

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Geraldine Custer, on February 12, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Geraldine Custer, Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Greg DeVries (R)
Rep. Frank Fleming (R)
Rep. Rodney Garcia (R)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Jasmine Krotkov (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Derek Skees (R)
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Branch
Chris Bushnell, 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 324, 1/31/2019; HB 329, 1/31/2019; SB 104, 2/1/2019
Executive Action: HB 253, HB 321, HB 326

14:59:16 Chair Custer

HEARING ON SB 104

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:00:50 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 104, Allow counties to establish county auditor as part-time office.

[EXHIBIT\(loh29a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:03:18 John Ostlund, Commissioner, Yellowstone County, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:05:24 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:06:34 Rep. Grubbs

15:07:15 Commissioner Ostlund, Yellowstone County, MACo

15:08:21 Rep. Grubbs

15:08:43 Jason Rittal, MACo

15:09:37 Vice Chair Fern

15:10:01 Jason Rittal, MACo

15:10:12 Vice Chair Fern

15:10:44 Jason Rittal, MACo

Closing by Sponsor:

15:11:54 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23

15:13:03 Sen. Webb, SD 23

15:13:10 Chair Custer

15:13:17 Sen. Webb, SD 23

15:13:20 Chair Custer

HEARING ON HB 324

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:13:40 Rep. Walt Sales (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 324, Generally revise laws related to county water and/or sewer districts.

15:16:44 Rep. Zolnikov left the meeting

Proponents' Testimony:

15:16:57 Susan Swimley, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District

15:21:45 Nathan Bilyeu, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District

15:27:25 Anna Miller, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

15:29:18 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:30:21 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
15:31:16 Nathan Bilyeu, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:32:04 Rep. Skees
15:32:30 Nathan Bilyeu, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:32:52 Rep. Skees
15:33:08 Nathan Bilyeu, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:33:56 Rep. Skees
15:34:05 Nathan Bilyeu, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:34:13 Vice Chair Fern
15:34:39 Jason Rittal, MACo
15:34:53 Vice Chair Fern
15:35:12 Susan Swimley, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:35:46 Vice Chair Fern
15:36:08 Susan Swimley, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District
15:38:18 Rep. Skees
15:38:42 Susan Swimley, Four Corners County Water/Sewer District

Closing by Sponsor:

15:40:22 Rep. Walt Sales (R), HD 69

HEARING ON HB 329

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:41:28 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 329, Provide funding for local emergency services.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:45:07 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:46:01 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MLHA)
15:48:35 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
15:50:36 Jennifer Pelej, Montana Department of Commerce (DOC)
15:54:02 Sarah Bannon, Southwest Montana
15:56:47 Leslie Feigel, Livingston Chamber of Commerce
16:00:06 Racene Friede, Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission

[EXHIBIT\(loh29a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(loh29a03\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:04:30 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:04:49 Rep. Redfield
16:05:11 Vice Chair Gunderson

16:05:22 Rep. Redfield
16:05:34 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:05:46 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
16:06:02 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:06:12 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
16:06:37 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:07:11 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
16:07:26 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:07:30 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
16:07:49 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:08:14 Rep. Manzella
16:09:00 Jason Rittal, MACo
16:09:57 Rep. Manzella
16:10:13 Jason Rittal, MACo
16:10:20 Rep. Skees
16:10:48 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:11:52 Rep. Skees
16:12:53 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:13:30 Rep. Skees
16:13:41 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:14:07 Rep. Skees
16:14:45 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:15:53 Rep. Skees
16:16:47 Rep. Redfield
16:17:18 Rep. Pope
16:18:39 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:20:08 Rep. Gunderson
16:20:31 Rep. Redfield
16:21:13 Rep. Fern
16:21:38 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:21:47 Rep. Fern
16:22:23 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:23:00 Rep. Skees
16:23:23 Jennifer Pelej, DOC
16:23:55 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:24:14 Jennifer Pelej, DOC

Closing by Sponsor:

16:25:08 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59

16:26:51 Recessed
16:37:28 Reconvened

16:37:29 Rep. Zolnikov joined the meeting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 253

16:37:37 **Motion:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **HB 253 DO PASS.**

16:37:55 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Fern made a substitute motion that **HB 253 BE TABLED**. Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Garner and Rep. Schreiner voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 321

16:38:46 **Motion:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **HB 321 DO PASS**.

16:38:52 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Fern moved that **HB 321 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Garner and Rep. Schreiner voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 326

16:39:31 **Motion:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **HB 326 DO PASS**.

16:39:41 **Motion:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **HB 326 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(loh29a04\)](#)

Discussion:

16:40:07 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

16:40:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Garner and Rep. Schreiner voted by proxy.

16:41:13 **Motion:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **HB 326 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

Discussion:

16:41:25 Rep. Skees

16:41:42 Rep. Krotkov

16:42:51 Rep. Pope

16:43:17 Rep. Skees

16:43:58 Rep. Gunderson

16:44:33 Chair Custer

16:45:22 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-1 by roll call vote with Rep. Krotkov voting no. Rep. Garner and Rep. Schreiner voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:46:39

Chris Bushnell, Secretary

cb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([loh29aad.pdf](#))