

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Gordon Vance, on March 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Gordon Vance, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Mike Fox (D)  
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)  
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)  
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jen Gross (D)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Karli Kusler, Remote Meeting Coordinator  
Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch  
Gwyn Schooler, Committee Secretary

**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 20, 3/1/2021; HB 266, 3/1/2021; HB 271, 3/1/2021; HB 281, 3/1/2021

**HEARING ON HB 266**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:01:46 Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (R), HD 38, opened the hearing on HB266, Revise license plate laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:04:24 Tom Clarke, Miles City

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a01\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:07:49 Sen. Glimm  
15:08:01 Rep. Holmlund  
15:08:20 Sen. Glimm  
15:08:46 Rep. Holmlund  
15:09:08 Sen. Glimm  
15:09:32 Rep. Holmlund  
15:09:59 Sen. Boland  
15:10:16 Rep. Holmlund  
15:10:40 Sen. Boland  
15:10:52 Rep. Holmlund  
15:11:31 Sen. Boland

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:12:09 Rep. Holmlund

15:12:38 Sen. Vance

15:12:47 Sen. Boland

**HEARING ON HB 20**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:13:51 Rep. Becky Beard (R), HD 80, opened the hearing on HB20, Revise MDT laws for grants for courtesy cars at certain airports.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:15:21 Tim Conway, Aeronautics Division administrator, Department of Transportation (MDT)

15:16:29 Michael Vivion, Montana Pilots Association

15:18:12 Joel Peden, executive director, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living

15:19:44 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a02\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:21:19 Sen. Friedel  
15:21:34 Mr. Conway, MDT  
15:21:40 Sen. Friedel  
15:21:59 Mr. Conway  
15:23:26 Sen. Friedel  
15:23:37 Mr. Conway  
15:24:33 Sen. Bennett  
15:24:51 Mr. Conway  
15:25:50 Sen. Bennett  
15:26:01 Mr. Conway  
15:26:06 Sen. Manzella  
15:26:18 Mr. Conway  
15:26:33 Sen. Glimm  
15:27:23 Mr. Conway  
15:28:08 Sen. Glimm  
15:28:29 Mr. Conway  
15:29:47 Sen. Glimm  
15:29:55 Mr. Conway

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:31:09 Rep. Beard

**HEARING ON HB 271**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:32:49 Rep. Ron Marshall (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB271, Revise county road adoption procedure re: subdivision plats.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:34:03 Terry Nelson, Planning Department administrator, Ravalli County

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:35:59 Sen. Bennett  
15:36:33 Rep. Marshall  
15:36:40 Mr. Nelson, Ravalli County

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:37:44 Rep. Marshall

**HEARING ON HB 281****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:38:45 Rep. Steve Gunderson (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB281, Revise laws related to E bikes.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:41:44 Shelby DeMars, People for Bikes

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a03\)](#)**

15:45:21 Doug Habermann, executive director, Bike Walk Montana

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a04\)](#)**

15:49:20 John Juras, president, Great Falls Bicycle Club

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a05\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:53:25 Whitner Chase, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

15:55:05 Eric Melson, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA)

15:58:32 Joel Peden, executive director, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living

16:01:13 Adam Oliver, founding board member, Southwest Montana Mountain Bike Association

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a06\)](#)**

16:02:59 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a07\)](#)**

**Additional Testimony Received:**

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a08\)](#)**

**Informational Testimony:**

16:05:49 Shawn Thomas, Trust Land Management Division administrator, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

16:06:13 Deb O'Neill, legislative liaison, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:06:39 Sen. Fitzpatrick

16:07:06 Mr. Thomas, DNRC

16:07:51 Sen. Fitzpatrick

16:08:10 Mr. Thomas

16:08:23 Sen. Fitzpatrick

16:08:45 Rep. Gunderson

16:10:09 Sen. Friedel

16:10:25 Mr. Melson, BHA

16:10:38 Sen. Friedel

16:11:26 Mr. Chase, MCV

16:11:52 Sen. Friedel

16:12:01 Mr. Chase

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:12:19 Rep. Gunderson

**[EXHIBIT\(his47a09\)](#)**

16:15:37 Sen. Vance

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:16 PM

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Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([his47aad.pdf](#))