

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HEALTHCARE

**Call to Order:** Chair Dee Brown, on January 30, 2019 at 2:47 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)  
Rep. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)  
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)  
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Nadine Spencer, 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:**

Meeting to review the present state of Montana's healthcare system and to discuss ideas for the future. Participants included Wade Johnson, CEO, St. Peter's Health, Helena; Dr. Dean French, Community Medical Center, Missoula; Jay Doyle, president, St. James Health Care, Butte.

14:47:28 Chair Brown

**Introductions**

14:48:19 Wade Johnson, CEO, St. Peter's Health, Helena  
 14:48:44 Dr. Dean French, Community Medical Center, Missoula  
 14:49:06 Chair Brown  
  
 14:49:12 Sen. Moore entered the meeting.  
  
 14:49:26 Jay Doyle, president, St. James Health Care, Butte  
  
 14:50:14 Rep. Pierson entered the meeting.  
  
 14:50:20 Rep. Pierson  
 14:50:32 Rep. Moore  
 14:50:42 Rep. Caferro  
 14:50:52 Rep. Buttrey  
 14:51:03 Sen. Sesso  
 14:51:39 Sen. Olszewski  
 14:51:57 Sen. Barrett  
 14:52:12 Chair Brown

**Questions from the committee:**

14:54:23 Chair Brown asked the participants to describe the difference between critical access hospitals and larger hospitals as far as funding, governance or other items.  
 14:54:57 Mr. French  
 14:55:32 Chair Brown  
 14:55:41 Mr. French  
 14:57:43 Chair Brown  
 14:57:51 Mr. French  
 14:58:26 Mr. Doyle  
 14:59:04 Mr. Johnson  
 14:59:12 Chair Brown  
 14:59:19 Mr. Johnson  
 15:00:07 Chair Brown asked how hospital boards are established and the criteria used to identify eligible candidates.  
 15:00:25 Mr. Doyle  
 15:01:28 Chair Brown  
 15:01:32 Mr. Johnson  
 15:02:53 Chair Brown  
 15:03:00 Mr. Johnson  
 15:03:47 Chair Brown  
 15:03:56 Mr. French  
 15:05:01 Chair Brown  
 15:05:34 Mr. Doyle  
 15:05:57 Chair Brown  
 15:06:04 Mr. Doyle  
 15:06:30 Mr. Johnson  
 15:07:26 Chair Brown

15:07:32 Mr. Doyle  
 15:07:40 Mr. Johnson  
 15:07:44 Chair Brown  
 15:07:53 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:08:06 Mr. Johnson  
 15:08:09 Mr. French  
 15:08:10 Mr. Doyle  
 15:08:12 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:08:44 Mr. Doyle  
 15:08:50 Mr. Johnson  
 15:09:23 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:09:36 Mr. French  
 15:10:11 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:10:37 Mr. Johnson  
 15:11:21 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:11:33 Mr. Johnson  
 15:11:58 Chair Brown asked the participants to provide the committee with a break-down of their hospital patients by insurance carrier.  
 15:12:52 Sen. Sesso asked about the top concerns regarding the cost of healthcare.  
 15:14:33 Mr. Doyle  
 15:16:44 Mr. French  
 15:21:30 Sen. Sesso  
 15:21:59 Mr. French  
 15:22:09 Mr. Johnson  
 15:25:28 Chair Brown  
 15:26:54 Rep. Buttrey asked about efforts to affect cost reductions.  
 15:27:48 Mr. Johnson  
 15:30:16 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:30:38 Mr. French  
 15:32:21 Mr. Doyle  
 15:34:40 Rep. Buttrey asked about state mandates that should be repealed to help reduce costs.  
 15:35:24 Chair Brown  
 15:35:30 Mr. French  
 15:36:22 Mr. Johnson  
 15:37:15 Mr. Doyle  
 15:37:50 Chair Brown  
 15:38:05 Sen. Olszewski asked about satisfaction with a fee for service system versus value based purchasing.  
 15:39:14 Mr. French  
 15:40:28 Mr. Doyle  
 15:40:41 Mr. Johnson  
 15:41:17 Sen. Olszewski asked about facility use fees.  
 15:41:58 Mr. Doyle  
 15:42:36 Sen. Olszewski  
 15:42:56 Mr. Doyle  
 15:43:32 Sen. Olszewski  
 15:43:48 Mr. Johnson  
 15:45:01 Sen. Olszewski  
 15:45:26 Chair Brown asked about the federal mandate to advertise prices.

15:46:14 Mr. French  
 15:46:38 Mr. Doyle  
 15:47:02 Chair Brown  
 15:47:32 Mr. French  
 15:47:48 Mr. Johnson  
 15:48:35 Chair Brown  
 15:48:48 Mr. Johnson  
 15:49:18 Mr. French  
 15:50:18 Sen. Olszewski asked about spread pricing and the need for the legislature to push for reference based pricing.  
 15:50:54 Mr. Johnson  
 15:51:44 Rep. Buttrey  
 15:52:54 Sen. Olszewski  
 15:53:25 Mr. French  
 15:53:31 Sen. Olszewski  
 15:53:38 Mr. French  
 15:53:53 Mr. Johnson  
 15:55:05 Rep. Pierson asked about Medicaid expansion and the result on uncompensated care numbers.  
 15:55:35 Mr. French

**EXHIBIT(shs18a01)**

15:55:58 Mr. Doyle  
 15:56:34 Mr. Johnson  
 15:56:47 Rep. Moore asked about moving the Medicaid expansion population onto the insurance exchange.  
 15:58:44 Mr. French  
 16:01:10 Mr. Doyle  
 16:02:36 Mr. French  
 16:02:49 Mr. Johnson  
 16:04:07 Mr. French  
 16:04:53 Rep. Moore  
 16:05:41 Mr. French  
 16:08:19 Chair Brown  
 16:09:01 Sen. Olszewski  
 16:10:13 Rep. Buttrey  
 16:12:11 Chair Brown asked about the greatest needs identified in the community needs assessment.  
 16:12:43 Mr. Johnson  
 16:13:54 Mr. French  
 16:14:29 Mr. Doyle  
 16:15:46 Chair Brown  
 16:16:16 Sen. Sesso asked about the challenges with Medicaid expansion.  
 16:16:57 Mr. Doyle  
 16:18:09 Mr. French  
 16:22:33 Chair Brown asked about the expectation for health care in Montana.  
 16:23:05 Mr. Johnson  
 16:24:08 Chair Brown asked about traveling doctors in Montana.  
 16:24:31 Mr. Johnson  
 16:24:36 Mr. French

16:26:09 Mr. Doyle  
16:27:36 Rep. Pierson  
16:28:08 Chair Brown  
16:28:13 Mr. French  
16:28:39 Chair Brown  
16:29:02 Sen. Sesso  
16:31:02 Chair Brown  
16:31:33 Rep. Pierson  
16:31:58 Chair Brown

[EXHIBIT](#)(shs18a02)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:34 P.M.

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Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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**Additional Documents**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([shs18aad.pdf](#))