

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on March 18, 2019 at 3:03 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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

Members Excused: Sen. Tom Richmond, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Scott Sales (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch
Mary Vanderbosch, 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 286, 3/13/2019; HB 505, 3/13/2019

HEARING ON HB 505**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:03:55 Rep. Walt Sales (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 505, Require notice to shared water conveyance facilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:09:53 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition; Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators
15:11:52 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
15:12:18 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
15:12:51 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited
15:13:09 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:14:01 Millie Heffner, Water Rights Bureau chief, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:14:19 Sen. Pomnichowski
15:14:59 Rep. Sales
15:16:26 Ms. Heffner, DNRC
15:17:27 Sen. Pomnichowski
15:18:09 Rep. Sales

Closing by Sponsor:

15:19:22 Rep. Sales

HEARING ON HB 286**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:20:33 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 286, Revise water right laws related to state water claims.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:22:18 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC); Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

EXHIBIT(nas55a01)

15:32:06 Shelby DeMars, United Property Owners of Montana
15:33:03 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
15:33:28 Sen. Jacobson entered the hearing.
15:33:46 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
15:35:10 Cliff Schutter
15:37:46 Mark Silverstein, J7 Ranch

15:44:37 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association
[EXHIBIT\(nas55a02\)](#)

15:49:06 Colleen Coyle

15:53:52 Sid Schutter

Opponents' Testimony:

15:57:24 John Tubbs, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
(DNRC)

16:03:59 Brian Bramblett, attorney, DNRC

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:16:17 Sen. Cohenour

16:17:07 Mr. Bramblett, DNRC

16:18:21 Mr. Tubbs, DNRC

16:20:55 Sen. Cohenour

16:21:02 Mr. Tubbs

16:29:25 Sen. Hoven

16:30:09 Mr. Tubbs

16:31:59 Sen. Gillespie

16:32:40 Mr. Bramblett

16:33:07 Shawn Thomas, Trust Lands Division administrator, DNRC

16:37:28 Mr. Tubbs

16:39:19 Sen. Gillespie

16:39:53 Mr. Tubbs

16:42:30 Sen. Barrett

16:42:51 Mr. Tubbs

16:43:11 Sen. Barrett

16:43:32 Mr. Tubbs

16:43:58 Sen. Barrett

16:44:09 Rep. Redfield

16:44:15 Sen. Flowers

16:44:26 Sen. Pomnichowski

16:44:53 Mr. Tubbs

16:52:03 Sen. Cohenour

16:52:34 Ms. Evans, SrWRC; AGAI

16:53:06 Sen. Cohenour

16:53:19 Ms. Evans

16:54:54 Sen. Cohenour

16:55:08 Ms. Evans

16:55:21 Sen. Cohenour

16:55:45 Ms. Evans

16:56:40 Sen. Hoven

16:57:05 Mr. Tubbs

16:57:13 Sen. Ankney

16:57:57 Mr. Tubbs

16:59:19 Chairman Welborn

17:00:07 Mr. Tubbs

17:00:55 Chairman Welborn
17:01:42 Mr. Tubbs
17:01:51 Chairman Welborn
17:02:20 Mr. Tubbs

Closing by Sponsor:

17:06:24 Rep. Redfield
17:07:58 Chairman Welborn

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:08 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas55aad.pdf](#))