

## FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

February 22, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m., with all members present.

House Joint Resolution 82 was discussed first. Rep. Johnston distributed an article from the Great Falls Tribune about the coyotes on the Fort Peck Reservoir. In winter they run deer on the ice and the deer fall and cannot run away so the coyotes get them. Proponents of the resolution were Rep. Staigmiller, Bob Gilbert, Pete Jackson, Jack Nichols, Ralph Holman, Gene Spilde. They all testified as to the intelligence of the coyote and how hard it would be to eradicate them, if possible at all.

Senate Bill 281 was discussed next. Senator Etchart, chief sponsor, said the bill amends 26-504 and places restrictions on certain kinds of snare traps. Proponents were Jack Nichols, Wes Woodgerd, Ralph Holman, Gene Spilde and Rep. Staigmiller.

The Committee went into Executive Session to consider bills.

HJR 82 - Rep. Seifert moved that the resolution DO PASS. The motion passed unanimously.

Senate Bill 281 - Rep. Conroy moved that the bill BE CONCURRED IN. The motion passed unanimously.

HJR 15 - Rep. Conroy moved to adopt the amendments shown on the attached sheet. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Baeth then moved that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 181 - After discussion, Rep. Conroy moved to delete and add as shown on the proposed amendment attached. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Baeth moved that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed with Rep. Courtney voting NO.

House Bill 657 - Rep. Seifert moved that the bill DO NOT PASS. The motion passed with Reps. Baeth, Ellis and Ellison voting NO.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

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JOHN B. STAIGMILLER, Chairman