

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Derek Skees, on January 11, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Derek Skees, Chair (R)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Brittany Bury, Committee Secretary
Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch
Taylor Eggebrecht, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 34, 1/7/2021; HB 50, 1/7/2021

15:01:34 Chair Skees
15:02:50 Rep. Olsen
15:03:07 Chair Skees
15:04:30 Trevor Graff, Legislative Services Division, (LSD)
15:04:33 Chair Skees

HEARING ON HB 50

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:04 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 50, Redistribute 9-1-1 funding to state library.
15:13:05 Chair Skees
15:13:23 Trevor Graff, LSD
15:13:32 Chair Skees
15:13:36 Taylor Eggebrecht, Remote Meeting Coordinator (RMC)
15:13:51 Chair Skees
15:14:56 Vice Chair Zolnikov
15:15:19 Chair Skees
15:15:23 Rep. Brewster
15:15:51 Rep. Duram
15:15:59 Rep. Custer joins meeting
15:16:16 Rep. Olsen
15:17:33 Chair Skees

Proponents' Testimony:

15:18:16 Shantil Saiperes, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:20:22 Jennie Stapp, State Librarian (MSL)
15:30:40 Chair Skees
15:30:50 Geoff Feiss, Montana Communications Association
15:34:05 Chair Skees

Informational Testimony:

15:34:38 April Grady, CFO, State IT Services Division (SITSD)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:35:28 Chair Skees
15:35:37 Rep. Duram
15:35:57 Geoff Feiss, Montana Communications Association
15:36:16 Chair Skees
15:36:48 Rep. Garner
15:36:54 Jennie Stapp, MSL
15:37:50 Chair Skees
15:38:31 April Grady, SITSD
15:38:59 Chair Skees
15:39:18 Rep. Garner
15:40:04 Chair Skees
15:40:21 Shantil Saiperes, MACo
15:40:48 Jennie Stapp, MSL
15:41:43 Geoff Feiss, Montana Communications Association
15:42:25 Chair Skees
15:45:21 Geoff Feiss, Montana Communications Association

15:45:41 Chair Skees
15:46:28 Rep. Garner
15:49:45 Rep. Custer
15:50:19 Rep. Garner
15:50:30 Rep. Custer
15:50:58 Jennie Stapp, MSL
15:52:19 Rep. Duram
15:52:52 Rep. Garner
15:53:08 Chair Skees
15:55:54 Jennie Stapp, MSL
15:56:43 Chair Skees
15:57:28 April Grady, SITSD
15:57:42 Chair Skees
15:58:27 Geoff Feiss, Montana Communications Associations
15:58:32 Shantil Saiperes, MACo
15:59:00 Jennie Stapp, MSL
15:59:21 Chair Skees
16:00:09 April Grady, SITSD
16:00:56 Chair Skees
16:01:04 Rep. Duram
16:03:19 Rep. Garner
16:03:29 Rep. Phalen
16:03:49 Rep. Garner
16:04:37 Rep. Custer
16:05:52 April Grady, SITSD
16:06:45 Rep. Custer
16:07:10 Chair Skees
16:07:18 Rep. Brewster
16:08:01 Rep. Garner
16:08:08 Jennie Stapp, MSL
16:08:56 Chair Skees
16:09:18 April Grady, SITSD
16:09:36 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

16:10:11 Rep. Garner

16:15:18 Chair Skees
16:15:48 Rep. Olsen
16:15:54 Chair Skees

16:16:21 Brief Recess
16:19:46 Reconvened

16:20:29 Trevor Graff, LSD
16:20:38 Chair Skees
16:21:02 David Hoffman, Northwestern Energy
16:21:57 Chair Skees
16:22:02 David Hoffman, Northwestern Energy
16:22:24 Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters

16:23:03 Chair Skees
16:23:21 Trevor Graff, LSD
16:23:35 Chair Skees
16:23:43 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperative Association (MECA)
16:24:51 Charles Robison, Montana Electric Cooperative Association (MECA)
16:25:52 Gary Wiens, MECA
16:26:14 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperative Association (MECA)
16:27:02 Chair Skees

HEARING ON HB 34

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:27:43 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 31, opened the hearing on HB34, Revise statutes to reflect federal recognition of Little Shell tribe.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:29:12 Stacy Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:30:44 Rep. Duram
16:31:29 Rep. F. Smith
16:32:50 Rep. Duram
16:32:53 Rep. Binkley
16:33:26 Rep. Brewster
16:33:45 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

16:33:52 Rep. F. Smith

16:34:16 Chair Skees
16:35:23 Rep. Olsen
16:35:29 Chair Skees
16:35:49 Ruben Castren, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)
16:36:29 Chair Skees
16:36:56 James Brown, Public Service Commission (PSC)
16:39:53 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)
16:40:48 James Brown, Public Service Commission (PSC)

EXHIBIT(feh06a01)

16:41:01 Chair Skees
16:41:21 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
16:42:56 Chair Skees
16:43:09 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)
16:45:00 Vice Chair Zolnikov leaves the meeting
16:45:48 Chair Skees
16:46:03 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition (NWECC)
16:47:40 Amiee Grmoljez, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU)
16:50:21 Mike Green, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU)
16:51:07 Chair Skees

16:51:49 Conor Ploeger, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
16:52:38 Chair Skees
16:52:49 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
16:55:02 Tom Ebzery, Billings
16:57:21 Chair Skees
16:57:55 Mark Reller, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
17:00:41 Chair Skees
17:03:19 Rep. Phalen
17:03:40 Chair Skees

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:05:59

Brittany Bury, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh06aad.pdf](#))