

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Julie Dooling-R, on January 30, 2023 at 9:00 AM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Julie Dooling, Chair (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bob Phalen, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum (D)  
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)  
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Gary Parry (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. Paul Green (R)  
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Staff Present:** Heather Kellum, Secretary  
Rebecca Power, 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 136 01/24/2023  
HB 269 01/24/2023  
HB 275 01/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 232 DO PASS

09:01:31

**Committee Discussion:**

09:01:36 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:18:30

**Committee Discussion:**

11:18:34 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:20:46 Heather Kellum

11:20:50 Rep. Bob Phalen

11:21:28 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:21:37 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

11:22:19 Rebecca Power

11:22:54 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

11:23:25 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:23:37 Rebecca Power

11:24:03 Rep. Gary Parry

**HEARING ON HB 136 - Adopt Montana Revised Unclaimed Property Act**

**Opening Statement:**

09:02:07 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 136, Adopt Montana Revised Unclaimed Property Act.

**Discussion:**

09:02:10 Rep. Marta Bertoglio-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:04:07 Derek Bell, Division Administrator, Department of Revenue, DOR

[EXHIBIT\(230130STHa1\)](#)

09:12:25 Tracy Morano, Operations Director, Department of Revenue, DOR

**Opponent Testimony:**

09:15:51 Rob Cook, Montana Newspaper Association, MNA

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:16:36 William Holahan, Deputy Director, Public Employees Retirement Association, MPERA

09:17:24 Shawn Graham, Executive Director, Teacher's Retirement System, TRS

09:18:03 Jason Lay, Misc. Taxes Unit Manager, Department of Revenue, DOR

**Questions from Committee:**

09:02:33 Rep. Sprunger has left

09:15:33 Rep. Frazer has arrived

09:18:36 Rep. Denise Baum

09:19:04 William Holahan, MPERA

09:19:38 Rep. Denise Baum

09:19:48 William Holahan, MPERA

09:20:33 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:20:49 Derek Bell, DOR

09:21:02 Jason Lay, DOR

09:21:14 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:21:31 Jason Lay, DOR

09:22:09 Rep. Tony Brockman

09:23:13 Derek Bell, DOR

09:26:07 Rep. Tony Brockman

09:26:45 Derek Bell, DOR

09:27:35 Rep. Kelly Kortum

09:28:09 Jason Lay, DOR

09:28:41 Derek Bell, DOR

09:30:03 Rep. Kelly Kortum  
09:30:17 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:30:25 Rep. Linda Reksten  
09:31:04 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:31:55 Rep. Frank Smith  
09:32:11 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:32:22 Jason Lay, DOR  
09:33:01 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
09:33:33 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:34:28 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
09:35:01 Tracy Morano, DOR  
09:35:25 Rep. Sprunger has arrived  
09:35:43 Rep. Zack Wirth  
09:36:09 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:36:36 Rep. Linda Reksten  
09:37:06 Tracy Morano, DOR  
09:37:20 Jason Lay, DOR  
09:37:56 Rep. Linda Reksten  
09:38:21 Jason Lay, DOR  
09:38:54 Rep. Julie Dooling  
09:39:22 Derek Bell, DOR  
09:39:32 Jason Lay, DOR

**Closing Statement:**

09:39:53 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, closed the hearing on HB 136.

**Discussion:**

09:39:57 Rep. Marta Bertoglio-R

**HEARING ON HB 269 - Establish a local disaster resiliency fund**

**Opening Statement:**

09:40:35 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, opened the hearing on HB 269, Establish a local disaster resiliency fund.

**Discussion:**

09:40:43 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

[EXHIBIT\(230130STHa2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230130STHa3\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:43:54 Ryan Evans, Assistant Budget Director, Governor's Office

09:45:06 Major General J.P. Hronek, Director, Department of Military Affairs, DMA

09:46:23 Delila Bruno, Administrator, Disaster and Emergency Services, DES

09:50:05 Liane Taylor, Administrator, Business MT Division, Department of Commerce, DOC

09:51:42 Steve Story, Chief of Water Operations Bureau, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, DNRC

09:53:23 Wyatt Frampton, Acting Deputy Division Administrator, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, DNRC

09:56:01 Joel Gaertig, Montana State Firemen's Association, MSFA

09:56:39 Amy Grmoljez, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, APCIA

09:57:36 Rebecca Boslough-King, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, MACD

09:58:54 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties, MACO

10:00:50 Allan Hulse, CEO, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority, MMIA

10:01:37 Thomas Jodoin, Deputy Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns, MLCT

10:02:10 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

10:02:37 David Stamey, Chief for Emergency Services, Stillwater County

10:03:33 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association, MWPA

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

10:05:41 Rep. Gary Parry

10:06:08 Ryan Evans, Governor's Office

10:06:24 Rep. Gary Parry

10:06:46 Maj Gen J.P. Hronek, DMA

10:07:01 Delila Bruno, DES

10:07:57 Rep. Linda Reksten

10:08:41 Delila Bruno, DES

10:09:26 Wyatt Frampton, DNRC

10:10:46 Rep. Linda Reksten

10:10:52 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:11:18 Delila Bruno, DES

10:13:13 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:13:49 Delila Bruno, DES

10:14:48 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:15:29 Ryan Evans, Governor's Office

10:16:31 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:16:44 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

10:17:30 Delila Bruno, DES

10:18:00 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
10:18:22 Delila Bruno, DES  
10:19:19 Rep. Denise Baum  
10:20:05 Ryan Evans, Governor's Office  
10:20:36 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:21:18 Wyatt Frampton, DNRC  
10:22:03 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:22:06 Wyatt Frampton, DNRC  
10:23:03 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:23:14 Delila Bruno, DES  
10:23:33 Rep. Ed Stafman  
10:23:44 Delila Bruno, DES  
10:24:13 Rep. Gary Parry  
10:24:45 Ryan Evans, Governor's Office

**Closing Statement:**

10:25:17 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, closed the hearing on HB 269.

**Discussion:**

10:25:22 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

**HEARING ON HB 275 - Provide for board of veteran affairs townhall meetings**

**Opening Statement:**

10:27:33 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 275, Provide for board of veteran affairs townhall meetings.

**Discussion:**

10:27:37 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:31:13 Sen. John Fuller, Kalispell

**Opponent Testimony:**

10:33:22 Roger Hagan, Montana Department of the American Legion

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

10:38:44 Rep. Marta Bertoglio  
10:39:08 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:40:06 Rep. Gary Parry  
10:40:26 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:41:08 Rep. Gary Parry  
10:41:24 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:41:50 Rep. Denise Baum  
10:42:15 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:43:29 Rep. Denise Baum  
10:44:14 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:44:58 Rep. Denise Baum  
10:45:33 Roger Hagan, American Legion  
10:46:33 Rep. Denise Baum  
10:46:45 Rep. Tony Brockman  
10:47:23 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:48:11 Rep. Tony Brockman  
10:48:41 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:49:16 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:49:35 Roger Hagan, American Legion  
10:50:37 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

10:50:49 Roger Hagan, American Legion  
10:51:45 Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:52:07 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:52:20 Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:52:43 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:53:43 Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:53:55 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:56:12 Rep. Bob Phalen  
10:56:43 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:57:42 Rep. Frank Smith  
10:58:15 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:58:51 Rep. Frank Smith  
10:59:11 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
10:59:38 Rep. Frank Smith  
10:59:40 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
11:00:13 Rep. Frank Smith  
11:00:23 Rep. Scot Kerns-R  
11:00:37 Rep. Denise Baum  
11:01:41 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

**Closing Statement:**

11:02:24 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HB 275.

**Discussion:**

11:02:27 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 232 - Allow DOA to enter into leases for consolidation purposes without LRBP approval**

11:17:08        **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 232 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:04:45        Recessed

11:16:24        Reconvened

11:17:19        Rep. Michael Yakawich

11:17:40        Rep. Bob Phalen

09:01:31

11:18:30

11:17:08        **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:25:10

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Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230130STHaad\)](#)