

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Steve Gunderson, on February 8, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Steve Gunderson, Chair (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Marty Malone (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Brian Putnam (R)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Mark Noland (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jacquelynn Bomgardner, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Rachael Foe, 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: SB 53, 2/5/2021; HB 320, 2/5/2021

HEARING ON SB 53

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:55 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 53, Revise permitting laws for rock products mining.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:04:39 Clayton Elliott, Trout Unlimited (TU)
15:08:02 Tamara Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)
15:12:39 Dan Walsh, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

EXHIBIT(nah26a01)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:15:14 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:21:25 Rep. Gist
15:21:57 Tamara Johnson, MMA
15:23:00 Rep. France
15:26:50 Dan Walsh, DEQ
15:27:44 Rep. Malone
15:29:40 Vice Chair Curdy
15:32:27 Dan Walsh, DEQ
15:33:38 Rep. Putnam
15:34:54 Dan Walsh, DEQ
15:35:17 Chair Gunderson
15:36:21 Dan Walsh, DEQ
15:36:56 Rep. Galloway
15:37:36 Dan Walsh, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:

15:38:36 Sen. Welborn

15:40:24 Vice Chair R. Knudsen assumed the Chair.

HEARING ON HB 320

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:40:58 Rep. Steve Gunderson (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB 320, Prohibit sales of federal land transferred to Montana.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

15:43:03 Noah Marion, Montana Wilderness Association, (MWA)
15:45:04 Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
15:45:42 Rep. Windy Boy

15:47:51 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

15:48:39 Carmen Borchelt, Montana Audubon

[EXHIBIT\(nah26a02\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:51:34 Rep. Gist
15:51:53 Rep. Gunderson
15:52:19 Rep. Walsh
15:53:41 Rep. Gunderson
15:54:28 Rep. Malone
15:56:23 Rep. Gunderson
15:56:54 Rep. Fielder
15:59:49 Noah Marion, MWA

Closing by Sponsor:

16:00:30 Rep. Gunderson

16:04:03 Rep. Gunderson assumed the Chair.
16:04:54 Rep. Fielder
16:05:25 Chair Gunderson
16:05:52 Vice Chair Curdy
16:05:58 Chair Gunderson
16:06:44 Rep. Galloway
16:07:21 Chair Gunderson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:07:55

Jacquelynn Bomgardner, Secretary

jb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah26aad.pdf](#))