

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on January 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Jacie Vonada, Committee Secretary

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 44, 1/4/2019; HB 45, 1/4/2019

15:01:20 Chair White

HEARING ON HB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:24 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 44, Clarify criteria for water rights change application.

[EXHIBIT\(nah10a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:06:41 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

15:06:58 Sam Sill, Montana Associations of Realtors (MAR)

15:07:28 Andrew Gorder, Clarkfork Coalition (CFC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:08:10 Millie Heffner, DNRC

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:08:46 Chair White

15:09:39 Rep. Zach Brown

15:09:51 Chair White

15:10:45 Millie Heffner, DNRC

15:11:32 Chair White

15:11:55 Millie Heffner, DNRC

15:12:48 Chair White

15:13:30 Millie Heffner, DNRC

15:14:14 Chair White

15:14:24 Rep. Weatherwax

15:15:05 Rep. Zach Brown

15:15:31 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

15:15:39 Zach Brown

HEARING ON HB 45

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 45, Clarify criteria for water right permit relying on waiver of adverse effect.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:21:29 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC), and Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
15:23:52 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)
15:24:15 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF), and Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)
15:25:00 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
15:25:15 Sam Sill, MAR
15:25:31 Millie Heffner, DNRC
15:25:44 Clayton Elliot, MTU

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from the Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:26:24 Rep. Zach Brown
15:27:05 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:27:38

Jacie Vonada, Secretary

jv

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah10aad.pdf](#))