

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on January 21, 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. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Wylie Galt (R)

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 203, 1/15/2019; HB 206, 1/15/2019

15:01:50 Chair Zolnikov

HEARING ON HB 203

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:33 Rep. Rodney Garcia (R), HD 52, opened the hearing on HB 203, Provide bonding for purchase of coal-fired energy generation.

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:04:02 Bob Gilbert, City of Colestrip

15:06:17 Adam Haight, Montana AFL-CIO

15:07:00 Darryl Holzer, State Building and Construction Trades

15:08:52 Candace Payne, Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership, Yellowstone Energy Limited Partnership, Rosebud Operating Services, and Billings Generation, Inc.

Opponents' Testimony:

15:10:56 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Chamber of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a02\)](#)

15:13:41 Representative Olsen left the meeting.

15:19:22 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:25:20 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a03\)](#)

15:31:27 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon Society

15:33:03 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

Informational Testimony:

15:36:12 Tony O'Donnell, Commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:38:37 Vice Chair Skees

15:38:55 Rep. Garcia

15:41:09 Vice Chair Skees

15:41:22 Rep. Garcia

15:42:13 Vice Chair Skees

15:42:23 Anne Hedges, MEIC

15:43:06 Chair Zolnikov

15:43:23 Anne Hedges, MEIC

15:44:09 Chair Zolnikov

15:44:19 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

Closing by Sponsor:

15:45:26 Rep. Garcia

HEARING ON HB 206

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:47:53 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 206, Clarify a rural cooperative utility's authority.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:49:40 Mark Johnson, Flathead Electric Cooperative

EXHIBIT(feh11a04)

15:52:52 Mark Hayden, Missoula Electric Cooperative

EXHIBIT(feh11a05)

15:56:58 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperative Association (MECA)

16:00:12 Rep. Olsen re-joined the meeting.

16:08:13 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:11:06 Rep. Redfield

16:11:28 Doug Hardy, MECA

16:13:38 Vice Chair Pope

16:14:16 Doug Hardy, MECA

16:14:55 Vice Chair Pope

16:16:27 Rep. Olsen

16:17:08 Doug Hardy, MECA

16:18:19 Vice Chair Skees

16:18:32 Doug Hardy, MECA

16:19:29 Chair Zolnikov

16:20:03 Geoff Feiss, MTA

16:20:55 Chair Zolnikov

Closing by Sponsor:

16:21:12 Rep. Garner

ADJOURNMENT

16:22:58 Adjournment

Robyn Brown, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh11aad.pdf](#))