

FINAL AGENDA
WATER POLICY INTERIM COMMITTEE
Choteau High School Auditorium, Choteau, Montana
Wednesday, October 24, 2007 - Thursday, October 25, 2007

NOTE: AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE—SOME ITEMS MAY TAKE MORE OR LESS TIME THAN IS ALLOTTED.

Wednesday, October 24, 2007:

- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order - Roll Call**
- 9:05 a.m. **Administrative Matters**
1. Minutes
2. WPIC budget overview
- 9:10 a.m. **Teton River Basin Overview**
1. Alan Rollo, Teton River Watershed Group
2. Eric Chase and Bob Larson, DNRC
- 10:00 a.m. **Source Water Protection Program** -- Jim Stimson, DEQ
1. Committee Questions and Discussion
- 11:00 a.m. **Adjudication Update** John Tubbs, DNRC/Judge Loble, Montana Water Court
1. Committee Questions
2. Public Comment
3. Committee Discussion and Action, if any
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch** (on your own)
- 1:00 p.m. **Application review process**
1. Subdivision applications -- Steve Kilbreath, DEQ
 a. Process for reviewing permit applications
 b. Number of permits received
 c. Number of permits returned
 d. Time associated with permit applications including new permits, renewals, and changes
2. Water appropriation right applications -- Terri McLaughlin, DNRC
 a. Process for reviewing new permit applications
 b. Number of permits received
 c. Number of permits returned
 d. Time associated with permit applications
 e. Process for reviewing change in appropriation right applications
 f. Number of permits received
 g. Number of permits returned
 h. Time associated with permit applications
3. Integration and coordination opportunities -- DNRC and DEQ
 a. Areas where a project will need to get permits from both agencies
 b. Which permit should come first?
4. Committee Questions

5. Public Comment
 6. Committee Discussion and Action, if any
- 3:00 p.m. **Compact Negotiations with Blackfeet Tribe** -- Jay Weiner, Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission
1. History and background
 2. Timeline
 3. Committee Questions
 4. Public Comment
 5. Committee discussion and action, if any
- 4:00 p.m. **Costs to develop and provide water in subdivisions -- exempt wells vs one large well** -- Panel discussion
1. Science of one well vs many wells -- John Metesh, MBMG
 2. DEQ -- Eric Regensburger
 3. Development -- Ron Bartsch, Montana Building Industry Assoc.
 4. Water right permit process - average costs -- John Tubbs, DNRC
 5. Committee Questions
 6. Public Comment
 7. Committee Discussion and Action, if any
- 5:00 p.m. **HB 831 Implementation Update** — Terri McLaughlin, DNRC
1. Update
 2. Public comment
 3. Committee questions, discussion, and action (if any)
- 5:30 p.m. **Committee Discussion and Analysis of days topics**
- 6:00 p.m. **WPIC Meeting Recess**

Thursday, October 25, 2007:

- 8:00 a.m. **Reconvene WPIC Meeting**
- 8:05 a.m. **Necessity of Providing an Exemption from the Permitting Process** -- Panel Discussion
1. Development -- Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association
 2. Realtors -- Glenn Oppel, Montana Association of Realtors
 3. Agriculture -- John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 4. Agency -- Rich Moy, DNRC
 5. Conservation -- Laura Ziemer, Trout Unlimited
 6. Committee Questions
 7. Public Comment
 8. Committee Discussion and Action, if any
- 10:00 a.m. **Water reasonably necessary for various beneficial uses associated with exempt wells** -- Panel discussion
1. DEQ -- Eric Regensburger
 2. DNRC -- Larry Dolan
 3. Science -- Dr. Steve Custer, Department Head, Associate Professor of Geology,

- Dept. of Earth Sciences, MSU (inv)
4. Committee Questions
 5. Public Comment
 6. Committee Discussion and Action, if any

12:00 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. **Options and Alternatives for Enforcing Statutory limitations with exempt wells/certificates -- Panel Discussion**

1. DNRC -- Tim Hall
2. Development -- Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association
3. Agriculture -- John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
4. Committee Questions
5. Public Comment
6. Committee Discussion and Action, if any

2:30 p.m. **Hydrogeologic Analysis Necessary to Determine Consumptive Use on a Per acre basis or a per-use basis -- Panel Discussion**

1. John LaFave, MBMG
2. Dr. Steve Custer, Department Head, Associate Professor of Geology, Dept. of Earth Sciences, MSU (Inv)
3. Mr. Bill Uthman, DNRC
4. Committee Questions
5. Public Comment
6. Committee Discussion and Action, if any

4:00 p.m. **HB 831 Case Study Progress** — John Metesh, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

1. Case study site locations and contact progress
2. Other case study information and progress
3. Committee Questions
4. Public Comment
5. Committee Discussion and Action, if any

4:15 p.m. **Committee Discussion and Analysis of days topics**

1. Prioritization of topics
2. Work Plan assessment

4:45 p.m. **Public Comment** on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the WPIC

5:00 p.m. **Other Business**

5:15 p.m. **Instructions to Staff**

5:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Please Note: Our website address for this interim is :

http://leg.mt.gov/css/lepo/2007_2008/water_policy/default.asp