

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on March 22, 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. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (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: SB 49, 2/28/2019; SB 296, 2/28/2019; SB 201, 3/6/2019
Executive Action: HB 411, HB 32

15:04:07 Chair White

HEARING ON SB 201

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:06:45 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 201, Revise requirements to hold a mining permit.

15:06:50 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter arrived to the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:11:51 Adam Haight, Montana American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

15:13:14 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

15:14:57 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:14:45 Rep. Noland arrived to the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:15:54 Ed Coleman, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:16:26 Chair White

15:16:35 Mr. Coleman, DEQ

15:16:40 Rep. Bob Brown

15:17:12 Sen. Ankney

Closing by Sponsor:

15:18:05 Sen. Ankney

HEARING ON SB 49

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:20:19 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 49, Amend method for measuring water for aquifer recharge or mitigation.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:22:56 Barbara Chillcott, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

15:24:55 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC), Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

15:26:41 Steve Skinner, self

15:32:40 Chair White

15:33:05 Ron Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:34:02 Vice Chair Curdy

15:34:11 Rep. Weatherwax arrived to the meeting.

15:34:29 Ms. Chillcott, DNRC

15:35:33 Chair White

15:36:58 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:37:45 Chair White

15:38:11 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:38:44 Chair White

15:39:22 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:39:58 Chair White

15:40:33 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:41:33 Rep. Zach Brown

15:41:56 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:42:54 Rep. Zach Brown

15:43:26 Ms. Evans, SrWRC, AGAI

15:44:29 Rep. Zach Brown

15:44:58 Mr. Skinner, self

15:46:10 Rep. Zach Brown

15:46:18 Mr. Skinner, self

15:46:27 Chair White

15:47:06 Sen. Cohenour

15:49:39 Chair White

15:51:35 Ms. Chillcott, DNRC

15:53:33 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

15:53:42 Sen. Cohenour

HEARING ON SB 296**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:55:01 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 296, Private right of action for waste of water.

[EXHIBIT\(nah59a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:57:55 Holly Franz, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(nah59a02\)](#)

16:01:07 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC), Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigator (AGAI)

16:02:23 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrowers Associations (MSGA)

16:02:57 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

16:03:24 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

16:03:56 Liz Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau (MFB)

16:04:26 Barbara Chillcott, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:05:25 Peter Scott, City of Bozeman

[EXHIBIT\(nah59a03\)](#)**Informational Testimony:**

16:14:17 Jack Connors, self

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:15:53 Chair White
16:17:05 Sen. Fitzpatrick
16:17:51 Chair White
16:19:27 Sen. Fitzpatrick
16:20:19 Chair White
16:20:33 Ms. Franz, NWE
16:21:38 Vice Chair Curdy
16:22:49 Sen. Fitzpatrick
16:23:31 Chair White
16:24:23 Sen. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

16:25:39 Sen. Fitzpatrick

16:26:19 Chair White

16:27:13 Recessed

16:32:00 Reconvened

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:**HB 411 Amendment Discussion:**

16:32:12 Chair White
16:35:52 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
16:40:19 Chair White
16:43:00 Vice Chair Curdy
16:44:23 Chair White
16:44:54 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:45:02 Chair White
16:45:19 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:45:24 Chair White
16:45:52 Rep. Zach Brown
16:46:07 Rep. Gunderson
16:46:34 Chair White
16:47:08 Rep. Gunderson
16:47:19 Chair White
16:47:24 Vice Chair Manzella
16:47:35 Chair White
16:47:47 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:48:21 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:49:16 Chair White
16:49:31 Rep. Bob Brown

16:49:55 Chair White
16:51:08 Rep. Bob Brown
16:51:16 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:51:36 Chair White
16:51:41 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:51:47 Chair White
16:51:56 Rep. Zach Brown
16:52:06 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:55:39 Rep. Zach Brown
16:57:10 Vice Chair Curdy
16:57:27 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:58:22 Rep. Gunderson
16:58:38 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
16:59:49 Chair White
17:00:54 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
17:01:06 Ms. Stockwell, LSD
17:01:21 Rep. Bob Brown
17:01:56 Chair White
17:02:08 Vice Chair Curdy
17:02:29 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen
17:02:56 Chair White
17:03:12 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen
17:03:28 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
17:04:10 Chair White
17:04:44 Rep. Zach Brown
17:06:51 Chair White
17:07:50 Rep. Gunderson
17:08:34 Chair White
17:10:05 Rep. Marler
17:10:48 Chair White
17:11:01 Rep. Bob Brown
17:12:12 Chair White
17:12:40 Rep. Bob Brown
17:12:51 Rep. Noland
17:14:29 Rep. Zach Brown
17:16:09 Chair White

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 411

17:16:36 **Motion:** Rep. Curdy moved that **HB 411 DO PASS.**

17:16:51 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 411 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:17:15 Chair White

17:17:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. C. Knudsen and Rep. Mortensen voted by proxy.

17:18:19 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Curdy moved that **HB 411 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 13-2 by roll call vote with Rep. B. Brown and Rep. R. Knudsen voting no. Rep. C. Knudsen and Rep. Mortensen voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 32

17:20:09 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Manzella moved that **HB 32 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. C. Knudsen and Rep. Mortensen voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:20:40

Jacie Vonada, Secretary

jv

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah59aad.pdf](#))