

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Kerry White, on February 13, 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. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)  
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Zach Brown (D)  
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (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 383, 2/4/2019; HB 286, 2/4/2019

- 15:07:07 Chair White
- 15:08:19 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen arrived to the meeting.
- 15:08:34 Rep. Noland assumed the Chair.

### **HEARING ON HB 383**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 15:08:44 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 383, Extend deadline for appeal of streambed permit.
- 15:09:55 Rep. Zach Brown arrived to the meeting.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

- 15:10:47 Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGA)

#### **Opponents' Testimony:**

- 15:12:10 Dan McGowan, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

#### **Informational Testimony:**

- 15:14:22 Mark Bostrom, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
[EXHIBIT\(nah30a01\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(nah30a02\)](#)

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

- 15:15:45 Vice Chair Curdy
- 15:16:32 Mr. McGowan, MACD
- 15:17:15 Rep. Bob Brown
- 15:18:18 Mr. McGowan, MACD
- 15:19:26 Rep. Bob Brown
- 15:19:43 Mr. McGowan, MACD
- 15:20:01 Rep. Bob Brown
- 15:20:11 Rep. Farris-Olsen
- 15:20:40 Ms. St. Lawrence
- 15:21:14 Chair Noland
- 15:21:20 Rep. White
- 15:22:23 Chair Noland

#### **Closing by Sponsor:**

- 15:21:49 Rep. White
- 15:27:05 Chair White resumed the Chair.

**HEARING ON HB 286****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 15:27:17 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 286, Review water right laws related to state water claims.
- 15:28:29 Vice Chair Manzella arrived to the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

- 15:30:37 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC), Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a07\)](#)

- 15:45:37 Colleen Coyle, self
- 15:47:31 Rep. Casey Knudsen arrived to meeting.
- 15:49:17 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA), Montana Cattle Women (MCW)

[EXHIBIT\(nah30a08\)](#)

- 15:54:03 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau
- 15:55:49 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
- 15:56:36 Rep. Zach Brown left the meeting.
- 15:57:31 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
- 15:58:37 Susan Lake, self
- 16:00:00 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Water Wells Driller Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

- 16:00:50 Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGGA)
- 16:03:24 Shawn Thomas, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- 16:07:35 Jan Langel, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- 16:10:37 Brian Bramblett, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Informational Testimony:**

- 16:20:31 Bill Schenk, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

- 16:21:12 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen
- 16:22:07 Ms. Coyle, self
- 16:24:03 Vice Chair Curdy
- 16:24:40 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC
- 16:26:13 Vice Chair Curdy
- 16:27:00 Mr. Thomas, DNRC

16:30:49 Vice Chair Manzella  
16:31:38 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:32:02 Vice Chair Manzella  
16:32:16 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:32:28 Vice Chair Manzella  
16:32:47 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:33:33 Vice Chair Manzella  
16:33:46 Chair White  
16:34:11 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:34:17 Chair White  
16:34:34 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:34:50 Chair White  
16:36:00 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:36:59 Chair White  
16:38:06 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
16:39:05 Chair White  
16:39:25 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
16:39:44 Chair White  
16:40:12 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
16:40:20 Chair White  
16:40:34 Rep. Noland  
16:41:38 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:42:30 Rep. Noland  
16:43:26 Rep. Fitzgerald  
16:44:23 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
16:45:11 Rep. Fitzgerald  
16:45:28 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
16:45:58 Rep. Bob Brown  
16:46:50 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:47:30 Rep. Bob Brown  
16:47:47 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:48:03 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
16:48:59 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI  
16:49:21 Rep. Redfield  
16:50:03 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen  
16:50:14 Vice Chair Curdy  
16:50:41 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:50:44 Vice Chair Curdy  
16:51:00 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:51:14 Chair White  
16:51:23 Rep. Farris-Olsen  
16:52:04 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:52:30 Rep. Farris-Olsen  
16:52:40 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:53:34 Chair White  
16:54:10 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:54:59 Chair White  
16:55:26 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
16:56:02 Chair White  
16:57:19 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC

16:58:29 Chair White  
16:59:44 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
17:00:22 Chair White  
17:00:46 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
17:01:18 Rep. Gunderson  
17:01:37 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:01:56 Rep. Bob Brown  
17:02:28 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:03:30 Rep. Bob Brown  
17:03:43 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:04:15 Rep. Gunderson  
17:05:16 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:05:47 Rep. Gunderson  
17:06:02 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:06:07 Rep. Gunderson  
17:06:23 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:06:56 Rep. Gunderson  
17:07:31 Vice Chair Curdy  
17:07:44 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC  
17:08:04 Vice Chair Curdy  
17:08:12 Mr. Bramblett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

17:08:26 Rep. Redfield  
  
17:10:52 Chair White

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:11:59

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Jacie Vonada, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nah30aad.pdf](#))