

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

Call to Order: Chair Steve Gunderson-R, on March 13, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 172

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Steve Gunderson, Chair (R)
Rep. Steve Gist, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Marty Malone (R)
Rep. Russel Miner (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Jonathan Karlen (D)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Staff Present: LJ Jennings, Secretary
Joe Kolman, Research Analyst
John Olson, 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 83 03/09/2023

SB 49 03/09/2023

SB 39 03/09/2023

Executive Action:

15:03:19 Rep. Karlen has arrived

HEARING ON SB 83 - Create western Montana conservation commission

Opening Statement:

15:03:28 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 83, Create western Montana conservation commission.

Proponent Testimony:

15:07:58 Amanda Kaster, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, (DNRC)

15:09:39 Mark Bostrom, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(230313NAHa1\)](#)

15:15:13 Bill Schenk, Department Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:15:43 Mark Lambrecht, Montana Electric Cooperate Association, (MECA)

15:16:40 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited, (MTU)

15:17:29 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center, (MEIC)

15:18:55 Onno Wieringa, Self

15:24:00 Susan Teitelman, Flathead Lakers

Opponent Testimony:

15:26:56 Samantha Tappenbeck, Flathead Conservation District

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:31:51 Casey Lewis, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, (DNRC)

Questions from Committee:

15:33:01 Rep. Marty Malone

15:33:17	Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
15:33:33	Rep. Marty Malone
15:33:39	Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
15:35:52	Rep. Marty Malone
15:36:05	Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
15:37:08	Rep. Jedediah Hinkle
15:37:57	Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
15:41:08	Chair Steve Gunderson
15:41:39	Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
15:42:19	Chair Steve Gunderson
15:42:27	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:43:49	Chair Steve Gunderson
15:43:55	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:44:25	Rep. Tom France
15:44:38	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:44:48	Rep. Tom France
15:44:50	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:45:15	Rep. Tom France
15:45:23	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:45:42	Rep. Tom France
15:46:10	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:46:50	Rep. Tom France
15:47:02	Mark Bostrom, DNRC
15:47:44	Chair Steve Gunderson

15:48:08 Samantha Tappenbeck, Flathead Conservation District

15:49:30 Chair Steve Gunderson

15:49:50 Susan Teitelman, Flathead Lakers

Closing Statement:

15:50:41 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 83.

HEARING ON SB 49 - Generally revise cabin site sales

Opening Statement:

15:54:42 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 49, Generally revise cabin site sales.

Proponent Testimony:

15:58:33 Troy Downing, Montana State Auditor, (MSA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:02:59 Shawn Thomas, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, (DNRC)

16:03:29 Ryan Weiss, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, (DNRC)

Questions from Committee:

16:05:31 Rep. Marty Malone

16:05:52 Troy Downing, MSA

16:06:33 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

16:07:27 Ryan Weiss, DNRC

16:08:26 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

16:09:02 Ryan Weiss, DNRC

16:09:51 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

16:10:10 Ryan Weiss, DNRC
16:10:48 Vice Chair Steve Gist
16:11:18 Ryan Weiss, DNRC
16:11:31 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
16:11:53 Ryan Weiss, DNRC
16:13:18 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
16:13:25 Ryan Weiss, DNRC
16:13:34 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
16:14:11 Sen. Mike Cuffe-R
16:15:04 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
16:15:08 Troy Downing, MSA
16:16:23 Rep. Gary Parry
16:16:48 Ryan Weiss, DNRC
16:17:06 Chair Steve Gunderson
16:17:42 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

Closing Statement:

16:18:28 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 49.

HEARING ON SB 39 - Revise permitting for incinerators

Opening Statement:

16:21:17 Sen. Dan Bartel (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 39, Revise permitting for incinerators.

Proponent Testimony:

16:24:48 Sonja Nowakowski, Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ)
16:29:50 Brad Longcake, Montana Funeral Directors Association, (MFDA)

16:30:28 Alan Olson, Montana Petroleum Association, (MPA)

Opponent Testimony:

16:32:34 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center, (MEIC)

16:35:56 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

16:37:31 Jennifer Swearingen, Montanans Against Toxic Burning, (MATB)

Questions from Committee:

16:44:12 Rep. Jill Cohenour

16:45:12 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:45:36 Rep. Jill Cohenour

16:46:02 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:47:10 Rep. Jill Cohenour

16:47:32 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:48:12 Rep. Jill Cohenour

16:48:35 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:49:44 Chair Steve Gunderson

16:50:09 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:50:17 Rep. Gary Parry

16:50:30 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ

16:50:46 Rep. Gary Parry

16:51:10 Bo Wilkins, Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ)

16:52:22 Rep. Gary Parry

16:52:33 Bo Wilkins, DEQ

16:52:44 Rep. Gary Parry

16:53:02 Bo Wilkins, DEQ

16:53:29 Rep. Gary Parry

16:53:45 Bo Wilkins, DEQ
16:53:59 Rep. Gary Parry
16:54:24 Rep. Gary Parry
16:54:48 Vice Chair Steve Gist
16:55:10 Jennifer Swearingen, MATB
16:56:11 Vice Chair Steve Gist
16:56:22 Jennifer Swearingen, MATB
16:58:13 Vice Chair Steve Gist
16:58:33 Bo Wilkins, DEQ
16:58:46 Rep. Jonathan Karlen joined the meeting.
16:59:13 Sonja Nowakowski, DEQ
17:00:24 Rep. Tom France
17:00:59 Bo Wilkins, DEQ
17:01:51 Chair Steve Gunderson
17:01:59 Bo Wilkins, DEQ
17:02:04 Chair Steve Gunderson
17:02:42 Bo Wilkins, DEQ
17:03:05 Chair Steve Gunderson
17:03:17 Bo Wilkins, DEQ

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:52:01 Beau Wilkins, Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ)

Closing Statement:

17:03:26 Sen. Dan Bartel (R), SD 29, closed the hearing on SB 39.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:05:44

LJ Jennings, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230313NAHaad\)](#)