



PO BOX 201706  
Helena, MT 59620-1706  
(406) 444-3064  
FAX (406) 444-3036

## Water Policy Interim Committee

---

### 62nd Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

BRADLEY MAXON HAMLETT--Chair  
DEBBY BARRETT  
SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY  
CHAS VINCENT

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

WALTER MCNUTT--Vice Chair  
PAT CONNELL  
BETSY HANDS  
BILL MCCHESENEY

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

JOE KOLMAN, Lead Staff  
HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney  
KEVIN MCCUE, Secretary

# FINAL AGENDA

# WATER POLICY INTERIM COMMITTEE

State Capitol, Room 172  
March 6, 2012

AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

- 9:00 a.m.     **Call to Order** - Sen. Hamlett
- Roll Call
  - Approval of minutes from January 2012
- 9:05 a.m.     **Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program update** (85-1-621, MCA)
- Mary Sexton, DNRC Director
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 9:30 a.m.     **Water right adjudication update**
- DNRC - Director Sexton
  - Montana Water Court - Judge Loble
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 9:45 a.m.     **Ground Water Investigation Program project updates**
- John Wheaton, MBMG
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 10:15 a.m.    **State Water Plan update** (85-1-203, MCA)
- Tim Davis, DNRC
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 10:45 a.m.    **Break**
- 10:55 a.m.    **Ditch maintenance discussion**
- Overview of Musselshell Ranch v. Joukova, Helen Thigpen, staff attorney
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any

- 11:15 a.m.      **Adjudication standing discussion**
- Overview of TU v. Beaverhead Water, et al, Helen Thigpen, staff attorney
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 11:30 a.m.      **Avulsion discussion**
- Overview of SB299 veto, Helen Thigpen, staff attorney
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- Noon              **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m.      **Rule review**
- Helen Thigpen, staff attorney
  - Public comment
  - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 1:15 p.m.      **Exempt well options**
- **LC 8000 - Define combined appropriation and require CGWA mitigation**
  - Proponents
  - Opponents
  - Information (affected agencies, entities)
  - Committee questions and discussion
  - **LC 8001 - Require public water and sewer in certain subdivisions**
  - Proponents
  - Opponents
  - Information (affected agencies, entities)
  - Committee questions and discussion
  - **LC 8002- Reduce exempt well rate and volume**
  - Proponents
  - Opponents
  - Information (affected agencies, entities)
  - Committee questions and discussion
- Breaks as needed
- **LC 8003 - Limit exempt appropriation in confined aquifers**
  - Proponents
  - Opponents
  - Information (affected agencies, entities)
  - Committee questions and discussion
  - **LC 8004 - limit exempt appropriation in subdivisions**
  - Proponents
  - Opponents
  - Information (affected agencies, entities)
  - Committee questions and discussion

3:30 p.m.

**Next steps in exempt well study**

- Budget scenarios for out-of-Helena meetings, Joe Kolman, staff
- Committee questions, discussion, and action on exempt well study and meetings

4:30 p.m.

**Other business**

**Administrative matters**

**Instructions to staff**

**Public comment** on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the WPIC

**Adjourn**

Anyone wanting to attend the meeting who may need services or accommodations, please contact Joe Kolman (406-444-3747 or [jkolman@mt.gov](mailto:jkolman@mt.gov)) at least 5 working days before the meeting.

All meeting materials are available on the WPIC website at [leg.mt.gov/water/](http://leg.mt.gov/water/)

CI2244 2065jkxa.