

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Kerry White, on January 23, 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. 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. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Zach Brown (D)

**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 57, 1/4/2019; HB 58, 1/4/2019; HB 80, 1/4/2019

15:01:40 Chair White

**HEARING ON HB 80**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:23 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 80, Revise water reservation process in Missouri, Little Missouri rivers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:03:01 Millie Heffner, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from the Committee Members and Responses:**

15:06:03 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
15:06:52 Millie Heffner, DNRC  
15:07:09 Chair White  
15:07:26 Millie Heffner, DNRC

**Closing by the Sponsor:**

15:07:43 Rep. Curdy  
15:08:33 Chair White  
15:09:30 Rep Zach Brown entered the room

**HEARING ON HB 57**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:10:02 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 57, Clarify placement of definitions in water law.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:11:27 Millie Heffner, DNRC

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from the Committee Members and Responses:**

15:13:20 Chair White  
15:13:55 Millie Heffner, DNRC  
15:14:01 Chair White  
15:14:53 Millie Heffner, DNRC  
15:15:55 Chair White  
15:16:31 Millie Heffner, DNRC  
15:17:06 Chair White

**Closing by the Sponsor:**

15:17:18 Rep. Zach Brown  
15:17:38 Chair White

**HEARING ON HB 58****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:17:50 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 58, Revise report requirement from drought and water supply advisory committee.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:21:47 Michael Downey, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
15:24:00 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

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

15:24:43 Rep. Farris-Olsen  
15:25:15 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:25:42 Rep. Fitzgerald  
15:26:18 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:27:31 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
15:28:08 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:29:35 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
15:30:20 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:30:47 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
15:31:14 Chair White  
15:32:02 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:33:00 Chair White  
15:34:31 Michael Downey, DNRC

15:35:59 Chair White  
15:36:53 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:37:02 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
15:37:28 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:40:01 Vice Chair Curdy  
15:40:34 Michael Downey, DNRC  
15:41:30 Chair White  
15:41:50 Michael Downey, DNRC

**Closing by the Sponsor:**

15:43:04 Rep. Zach Brown  
15:46:16 Chair White  
15:46:30 Rep. Zach Brown exits the room

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 56**

15:47:50 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 56 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 119**

15:48:44 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 119 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

15:48:50 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
**EXHIBIT(nah13a01)**

15:49:00 Chair White  
15:49:07 Joe Kolman, LSD  
15:49:40 Chair White  
15:49:50 Joe Kolman, LSD  
15:49:53 Chair White

15:50:04 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 119 BE AMENDED**.

15:50:16 Vice Chair Curdy  
15:50:30 Chair White  
15:51:25 Rep. Curdy  
15:51:31 Chair White  
15:52:04 Rep. Marler  
15:53:34 Rep. Bob Brown

15:54:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Z. Brown voted by proxy.

15:55:20 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 119 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

15:55:35 Rep. Mortensen

15:56:11 Rep. Noland

15:56:46 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen

15:57:05 Rep. Curdy

15:58:45 Rep. Bob Brown

15:59:05 Vice Chair Manzella

15:59:14 Rep. Bob Brown

15:59:22 Rep. Noland

16:00:13 Chair White

16:01:09 Rep. Marler

16:02:33 Rep. Casey Knudsen

16:03:10 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. B. Brown, Rep. Gunderson, Rep. C. Knudsen, Rep. R. Knudsen, Rep. Manzella, Rep. Mortensen and Rep. Noland voting no. Rep. Z. Brown voted by proxy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment:** 16:04:56

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Jacie Vonada, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nah13aad.pdf](#))