

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on April 8, 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. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mark Noland (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 44, 4/3/2019; SB 329, 4/1/2019; SB 343, 4/2/2019
Executive Action: SB 247

15:07:52 Chair White

HEARING ON HJ 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:09:22 Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HJ 44, Interim study of timber conservation licenses.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:12:54 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA), Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGGA)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:14:31 Shawn Thomas, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

15:15:53 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association (MWPA)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a02\)](#)

15:17:31 William Selph, Montana Office to the Secretary of the State (SOS)

15:18:08 Jessie Luther, Idaho Forest Group (IFG)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:19:07 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

15:19:48 Rep. Hamlett

15:21:56 Chair White

15:22:17 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

15:22:31 Chair White

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 247

15:24:22 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a03\)](#)

15:25:07 Chair White

15:25:26 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 247 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:25:35 **Motion:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 247 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:25:47 Rep. Casey Knudsen

15:26:12 Chair White

15:26:36 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

15:26:43 Chair White

- 15:27:37 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Marler and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Noland voted by proxy.
- 15:28:43 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Manzella moved that **SB 247 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 13-2 by roll call vote with Rep. C. Knudsen and Rep. R. Knudsen voting no. Rep. Noland voted by proxy. Rep. Curdy will carry the bill.
- 15:30:00 Chair White
- 15:30:38 Vice Chair Manzella
- 15:32:45 Chair White
- 15:33:08 Rep. Bob Brown
- 15:33:16 Chair White
- 15:33:33 Recessed
- 15:33:50 Rep Weatherwax left the meeting.
- 15:33:51 Rep. Farris-Olsen left the meeting.
- 15:49:00 Reconvened
- 15:49:17 Chair White

HEARING ON SB 329

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

- 15:50:01 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 329, Allow for extension of state coal leases.

Proponents' Testimony:

- 15:52:01 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)
- 15:53:41 Steve Wade, Great Northern Properties

Opponents' Testimony:

- 15:56:42 John Tubbs, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a04\)](#)

- 15:57:57 Beth Kaeding, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah73a07\)](#)

- 16:02:18 Malcolm Gilbert, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:03:53 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:04:17 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:06:43 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:06:58 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:07:55 Chair White
16:08:15 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:08:18 Chair White
16:08:47 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:09:45 Chair White
16:10:11 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:10:27 Chair White
16:12:00 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:12:09 Chair White
16:12:19 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:12:34 Chair White
16:13:51 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:14:43 Chair White
16:15:39 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:16:24 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
16:16:47 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:17:19 Rep. Fitzgerald
16:17:40 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:17:48 Rep. Fitzgerald
16:18:04 Director Tubbs, DNRC

16:18:45 Rep. Noland arrived to the meeting.

16:19:11 Rep. Fitzgerald
16:19:28 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:19:43 Monte Mason, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
16:20:52 Chair White
16:21:28 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:21:43 Chair White
16:22:04 Director Tubbs, DNRC
16:23:24 Chair White
16:23:48 Director Tubbs, DNRC

Closing by Sponsor:

16:25:04 Sen. Richmond

HEARING ON SB 343**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:28:37 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 343, Revise open cut laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:31:04 David Smith, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)
[EXHIBIT\(nah73a08\)](#)

16:33:45 Chris Dorrington, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
16:38:10 Gary Forrester, Knife River Cooperation
16:39:15 Rob Koelzer, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)
16:43:05 Colin Cooney, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)
16:43:30 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
16:43:56 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:44:44 Mark Carlstrom, MGC Consultants
[EXHIBIT\(nah73a09\)](#)

16:51:56 Carly Bishop, self
[EXHIBIT\(nah73a10\)](#)

16:59:00 Clint Worman, self

17:00:30 Rep. Casey Knudsen left the meeting.

17:10:06 Ray Halsey, Johnson Lane Materials (JLM)
17:17:18 Marianne Kaelberer, self
[EXHIBIT\(nah73a11\)](#)

17:25:02 Tom Stockert, Musselshell County
[EXHIBIT\(nah73a12\)](#)

17:28:33 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
17:30:50 Fred Romanjenko, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:32:12 Rep. Gunderson
17:32:33 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:32:49 Ed Coleman, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
17:33:26 Rep. Gunderson
17:33:38 Mr. Coleman, DEQ
17:33:54 Rep. Marler
17:34:29 Sen. Richmond
17:36:37 Rep. Marler
17:37:22 Sen. Richmond

17:37:28 Rep. Marler
17:37:57 Sen. Richmond
17:38:38 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ

EXHIBIT(nah73a13)

EXHIBIT(nah73a14)

17:45:00 Vice Chair Manzella
17:45:34 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:45:45 Mr. Coleman, DEQ
17:47:34 Vice Chair Manzella
17:48:24 Mr. Carlstrom, MGC Consultants
17:48:50 Vice Chair Manzella
17:49:06 Mr. Carlstrom, MGC Consultants

17:52:30 Vice Chair Curdy
17:53:08 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:54:14 Vice Chair Curdy
17:55:01 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:58:20 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
17:58:34 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:58:48 Chair White
17:59:18 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
17:59:52 Chair White
18:02:12 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:02:39 Chair White
18:02:58 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:03:15 Chair White
18:03:42 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:04:23 Chair White

18:04:28 Rep. Gunderson left the meeting.
18:04:52 Rep. Bob Brown left the meeting.
18:04:54 Vice Chair Manzella left the meeting.

18:05:12 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:05:24 Chair White
18:05:48 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:05:57 Rep. Fitzgerald
18:06:07 Mr. Dorrington, DEQ
18:06:20 Mr. Coleman, DEQ
18:06:48 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

18:07:16 Sen. Richmond

18:11:16 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:11:37

Jacie Vonada, Secretary

jv

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah73aad.pdf](#))