

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (H) APPROPRIATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Llew Jones-R, on January 03, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 102

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)  
Rep. Mary Caferro, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. David Bedey (R)  
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)  
Rep. Terry Falk (R)  
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)  
Rep. Douglas Flament (R)  
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)  
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)  
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)  
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)  
Rep. Terry Moore (R)  
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)  
Rep. Joe Read (R)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)  
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Staff Present:** Quinn Holzer, Fiscal Analyst  
Julie Johnson, Research Analyst  
Kathlyn Walker, 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 3 12/21/2022

HB 4 12/21/2022  
HB 13 12/21/2022  
HB 53 12/27/2022

Executive Action:

HB 53 DO PASS  
15:08:15

Committee Business

**HEARING ON HB 3 - Supplemental Appropriations Bill**

**Opening Statement:**

15:17:01 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 3, Supplemental Appropriations Bill.

**Discussion:**

15:19:26 Amy Sassano, Deputy Budget Director

15:24:57 Rep. Llew Jones

15:25:26 Rep. Bob Keenan

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:25:48 Dennis Parman, Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools

[EXHIBIT\(230103APHb1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230103APHb2\)](#)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:29:20 Becky Schlauch, Alcoholic Beverage Control Association

15:29:43 Janae grotbo, Department of Military Affairs

15:30:04 Kristen Barbour, Cannabis Control Division, Department of Revenue

15:30:27 Natalie Smitham, Department of Corrections

15:30:44 Molly Kruckenburg, Montana Historical Society

15:31:02 Jay Phillips, Office of Public Instruction

15:31:18 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice  
15:31:50 Brett Schandelson, Office of State Public Defender

**Questions from Committee:**

15:32:23 Rep. Paul Tuss  
15:32:59 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
15:33:34 Brett Schandelson, OPD  
15:36:19 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter left the meeting.  
15:39:53 Rep. Bill Mercer  
15:41:02 Brett Schandelson, OPD  
15:42:32 Amy Sassano, OBPP  
15:42:41 Rep. Bill Mercer  
15:43:30 Amy Sassano, OBPP  
15:44:08 Rep. Mike Hopkins left the meeting.  
15:44:21 Rep. Terry Moore  
15:45:41 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
15:46:28 Rep. Terry Moore  
15:46:44 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
15:47:06 Rep. Terry Moore  
15:47:42 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
15:48:02 Rep. Bob Keenan  
15:48:35 Christian Corrigan, Department of Justice

**Closing Statement:**

15:49:57 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 3.

**HEARING ON HB 4 - Appropriations by budget amendment**

**Opening Statement:**

15:51:23 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 4, Appropriations by budget amendment.

**Discussion:**

15:53:50 Amy Sessano, Governor's Budget Office

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:56:29 Quentin? Elliot

15:57:00 Noah Marion, Wild Montana

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:58:56 Mandy Rambo

15:59:12 Cody Pierce, agriculture

15:59:37 Brandy Pierson, Office of Secretary of State

16:00:30 Denise Kelly, ??

16:00:43 f j, Historical Society

16:01:02 Janae Grotbo, Department of Military Affairs

16:01:25 Patricia Grbaris

16:01:46 Kathy pemmie, Director of Finance

16:02:04 Cris Currie, Department of Public Health

16:02:21 Lena Havron

16:02:37 Natalie Smitham, Department of Corrections

16:02:53 Larry Flyyn, Department of Transportation

16:03:11 nate Thomas

**Questions from Committee:**

16:04:04 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:04:13 Amy Sessano

16:04:25 Rep. Fiona Nave

16:05:25 Ms Pemmie

**Closing Statement:**

16:05:43 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 4.

**HEARING ON HB 13 - State Employee Pay Plan and revising laws governing state employees**

**Opening Statement:**

16:07:43 Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 13, State Employee Pay Plan and revising laws governing state employees.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:12:37 Ryan Osmundsen, Budget Director

16:13:45 Rep. Bill Mercer left the meeting.

16:13:52 Rep. Mike Hopkins joined the meeting.

16:14:24 Anjeanette Schafer

16:15:27 Charlie Brereton

16:19:21 Brian Gootkin

16:20:31 Scott Sales, Montana Lottery

16:22:21 Helen Thighpen, Montana University System

16:22:49 Rep Windy Boy, Entered the meeting

16:23:16 Larry Flynn, DOT

16:24:12 James Fehr, DEQ

16:28:28 Larry Nielsen, Montana Federation of Public Employees  
16:29:26 Adam Haight  
16:29:49 John Forkin  
16:30:54 John Malia  
16:31:12 Malcolm Long

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:32:58 Amy Sessano

**Questions from Committee:**

16:33:29 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

**Closing Statement:**

16:34:05 Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R), HD 77, closed the hearing on HB 13.

**HEARING ON HB 53 - Revise fund transfer dates for DNRC accounts**

**Opening Statement:**

16:41:33 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 53, Revise fund transfer dates for DNRC accounts.

**Discussion:**

16:35:54 Brief Recess  
16:41:12 Reconvened  
16:46:13 Rep. Mike Hopkins left the meeting.  
16:46:40 Rep. Jerry Schillinger left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:47:05 Rex Renk, Department of Natural Resources and Transportation  
16:49:06 Quentin Elliot, Dot?

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

16:49:47 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, closed the hearing on HB 53.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 53 - Revise fund transfer dates for DNRC accounts**

16:50:47 **Motion:** Rep. David Bedey moved that **HB 53 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

15:08:15 Committee Business

16:50:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:54:07

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Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230103APHbad\)](#)