

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
APRIL 11, 1977

The meeting was called to order by Senator Towe, Chairman, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 410 of the Capitol Building. Committee members present were Senators Towe, Story, Brown, Rasmussen, Roskie, Jergeson, Blaylock, and Devine.

The following bills were discussed: The Appointment of J. J. Klabunde to the Fish and Game Commission.  
HB 808

HEARING ON MR. KLABUNDE'S APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.

Senator Towe opened the hearing and asked Mr. Klabunde to make an opening statement. That statement is attached to these minutes.

PROPOSERS

Lyle Leeds, Havre, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Senator Allen Kolstad, District 5, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Tag Rittel, President of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Senator Stan Stephens, District 4, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Kevin Glaes, Trout Unlimited, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Howard Bailey, Hill County Wildlife Association, spoke in favor of the appointment.

Jack McLane spoke in favor of the appointment.

Fred W. Gersmeyer spoke in support of the appointment.

Gary Stuker spoke in favor of the appointment.

Gerald Lynch spoke in favor of the appointment.

During the hearing, phone calls were received in support of the appointment from former Senator James, and Mr. Oja.

OPPOSERS

Lada Kafka, Hill County Farmer and Rancher, expressed his opposition to the appointment.

Senator Richard Smith, District 8, expressed his opposition to the appointment.

PROPOSERS

Senator Frank Dunkle asked to be able to express his support of the appointment.

Page 2  
Minutes  
April 11, 1977

There being no further proponents and opponents to the appointment, the hearing was opened to questions by members of the committee. The committee questioned Mr. Klabunde extensively as to his fund raising activities and his relationships with sportsmen and landowners in the state as affected by his membership on the Fish and Game Commission. They also asked him to explain charges made as to his owning a private hunting lease. The full text of the discussion and the hearing is contained on the tape of the hearing which is attached to the minutes.

There being no further discussion, the hearing was closed.

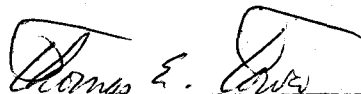
#### HOUSE BILL 808

Representative Driscoll, District 91, state the bill is the companion legislation to HJR 34. It provides for striking the automatic repealer on gubernatorial campaign fund and changes the name to the Public Campaign Fund Act. He further stated that by making the gubernatorial campaign fund permanent, the monies will accumulate into a large enough pool to hopefully finance the campaign in four years.

There were no proponents and no opponents to the bill.

There being no further discussion, the hearing was closed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to reconvene on adjournment of the Senate.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas E. Towe, Chairman

## ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1977

Date 4/11/77

[illegible]

2/11/70

Stat. Instruments & Tools

KLABONCE HANNA

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
KEVIN SLATS	TROUT UNLIMITED		X	
Louise Saby	—			
Mrs. Bill Pierce	—			
Donna Saby	Occ. guide			
Sen. Allen Kulstad			X	
Gay Fernal Dunder			X	
Mr. Kittel, President	MONTANA OUTFITTERS & GUIDES		X	
and P. Christopher	Sportsman		X	
Jack McLean	Sportsman		X	
Mr. D. Lynn Leeds	BROADCASTER-SPORTSMAN		X	
and W. J. Sawyer	Sportsman		X	
Howard Bailey	Former sportsman		X	
Ray Stuber	bowmen & sportsman group		X	

OPENING STATEMENT TO THE CONFIRMATION HEARING OF THE SENATE STATE  
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, MONDAY, APRIL 11, 1977, OF MR. JOE KLABUNDE,  
CHAIRMAN, MONTANA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Over eight years, three Governors from both political parties have given me the honor of serving you in the Montana Fish and Game Commission.

During that time, I have worked with ranchers and sports clubs all over the state to improve landowner relations. As you know, a very small percentage of sportsmen cause problems for everyone else. Justifiably, farmers and ranchers who have to take time to pick up after fishermen and hunters are reluctant to open their land.

Even before I was first appointed to the Fish and Game Commission by Governor Tim Babcock, when I didn't even know the present Governor, I went out and talked with landowners to discuss these problems. I was successful, as I have been as a Fish and Game Commissioner, in opening land and reservoirs that had been closed. By providing signs, garbage cans and even newspaper ads--some of them at my own expense--I've encouraged sportsmen to be considerate of landowners. I have done this kind of work because I think it's necessary to the future of hunting and fishing. I like to hunt and fish; I've done my share and I've enjoyed every minute of it. I've raised my kids to be good sportsmen and appreciate our fish and wildlife, and I've urged them to do the same with their kids.

As I view it, this is the most important function of the Fish and Game Commission--to guarantee that we have something left in the future of what most of us take for granted today--Montana's fish and wildlife. We have to continually work for better relations with

landowners, because after all, two-thirds of the state is private land and to hunt or fish on these lands is a privilege, and not a right.

During my years as a commissioner, I've listened to sportsmen, landowners, outfitters, and the public, not only in my own district, but from throughout the state. I've attempted to work out solutions to mutual problems, and to see that the public has a voice in Fish and Game decision-making and policy. The Commission's role is to insure that the public is heard and responded to.

The Fish and Game Commission and Department has a big job to do--not just for sportsmen, but for the general public as well through our Recreation and Parks program. This job must be done efficiently and with involvement by the public if we are to do an acceptable job. This is the Commission's role--to insure that the public has a voice, and I'm firmly dedicated to preserving that role.

I am grateful to Governors Judge, Anderson, and Babcock for giving me the opportunity to serve the public in the area which is of greatest interest to me. I have always enjoyed performing what I consider my responsibility as a citizen to help elect to public office those I consider best qualified. As everyone who ever runs for office knows only too well, fund-raising is an essential and respectable part of that process. It is the area of campaign work which I think I am particularly good at. I make apologies to no one for my involvement in the political system. If we Americans do not choose and work for the candidates of our choice, then someone else will choose them for us.

I will be happy to answer any questions which the distinguished members of this Committee may see fit to ask.

NAME :

ADDRESS:

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTING WHOM?

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

DO YOU:

## SUPPORT?

2 ✓

**AMEND?**

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.





NAME: TAG RITTEL, PRESIDENT DATE: April '77

ADDRESS: WOLF CREEK

PHONE: 235-4330

REPRESENTING WHOM? MONTANA OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOC

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: WE SUPPORT JOE KLAMMER AS  
OUR CHOICE FOR FISH & GAME COMMISSIONER.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Joe Napier DATE: 8-11-77

ADDRESS: Home Mont.

PHONE : \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTING WHOM? \_\_\_\_\_

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU: SUPPORT? ✓ AMEND?        OPPOSE?       

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Howard Bailey DATE: Feb 16, 1977

ADDRESS: Honolulu, Hawaii

PHONE: 372-4175

REPRESENTING WHOM? Director of Hilo go. mid life  
Farmer Ranch & Sportswear

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Confirmation of Hilo Ranch & Sportswear

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND?        OPPOSE?       

COMMENTS: relationship

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Fred M. Geramager DATE: 4/11/77

ADDRESS: 958 Acacia Drive, Haver, met.

PHONE: 265-4466

REPRESENTING WHOM? Spartan

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Klabunde for Chairman of Commission

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND?        OPPOSE?       

COMMENTS:       

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME:

*Gary Italia*

DATE:

*4-11-22*

ADDRESS:

*Box 282*

PHONE:

*265-4405*

REPRESENTING WHOM?

*Montana Bowmen Inc*

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

*confirmation FISH+GAME CHANGES*

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?



AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

*extremely well justified*

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME:

*Ray Nitz*

DATE:

*4-11-77*

ADDRESS:

*Hingham Mass.*

PHONE:

REPRESENTING WHOM?

*Self*

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

*confirmation - JJ Klabund chairman F&G*

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

☒

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

*letter by hand*

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

# HINGHAM GROCERY

Phone 397-2155

"Quality Meat & Groceries"

P.O. Box 641 185  
Hingham, Montana 59528

Senator Tom Jarm  
Helen, Mont

Dear Tom:

I would go on record to support J J Klobunde  
for Chairman of The Fish And Game Commission.

I feel he has worked very hard for the entire state  
while he has been on the Commission. He may have  
a record for goose poaching but you and I know that  
if every public servant had to have a spotless record  
very few of the members of the legislative body would  
be able to serve in any capacity:

Please Consider the work this man has done  
rather than his past hunting record, his work will  
far surpass any thing on that record.

Sincerely,

Raymond Nitz



Senate  
of the  
State of Montana  
Helena 59601

Senator Greg Jergeson  
Chinook 59523

Tom,

Looking at these names, nearly all are from Haure, even Ray Randolph from Wolf Point is from Haure. And, as a matter of fact, Ray Randolph bragged to me about Joe Klabrunde taking him hunting on the ranch in Phillips county where he has the private hunting lease. For me from Blaine county, Joe's Hill county friends put extreme



hunting pressures on the  
landowners with little  
respect for the landowners  
giving sportsmen a bad  
reputation thereby creating  
problems between Adams  
county landowners and other  
county sportsmen which  
would not exist.

Greg

Panel 12

Chairman - Dominique G. L. L. L.

Joseph B. L.

Sec - Fred L. L.

Only commissioners willing to listen to  
James and Sanchez -  
Supports Klebunde -

a Secret. David Jones -

(Wish to state that the commission had  
thoroughly investigated Klebunde. Had  
found all reports of previous violations to  
be entirely false (based only on circumstantial  
evidence). He has done a tremendous job  
in his position. Maintains on the F & C (a. m. r. e.)  
There is a serious mistake to not inform on

Keep face in

Robert & Shirley Marshall  
Norman Coward

John Stephen  
Nick Smith

LE TON TONE

MEET

Liberty's District in liberty

and regarding the appointment

and the Commission. To

in the state-side in his duties.

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TO CHAIRMAN HONORABLE TOM TOWE  
SENATOR STATE OF MONTANA

We the undersigned residents of Joe Klabunde's District do hereby  
solicit your Committee's change of mind regarding the appointment  
of Joe Klabunde as Chairman of the Fish and Game Commission. We  
feel he has done an exceptionally fine job state-wide in his duties.

Thomas W. Baker

~~Tom Baker~~

~~Walter J. Smith~~

~~Tom Helubuck~~

~~Paul P. ...~~

~~Duane L. Kretschmer~~

~~Pat Vighetta~~

~~Wigil Klein~~

~~Joyce Kristian~~

~~Victor Kappers~~

~~Charles A. Leonard~~

~~Mrs R. W. Shoup~~

~~W. Bourcier~~

~~George Schlack~~

~~Alfred J. ...~~

~~Richard A. ...~~

~~E. J. ...~~

~~Edwin ...~~

~~Irving Kugand~~

~~Walter ...~~

~~Harold ...~~

~~Sam ...~~

~~Mike Flynn~~

~~Mrs. Mildred M. ...~~

Harve Mont

Harve Mont.

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Harve Mont

Harve Mont

Harve Mont

Big Sandy Mont

887 6th Harve Mont

616- 9th Ave Harve Mont

321-9th Harve

Harve Mont.

216-16 Ave

Harve Mont.

925 13th St. Harve