MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE
66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on February 20, 2019 at 3:01 PM, in Room
                              303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:
        Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)
        Sen. JP Pomnichowski, Vice Chair (D)
        Sen. Tom Richmond, Vice Chair (R)
        Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
        Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
        Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
        Sen. John Esp (R)
        Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
        Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
        Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
        Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Scott Sales (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch
                Mary Vandenbosch, 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: HB 30, 2/3/2019; HB 44, 2/3/2019; HB 58, 2/3/2019; HJ 4,
                              2/3/2019

HEARING ON HB 30

Opening Statement by Sponsor:
15:02:45   Rep. Steve Gunderson (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB 30, Revise
                     Libby asbestos superfund laws.

Proponents' Testimony:
15:07:12   Tom Stoops, Federal Superfund Bureau chief, Department of Environmental
                     Quality (DEQ)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:
15:09:19   Sen. Pomnichowski
15:10:16   Mr. Stoops, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:
15:13:45   Rep.Gunderson

HEARING ON HJ 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:
15:16:08   Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HJ 4, Resolution to congress
                     to streamline/take control of the exportation of coal.
EXHIBIT(nas36a01)

Proponents' Testimony:
15:20:57   Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties
15:22:09   Jason Rittal, deputy director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony:
15:22:54   Malcolm Gilbert, Montana Environmental Information Center
15:25:29   Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon; Montana Public Interest Research Group
15:27:46   Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:
15:29:03   Sen. Barrett
15:29:46   Mr. Smith, Montana Audubon
15:30:01   Sen. Barrett
15:30:26   Sen. Ankney
15:31:29   Mr. Smith
15:32:57   Sen. Barrett
15:33:26   Mr. Rittal, MACo
15:33:45   Sen. Barrett
15:34:27   Rep. Read
15:38:00   Sen. Flowers

15:38:19	Rep. Read
15:38:51	Sen. Flowers
15:39:04	Rep. Read
15:39:11	Sen. Ankney
15:39:23	Sen. Flowers
15:39:44	Rep. Read

Closing by Sponsor:
15:41:32   Rep. Read

HEARING ON HB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:
15:44:49   Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 44, Clarify criteria for water rights change application.

EXHIBIT(nas36a02)

Proponents' Testimony:
15:47:47   Patrick Byorth, director, Montana Water Program, Trout Unlimited (TU)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:
15:52:45   Millie Heffner, Water Rights Bureau chief, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:
15:53:11   Sen. Pomnichowski
15:53:49   Mr. Byorth, TU

Closing by Sponsor:
15:55:49   Rep. Brown

HEARING ON HB 58

Opening Statement by Sponsor:
15:56:46   Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 58, Revise report requirement from drought and water supply advisory committee.

15:57:47   Chairman Welborn left the hearing. Vice Chair Richmond assumed the duties of the chair.

Proponents' Testimony:
16:00:18   Michael Downey, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
16:03:08   Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:
16:03:45   Sen. Pomnichowski
16:04:56   Mr. Downey, DNRC
16:06:12   Sen. Pomnichowski
16:06:38   Mr. Downey
16:07:46   Sen. Pomnichowski
16:08:19   Sen. Gillespie
16:08:56   Mr. Downey
16:11:01   Sen. Gillespie
16:11:30   Mr. Downey

Closing by Sponsor:
16:12:58   Rep. Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:13 PM

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Mary Vandenbosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT(nas36aad.pdf)