



## Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee

### 64th Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

FRED THOMAS--Chair  
DICK BARRETT  
MARK BLASDEL  
BRIAN HOVEN  
CHRISTINE KAUFMANN  
SUE MALEK

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

TOM JACOBSON--Vice Chair  
JEFF ESSMANN  
GREG HERTZ  
RAE PEPPERS  
ALAN REDFIELD  
BRIDGET SMITH

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

MEGAN MOORE, Lead Staff  
JARET COLES, Staff Attorney  
FONG HOM, Secretary

# MINUTES LOG

November 4, 2015  
Conference Call  
Room 335, Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PARTICIPATING**

SEN. FRED THOMAS, Chair  
REP. TOM JACOBSON, Vice Chair

SEN. MARK BLASDEL  
SEN. BRIAN HOVEN  
SEN. SUE MALEK

REP. JEFF ESSMANN  
REP. GREG HERTZ  
REP. ALAN REDFIELD  
REP. BRIDGET SMITH

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PARTICIPATING**

SEN. DICK BARRETT  
SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN  
REP. RAE PEPPERS

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

MEGAN MOORE, Lead Staff  
JARET COLES, Staff Attorney  
FONG HOM, Secretary

## VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 1)

## AGENDA (Attachment 2)

### COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The committee decided:

- that the polling documents will be mailed on Nov. 10 and must be returned by Nov. 24;
- to allow a signed ballot to be scanned and returned via email;
- that the submitted ballot is final;
- to upload poll results to the committee website at the end of the polling period; and
- to advise the chair and vice chair of any unforeseen items that come up during the poll.

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:05:05 Sen. Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. The secretary noted the roll. (Attachment 3) Sen. Barrett and Sen. Kaufmann did not participate and gave their proxies to Rep. Jacobson. (Attachment 4) Rep. Peppers did not call in. Rep. Essmann joined the conference call late.

00:06:29 Sen. Thomas gave a brief overview of the purpose of the conference call.

### BALLOT PROCESS AND PROCEDURE - Jaret Coles, Staff Attorney

Polling statute, draft poll letter, draft ballot, draft appendix

00:08:02 Mr. Coles reviewed the polling statute and the draft polling letter (Exhibit 1), and the draft ballot (Exhibit 2).

Discussion on ballot process

00:25:56 The committee discussed the issue of constitutionality, links to ballot documents, sending documents electronically, the ballot language, numbering the ballots, and ballots not returned.

Public Comment on polling process

00:40:36 Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, HD 84, opposed conducting the poll in general.

Committee Questions

00:43:40 Sen. Thomas asked about a deadline for the poll.

00:53:43 Rep. Jacobson asked about unreturned ballots.

00:54:22 Sen. Thomas discussed deadlines for mailing and for returning ballots.

00:59:43 *Sen. Hoven left the meeting at 11:58 a.m. He gave his proxy to Sen. Thomas. Rep. Essmann joined the meeting at 11:58 a.m.*

01:00:32 Committee members discussed counting non-returned ballots, extending the 2-week deadline of returning ballots to 30 days, different methods of returning the signed ballot, whether a member can change his/her vote, publication of the voting results, and committee staff informing the chair and vice chair of any unforeseen issues that arise during the poll.

**PUBLIC COMMENT on any other topic within the committee's jurisdiction**  
None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:18:44      With no further business before the committee, Sen. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

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