

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS**

**Call to Order:** By CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL, on January 8, 1997, at  
3:07 P.M., in Room 325

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)  
Rep. William T. "Red" Menahan, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Gary Feland (R)  
Rep. Royal C. Johnson (R)  
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten (R)  
Rep. Matt McCann (D)  
Rep. Daniel W. McGee (R)  
Rep. Steve Vick (R)  
Rep. Diana E. Wyatt (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Susan Fox, Legislative Services Division  
Mike Wingard, Legislative Audit Division  
Meg Angell, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None

**HEARING ON PRIVATE PRISON PROPOSAL**  
**BOBBY ROSS GROUP**

**REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .3; Comments: Introduction/Overview.}*

**BOBBY ROSS, Director, The Bobby Ross Group, Inc. Private  
Detention Management Services; 1021 Ranch Road 620 South, Austin,  
TX 78734. (512) 263-9480.**

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.6; Comments: No written testimony or  
exhibits.}*

**QUESTIONS:**

**REP. MATT MCCANN**

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.1; Comments: Rep. McCann questioned  
Mr. Ross.}*

**REP. "RED" MENAHAN**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20.5; Comments: Rep. Menahan questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 24.3; Comments: Rep. Kasten questioned Mr. Ross.}

**CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25.3; Comments: Chairman Bergsagel questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. ROYAL JOHNSON**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25.6; Comments: Rep. Johnson questioned Mr. Ross.}

**D. HULL YOUNGBLOOD, Attorney at Law (for The Bobby Ross Group);  
100 Congress Avenue, Suite 1100; Austin, TX 78701-4099; (512)  
472-8355.**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.4; Comments: Explanation of Certificate of Participation.}

**REP. GARY FELAND**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: .2; Comments: Rep. Feland questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. DIANA WYATT**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.2; Comments: Rep. Wyatt questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. "RED" MENAHAN**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 5.8; Comments: Rep. Menahan questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. GARY FELAND**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9.0; Comments: Rep. Feland questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. MATT MCCANN**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9.8; Comments: Rep. McCann questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. ROYAL JOHNSON**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 12.9; Comments: Rep. R. Johnson questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13.2; Comments: Rep. Kasten questioned Mr. Lee Jewel of Powell County.}

**CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 16.8; Comments: Chairman Bergsagel questioned Mr. Jewell, Mr. Youngblood and Mr. Ross.}

**REP. "RED" MENAHAN**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.0; Comments: Rep. Menahan questioned Mr. Ross.}

**REP. ROYAL JOHNSON**

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 29.8; Comments: Rep. Johnson questioned Mr. Ross - the response is continued on Tape 2, Side A.}

**REP. STEVE VICK**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .5; Comments: Rep. Vick questioned Mr. Jewell and Mr. Ross.}

**BOBBY ROSS**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.0; Comments: Conclusion of Presentation.}

**BREAK**

**REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.8; Comments: Call to order following break.}

**HEARING ON REGIONAL PRISON/JAIL COMPLEX  
BUTTE/SILVER BOW PROPOSAL**

**JIM KAMEBICH, Montana Energy Research and Development Institute  
(MERDI)**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.0; Comments: Presentation.}

**EXHIBIT 1**

**EXHIBIT 2**

Introduction of MIKE THATCHER, Executive Director of Community, Counseling and Correctional Services, Inc. (CCCS), Butte, MT.  
Introduction of HARRISON FAGG, Project Architect; Billings, MT.

**QUESTIONS:**

**CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.5; Comments: Chairman Bergsagel questioned Mr. Kamebich.}

**REP. GARY FELAND**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20.9; Comments: Rep. Feland questioned Mr. Thatcher.}

**REP. ROYAL JOHNSON**

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30.2; Comments: Rep. R. Johnson questioned Mr. Thatcher.}

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: .2; Comments: Rep. R. Johnson, questioned Mr. Thatcher and Mr. Kamebich.}

**REP. "RED" MENAHAN**

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.0; Comments: Rep. Menahan questioned Mr. Kamebich.}

**REP. MATT MCCANN**

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 5.3; Comments: Rep. McCann questioned Mr. Kamebich.}

**REP. STEVE VICK**

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10.2; Comments: Rep. Vick questioned Mr. Thatcher.}

**CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11.8; Comments: Chairman Bergsagel questioned Mr. Thatcher.}

**MIKE THATCHER**

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 20.2; Comments: Conclusion of Presentation.}

**PROPONENT/OPPONENT TESTIMONY:**

**Proponents: None**

**Opponents:**

**LINDEN DUFFIN, CPA, PO Box 518, Chester, MT 59522  
(406) 759-5215**

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 21.2; Comments: None.}

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .2; Comments: Mr. Duffin, continued.}

EXHIBIT 3

QUESTIONS:

**REP. MATT MCCANN**

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.9; Comments: Rep. McCann questioned Mr. Duffin.}

**MR. TOMASKIE, Harlem, MT**

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.9; Comments: Opponent testimony.}

**REP. "RED" MENAHAN**

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.0; Comments: Rep. Menahan questioned Mr. Tomaskie.}

**REP. MATT MCCANN**

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.1; Comments: Rep. McCann made a statement.}

**SCOTT CRICHTON, ACLU, Helena, MT**

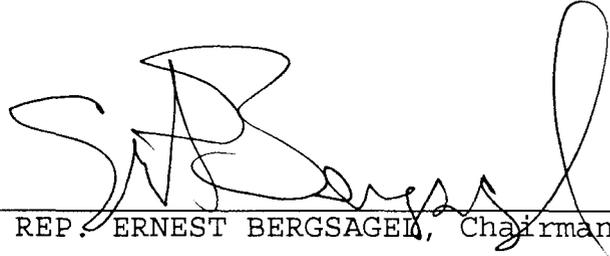
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.2; Comments: Written testimony not available; Chairman Bergsagel suggested postponing testimony until Friday; Mr. Crichton preferred to speak now; may present written testimony later.}

**CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.2; Comments: Closing statement.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:40 p.m.



REP. ERNEST BERGSAGER, Chairman



MEG ANGELL, Secretary

EB/ma

Minutes recorded on SONY BM-89T