

## MINUTES

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

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on February 4, 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. 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. Alan Doane (R)  
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 356, 1/31/2019; HB 314, 1/29/2019

15:03:03 Chair Zolnikov

**HEARING ON HB 356**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:04:16 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 356, Revise the composition of the committee on telecommunications access services.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:05:38 Nick Domitrovich, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

15:10:45 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None.

**Informational Testimony:**

None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:12:22 Chair Zolnikov

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:12:53 Rep. Funk

**HEARING ON HB 314**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:13:37 Rep. Tom Woods (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 314, Require certain utilities to file general rate cases.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:18:26 Randy Pinocci, Commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(feh22a01\)](#)

15:18:55 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Council (MCC)

15:20:01 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition (NW Energy Coalition)

15:21:29 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:22:19 David Hoffman, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

15:28:25 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU Resources Group

**Informational Testimony:**

None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:28:56 Chair Zolnikov

15:29:38 Jason Brown, MCC

15:30:35 Chair Zolnikov

15:31:07 Jason Brown, MCC

15:31:40 Rep. Custer  
15:32:26 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:33:00 Rep. Custer  
15:33:20 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:35:02 Vice Chair Pope  
15:35:46 Commissioner Pinocci, PSC  
15:37:34 Vice Chair Pope  
15:38:06 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)  
15:39:32 Vice Chair Pope  
15:40:23 Diego Rivas, NW Energy Coalition  
15:41:56 Vice Chair Pope  
15:42:51 Diego Rivas, NW Energy Coalition  
15:43:58 Rep. Olsen  
15:46:39 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:50:06 Rep. Olsen  
15:50:45 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:52:26 Rep. Hayman  
15:52:49 Jason Brown, MCC  
15:54:19 Rep. Duram  
15:54:48 David Hoffman, NWE  
15:56:53 Rep. Duram  
15:57:44 David Hoffman, NWE  
15:59:48 Chair Zolnikov  
16:00:20 Rep. Woods  
16:01:00 Chair Zolnikov  
16:01:27 Rep. Woods  
16:02:59 Chair Zolnikov  
16:04:15 Vice Chair Skees  
16:04:29 Robin Arnold, PSC  
16:05:03 Vice Chair Skees  
16:05:09 Robin Arnold, PSC  
16:05:32 Vice Chair Skees  
16:05:48 Robin Arnold, PSC  
16:06:51 Vice Chair Skees  
16:07:24 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:08:07 Vice Chair Skees  
16:08:32 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:08:58 Vice Chair Skees  
16:09:15 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:09:35 Vice Chair Pope  
16:11:26 Rep. Woods  
16:13:05 Vice Chair Pope  
16:13:23 Rep. Woods  
16:14:01 Vice Chair Pope  
16:14:46 Rep. Woods  
16:15:24 Rep. Hayman  
16:16:00 Jason Brown, MCC  
16:16:57 Rep. Hayman  
16:17:03 Jason Brown, MCC  
16:18:13 Rep. Custer

16:18:39 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:19:18 Rep. Custer  
16:20:20 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:20:48 Chair Zolnikov  
16:21:02 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:21:46 Rep. Olsen  
16:22:07 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:22:53 Rep. Olsen  
16:23:20 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:23:56 Vice Chair Skees  
16:24:11 Robin Arnold, PSC  
16:24:58 Chair Zolnikov  
16:25:26 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:26:06 Chair Zolnikov  
16:26:33 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:26:44 Chair Zolnikov  
16:27:01 David Hoffman, NWE  
16:27:37 Chair Zolnikov

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:27:56 Rep. Woods

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:31:33

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Robyn Brown, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([feh22aad.pdf](#))