

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Jeffrey Welborn-R, on February 08, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 303

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Jeffrey Welborn, Chair (R)
Sen. Walt Sales, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Jason Small (R)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Research Analyst
Jacelyn Sterling, 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:

SB 240 02/03/2023

SB 237 02/06/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 237 - Require development plans for public water and wastewater system connections

Opening Statement:

15:03:10 Sen. Shelley Vance (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 237, Require development plans for public water and wastewater system connections.

Proponent Testimony:

15:04:24 Chris Dorrington, Director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

[EXHIBIT\(230208NASa1\)](#)

15:06:25 Tom Eastwood, City Engineer, City of Belgrade

15:07:50 Mike Devries, JLD Development

15:08:26 Steve Klotz, Director, Public Works Belgrade

15:09:47 Sen. Mike Lang joined the meeting.

15:09:51 Shannon Therriault, Missoula County Health Department

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:11:43 Rachel Clark, Chief, Engineering Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee:

15:12:36 Sen. Walt Sales

15:13:03 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

15:13:24 Rachel Clark, DEQ

15:13:48 Sen. Walt Sales

15:16:14 Rachel Clark, DEQ

15:16:49 Sen. Walt Sales

15:16:59 Sen. Willis Curdy
15:19:59 Rachel Clark, DEQ
15:20:34 Sen. Usher
15:20:55 Rachel Clark, DEQ
15:21:38 Sen. Pat Flowers
15:22:07 Rachel Clark, DEQ
15:23:29 Sen. Walt Sales
15:24:09 Mike Devries, Belgrade
15:26:01 Chris Dorrington, DEQ
15:27:51 Sen. Bob Brown
15:28:29 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

Closing Statement:

15:29:50 Sen. Shelley Vance (R), SD 34, closed the hearing on SB 237.

HEARING ON SB 240 - Exempt certain subdivisions from environmental review

Opening Statement:

15:32:57 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, opened the hearing on SB 240, Exempt certain subdivisions from environmental review.

Proponent Testimony:

15:34:52 Chris Dorrington, Director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
15:36:06 Jesse Luther, Hospitality Development Association of Montana

Opponent Testimony:

15:37:47 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
15:40:52 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:43:52 Rebeca Harbage, Department of Environmental Quality

Questions from Committee:

15:44:47 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:45:57 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

15:46:33 Rachel Clark, DEQ

15:48:20 Lindsey Krywarushka, water quality division, Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ)

15:49:56 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:50:31 Rachel Clark, DEQ

15:51:26 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:52:20 Lyndsey Krywarushka, DEQ

15:52:57 Sen. Willis Curdy

15:59:20 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

16:00:58 Sen. Bob Brown

16:01:26 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

16:01:58 Sen. Walt Sales

16:02:52 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

16:03:18 Rachel Clark, DEQ

16:03:33 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.

16:04:12 Sen. Walt Sales

16:04:38 Rachel Clark, DEQ

Closing Statement:

16:05:17 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, closed the hearing on SB 240.

Discussion:

16:05:55 Chair Welborn

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:06:18

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230208NASaad\)](#)