



REVENUE INTERIM COMMITTEE

69th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Becky Beard
Dave Fern
Greg Hertz
Mike Yakawich

HOUSE MEMBERS

Larry Brewster
Ed Byrne
Valerie Moore
James Reavis
Jolanda Songer
Mark Thane

COMMITTEE STAFF

Jaret Coles - Deputy Legal Services Director
Megan Moore - Lead Staff
Maddelyn Black - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

July 11, 2025
Capitol Room 137 & Zoom
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation 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 recording 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 the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <https://leg.mt.gov>. From the home page, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu for the date of the meeting. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From there, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to. The written Minutes Log, along with links to the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed. Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Larry Brewster, Presiding Officer (R)
Sen. Dave Fern, Vice Presiding Officer (D)
Sen. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Ed Byrne (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)
Rep. Valerie Moore (R)
Rep. James Reavis (D)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)
Sen. Mike Yakawich (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Jaret Coles, Legal Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
Megan Moore, Lead Staff, LSD
Maddelyn Black, Secretary, LSD

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 2](#))

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

09:30:30 Sen. Greg Hertz called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

REVENUE ESTIMATING AND MONITORING

09:31:52 Megan Moore, Lead Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT 1](#)

[EXHIBIT 2](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

09:38:08 Rep. Mark Thane

09:38:20 Aaron McNay, Economist, Montana Department of Revenue

09:39:23 Joe Baan, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

09:40:30 Sen. Greg Hertz

REVENUE ESTIMATING AND MONITORING - Continued

09:41:02 Joe Baan, LFD

[EXHIBIT 3](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

09:44:24 Sen. Greg Hertz

Public Comment

09:45:12 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

09:46:03 Sen. Greg Hertz

09:46:15 Joe Baan

09:48:09 Sen. Becky Beard

09:48:25 Joe Baan

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

09:50:11 Sen. Greg Hertz

09:50:27 Megan Moore, Lead Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

09:50:48 Jaret Coles, Legal Staff, LSD

09:51:14 Maddelyn Black, Secretary, LSD

09:51:32 David Larson, Remote Meeting Coordinator, LSD

09:51:39 Sen. Greg Hertz

09:52:29 Rep. James Reavis

09:53:04 Sen. Becky Beard

09:54:09 Rep. Ed Byrne

09:54:45 Sen. Dave Fern

09:56:14 Rep. Larry Brewster
09:57:02 Rep. Mark Thane
09:57:43 Sen. Mike Yakawich
09:58:32 Rep. Valerie Moore
09:59:23 Sen. Greg Hertz

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – Continued

Roles and Responsibilities

10:00:08 Megan Moore
10:01:45 Sen. Greg Hertz

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – Continued

Compensation

10:02:57 Maia Zelenak, Senior Accountant, LSD
[EXHIBIT 4](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

10:06:15 Sen. Dave Fern
10:06:35 Maia Zelenak, LSD
10:07:57 Sen. Greg Hertz
10:08:10 Rep. James Reavis
10:08:21 Maia Zelenak

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Continued

Meeting Material Preferences

10:08:44 Sen. Greg Hertz
10:08:48 Megan Moore

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Continued

Rules and Procedures

10:09:43 Megan Moore
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

10:14:06 Rep. James Reavis
10:14:41 Megan Moore

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Continued

Proxy Voting Procedures

10:15:02 Sen. Greg Hertz
10:15:22 Megan Moore

Motion

10:15:44 Sen. Becky Beard moved to allow the use of written proxies.

Discussion on the Motion

10:16:00 None

Vote

10:16:08 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – Continued**Officer Elections**

10:16:13 Sen. Greg Hertz

Motion

10:17:02 Sen. Becky Beard moved to appoint Rep. Larry Brewster as presiding officer of Revenue Interim Committee.

Discussion on the Motion

10:17:24 None

Vote

10:17:30 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – Continued**Officer Elections**

10:17:51 Sen. Greg Hertz

Motion

10:18:08 Sen. Becky Beard moved to appoint Sen. Dave Fern as vice presiding officer of Revenue Interim Committee.

Discussion on the Motion

10:18:27 None

Vote

10:18:35 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Continued**Website Tour**

10:18:51 Megan Moore

[EXHIBIT 6](#)

[EXHIBIT 7](#)

[EXHIBIT 8](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

10:21:16 Sen. Becky Beard

10:21:35 Megan Moore

10:21:48 Sen. Greg Hertz

[EXHIBIT 9](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – Continued
Summary of Enacted Tax Legislation

10:22:29 Megan Moore

[EXHIBIT 10](#)

Committee Discussion / Questions

10:23:45 None

Public Comment

10:24:00 None

10:24:44 **Recessed**

10:29:24 **Reconvened**

DRAFT INTERIM WORK PLAN

10:29:34 Megan Moore, Lead Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT 11](#)

[EXHIBIT 12](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

10:44:55 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

10:45:01 Megan Moore, LSD

10:45:54 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern

10:50:23 Sen. Becky Beard

10:50:34 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

10:53:29 Rep. Mark Thane

10:53:48 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

10:54:11 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern

10:55:24 Sen. Becky Beard

10:56:23 Sen. Greg Hertz

10:57:46 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

10:58:13 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern

10:58:38 Megan Moore

11:00:48 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

11:01:25 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern

11:08:03 Sen. Becky Beard

11:08:52 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

11:09:31 Rep. Mark Thane

11:10:18 Megan Moore

11:10:34 Sen. Mike Yakawich

11:10:55 Megan Moore

11:11:45 Sen. Greg Hertz

11:12:41 Rep. James Reavis
11:14:42 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
11:14:55 Rep. Ed Byrne
11:15:36 Jaret Coles, Legal Staff, LSD
11:17:04 Sen. Greg Hertz
11:17:45 Rep. Mark Thane
11:18:55 Jaret Coles, LSD
11:19:32 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
11:20:10 Sen. Greg Hertz
11:20:34 Megan Moore

Public Comment

11:22:10 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
[EXHIBIT 13](#)
11:35:42 Sheridan Hoyer, Government Relations Specialist, Montana Chamber of
Commerce
11:38:20 Kevin Nelson, Billings
[EXHIBIT 14](#)
11:44:36 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
11:48:50 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

AGENCY MONITORING: MONTANA TAX APPEAL BOARD

11:49:38 Travis Brown, Chairman, Montana Tax Appeal Board
[EXHIBIT 15](#)
[EXHIBIT 16](#)

Committee Questions / Discussion

12:00:10 None

Public Comment

12:00:15 None

12:00:43 **Recessed**

13:01:21 **Reconvened**

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (DOR)

Introduction of Staff

13:02:02 Brendan Beatty, Director, DOR

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Continued

Reappraisal Update

13:04:19 Bryce Kaatz, Unit Manager, Property Assessment Division, DOR

[EXHIBIT 17](#)

[EXHIBIT 18](#)

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Continued

2025 Legislation Implementation

13:14:13 Jill Hamilton, Administrator, Information Management and Collection Division, DOR
13:16:47 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
13:17:03 Derek Bell, Administrator, Business & Income Taxes Division, DOR
13:19:45 Paula Gilbert, Administrator, Property Assessment Division, DOR

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Continued

Tax Season Update

13:21:08 Jill Hamilton, DOR
[EXHIBIT 19](#)
13:24:05 Derek Bell, DOR

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Continued

Major Case Update

13:30:41 Dave Stewart, Chief Legal Counsel, DOR
[EXHIBIT 20](#)

AGENCY MONITORING: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE - Continued

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Audit Schedule

13:39:52 Bob Finstad, Chief Information Officer, Technology Services Division, DOR

Public Comment

13:42:33 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

Committee Questions / Discussion

13:46:03 Rep. James Reavis
13:46:19 Dave Stewart, DOR
13:47:00 Theresa Whitney, Attorney, DOR
13:47:50 Sen. Greg Hertz
13:48:05 Bryce Kaatz, DOR
13:54:33 Sen. Greg Hertz
13:56:54 Director Brendan Beatty, DOR
14:01:25 Sen. Mike Yakawich
14:02:52 Dave Stewart, DOR
14:05:30 Rep. Mark Thane
14:06:09 Dave Stewart
14:07:12 Director Brendan Beatty

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPERTY TAX REBATE AND REVISED TAX RATES

- 14:08:50 Megan Moore, Lead Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
[EXHIBIT 21](#)
- 14:20:16 Derek Bell, Administrator, Business & Income Taxes Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)
- 14:27:20 Eric Dale, Tax Policy & Research Director, DOR
[EXHIBIT 22](#)
- 14:42:23 Jason Roach, Business Services Unit Manager, DOR
[EXHIBIT 23](#)
- 14:47:00 Bryce Kaatz, Unit Manager, Property Assessment Division, DOR

Public Comment

- 14:48:17 Jennifer Olson, Government Affairs Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns
- 14:49:13 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

Committee Questions / Discussion

- 14:50:52 Sen. Becky Beard
- 14:51:03 Eric Dale, DOR
- 14:53:40 Sen. Becky Beard
- 14:54:25 Brendan Beatty, Director, DOR
- 14:55:42 Rep. Mark Thane
- 14:55:51 Bryce Kaatz, DOR
- 14:57:32 Rep. James Reavis
- 14:57:41 Jason Roach, DOR
- 15:01:31 Sen. Greg Hertz
- 15:02:05 Megan Moore, LSD

AGENCY MONITORING: ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

- 15:03:37 Jaret Coles, Legal Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
[EXHIBIT 24](#)

Public Comment

- 15:19:39 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

Committee Questions / Discussion

- 15:21:20 Sen. Mike Yakawich
- 15:22:07 Jaret Coles, LSD
- 15:24:06 Megan Moore, Lead Staff, LSD
- 15:24:46 Sen. Becky Beard
- 15:25:51 Rep. Ed Byrne
- 15:26:43 Jaret Coles

15:28:06	Sen. Greg Hertz
15:28:41	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
15:28:55	Megan Moore, LSD

MODERNIZATION AND RISK ANALYSIS COMMITTEE

15:30:27	Nick VanBrown, Assistant Fiscal Director, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD) EXHIBIT 25 EXHIBIT 26 EXHIBIT 27
----------	---

Committee Questions / Discussion

15:37:43	Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
15:37:56	Nick VanBrown, LFD EXHIBIT 28
15:41:16	Sen. Becky Beard

Public Comment

15:41:54	Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
15:45:22	Jennifer Olson, Government Affairs Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY OTHER TOPIC WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

15:47:04	None
----------	------

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION

15:47:35	Megan Moore, Lead Staff, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
15:48:19	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION - Continued

Statutory Duties and Assigned Study

15:48:35	Megan Moore, LSD
15:49:20	Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
15:50:11	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
15:50:46	Sen. Greg Hertz
15:51:57	Sen. Becky Beard
15:52:38	Rep. James Reavis
15:54:00	Rep. Mark Thane
16:02:25	Nick VanBrown, Assistant Fiscal Director, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION - Continued

Additional Topics

16:09:26	Megan Moore
16:10:00	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:10:28	Sen. Greg Hertz
16:10:39	Rep. James Reavis

16:10:57	Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
16:11:52	Sen. Greg Hertz
16:12:22	Sen. Becky Beard
16:13:10	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:13:16	Rep. Mark Thane
16:14:46	Rep. James Reavis
16:15:41	Sen. Greg Hertz
16:16:29	Megan Moore
16:17:19	Sen. Becky Beard
16:19:01	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:19:29	Rep. Mark Thane
16:20:07	Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
16:20:15	Sen. Greg Hertz
16:21:28	Rep. James Reavis
16:21:48	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:22:55	Megan Moore
16:23:32	Rep. Ed Byrne
16:23:59	Sen. Becky Beard
16:25:04	Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
16:25:28	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:28:48	Sen. Mike Yakawich
16:29:11	Megan Moore
16:29:18	Rep. James Reavis
16:29:42	Sen. Becky Beard
16:30:02	Megan Moore
16:31:35	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:31:59	Sen. Becky Beard
16:32:29	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:32:35	Sen. Greg Hertz
16:33:50	Megan Moore
16:34:05	Rep. Mark Thane
16:35:31	Nick VanBrown, LFD
16:38:30	Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:38:36	Megan Moore
	<u>EXHIBIT 29</u>
16:38:49	Rep. James Reavis
16:39:17	Sen. Becky Beard

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION - Continued
Meeting Dates

16:39:28 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:39:54 Megan Moore
16:40:16 Rep. Valerie Moore
16:40:53 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION - Continued
Meeting Materials

16:41:02 Megan Moore
16:41:47 Presiding Officer Larry Brewster
16:42:26 Vice Presiding Officer Dave Fern
16:42:37 Maddelyn Black, Secretary, LSD

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:43:15