

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on February 18, 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. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (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: HJ 14, 2/13/2019; HB 399, 2/8/2019; HB 418, 2/8/2019

15:03:22 Chair White
15:04:42 Vice Chair Manzella assumed the Chair.

HEARING ON HB 399

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:08 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 399, Revise definition in streambed protection laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

15:08:00 Dan McGowan, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
15:13:35 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)
15:14:02 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
15:14:42 Dean Rogge, Garfield County Conservation District
15:15:23 Eric Roberts, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

EXHIBIT(nah34a01)

15:19:13 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:20:14 Rep. Gunderson
15:20:43 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:20:54 Rep. Gunderson
15:21:11 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:21:38 Vice Chair Curdy
15:22:29 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:23:39 Rep. Noland
15:24:11 Rep. White
15:27:44 Rep. Farris-Olsen
15:28:04 Mr. Roberts, FWP
15:28:28 Rep. Farris-Olsen
15:28:51 Rep. Noland
15:29:47 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:30:52 Rep. Bob Brown
15:31:36 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:33:25 Vice Chair Curdy
15:34:04 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
15:34:36 Rep. Bob Brown
15:35:17 Mr. Roberts, FWP
15:36:04 Chair Manzella
15:36:31 Mr. McGowan, MACD
15:37:29 Rep. Zach Brown arrived to the meeting.

Closing by Sponsor:

15:39:34 Rep. White
15:41:58 Rep. Bob Brown

15:42:29 Rep. White resumed the Chair.

HEARING ON HB 418**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:43:01 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 418, Clarify state's position on global warming and greenhouse gases.

[EXHIBIT\(nah34a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:47:52 Ed. Berry, self

[EXHIBIT\(nah34a03\)](#)

16:06:12 Valerie Berry, self

Opponents' Testimony:

16:07:25 David Klemp, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
16:09:38 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)
16:13:47 Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon
16:16:45 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
16:18:44 Malcolm Gilbert, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
16:20:08 Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:21:04 Chair White
16:21:41 Rep. Zach Brown
16:21:50 Chair White
16:22:23 Mr. Smith, Montana Audubon
16:22:46 Chair White
16:23:15 Ms. Sellers, NPRC
16:23:52 Chair White
16:24:12 Ms. Sellers, NPRC
16:25:00 Chair White
16:26:25 Ms. Sellers, NPRC
16:26:40 Chair White
16:26:46 Rep. Marler
16:28:06 Mr. Berry, self
16:29:03 Chair White
16:29:20 Rep. Marler
16:30:07 Mr. Berry, self
16:31:32 Rep. Marler
16:31:55 Mr. Berry
16:32:03 Valerie Berry
16:32:16 Mr. Berry

16:33:15 Chair White
16:33:33 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:34:12 Rep. Read
16:36:51 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:37:14 Rep. Read
16:39:11 Rep. Manzella
16:39:30 Mr. Berry
16:40:22 Rep. Farris-Olsen
16:41:12 Mr. Berry
16:41:25 Valerie Berry
16:41:30 Mr. Berry
16:44:11 Chair White
16:44:31 Rep. Marler
16:44:43 Rep. Farris-Olsen
16:44:58 Chair White
16:46:10 Rep. Farris-Olsen
16:47:00 Chair White
16:47:14 Rep. Farris-Olsen
16:47:27 Chair White
16:47:35 Mr. Berry
16:53:15 Rep. Zach Brown
16:54:38 Rep. Read
16:58:14 Rep. Zach Brown
16:58:32 Rep. Read
16:58:46 Rep. Zach Brown

16:59:03 Rep. Casey Knudsen left the meeting.

16:59:10 Rep. Read
17:00:47 Vice Chair Curdy
17:01:23 Mr. Klemp, DEQ
17:02:10 Chair White
17:02:34 Mr. Klemp, DEQ
17:02:40 Chair White
17:02:54 Mr. Klemp, DEQ
17:03:59 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

17:04:13 Rep. Read

17:11:31 Recessed
17:24:23 Reconvened

HEARING ON HJ 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:24:35 Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HJ 14, Study of future of the Water Court.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:28:27 Russ McElyea, Judge, Water Court
17:30:07 Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGGA)
17:30:45 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)
17:31:09 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
17:32:08 Holly Franz, Northwestern Energy

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:33:20 Chair White
17:34:09 Ms. Franz, Northwestern Energy
17:35:13 Chair White
17:35:41 Rep. Hamlett
17:36:20 Chair White
17:36:57 Rep. Hamlett
17:37:57 Rep. Bob Brown
17:39:03 Rep. Hamlett
17:39:24 Rep. Zach Brown
17:40:10 Judge McElyea

Closing by Sponsor:

17:41:39 Rep. Hamlett

17:43:15 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:44:02

Jacie Vonada, Secretary

jv

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah34aad.pdf](#))