

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Steve Gunderson, on March 12, 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. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)  
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)  
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)  
Rep. Tom France (D)  
Rep. Steve Gist (R)  
Rep. Marty Malone (R)  
Rep. Brian Putnam (R)  
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Rhonda Knudsen, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**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 230, 3/8/2021; SB 231, 3/8/2021

Executive Action on: SB 13; SB 20; SB 55

15:04:18 Brief Recess  
15:05:52 Reconvened

### **HEARING ON SB 231**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:06:05 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 231, Revise exempt well laws related to family transfer parcels.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

15:10:30 Mark Taylor, Taylor Luther Group (TLG)  
15:14:14 Terry Nelson, self  
15:16:00 Rep. Marler joined the meeting.  
15:18:03 Rep. Noland joined the meeting.

#### **Opponents' Testimony:**

15:18:05 Steve White, self  
15:21:56 Sean O'Callaghan, Montana Association of Planners (MAP)  
15:25:36 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties (MACo); Property and Casualty Trust

#### **EXHIBIT(nah50a01)**

15:28:09 Michael Lapp, Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors (MARLS)

#### **EXHIBIT(nah50a02)**

15:30:21 Tim Worley, Missoula County Community and Planning Services (CAPS)  
15:32:02 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)  
15:33:05 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
15:33:30 Vice Chair R. Knudsen joined the meeting.  
15:35:31 Commissioner Cory Kirsch, Jefferson County

#### **Informational Testimony:** None

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:38:08 Rep. Gist  
15:38:36 Commissioner Kirsch, Jefferson County  
15:39:41 Rep. Gist  
15:39:53 Rep. Fitzgerald  
15:40:30 Eric Bryson, MACo  
15:41:24 Rep. Malone  
15:43:41 Eric Bryson, MACo  
15:44:22 Rep. Malone  
15:44:29 Sen. Blasdel  
15:45:19 Vice Chair Curdy  
15:45:54 Tim Worley, CAPS  
15:46:48 Rep. Noland  
15:47:18 Mark Taylor, TLG  
15:50:17 Rep. Gist  
15:50:51 Commissioner Cory Kirsch, Jefferson County  
15:52:49 Rep. France  
15:53:39 Mark Taylor, TLG

15:55:55 Rep. France  
15:56:35 Chair Gunderson  
15:57:00 Mark Taylor, TLG

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:58:22 Sen. Blasdel

[EXHIBIT\(nah50a03\)](#)

**HEARING ON SB 230**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:01:17 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 230, Repaying general fund for initial implementation of sage grouse act.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

16:06:18 Director Amanda Kaster, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

16:08:15 Mark Bostrom, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:08:47 Rep. Malone  
16:09:03 Director Kaster, DNRC  
16:09:16 Mark Bostrom, DNRC  
16:10:30 Rep. Fitzgerald  
16:14:05 Mark Bostrom, DNRC  
16:15:00 Vice Chair Curdy  
16:16:42 Mark Bostrom, DNRC  
16:17:37 Vice Chair R. Knudsen  
16:18:57 Director Kaster, DNRC  
16:19:18 Chair Gunderson  
16:19:56 Director Kaster, DNRC  
16:20:08 Mark Bostrom, DNRC  
16:21:11 Chair Gunderson  
16:21:40 Sen. Lang

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:22:08 Sen. Lang

16:23:51 Recess

16:59:30 Reconvened with Rep. Putnam excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 13**

16:59:40 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. R. Knudsen moved that **SB 13 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Galloway, Rep. Putnam and Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Walsh will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 55**

17:01:01 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. R. Knudsen moved that **SB 55 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 12-3 by roll call vote with Rep. Fielder, Rep. Malone and Rep. Noland voting no. Rep. Galloway, Rep. Putnam and Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Walsh will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 20**

17:02:47 **Motion:** Rep. R. Knudsen moved that **SB 20 BE CONCURRED IN**.

**Discussion:**

17:03:06 Rep. Malone  
17:03:54 Vice Chair Knudsen  
17:04:17 Rep. Fielder  
17:04:40 Rep. Walsh  
17:05:17 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
17:06:04 Vice Chair Knudsen  
17:06:13 Joe Kolman, LSD  
17:07:03 Rep. Malone  
17:08:39 Rep. France  
17:09:34 Rep. Fielder  
17:09:39 Joe Kolman, LSD  
17:09:50 Chair Gunderson  
17:10:04 Joe Kolman, LSD  
17:12:07 Rep. Malone  
17:12:37 Vice Chair Curdy  
17:13:02 Chair Gunderson

17:14:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Fielder, Rep. Galloway, Rep. Gist, Rep. R. Knudsen, Rep. Malone and Rep. Noland voting no. Rep. Galloway, Rep. Putnam and Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Noland will carry the bill.

17:16:02 Rep. Marler

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:16:59

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Jacquelynn Bomgardner, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nah50aad.pdf](#))