

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JACK WELLS**, on February 7, 2005 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 350 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jack Wells, Chairman (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau (D)
Rep. Ralph L. Lenhart (D)
Rep. John E. Witt (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Sen. Jon Tester, Vice Chairman (D)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)

Staff Present: Laura Dillon, Committee Secretary
Catherine Duncan, Legislative Branch
Mike Burke, OBPP

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 9, 2/7/2005
Executive Action:

Reference book is: Governor's Budget State of Montana, Fiscal Years 2006-2007, Cultural and Aesthetic Grants Program (CAGP), Volume 8.

CHAIRMAN WELLS opened the meeting on HB 9 Projects.

HEARING ON HB 9

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JOHN WITT (R), HD 28, opened the hearing on **HB 9**, Cultural and Aesthetic Grant Appropriations.

Ellen Crain, Chairperson, Cultural and Aesthetic Grants Board, described the grant application and review process to the committee members. The board is made up of eight members from historical and humanities fields and eight members from art fields.

Kristin Han Burgoyne, Cultural and Aesthetic Grants Board, further explained the application process and some of the projects on the committee's schedule.

Carleen Layne, Montana Arts Council, stated that the Cultural and Aesthetic Grants Board had likely allocated more funds than would be available. This is due to unexpected changes in revenue estimates.

Ms. Layne and **Ms. Han Burgoyne** went through the projects included in HB 9.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 20.9}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. COONEY asked for the estimated funding shortfall.

Ms. Layne replied that the projects are short by about \$300,000. This estimate could change as a result of updated Legislative Fiscal Division numbers.

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked if the funding shortfall would affect projects in the current biennium.

Ms. Layne replied that projects in progress during the current biennium will have enough funding. Ms. Layne continued to explain the budget and revenue sources for the projects.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 10.1}

REP. JUNEAU asked how the projects were distributed within the state.

Ms. Layne responded that there was some geographic consideration when awarding grants, but this can be limited by the distribution of grants they receive.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 10.1 - 18.4}

Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization, #1101

Proponents' Testimony:

Mitzi Rossillon, Treasurer, Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization, explained that funding for this project would be used to repair stained glass at structures in Uptown Butte. The group would then offer tours of the stained glass windows in the city. The group has received a community enrichment award for their work in the city and would like to continue expanding. The funding would also facilitate the creation of a tour booklet, which would be available year-round. Several churches will be highlighted on the tour.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 18.4 - 26.7}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. COONEY asked for the location of the churches included in the tour.

Ms. Rossillon replied that 10 to 15 churches will be part of the tour. These churches represent a variety of denominations.

SEN. COONEY asked if these churches were still active.

Ms. Rossillon answered that the majority were active churches.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 26.7 - 29}

{SEN. TESTER entered the meeting at 9:15 A.M.}

Fort William H. Harrison Museum Foundation, #1103

Proponents' Testimony:

Raymond K. Read, Fort William H. Harrison Museum Foundation, described the project to the committee members. The museum includes both United States Army and Montana Military exhibits.

Mr. Read presented his written testimony (Exhibit 1) to the committee.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a01)

Sergeant Major Ronda Scott, Fort William H. Harrison Museum, said that with funding, the museum can complete an exhibit highlighting the performance of the National Guard in conflicts (Exhibit 2). She feels it is important that Montanans see that their support is making a difference in these conflicts.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a02)

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. COONEY commented that the grant recommendation was less than the original amount requested. He asked if the reduced amount would be enough.

Jodie Foley, Fort William H. Harrison Museum, responded that the project would have to be completed with fewer interviews and less travel, but could still move ahead.

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked what media would be used for the interviews.

Ms. Foley replied that digital recordings and video would be used during the interviews.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 10.6}

Metropolitan Opera National Council, #1104

Proponents' Testimony:

David Cody, Metropolitan Opera National Council, explained that this project would fund the Metropolitan Opera National Council District Auditions (Exhibit 3). A substantial number of opera singers from Montana participate in the auditions. Nearly two-thirds of the past regional winners have been from Montana. The council would like to be able to contribute more to cash incentive awards and financial assistance for the singers. The funding is also used to pay for the judges' accommodations.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a03)

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 10.6 - 19.5}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. WITT asked if this was the first time the council had applied for a grant.

Mr. Cody replied, "Yes." He continued to explain the reasoning behind the grant recommendations.

Lincoln Council for the Arts, #1102

Proponents' Testimony:

Laura Nicolai, Volunteer, Lincoln Council for the Arts, told the committee that the council brings artists and cultural workshops to Lincoln and the surrounding area. The council would like funding to sponsor an arts education program for both children and adults. The funding also helps bring programs like Missoula Children's Theater to the community. The all-volunteer council also contributes to the Santa's Workshop Program for Needy Families and administers school art contests.

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. TESTER asked if the children's programs took place during or after school.

Ms. Nicolai replied that artists are brought into the classroom when appropriate (for instance, during art time) as well as after school and weekend programs.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19.5 - 28.6}

Alberta Bair Theater, #1140

Proponents' Testimony:

Bill Fisher, Executive Director, Alberta Bair Theater, explained that the theater was requesting a grant for operational support. He showed a video to the committee, which highlighted the programs and community contributions of the theater. The theater contributes to community outreach and has initiated a free admission program for students. Mr. Fisher distributed a handout, which highlighted theater performances and children's programs.

EXHIBIT (j1h30a04)

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. TESTER asked Mr. Fisher to clarify the funding figures.

Mr. Fisher discussed the funding amounts listed in the Governor's Budget Reference Book.

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked why the theater was asking for an increased grant amount this year.

Mr. Fisher answered that this would accommodate recent program growth.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 12.1}

Montana Mandolin Society, #1106

Proponents' Testimony:

Lori Brockway, Montana Mandolin Society, testified that the society consists of Montanans teaching other citizens the art of music. The society has given concerts across Montana (Exhibit 5) and the United States. They work with local chambers of commerce and arts councils to set up concerts. The funding for this project will allow for additional school workshops and local performances.

EXHIBIT (j1h30a05)

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. WITT asked why there were discrepancies in the funding numbers listed.

Ms. Brockway replied that state and federal funding dollars may have become confused in the society's budget report.

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked why the group was referred to as the "Mandolin Society" when there were other stringed instruments involved.

Ms. Brockway replied that the name was the result of tradition.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 12.1 - 25.5}

Preservation Cascade, Incorporated, #1108

Proponents' Testimony:

Ellen Sievert, Historic Preservation Officer, Great Falls, discussed this project for the 10th Street Bridge in Great Falls. The group would like to preserve the bridge and develop the surrounding area (Exhibit 6). 12 concrete benches and two picnic tables will be placed near the bridge. The bridge will be linked with a walking trail and a historic time line will be constructed. Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and private funds will contribute to the project.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a06)

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 25.5 - 32.5}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: none.

Montana Storytelling Roundup, #1107

Proponents' Testimony:

Lee Jacobsen, Co-sponsor, Montana Storytelling Roundup, read her written testimony, which outlined the program (Exhibit 7). Storytelling and educational activities are performed at schools around the state. The program has no administrative costs and is administered through grants, volunteer labor and outside contributions.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a07)

SEN. GLENN ROUSH, SD 8, went on record in support of the program.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 12}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked if the project was limited to one program per year.

Ms. Jacobsen replied that the group provides entertainment year round, as requested.

Rocky Mountain Ballet Theater, #1175**Proponents' Testimony:**

Charlene Campbell, Project Director, Rocky Mountain Ballet Theater, described the ballet company and this request for operational support. The school trains students throughout the state and travels internationally. The company would like to use part of this grant to strengthen their board of directors. They will continue to partner with local groups for fund raising. Ms. Campbell passed out the Rocky Mountain Ballet School brochure (Exhibit 8) to the committee members.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a08)

Morgan Eichwald and Faith Morrison, Students, Rocky Mountain Ballet Company, stated their support for the project.

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: none.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 12 - 22.4}

Signatures from Big Sky, #1109**Proponents' Testimony:**

Shirley Olson, Coordinator-Editor, Signatures from Big Sky, stated that the magazine contained artwork and literature from students of all grade levels within the state. She distributed copies of the past year's magazine (Exhibit 9). Grant money is being requested to further expand the program and increase its availability to the public.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a09)

Jan Clinard, Commission of Higher Education, said that the magazine allows students to see the capabilities of their peers. The program is very popular and more applications are received than can be published.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 22.4 - 31}

Lindsay and Michael Bayuk, students, testified in support of the magazine. Michael has had a composition published in the magazine.

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked how often the magazine was published.

Ms. Olson responded that it was an annual publication.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 4.8}

Wibaux County Visioning Committee, #1110

Proponents' Testimony:

David Bertelsen, Project Director, Wibaux County Visioning Committee, handed out project summaries to the committee members (Exhibit 10). The funding will be used to restore a local church and commission several sculptures. The sculptures will be placed at strategic points around the town in an effort to draw tourists into the downtown area. Tours of the historic church and sculpture walking route will be offered.

EXHIBIT (j1h30a10)

Laura Dukart, Wibaux Visioning Committee, described the sculpture placement within the town.

REP. LENHART went on record in support of the project.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 4.8 - 18.2}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked for the population of Wibaux.

Mr. Bertelsen replied that the town has around 500 residents.

Artisan Dance, #1111

Proponents' Testimony:

Sallyann Mulcahy, Artistic Director, Artisan Dance, explained the grant request. The funding will be used to lay the foundation to build a professional ballet company in Helena. Once the project is completed, Artisan Dance will become the first professional

ballet company in the state. Currently, many dancers leave the state to obtain professional training. Ms. Mulcahy submitted the Artisan Dance Patron Information Pamphlet (Exhibit 11) for the record.

EXHIBIT(jlh30a11)

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 18.2 - 31.1}

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: none.

Bozeman Symphony Society, #1112

Proponents' Testimony:

Jackie Vick, Project Director, Bozeman Symphony Society, stated that the grant funding requested will facilitate community outreach and educational programming. The Bozeman Symphony provides live music to all by offering several free performances. Symphony members provide educational programs to local schools. The society would like to be able to continue expanding the scope of educational programs offered and visit additional schools. Members of a flute ensemble performed for the committee.

Opponents' Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

CHAIRMAN WELLS asked for the name of one of the instruments.

Ms. Vick replied that the instrument was a bass flute and is not commonly seen by symphony-goers.

CHAIRMAN WELLS concluded the hearing and the meeting was adjourned.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 10.3}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:40 A.M.

REP. JACK WELLS, Chairman

LAURA DILLON, Secretary

JW/ld

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([j1h30aad0.PDF](#))