

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN LORENTS GROSFIELD**, on January 4,
1995, at 1:00 PM

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Lorents Grosfield, Chairman (R)
Sen. Larry J. Tveit, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Mack Cole (R)
Sen. Mike Foster (R)
Sen. Thomas F. Keating (R)
Sen. Ken Miller (R)
Sen. Vivian M. Brooke (D)
Sen. B.F. "Chris" Christiaens (D)
Sen. Jeff Weldon (D)
Sen. Bill Wilson (D)

Members Excused: Sen. William Crismore

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Environmental Quality Council
Theda Rossberg, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SJR 2
Executive Action:

[TAPE 1, SIDE A]

Announcements:

CHAIRMAN GROSFIELD said he would attempt not to take Executive Action on the same day of the Hearing of any bill. He explained the order in which the hearing would be conducted.

Todd Everts, Environmental Quality Council was introduced to the committee members. **Mr. Everts** presented an outline of services available to committee members. **EXHIBIT 1.**

HEARING ON SJR 2Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. MIKE HALLIGAN, SENATE DISTRICT 34 MISSOULA. presented SJR 2, which supports the establishment and operation of a national forest Service Museum to be located at Missoula, Montana. He said there are no national museums in the country for the Forest Service. Since 1891 forest reserves have had a tremendous impact on the country, and will continue to effect the country's future. A non-profit group was formed several years ago to pursue these efforts, and have asked him to submit this resolution to help with their fund raising efforts. The Forest Service Northern Region has designated the museum as an authorized repository of the necessary documents and exhibits that would make it a national museum. **Jack Ward Thomas, Chief of the Forest Service** has endorsed the project in a letter to **Gary Brown.** **EXHIBIT 2.** The Governor has expressed support for the museum in a letter stating that the museum would provide historical events to the people of Montana. Missoula was designated as the museum site, not only because of the Forest Service, but the fire laboratory is located there as well as the smoke jumpers. There are 1.6 million tourists passing through Missoula annually en route to Glacier National Park, Yellowstone National Park, the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, and other historical sites. A 36-acre site has been obtained through a special use permit from the Forest Service for the museum site.

Proponents' Testimony:

Gary Brown, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Forest Service Museum, Inc., said the museum was the idea of **Gary Stenseador** who was an engineer for the Forest Service, and now retired. Under the laws of Montana, the National Forest Service Museum, Inc. became incorporated in 1981. **Mr. Brown** said it is a 501(c)(3) Corp. that is a private entity that has been working several years on the museum concept. A feasibility study was performed in 1991 by a consulting firm in Ohio that is nationally known for conducting museum feasibility studies. Their study confirmed that the museum was a feasible project.

Mr. Brown said the board is working on a strategy to solicit \$6 million from citizens, private corporations and foundations, \$4 million from the federal government, and \$2 million from the state government. He asked for the support and advice from the committee members, Museum of the Rockies, and the Montana Historical Society. **EXHIBIT 3** is a brochure that lists the Board of Directors and outlines of the proposed museum project.

Matthew Cohn, representing the Department of Commerce, supported the concept of the National Forest Service Museum.

Cary Hegreberg, representing the Montana Wood Products Association, said with the proposal to move the Forest Service from Missoula to Denver, the museum may be all that is left in Missoula pertaining to the Forest Service. **Mr. Hegreberg** said the Montana Wood Products Association and member companies support SJR 2.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked **SEN. HALLIGAN** if Line 24, Page 1 meant that there were more than one federal repository. **SEN. HALLIGAN** replied there are regional museums which handle regional Forest Service activities that handle specialties in the south, California and other areas that are unique to their area. The proposed museum in Missoula would be designated as a national repository for the national archives on a broader scope than any other state.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked what the tentative time frame was. **SEN. HALLIGAN** replied approximately 3 to 4 years. Working with Congress and private entities for the fund raising are the major issues.

Mr. Brown said artifacts can be transferred from the 7 regional Forest Services to the Forest Service National Offices which designated the museum as an authorized federal repository. There are several national repositories such as the Smithsonian Institution and Museum.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS commented to **Mr. Cohn** that it was his understanding that there are funds in the budget for approximately \$500,000 for building tourist attractions from part of the bed tax. Nevada City, the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center and others are designated for these funds and he assumes that this would include the museum. **Mr. Cohn** responded that a hearing in the National Research Association Appropriations Research Committee will take place the end of January or the first of February to ask for authorization to utilize funds for the museum proposal. Assuming the committees in both houses agree with the plan, the funds would be available in the next fiscal year. Approximately \$300,000 to \$600,000 would be

available in the next biennium. An application is currently being worked up by the Tourism Advisory Council.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS asked **Mr. Cohn** if the format would be similar to Long Range Building where communities come in with a plan for prioritized funding. **Mr. Cohn** replied it would, but that is up to the Tourism Advisory Council to decide.

SEN. KEATING asked **Mr. Brown** if there was any talk about the site becoming a historical landmark that could come under the Historical Landmark Act. **Mr. Brown** said there was not.

SEN. FOSTER asked **SEN. HALLIGAN** to explain Page 3, Lines 4-6.

SEN. HALLIGAN said he did not know that the Great Falls delegation had a bill submitted to use Bed Tax funds. The potential use for services might be for some help such as technical assistance from the state. The site has already been donated. He said they talked with the Governor about using Coal Tax funds but it would not fit under the Treasure State Endowment. There may be a need for funding through the Legislature in a couple of years or so.

SEN. WELDON asked **Mr. Brown** if the museum would be open to the public much the same as the federal archives, and are there federal laws that guarantee access to those documents. **Mr. Brown** said the intent of the museum is that it would be open to the public. The standards for the protection of the items will be the same as the federal archives. The University of Montana preserves and takes care of all archival items. The curator for artifacts at the Missoula County Museum is working with the board.

SEN. BROOKE asked **Mr. Brown** what he projected to be the ongoing operating expenses. **Mr. Brown** responded the cost of the 100,000 square foot building is \$10 million. He noted \$775,000 of that is for construction of displays for the artifacts, \$.5 million for the necessary visitor parking and \$2 million is for an ongoing operational endowment

SEN. FOSTER asked **Mr. Brown** if there were examples of a national museum for a federal agency where a state has provided the funding. **Mr. Brown** replied there are other federal agency museums such as the United States Air Force as an example, that work with private boards in conjunction with each other. He said he wasn't sure if federal dollars were used for those museums. The Montana Congressional Delegation has been contacted for congressional authorization for future appropriations. There may have been some funding for the Museum of the Rockies from the Montana state government.

SEN. FOSTER asked if the Museum of the Rockies was a national museum for a federal agency. **SEN. KEATING** said no.

CHAIRMAN GROSFIELD asked if Congress was going to provide \$4

million for the museum. **Mr. Brown** said so far there have been no promises from the Congressional Delegation.

CHAIR GROSFIELD asked if Missoula would be the best place for the museum if the Forest Service moves to Denver. **Mr. Brown** stated that the Republication Delegation from the adjacent states have all opposed the move of the Northern Forest Service Region to Denver. The museum would still be considered regardless of whether or not the Forest Service moved to Denver.

SEN COLE asked where the artifacts and materials that would be housed in the museum were located. **Mr. Brown** said there are artifacts and archives in Washington, D. C., Salt Lake City and various places. One of the roles of the museum as related to other Forest Service visitor centers, is it will become the distribution point for artifacts amongst other regional museums and visitor centers.

Closing by Sponsor:

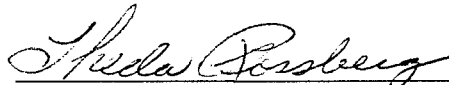
SEN. HALLIGAN said Page 2, Lines 16-20 states, there is a public recognition of the need for continuing dialogue with the public, public agencies and the USDA Forest Service. He said this is a living museum that will bring economic development to Montana, and private funds are important. The state and federal government must also play their role.

ADJOURNMENT

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



LORENTS GROSFIELD, CHAIRMAN



THEDA ROSSBERG, SECRETARY

LG/tr

DATE _____

JAN - 4 - 1995

SEN

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STATE OF MONTANA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

STATE CAPITOL
PO BOX 201704
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1704
(406) 444-3742
FAX (406) 444-3971

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 1-4-95
BILL NO. SJR-2

Deborah B. Schmidt, Executive Director

GOV. MARC RACICOT
Designated Representative
Glenn Marx

HOUSE MEMBERS
Vicki Cocchiarella, Vice Chair
Joann T. "Jody" Bird
Dick Knox
Scott Orr

SENATE MEMBERS
Steve Doherty
Lorents Grosfield
John R. Hertel
Jeff Weldon

PUBLIC MEMBERS
Jerry Noble, Chair
Bob Boeh
Jeanne-Marie Souvigney
Gregory Tollefson

January 3, 1995

TO: Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee

FROM: Todd Everts, Resource Analyst/Attorney

RE: Services available to Committee members

I will perform the following functions in support of the Natural Resources Committee:

1. Draft all amendments adopted by the committee, using the same bill drafting guidelines as were applied to the original bill and, with the Chairman's authorization, make necessary changes in grammar, punctuation, word choice, and sentence structure, not affecting meaning;
2. Draft proposed amendments upon request of individual committee members before committee action on a given bill;
3. Draft proposed amendments to be moved on Second Reading upon request of any committee member;
4. For a bill requiring a statement of legislative intent, draft the statement or obtain a draft from the affected state agency;
5. Draft committee bills;

(OVER)

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 1-4-95
BILL NO. SSR-4

Abbreviated Resume' of

**Todd M. Everts, Resource Analyst/Attorney
Environmental Quality Council**

January 1995

I have been on the legislative Environmental Quality Council (EQC) staff for almost three and one half years. Although I was born in Panama (Panama Canal Military Zone), I have spent most of my life living and working in Oregon. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Willamette University in 1985. In 1986, I was accepted to the University of Oregon's Graduate School in Environmental Studies and Management where I received a Masters of Science Degree. My wife and I moved to Vermont in the spring of 1988 where I worked in local government. I returned to school and received a Juris Doctorate/Masters of Science in Law from Vermont Law School in 1991. I joined the EQC staff in August of 1991, and was admitted to the Montana State Bar and Federal District Court in October of 1992. I staffed the House Natural Resources Committee during the 1993 regular and special sessions. In addition to my work at the EQC, I have had the opportunity to develop and teach an adjunct environmental law course at Montana State University for the 1994 Spring and Fall Semesters.

My principal responsibilities with the EQC during the 1993-94 interim included training state agency personnel and private attorneys on effectively and efficiently implementing the Montana Environmental Policy Act. I also assisted in staffing the Council's SJR 34 Hazardous Waste Management Study and preparing background work on the EQC's proposed natural resource and environmental program enforcement and compliance study.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington
Office

14th & Independence SW
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090

NFSM 100

Date: August 9, 1994

1-4

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE 1-4-95

BILL NO. 35R-2

Mr. Gary G. Brown
National Forest Service Museum, Inc.
PO Box 2772
Missoula, MT 59803-2772

Dear Mr. Brown:

This letter is to assure you of the strong and continuing support of this office for your efforts, as expressed in former Chief Robertson's letter to you of December 14, 1988.

I am pleased at the solid progress you have made since your 1988 beginning. Many of my Forest Service associates have spoken to me about your good work with volunteers and contributed funds. I am pleased with your growing national membership.

The April 1994 signing of the special use permit issued by the Northern Region for your proposed museum site near the Missoula International Airport was a major step in your effort. This site is a most appropriate location in the Missoula area.

Missoula is also a most appropriate location for a national Forest Service museum. Missoula has a variety and proximity of Forest Service activities which are unique in the nation, and it also is a center for forest industry which preceded the arrival of the Forest Service in the early 1900's. Missoula also provides the opportunity for working closely with the Montana State Forester and the School of Forestry at the University of Montana. All of this is in sight of U.S. Interstate 90.

As we move into the second century of America's National Forest System, it is well that you and your board of directors are making this important effort to preserve and document the rich heritage and contributions made by the Forest Service.

I support the board's plans for a nonprofit corporation which is building a nationwide partnership, including many private and public organizations critical to the success of your project. I also support your view that the museum is to be national in scope, presenting all of the activities in the National Forest System, including Research, State and Private forestry, International Forestry, and other special activities. We have good reason to take pride in the achievements of the Forest Service across the years.



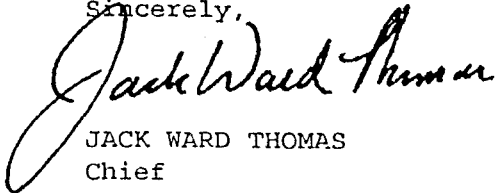
EXHIBIT NO. 2DATE 1-4-95 2BILL NO. SJR-2

Mr. Gary G. Brown

While I strongly endorse this important national Forest Service museum and will encourage our Regional Foresters and Directors to do so, my endorsement is not an obligation or commitment of Forest Service funding. My staff is available to provide information and to assist in such specific tasks as architectural review and other comparable activities as your proceed.

Good luck in your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Ward Thomas". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

JACK WARD THOMAS
Chief

***EXHIBIT NO. 3 - 1/4/95
THE ORIGINAL OF THIS DOCUMENT
IS STORED AT THE HIST.SOCIETY AT
225 N.ROBERTS, HELENA MT 59620-1201
PHONE NO.444-2694***

DATE Jan 4 - 1995

SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY: SJR - 2

< ■ > **PLEASE PRINT** < ■ >

Check One

Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose
Maggie Pittman	USFS			
Amy Teegarden	USFS			
Gary G. Brown	National Forest Service Museum, Inc.		✓	
Gary Hegreberg	MT Wood Prod. Assoc		✓	
Matthew Cohn	Dept of Commerce		✓	

VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY