 Rep. Custer  
16:10:51 Rep. Skees  
16:12:52 Rep. Olsen  
16:13:38 Rep. Skees  
16:14:15 Rep. Olsen  
16:15:11 Chair Zolnikov  
16:15:25 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
16:15:57 Vice Chair Pope  
16:16:54 Justin Kraske, PSC  
16:17:59 Vice Chair Pope  
16:18:38 Justin Kraske, PSC  
16:19:17 Chair Zolnikov  
16:19:24 Rep. Olsen  
16:20:06 Justin Brown, MCC  
16:22:21 Chair Zolnikov  
16:22:52 Leroy Beeby, self

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:25:46 Rep. Skees

**ADJOURNMENT**

16:28:52      Adjournment

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Robyn Brown, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([feh06aad.pdf](#))