

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 17, 1979

The thirty-first meeting of the Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Committee was called to order on the above date in Room 415 of the State Capitol by Chairman Galt at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 524: Senator Blaylock had introduced this bill and it had been heard at the previous meeting. He said there had been some concern from the farm organizations concerning the 5 c.f.s. He said he would agree to strike the "5 c.f.s." since the DNR has control over this and could prohibit someone from drawing an aquifer down too far.

Senator Galt mentioned that on page 3, line 2, it does not stipulate ground water it just says water. He felt it should say "ground" water.

Senator Conover moved the two proposed amendments (see committee report). Motion carried.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 524: Senator Conover moved that Senate Bill 524 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 67: Representative Underdal had sponsored this bill. This bill is identical to Senate Resolution 4 that this committee had heard and acted on. The House would not suspend their rules for a House Resolution so Rep. Underdal had introduced a joint resolution. This bill deals with the fencing of Tiber Reservoir. The committee felt he need not explain the bill since Senator Kolstad had presented the situation to the committee.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 67: Senator Kolstad moved that HJR 67 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 745: Representative Curtiss had introduced this bill. She said water is Montana's most important resource and felt it should be protected. This bill calls for an oversight committee to be set up and appropriating funds for the committee. The committee would oversee the adjudication process. The committee would work with the DNR to coordinate efforts between other agencies. She felt water development projects should be given high priority. She thought the funding for the operation of this committee is consistent with Legislative intent. The Select Water Committee in the House felt it was necessary to have a committee such

Pete Jackson, speaking for himself, said the conception of the bill was very good but he didn't want to see any agricultural people hurt and didn't want to hurt major industry from progressing.

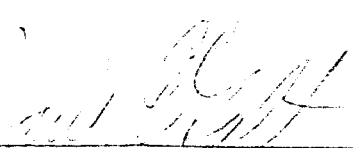
Gordon McGowan, Burlington Northern, stated that this bill is trying to keep people from reselling water. He felt the 3000 acre feet was probably a good figure.

There were no opponents to the bill.

Senator Blaylock in closing said the 5 c.f.s. was put in because there was some danger in using the 3000 acre feet to fast and taking the aquifer down to far and this would hurt the other people in the area that the well is in.

Dave Cogley, from Legislative Council, said the 5 c.f.s. was put in because of the concern that the 3000 acre feet would limit the amount of water you can get in a year.

During discussion Mr. Bowman said that only 2 center pivots can be run on 5 c.f.s. Some of the witnesses and committee members felt the 5 c.f.s. could be taken out of the bill and just leave the 3000 acre/feet. The farm organizations did not feel the 3000 acre/feet would cause a hardship on any agricultural user. If an individual needs more water they could come to the legislature and show the need for more.



SENATOR JACK E. GALT, Chairman

Date 4-13

ROLL CALL

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SEN. KOLSTAD			
SEN. AKLESTAD	✓		
SEN. BOYLAN	✓		
SEN. CONOVER	✓		
SEN. GRAHAM			
SEN. HAGER	✓		
SEN. NELSON	✓		
SEN. GALT, Chairman.	✓		

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

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Charlie Downman

Ac-fer	1/20	1/20	1/20
3600	120	120	120
3300	110	110	110
3000	100	100	100
2700	90	90	90
2400	80	80	80
2100	70	70	70
1800	60	60	60
1500	50	50	50
1200	40	40	40
900	30	30	30
600	20	20	20
300	10	10	10

1/20	1/20	1/20	1/20
1200	40	40	40
900	30	30	30
600	20	20	20
300	10	10	10