

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LONG RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
50TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The meeting of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Rep. Robert Thoft on February 13, 1987 at 8:00 a.m., in Room 202B of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee were present except Rep. Donaldson who was excused.

Tape 74:A:000

RIT PROJECTS

Grant #36 Environmental Quality Council:

Sen. Jack Galt read his testimony for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee (Exhibit #3).

Debra Schmit submitted two fact sheets (Exhibit #1, #2).

Ms. Schmit said the Environmental Quality Council will be the administrators of this project.

John Thorson, Attorney at Law, said grants are available to the state, but Montana does not have the staff to write the grant proposals to attract these funds. (107)

WATER DEVELOPMENT

Grant #25 Rosebud and Big Horn Conservation Dist.: (196)

Wayne Van Voast, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, said he would like this project to be considered under the RIT grant program. Mr. Van Voast said if this project is supported by this subcommittee then the Coal Board will be willing to fund their operational support for one year.

RIT PROJECTS

Grant #1 Montana Department of State Lands
Grant #5 Montana Department of State Lands
Grant #9 Montana Department of State Lands: (310)

Dick Juntunen said these projects deal with removing heavy metals from streams. He said after the metals are removed, they will be buried, and the land will be reclaimed.

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: COAL SEVERANCE TAX LOANS

Executive Session

Town of Browning: (409)

Action: Sen. Van Valkenburg MOVED to APPROVE the Town of Browning's loan FOR \$1,294,900 with the contingencies, as recommended. The MOTION FAILED with Chairman Thoft, Sen. Aklestad and Rep. Bardanouve voting no. Rep. Bardanouve made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION to APPROVE the Town of Browning's loan without the subsidy. The MOTION FAILED with Sen. Walker, Sen. Aklestad and Sen. Van Valkenburg voting no. Rep. Bardanouve MOVED to APPROVED the Town of Browning's loan with a .5% subsidy. The MOTION CARRIED with Sen. Aklestad and Chairman Thoft voting no.

City of Harlem: (74:B:000)

Action: Sen. McLane MOVED to APPROVE the City of Harlem's loan for \$403,125 as recommended. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Sen. Aklestad said all the contingencies recommended will be included with all approvals.

City of Helena: (080)

Action: Rep. Bardanouve MOVED to APPROVE the City of Helena's loan of \$10,202,600 with a 1% subsidy. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Town of Lima: (183)

Action: Sen. Van Valkenburg MOVED to APPROVE the Town of Lima's loan for \$250,000 as recommended. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mill Creek Water and Sewer: (267)

Action: Rep. Bardanouve MOVED to APPROVE Mill Creek Water and Sewer's loan for \$999,223 as recommended. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks: (274)

Action: Rep. Bardanouve MOVED to APPROVE the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks' loan for reconstruction of Gartside Dam at \$257,000 as recommended. The MOTION CARRIED with Sen. Aklestad voting no.

Town of West Yellowstone: (307)

Action: Sen. Van Valkenburg MOVED to APPROVE the Town of West Yellowstone's loan for \$1,500,000 with no subsidy. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Bitterroot Irrigation:

Action: Sen. McLane MOVED to NOT APPROVE. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Roosevelt County Rural Water District: (349)

Sen. Van Valkenburg MOVED to APPROVE the project at no funding, as recommended. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

(75:A:000)

Sage Creek:

Discussion: Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said there are ten water users that say they won't be able to pay the \$7 increase in water user rates.

Action: Sen. Aklestad MOVED that the subsidy be extended ten years. The MOTION FAILED with Sen. Van Valkenburg and Sen. McLane voting no. Sen. Aklestad MOVED that the subsidy be extended five years. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

City of Red Lodge: (178)

Discussion: Cathy All said they could complete phase III of the project with less funds. She said the lowest amount they could go and still perform the essential parts of the phase is \$75,000.

Sen. McLane said he is in favor of the project.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the Long Range Planning Subcommittee adjourned at 10:00 a.m.



Chairman Rep. Bob Thoft

law

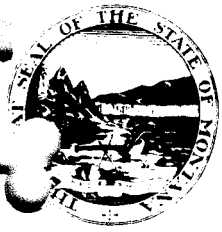
DAILY ROLL CALL

LONG RANGE PLANNING

SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE February 13, 1987

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep., Thoft, Chairman	✓		
Sen., Van Valkenburg, Vice-Chairman	✓		
Rep., Bardanoue	✓		
Rep., Donaldson			✓
Sen., Aklestad	✓		
Sen., McLane	✓		
Sen., Walker	✓		



WATER POLICY COMMITTEE

Montana State Legislature

EX-107-1
2/13/87

SENATE MEMBERS

Jack E. Galt, Chairman
Dorothy Eck
Jim Shaw
Larry Stimatz

HOUSE MEMBERS

Dorothy Bradley, Vice Chairman
Hubert J. Abrams
Dennis Iverson
Bob Marks

February 10, 1987

Committee Staff
Environmental Quality Council
Capitol Station
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3742

TO: Rep. Bob Thoft, Chairman
Long-Range Planning Subcommittee

FROM: Sen. Jack Galt, Chairman
Water Policy Committee

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "JG", written over the "FROM" line.

Realizing that your subcommittee will be holding hearings on the applications to the Resource Indemnity Trust Grants Program, I would like to recommend that the Environmental Quality Council's proposal for developing a Center of Excellence for Water Research and Education be funded.

There is a real need in Montana for a coordinated water research program. Our neighboring states have excellent programs, but the Water Policy Committee has concluded that our own program is fragmented and inadequate. The University System Water Resources Center would be the logical organization for a Center of Excellence for water research to be developed, but it lacks sufficient resources at this time. Finally, the public would benefit from an effective, coordinated research program and a thorough analysis of Montana's water research needs.

I hope you will consider the importance of this proposal during the subcommittee hearings this week.



Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717

Office of the President

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2/13/87

Telephone (406) 994-2341

February 12, 1987

Memo to: Representative Thoft, Chairman,
and Members of the Long Range
Planning Committee

From: William J. Tietz
President, Montana State University

Re: RIT Proposal entitled "Long Range Plan for Developing a Center
of Excellence for Water Resources Research and Education in
Montana", submitted by the Environmental Quality Council

Montana State University has long been involved in research and educational efforts in the water resources field. Through our Water Resources Center and other campus organizations, we are continually seeking ways to define and meet Montanan's needs in this very important area. We are always interested in the evaluation of our programs by knowledgeable groups and individuals off campus. The study described in this proposal should provide an intensive and thorough analysis of water research and educational needs from an independent perspective. We are most interested in the results of such a study and will cooperate fully with the project effort.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this proposal.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Tietz".

PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A CENTER OF
EXCELLENCE FOR WATER RESEARCH IN MONTANA

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 2/13/87

Senator Jack Galt, Chairman, Water Policy Committee

As chairman of the Water Policy Committee, I'm here today to explain the proposal for funding a program to determine how best to conduct water research in Montana. Water research was one of several topics discussed during the Water Policy Committee meetings last year, and it has become obvious that Montana's research efforts are fragmented, underfunded, and inadequate in a state where water is of such vital importance, both now and in the future. What I am proposing is that we hire a consultant to conduct an independent study to determine how best to coordinate water research in our state, and who is the most logical choice as the central agency responsible for it.

The value of up-to-date, thorough, and accurate data on our surface and ground water cannot be overstated. We need to know how much ground water our aquifers contain, and of what quality, and the sources of recharge for these aquifers. We need to know the quantity and quality of surface water, and the mechanics of streamflow. We need more information about the water-related effects of past mineral development.

Some of our neighboring states have already recognized and acted upon the need for comprehensive water research. In Utah, the program provides expertise to state government on everything from cloud seeding to irrigation. Utah's water research program has a budget of \$4.5 million, of

which over \$3 million are federal funds. Similarly, Wyoming has implemented a fine research program that focuses on the development and management of its water. That program's biennial budget is \$1.4 million. Montana currently spends \$15,000 in state funds annually on water research, amounting to a total of only \$260,000 for the biennium.

At present, different agencies, whether they be DNRC, the Water Resources Research Center, or Montana Tech, are doing their own research in a piecemeal fashion, and communication among them needs improvement. Additional funds, including available federal funds, are not being attracted to Montana because the Water Center lacks sufficient resources to develop an overall plan to take advantage of these opportunities.

This study would examine the available alternatives to the fragmented program we now have, and after thorough and systematic analysis determine which of them can best provide Montana with the information flow it needs. An independent and objective study will be completed under the guidance of a knowledgeable advisory committee, with a goal of establishing a center of excellence to provide the expertise in water research Montana needs.

I feel that a center of excellence could achieve regional or even national stature by doing in-depth research on specific areas important to Montana. For example, research could be focused on a topic such as the water-related effects of pollutants from past mining activities, which is one of our most pressing problems, or on interstate water issues such as the water allocation concerns of the Missouri Basin states.

Finally, our water management and policy-making process would be made less difficult and more effective if water research information was readily available to our decision-makers. I urge your support of this proposal.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

Long Range Planning SUBCOMMITTEE

AGENCY(S) _____

DATE February 13, 1987

DEPARTMENT _____

NAME	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
JOHN THORLON			
GEORGE OCHENSKY	M E I C	—	
Deborah Schmidt	EQC #36		

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT.
IF YOU HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY TO THE SECRETARY.

