

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NATURAL RESOURCE SUBCOMMITTEE
49TH LEGISLATURE SPECIAL SESSION III

June 16, 1986

The joint meeting of the Long Range Planning and the Natural Resource Subcommittees was called to order by Chairman Rex Manuel at 1:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present. Also present were Carl Schweitzer and Madalyn Quinlan, LFA, Larry Fasbender, Director of the Department of Natural Resource and Conservation, Les Graham, Director of the Department of Livestock, and Jim Flynn, Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

Tape 1:A:002

The LFA went through and explained to the committees the exhibits that were handed out. They are marked as exhibit A and B. These exhibits were prepared by the Department of Natural Resource and the LFA. They further explained to the committees how they came up with the figures presented and what their option were.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE AND CONSERVATION:

Larry Fasbender, Director, stated that they have no disagreement with the numbers involved. He went through the options and issues with the committees and explained the pros and cons about them.

There were a few questions asked to Director Fasbender by the committees.

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK:

Les Graham, Director, commented on the Rabid Skunk Study. He stated that what they would like to do is to lower the scale down to \$100,000 and see if they can't make that work and if they can't they would come back in the 1987 session. This would stop them from going to the Departments of Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Department of Health, and the Department of Agriculture as they have already funded the study at this point. He explained to the Long Range Subcommittee about the Rabid Skunk Control Program.

The meeting was opened to the public for questions and comments.

Representative Brown stated that he was totally opposed to using RIT funds for anything but what it was intended for.

Loren McKenzie, Director for the 49th Parallel Institute, stated that their project was in danger. He felt that it was unfair to characterize the projects in turn of money already spent and money that is still capable of being taken. He further stated that he doesn't think it was fair to think of the \$4,000,000 as being on the revenue side of the question.

George Ochenski, representing the Montana Environmental Information Center, commented that he felt that it was a waste of time to go over everything again. He stated that he felt when you give your word to someone you stick by it. Now they are going back and saying which projects are we going to cut now.

The committees discussed with the LFA staff what options the Natural Resource Subcommittee would do and what options the Long Range Planning Subcommittee would do. It was decided by the LFA staff that the Long Range Planning Subcommittee would take executive action on options 1,2,3 and 5 on page 1 of exhibit A and options 1 and 2 on page 2 of exhibit A. The Natural Resource Subcommittee would take option 4 on page 1 of exhibit A and option 3 on page 2 of exhibit A. Option 6 on page 1 of exhibit A was explained to the committees and later decided that the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee would take action on it also.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Tape 1:B:002

The Long-Range Planning Subcommittee took action on their appointed options.

The Natural Resource Subcommittee took action on their options. The action is recorded as follows.

Senator Smith moved to appropriate both amounts from the RIT and replace \$67,727 into the general fund. Representative Spaeth seconded the motion and the motion CARRIED.

Representative Nathe moved to recommend all previous action taken to the Appropriations Committee. Representative Swift seconded the motion and the motion CARRIED.

The LFA explained to the committees the Water Development Program.

Senator Smith made a motion not to adopt option 3 of the Water Development Program which is on page 2 of exhibit A. Representative Swift seconded the motion.

Representative Spaeth made a substitute motion to adopt option 3. Senator Lane seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the substitute motion CARRIED.

Tape 2:A:002

Carl explained pages 2 and 3 of Exhibit C. A discussion followed.

Jim Flynn, Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, explained to the committee the problems they will have if the 5% reduction occurs. He proposed to the committee that the committee authorize the expenditure of \$7,700 for the next fiscal year of coal tax revenue to offset the loss of revenue in the main Capitol grounds and they would be able to continue with the full program that they have had.

Representative Spaeth made a motion to accept Director Flynn's proposal. Representative Nathe seconded the motion and the motion CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the subcommittees, the hearing closed at 3:30 p.m..

REX MANUEL, Chairman

DAILY ROLL CALL

NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE

49th Legislature Special Session III

Date June 16, 1986

[illegible]

ROLL CALL VOTE

NATURAL RESOURCES

SUB COMMITTEE

DATE 6-16-86 BILL NO. _____ NUMBER _____

[illegible]

TALLY

5 2

Lita Buck

Secretary

Rep. Rex Manuel

Chairman

MOTION: Substitute motion to adopt policy option
3 of the Water Development Program.