

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Call to Order:** Vice Chair Jason D. Small, on February 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

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

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**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: HB 85, 2/3/2021  
Presentation on Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE) and Montana Facility Finance Authority (MFFA)

15:00:24 Sen. Molnar entered the meeting.

**HEARING ON HB 85**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:01:02 Rep. Brad Tschida (R), HD 97, opened the hearing on HB85, Revising utility cost tracking and recovery laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:02:34 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:03:38 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

15:04:39 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Counsel

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:05:47 Sen. Molnar

15:07:37 Mr. Hoffman, NWE

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:08:21 Rep. Tschida

**Committee Business:**

15:09:29 Sen. McNally

15:09:52 Chair Small

15:10:04 Trevor Graff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:10:52 Chair Small

15:10:58 Sen. McNally

15:11:11 Mr. Graff, LSD

15:12:05 Sen. McNally

15:12:10 Sen. Ankney entered the meeting.

15:12:34 Chair Small

15:13:09 Sen. Ankney

15:13:16 Sen. McNally

15:13:50 Sen. Ankney

15:14:25 Mr. Graff

15:14:40 Sen. Ankney

15:15:04 Chair Small gave the duties of the chair to Sen. Ankney.

15:15:12 Sen. McNally

**PRESENTATION ON CSPACE AND MFFA**

15:15:45 Adam Gill, executive director, Montana Facility Finance Authority (MFFA)

**[EXHIBIT\(ens27a01\)](#)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:24:09	Sen. Tempel
15:25:28	Mr. Gill, MFFA
15:25:44	Chair Ankney
15:26:02	Mr. Gill
15:27:08	Sen. Pope
15:27:20	Sen. Gauthier entered the meeting.
15:27:55	Mr. Gill
15:28:44	Sen. McNally
15:29:50	Mr. Gill
15:30:26	Chair Ankney

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:31 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ens27aad.pdf](#))