

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Vice Chair Jason D. Small, on February 2, 2021 at 3:45 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Mark Sweeney (D)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lauren de Paepe, Committee Secretary
Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch
Jacquie Simmons, 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 160, 1/28/2021; SB 147, 1/26/2021

HEARING ON SB 160

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:48:15 Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R), SD 22, opened the hearing on SB160, Establish Public Service Commission appointments.

15:54:32 Sen. Ankney entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

[EXHIBIT\(ens22a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:58:51 Tony O'Donnell, commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens22a02\)](#)

16:09:24 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council

Informational Testimony:

[EXHIBIT\(ens22a03\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:13:10 Chair Small

16:13:55 Mr. O'Donnell, PSC

16:14:22 Sen. Cuffe entered the meeting.

16:14:30 Sen. Lynch entered the meeting.

Sen. Morigeau entered the meeting.

16:14:50 Sen. Molnar

16:23:28 Sen. Kary

16:23:50 Sen. McNally

16:24:49 Sen. Kary

16:25:15 Sen. Sweeney

16:26:14 Sen. Kary

16:26:42 Sen. Pope

16:34:08 Mr. O'Donnell

16:36:48 Sen. Gauthier

16:37:31 Mr. O'Donnell

Closing by Sponsor:

16:38:10 Sen. Kary

16:40:46 Sen. Small

16:40:53 Sen. Kary

HEARING ON SB 147

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:41:25 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB147, Establish commercial property assessed capital enhancements program.

[EXHIBIT\(ens22a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:53:07 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council
 16:53:45 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmers Union
 16:54:42 Gary Matson, Friends of 2 Rivers, Inc.
 16:56:12 Bryan Klein, BlackRidge Companies, Bozeman
 16:58:01 Ed Gulick, vice president, High Plains Architects; Montana PACE Jobs Coalition member

EXHIBIT(ens22a05)

17:02:44 Dale Sexton, owner, Dan Bailey's Outdoor Company, Livingston
 17:04:33 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority
 17:07:28 Keith Ballantyne, BDA Architecture, Fort Benton

EXHIBIT(ens22a06)

17:07:41 Chair Small gave the duties of the chair to Sen. Ankney.

17:09:59 Paul House, Bozeman
 17:13:03 Mary Fitzpatrick, Northern Plains Resource Council

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(ens22a07)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:15:45 Adam Gill, executive director, Montana Facility Finance Authority (MFFA), Department of Commerce

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:16:51 Sen. Gauthier
 17:17:46 Sen. McNally
 17:18:07 Sen. Tempel
 17:18:28 Sen. McNally
 17:18:55 Sen. Tempel
 17:19:17 Mr. Gill, MFFA
 17:20:29 Sen. Tempel
 17:20:48 Sen. McNally
 17:21:52 Chair Ankney
 17:22:08 Mr. Gill
 17:22:12 Chair Ankney
 17:22:27 Sen. Molnar
 17:23:31 Sen. McNally
 17:24:40 Chair Ankney
 17:25:25 Sen. Molnar
 17:28:17 Sen. McNally
 17:28:32 Mr. Gill
 17:29:25 Sen. Molnar
 17:29:37 Mr. Gill
 17:29:47 Sen. Lynch
 17:30:09 Sen. McNally

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17:30:36 Sen. Lynch
17:30:53 Mr. Gill
17:31:56 Sen. Pope
17:35:04 Mr. Gulick, High Plains Architects
17:36:28 Sen. Morigeau
17:37:10 Mr. Gill
17:38:18 Sen. Morigeau
17:40:44 Sen. McNally
17:41:09 Sen. Lynch
17:41:36 Sen. McNally
17:41:48 Chair Ankney
17:41:53 Sen. Lynch
17:42:13 Sen. McNally

Closing by Sponsor:

17:43:02 Sen. McNally

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:45 PM

Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens22aad.pdf](#))