

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Larry Brewster-R, on January 05, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Larry Brewster, Chair (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)

Staff Present: LuCinda Blair, Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, Research Analyst

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 32 12/22/2022

HB 33 12/22/2022

HB 35 12/27/2022

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 32 - Allow additional local government entity board training by petition

Opening Statement:

15:05:32 Rep. Steve Gist (R), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB 32, Allow additional local government entity board training by petition.

Proponent Testimony:

15:09:35 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:15:03 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

15:15:56 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

Opponent Testimony:

15:16:45 Theodore Liss, Montana Fire Trustees Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:24:42 Rep. Scot Kerns

15:25:35 Eric Bryson, MACo

15:28:31 Rep. Laurie Bishop

15:33:48 Rep. Jill Cohenour

15:35:40 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

15:37:35 Rep. Katie Zolnikov

15:37:58 Rep. Steve Gist-R

Closing Statement:

15:39:14 Rep. Steve Gist (R), HD 25, closed the hearing on HB 32.

HEARING ON HB 33 - Allow county commissioners to initiate certain civil proceedings

Opening Statement:

15:41:41 Rep. Steve Gist (R), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB 33, Allow county commissioners to initiate certain civil proceedings.

Proponent Testimony:

15:43:42 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:46:34 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

Opponent Testimony:

15:48:02 Theodore Liss, Montana Fire Trustees Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:25:25 Rep. Steve Gist

15:50:42 Rep. Kelly Kortum

15:51:07 Eric Bryson, MACo

15:52:23 Rep. Steven Galloway

15:55:38 Rep. Katie Zolnikov

15:56:25 Eric Bryson, MACo

Closing Statement:

15:57:40 Rep. Steve Gist (R), HD 25, closed the hearing on HB 33.

HEARING ON HB 35 - Remove appointed members & allow ex officio members on county water/sewer board

Opening Statement:

16:00:37 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, opened the hearing on HB 35, Remove appointed members & allow ex officio members on county water/sewer board.

Proponent Testimony:

16:07:52 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
16:09:11 Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County Commissioner
16:12:15 Steve Wade, Montana Rural Water Systems
16:13:34 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:14:48 Rep. Mark Thane
16:14:54 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

Closing Statement:

16:16:44 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, closed the hearing on HB 35.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:20:25

LuCinda Blair, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230105LOHaad\)](#)