

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE
March 18, 1981

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Ellison. All committee members were present except Representatives Bennett, Burnett, Feda, Hart, Manuel, Mueller and Nilson.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 47

The committee went over the revised copy of HJR 47. (EXHIBIT 1)

Representative Daily moved HJR 47 DO PASS.

Representative Phillips said there are some areas that are not addressed in this resolution that should be. He feels this committee should give a mandate to have the interim committee look at the positions within the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

Representative Jensen said he doesn't think this interim study will be funded because it will be low on the priority list. Chairman Ellison agreed with Representative Jensen.

Representative Jacobsen said he thinks this resolution would provide a better relationship between sportsmen and the fish and game people.

Chairman Ellison said he would like to see this resolution passed and said he would be willing to donate his time to serve on the committee.

Representative Jensen asked why the resolution couldn't state the interim committee shall be a voluntary committee.

Representative Devlin offered the following amendment to HJR 47. (This amendment deals with (4) (c)):

Following: "that"
Insert: "available"
Following: "are"
Strike: "available"
Insert: "properly used"
Following: "for"
Strike: "the proper"

The sentence should read as follows:

- (c) insure that available public funds are properly used for maintenance of all acquired lands.

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Representative Devlin moved the committee approve the amendment.

The motion was voted on and PASSED unanimously.

Representative Daily amended his original motion to say HJR 47
DO PASS AS AMENDED.

The motion was voted on and PASSED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Orval S. Ellison
ORVAL ELLISON, Chairman

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WHEREAS, there is significant legislative and public interest in the operation of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; and

WHEREAS, all Montanans recognize the importance of maintaining and improving the quality of fish, wildlife, and park management; and

WHEREAS, all Department management objectives should be viewed in terms of their cost effectiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That an interim committee be assigned to review the operation and management objectives of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee include representatives of the seven geographic regions served by the Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee:

- (1) review the duties of the Director to make certain that they are consistent with the need to maintain and improve the quality and cost effectiveness of Department operations;
- (2) review the duties of all Department specialists to make certain that they provide for the orderly execution of Department management objectives;
- (3) review the Department's staffing policies to make certain that:
 - (a) needed management and administrative specialists are on staff;
 - (b) they are working within the scope of the Department's management objectives; and
 - (c) the Department is making optimum use of the abilities

of its management and administrative specialists; and

(4) review the Department's land acquisition policies to make certain that the policies:

(a) insure maximum public access to state fish, wildlife, and park resources;

(b) insure that the state's fish, wildlife, and park resources are managed for the benefit of current and future generations of Montanans; and

(c) ~~insure~~ that ^{available} public funds are ^{properly used} ~~available~~ for the ~~proper~~ maintenance of all acquired lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee prepare a report of its findings and conclusions, together with its recommendations, and deliver the report to the 1983 Legislature no later than January 10, 1983.