

FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

January 18, 1977

The Committee was called to order at 11 a.m., with all members present.

House Bill 84 was discussed. Rep. Staigmiller, chief sponsor, turned the chair over to Rep. Baeth, so he could explain the bill. He read the attached statement. House Bill 84 requires approval of the Legislature before the Fish and Game Department can purchase agricultural land larger than 5 acres. Rep. Staigmiller presented an amendment to change the amount of land to 80 acres, and to eliminate gifts from the act.

Proponents of the bill were: Dean Zinnecker, Virge Holliday, Bob Shipton, Eugene Walker and Gene Spilde.

Opponents of the bill were: Wes Woodgerd, Kevin Glaes, Paul Brunner, John Gilpatrick, Phil Tawney, Leland Schoonover, Thomas Daniel, Tony Schooner, Peter Jackson and Jerry Limdstrom.

Mr. Robert Knight testified as to the facts in the purchase of the Mt. Hagen Ranch.

Testimony of the above witnesses is attached.

In answer to questions, Mr. Woodgerd said the Fish and Game Department will never be able to acquire enough land to provide the recreation facilities demanded by the people. He said he did not know how much land is covered by management agreements or how many large pieces of land have been purchased that were negotiated in less than 2 years. The time between taking of an option and the decision to purchase or not to purchase is usually around 90 days.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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JOHN B. STAIGMILLER, Chairperson