

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Call to Order:** Chair Mike Lang, on January 28, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mike Lang, Chair (R)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D)  
Sen. Nate McConnell (D)  
Sen. Roger Webb (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)  
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Toni Henneman, Legislative Branch  
Jack Racicot, 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 161, 1/23/2019; SB 163, 1/23/2019

**HEARING ON SB 163**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:10 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 163, Generally revise lighting improvement district laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:03:38 Jan Thomson-Rouse, NorthWestern Energy  
15:05:05 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:06:17 Sen. Webb  
15:06:59 Sen. Fitzpatrick  
15:07:44 Sen. Webb  
15:07:58 Sen. Fitzpatrick

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:08:20 Sen. Fitzpatrick

**HEARING ON SB 161**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:08:37 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 161, Allow concurrent service as water/sewer director and rural fire district trustee.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:10:14 Sarah Peck, Black Eagle Cascade County Water District  
15:11:50 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:13:04 Sen. Ellsworth  
15:14:13 Sen. Jacobson  
15:15:25 Sen. Ellsworth  
15:16:10 Sen. Jacobson  
15:16:27 Sen. Ellsworth  
15:16:39 Sen. Jacobson  
15:16:46 Sen. Gauthier  
15:17:14 Sen. Jacobson  
15:17:32 Ms. Peck, Black Eagle  
15:18:10 Sen. Gauthier  
15:18:27 Ms. Peck

15:18:49 Sen. Ellsworth  
15:19:19 Ms. Peck  
15:19:54 Sen. MacDonald  
15:20:29 Ms. Peck

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:20:49 Sen. Jacobson

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:21 PM

---

Jack Racicot, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([los16aad.pdf](#))**