



## Water Policy Interim Committee

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### 64th Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

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JENNIFER FIELDER  
SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY  
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BOB BROWN  
ZACH BROWN  
KATHLEEN WILLIAMS

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

JASON MOHR, Lead Staff  
HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney  
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

(as of June 27, 2016)

# WATER POLICY INTERIM COMMITTEE

Room 172, State Capitol Building

July 11-12, 2016

AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

## Monday, July 11

9 a.m. **Call to Order** – Sen. Hamlett

- Roll Call
- Approval of minutes from May 2016

9:05 a.m. **Nutrients: Standards and work group updates**

- Nutrient standards update (75-5-313, MCA)
  - Eric Urban, bureau chief, Water Quality Planning Bureau (DEQ)
- Nutrient work group – biennial summary report (75-5-313, MCA)
  - Mr. Urban, DEQ
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

9:45 a.m. **TMDL list update (75-5-703, MCA)**

- Mr. Urban, DEQ
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

10:30 a.m. **Program review: Public Water and Subdivisions Bureau (Tab 1)**

- Mr. Mohr
- Jon Dilliard, bureau chief, Public Water and Subdivisions Bureau (DEQ)
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

11:30 a.m. **Hydroelectric potential report (85-1-501, MCA) (Tab 2)**

- Tim Davis, division administrator, Water Resources Division (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

Noon Lunch

1 p.m. **Introduction of Surface Water Assessment and Monitoring Program**

- John Metesh, state geologist and director of Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
- Mr. Davis, DNRC
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

1:30 p.m. **Prioritization of Ground Water Investigation Projects**

- Ginette Abdo, senior research hydrologist and manager of Ground Water Investigation Program
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

2 p.m. **Clark Fork River Basin Task Force update (85-2-350, MCA)**

- Holly Franz, task force member
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

2:30 p.m. **Water and Wastewater Operators' Advisory Council (2-15-2105, MCA)**

- John Alston, advisory council president and superintendent of Public Works, Water, and Sewer (City of Bozeman) – *invited*
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily established advisory councils: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

3 p.m. **Water Pollution Control Advisory Council (2-15-2107, MCA)**

- Barb Chillcott, vice chairwoman
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily established advisory councils: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

3:30 p.m. **SJ2 study of federal 404 permitting (Tab 3)**

- Draft report and findings – Mr. Mohr
- Jeff Ryan
- DEQ
- Consideration of report recommendations
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

5 p.m. **Recess**

**Tuesday, July 12**

8 a.m. **Reconvene**

8:05 a.m. **Water supply/drought update**

- DNRC
  - Drought resiliency pilot project
  - Drought response plan
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

8:45 a.m. **Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee update (85-2-338, MCA)**

- Maureen Conner, member
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions
- Review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to 2017 Legislature (5-5-215, MCA)

9 a.m. **Study of water availability and supply (Tab 4)**

- Summary of committee work – Mr. Mohr
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

10 a.m. **Study of the future of the Water Court (Tab 5)**

- [Draft report](#) and findings – Mr. Mohr
- [Review of draft legislation](#) – Mr. Mohr
- Consideration of report recommendations
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

Noon            **Lunch**

1 p.m.            **Update on Yellowstone Club effluent spill (tentative)**

- DEQ
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

1:30 p.m.        **Update on water right ownership updates (tentative)**

- DNRC
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

2 p.m.            **Sun River water flows (tentative)**

- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

2:30 p.m.        **Permitting for West Bank Landing development (tentative)**

- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

3 p.m.            **Agency administrative rule update**

- Mr. Thigpen
- Public comment
- Committee discussion, questions

3:15 p.m.        **Public Comment on any issue within the jurisdiction of the WPIC**

3:30 p.m.        **Other business**

- Public comment
- Committee discussion and action

4 p.m.            **Adjourn**

*Meeting attendees who may need services or accommodations should contact Jason Mohr (406-444-1640 or [jasonmohr@mt.gov](mailto:jasonmohr@mt.gov)) at least 5 working days before the meeting.*