

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROGER DEBRUYCKER, on January 8, 1997,
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 201

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Roger DeBruycker, Chairman (R)
Sen. Thomas F. Keating, Vice-Chairman (R)
Sen. Larry L. Baer (R)
Sen. Linda J. Nelson (D)
Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: Rep. John Johnson (D)

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Bob Tallerico, Legislative Fiscal Division
Theda Rossberg, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

HEARING ON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Tape No. 1 B

EXHIBIT 1. RALPH PECK, DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE introduced his staff to the committee members and gave an overview of the department.

EXHIBIT 2. Briefing on Karnal Bunt (fungus disease).

EXHIBIT 3. Late Blight Briefing.

EXHIBIT 4. Graph of general fund budget history.

EXHIBIT 5. Funding pie chart.

EXHIBIT 6. BOB TALLERICO, LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION reviewed the program and line items.

EXHIBIT 7. WILL KISSINGER, ADMINISTRATOR AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION reviewed Excess Appropriation Authority.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Counter: 33.5 ; Comments: JIM CHRISTIANSON, BUREAU CHIEF WHEAT AND BARLEY BUREAU.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Counter: 2.0; Comments: MR. TALLERICO reviewed the line items in the Agricultural Development Division}

BUDGET ITEM New Roof for the Grain Lab: EXHIBIT 8.

Tape No. 1:B:18.1

EXECUTIVE ACTION

Motion/Vote: SENATOR KEATING MOVED THAT THE ALFALFA LEAF CUTTER BEA FEE REMAIN THE SAME FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM. Motion carried unanimously.

GLOBAL MOTIONS:

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO REINSTATE THE VACANCY SAVINGS THAT WAS DEDUCTED FROM THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET. Motion carried 4-1 with SEN. NELSON voting no.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO ACCEPT APPLICATION OF 1999 BIENNIUM INFLATION/DEFLATION RATES AS INCLUDED IN THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND AS ADJUSTED BY THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE. THE LFD IS AUTHORIZED TO APPLY THE APPROPRIATE RATES. Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.0 min.; Comments: None.}

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FIXED COSTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT. Motion carried unanimously.

EXHIBIT 9. Page C-11, C-212 Present Law Adjustments/Issues.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.1; Comments: Mr. Peck.}

4) Wheat and Barley, Contract

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE WHEAT AND BARLEY CONTRACT OF \$25,000 STATE SPECIAL REVENUE EACH YEAR F THE 1999 BIENNIUM. Motion carried unanimously.

5) Travel and Promotion Adjustment

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE \$18,486 AND \$18,340 SPECIAL REVENUE IN FISCAL 1998 AND 1999 FOR TRAVEL AND PROMOTION ADJUSTMENT. Motion carried unanimously.

6) Grants and Transfer Adjustments

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE \$98,100 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 1999 AND TRANSFERS OF \$80,000 EACH YEAR WITH THE LANGUAGE AS STATED IN EXHIBIT 10, PAGE C-213. Motion carried unanimously.

Tape 2-B

7) WHEAT AND BARLEY, RESEARCH AND MARKETING GRANTS

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO APPROVE \$100,000 STATE SPECIAL REVENUE EACH YEAR OF THE 1999 BIENNIUM TO INCREASE APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY FOR GRANTS TO CONDUCT WHEAT AND BARLEY RESEARCH AND MARKETING. Motion carried 4-1 with SEN. BAER voting no.

8) AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO INCREASE CONTRACTS IN FISCAL 1998 BY \$25,515 AND \$26,648 IN FISCAL 1999. Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13.0; Comments: None.}

Equipment Replacement:

- 9) AG FINANCE (\$2,098 in fiscal 1998 and \$1,598 in fiscal 1999)
- 10) HAIL INSURANCE (\$3,043 in fiscal 1999)
- 11) MARKETING (\$2,500 in fiscal 1998)
- 12) AG COUNCIL (\$3,300 in fiscal 1998)
- 13) WHEAT AND BARLEY (\$9,853 in fiscal 1998 and \$15,353 in fiscal 1999)

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENTS AND THAT THEY BE LINE ITEMED. Motion Carried Unanimously.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.5; Comments: None.}

14) GRAIN LAB, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

Motion: SEN. NELSON MOVE TO APPROVE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENTS OF \$57,638 IN FISCAL 1998 AND \$55,138 IN FISCAL 1999.

Discussion:

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET ITEM - Roof repair for the Grain Lab located in Great Falls. See EXHIBIT 8.

{Comments: The following motion was not recorded due to changing tapes.}

Motion Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE \$20,000 FOR REPAIRS OF THE GRAIN LAB. Motion carried unanimously.

Tape 3,A

15) FEDERAL FAS MARKETING PROJECTS

Discussion:

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO APPROVE \$35,000 FEDERAL SPECIAL REVENUE AUTHORITY EACH YEAR OF THE 1999 BIENNIUM TO STIMULATE MONTANA REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHOWS. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS

MR. TALLERICO, LFD explained Other Base Adjustments to the committee. EXHIBIT 10, Page C-213.

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE THE OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS. Motion carried unanimously.

EXHIBIT 9. MR. TALLERICO reviewed C-210 with a correction that it was 100% general fund instead of \$94% in the Agricultural Development Division.

EXHIBIT 11. EXECUTIVE NEW PROPOSALS (Page C-214)

Tape 3,A;21.9

1) OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Discussion

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO APPROVE \$10,600 STATE SPECIAL REVENUE IN FISCAL 1998 AND \$4,500 STATE SPECIAL REVENUE IN FISCAL 1999 TO PURCHASE OFFICE EQUIPMENT FOR THE WHEAT AND BARLEY BUREAU OFFICE. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVE TO CLOSE THE HEARING ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING ON CENTRAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Tape 3,B;9.0

Informational Testimony: SANDRA KUCHENBROD, ADMINISTRATOR CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT DIVISION gave an overview of the division. EXHIBIT 12, Page C-200, C201.

MR. TALLERICO reviewed the LFD Issues, Page C-200.

Tape 3,B;12.6

4) FOREIGN TRAVEL-COST, MR. PECK reviewed the Foreign Travel with the committee.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE \$6,168 INCREASE EACH FISCAL YEAR OF THE BIENNIUM FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL. Motion Carried Unanimously.

5) EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT MR. TALLERICO commented on equipment replacement. See Page C-201, EXHIBIT 12.

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS. Motion carried unanimously.

Tape 4,A

NEW PROPOSALS, P. C-202, EXHIBIT 13

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROGRAMMER/ANALYST AND CENTRAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION EQUIPMENT FOR A ONE-TIME ONLY APPROPRIATION. Motion carried unanimously.

MR. PECK discussed the need for \$14,500 appropriation to "buy-out" SANDRA KUCHENBROD who will be retiring in the next fiscal year.

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE \$14,500 FOR SANDRA KUCHENBROD'S RETIREMENT "BUY-OUT". Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO CLOSE THE MEETING. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:10 P.M.


REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER, Chairman


THEDA ROSSBERG, Secretary

RD/TR