

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on February 15, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lauren de Paepe, Committee Secretary
Jason Mohr, 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 163, 2/11/2021
Executive Action: SB 136 - Do Pass as Amended

HEARING ON SB 163

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:03:16 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB163, Increase membership for the board of water well contractors.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:04:43 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:09:27 Art Robinson, program manager, Board of Water Well Contractors, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

15:10:05 Steve Story, chief, Water Operations Bureau, DNRC

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:10:35 Sen. Hoven

15:12:26 Ms. Wiggers, MWWDA

15:13:50 Sen. Pomnichowski

15:14:32 Mr. Robinson, DNRC

15:15:04 Sen. Glimm

15:16:21 Sen. Pomnichowski

15:16:44 Sen. Glimm

15:16:58 Sen. Gillespie

15:19:03 Mr. Robinson

15:20:04 Chair Welborn

15:21:25 Ms. Wiggers

Closing by Sponsor:

15:22:22 Sen. Glimm

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 136

15:23:51 **Motion:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 136 DO PASS.**

15:24:07 **Motion:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 136 BE AMENDED.**

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a02\)](#)

Discussion:

15:24:26 Sen. Small

15:24:38 Sen. Pomnichowski

15:27:10 Chair Welborn

15:27:26 Jason Mohr, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:28:11 Sen. Gillespie

15:28:32 Mr. Mohr, LSD

15:30:07 Sen. Lang

15:30:40 Holly Franz, NorthWestern Energy

15:32:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Pomnichowski voting no.

15:32:54 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 136 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 11-1 by voice vote with Sen. Pomnichowski voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:34 PM

Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas31aad.pdf](#))