

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** Chair John Esp-R, on April 05, 2023 at 8:03 AM, in 317

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. John Esp, Chair (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)  
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)  
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)

**Staff Present:** Julie Johnson, Research Analyst  
Joe Triem, Fiscal Analyst  
Cy Walsh, 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 2 04/01/2023

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON HB 2 - General Appropriations Act**

**Opening Statement:**

08:04:46 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 2, General Appropriations Act.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230405FCSa1\)](#)

08:07:06 Vice Chair Carl Glimm joined the meeting.

08:09:47 Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

08:10:51 Ryan Osmundson, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

**Section B**

08:12:32 Rep. David Bedey

08:23:48 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction (OPI)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

08:30:24 Rep. David Bedey

08:33:48 McCall Flynn, Board of Public Education (BPE)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

08:38:02 Rep. David Bedey

08:48:39 Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE)

08:51:44 Aidan Myhre, Montana Community Colleges (MCC)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

08:53:44 Rep. David Bedey

08:58:33 Paul Furthmyre, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB)

09:06:59 McCall Flynn, Board of Public Education (BPE)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:07:48 Sen. Mike Cuffe

09:08:25 Paul Furthmyre, MSDB

09:10:31 Rep. David Bedey

09:16:45 Jenny Stapp, Montana State Library Commission (MSLC)

[EXHIBIT\(230405FCSa2\)](#)

09:20:18 Sam Forstag, Montana Library Association (MLA)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:21:37 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

09:22:10 Rep. David Bedey

09:24:40 Rep. David Bedey

09:26:43 Kristin Han Burgoyne, Montana Arts Council (MAC)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

09:27:52 Rep. David Bedey

09:32:30 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:37:30 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:37:50 Rep. David Bedey  
09:38:07 Sen. Christopher Pope  
09:38:48 Rep. David Bedey

09:40:40 **Recessed**

09:52:58 **Reconvened**

**Section A**

09:53:22 Rep. Terry Moore  
10:03:25 Jerry Howe, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
[EXHIBIT\(230405FCSa3\)](#)  
10:08:46 Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
10:09:04 Angus MacIver, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)  
[EXHIBIT\(230405FCSa4\)](#)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:14:30 Chair John Esp  
10:15:09 Marilyn Miller, Secretary of the Senate  
  
10:16:21 Rep. Terry Moore  
10:17:32 Jason Brown, Consumer Counsel (CC)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:18:54 Sen. Daniel Salomon  
10:19:05 Rep. Terry Moore

10:19:28 Rep. Terry Moore

10:20:57 Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:22:16 Sen. Christopher Pope

10:22:49 Chair John Esp

10:22:54 Sen. Daniel Salomon

10:23:07 Amy Sassano, OBPP

10:23:57 Rep. Terry Moore

10:25:53 Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:32:28 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:33:07 Chris Gallus, COPP

10:34:01 Sen. Shane Morigeau

10:34:40 Chris Gallus, COPP

10:35:17 Sen. Mike Cuffe

10:37:12 Rep. Terry Moore

10:40:01 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

10:40:44 Rep. Terry Moore

10:41:46 Sen. Dan Bartel

10:44:01 Sen. Mike Cuffe

10:44:24 Chair John Esp

10:44:42 Rep. Terry Moore

10:45:30 Rep. Terry Moore

10:46:52 Frank Cote, Office of the State Auditor (OSA)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:48:37 Sen. Dan Bartel

10:49:03 Frank Cote, OSA

10:49:19 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:50:14 Frank Cote, OSA

10:52:54 Rep. Terry Moore

10:56:08 Brendan Beatty, Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee:**

11:03:39 Sen. John Fuller

11:04:21 Rep. Terry Moore

11:04:55 Brendan Beatty, DOR

11:05:30 Sen. John Fuller

11:05:42 Brendan Beatty, DOR

11:06:26 Rep. Terry Moore

11:09:07 Misty Ann Giles, Department of Administration (DOA)

[EXHIBIT\(230405FCSa5\)](#)

11:14:35 Scott Sales, Montana Lottery (ML)

**Questions from Committee:**

11:16:21 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

11:16:50 Scott Sales, ML

11:17:17 Rep. Terry Moore

11:18:42 Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce (DOC)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

11:25:49 Rep. Terry Moore

11:27:05 Laurie Esau, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

11:30:17 Rep. Terry Moore

11:32:27 Major General J. Peter Hronek, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

11:41:30 Rep. Terry Moore

11:43:50 **Recessed**

11:48:12 **Reconvened**

**Section C**

11:48:47 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

11:52:49 Dustin Temple, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

11:54:20 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

11:55:37 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

11:56:07 Rebecca Boslough-King, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

**Questions from Committee:**

11:57:09 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
11:57:52 Dustin Temple, FWP  
  
11:58:31 Rep. Jerry Schillinger  
12:00:14 Chris Dorrington, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
12:03:06 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)  
12:03:54 Rebecca Boslough-King, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)  
  
12:04:49 Rep. Jerry Schillinger  
12:07:55 Malcolm Long, Department of Transportation (MDT)

**Questions from Committee:**

12:10:10 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
12:11:28 Malcolm Long, MDT  
12:11:51 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
  
12:12:38 Rep. Jerry Schillinger  
12:15:36 Mike Honeycutt, Department of Livestock (DOL)  
12:18:10 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)  
12:18:59 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Milk Producers Association (MMPA)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

12:19:44 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

12:23:14 Amanda Kaster, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

12:24:56 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)

12:25:53 Rebecca Boslough-King, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)

12:27:47 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association (MWPA)

12:28:47 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

12:29:20 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

**Questions from Committee:**

12:31:12 Sen. Mike Cuffe

12:32:39 Amanda Kaster, DNRC

12:33:57 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

12:36:41 Christy Clark, Department of Agriculture (Ag)

12:38:40 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

12:39:34 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Agricultural Business Association (MABA)

12:44:05 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

**Questions from Committee:**

12:41:06 Sen. Mike Cuffe

12:42:17 Christy Clark, Ag

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 12:47:30

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Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230405FCSaad\)](#)