

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 24, 1985

The meeting of the Local Government Committee was called to order by Chairman Paula Darko on April 24, 1985 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 312-2 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Rep. Fritz, Rep. Pistoria, and Rep. Sales, who were excused.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42: Senator Fuller of District 22, Helena, appeared before the committee as sponsor of this bill. He said there is an enormous problem with roads in rural areas, and these problems have to be prepared for. He hoped with an interim study, this could be solved so that there would be an increased understanding on the floor in the next session.

There were no proponents nor opponents present.

DISCUSSION OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42: Rep. Kitselman questioned if this could not be done by a select group such as the Urban Coalition or the Montana Association of Counties, and wondered if this interim study is really necessary. Senator Fuller said most of the work is already done, and they know what it is. It is of value to share this with the Legislature. The amount of staff time and money is minimal. Rep. Kitselman said he still thinks it can be done without the resolution and Senator Fuller replied that he sees some value in getting more legislators involved.

Rep. Hansen said the Governor's Task Force did address most of the issues. In her county, they are aware of the problems, and she felt a study of how to fund repairs of the infrastructure would be more important. Senator Fuller said he thinks that is what will come out of it. He felt this is a strategic question, and it increases the odds if more of the legislators are involved in it.

Rep. Hansen said they know what their libraries need, and all the counties with jails know what their problems are. She felt what is really needed is a way to fund this.

Rep. Kitselman asked Senator Fuller if he would be willing to narrow it down to bridges, sewers and streets. Senator Fuller answered that he agrees those are the major issues, and that getting an interim committee involved is not a perfect solution to the problem.

Rep. Switzer felt there was the same kind of emphasis on reconstruction as construction, and that line 20 on page 1 of

the resolution is the important part of the infrastructure.

Rep. Wallin asked Senator Fuller if he would be adverse to funding with sales taxes, to which Senator Fuller answered "yes".

Rep. Gilbert made a statement in regards to jails, that the Legislature put it before the voters and they put it down, and now we want the state to do it. Senator Fuller said the costs are enormous and people can't be expected to do it, as it won't work. The solution is a partnership of some kind, and that the state must share in it. It is important to work this through collectively with the local government people. Rep. Gilbert then asked if he would invest in local options to fund this, and said he didn't like any individual community to do this.

Rep. Switzer commented that a lot of the problems generated are caused by expensive criteria on the planning of jails. The same thing applies to some of these subdivisions, although some of the people have brought it on themselves because they want to live where the sun shines.

Rep. Hansen said that in 1983 they put all the DWIs in jail, and in this Legislature, the whole state of Montana needs to share in the building of those jails. The counties have tried to solve their own problems, but have got to have some help.

Senator Fuller closed his presentation.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42: Rep. Brandewie made the motion of BE CONCURRED IN, seconded by Rep. Wallin. Motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Rep. Poff then asked who gets on the interim committee, and Chairman Darko told him they are appointed by the Speaker. She felt these committees are important.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

  
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PAULA DARKO, Chairman

(Type in committee members' names and have 50 printed to start).

DAILY ROLL CALL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date April 24, 1985

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
<u>Paula Darko, Chairman</u>	✓		
<u>Norm Wallin, Vice Chairman</u>	✓		
<u>Ray Brandewie</u>	✓		
<u>Dave Brown</u>	✓		
<u>Harry Fritz</u>			✓
<u>Stella Jean Hansen</u>	✓		
<u>Bob Gilbert</u>	✓		
<u>Mike Kadas</u>	✓		
<u>Les Kitselman</u>	✓		
<u>Paul Pistoria</u>			✓
<u>Bing Poff</u>	✓		
<u>Walter Sales</u>			✓
<u>Jack Sands</u>	✓		
<u>Dean Switzer</u>	✓		

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 24,

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MR. SPEAKER:

We, your committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT

having had under consideration SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 42

THIRD reading copy ( BLUE )  
color

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING  
AN INTERIM STUDY ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE.

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 42

BE CONCURRED IN  
DO PASS