

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**, on January 16, 1997, at 8:00 a.m., in Room 317 of the State Capitol.

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Thomas A. "Tom" Beck, Vice-Chairman (R)  
Sen. John "J.D." Lynch (D)  
Rep. Matt McCann (D)  
Rep. Tom Zook (R)

**Members Excused:** none

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** Nan LeFebvre, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
Debbie Rostocki, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: **HOUSE BILL 11**, 1/6/97 -  
continued from 1/15/97  
Executive Action: none

#### HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 11 - CONT. FROM 1/15/97 TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT PROGRAM (TSEP)

**Ms. Nan LeFebvre**, LFD, passed out copies of the hearing agenda.  
**EXHIBIT 1**

#### TSEP Project No. 30 - City of Red Lodge

**Ms. Judy Broadwater**, Department of Commerce (DOC) TSEP Program, reviewed the project and recommendations.

**{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-1.3}**

**Ms. Carol Temple**, representing the City of Red Lodge, reviewed the planning process and summarized the project. Questions were asked.

**{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 1.4-9.5}**

TSEP Project No. 3 - Town of Terry

Mr. Jim Edgcomb, DOC TSEP Program, reviewed the project.  
{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 9.6-10.8}

Mr. J. C. Yarde, a consultant with Double Tree and representing the Town of Terry, discussed the budgeting and health and safety issues associated with the project. Questions were asked. SEN. GERRY DEVLIN, SD 2, went on record as being in support of the project.  
{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 10.9-13.5}

TSEP Project No. 15 - City of Hamilton

Ms. Broadwater reviewed the project.  
{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 13.7-14.8}

Mr. Dale Huhtanen, Administrative Assistant for the City of Hamilton and Mr. Don Contraamen, City Planner and Director of Community Development, testified in support of the project and gave a progress report. Written testimony EXHIBIT 2 and a project description EXHIBIT 3 were distributed. Questions were asked.  
{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 14.9-24.5}

TSEP Project No. 2 - Fort Peck Water District

Mr. Robb McCracken, DOC TSEP Program Manager, reviewed the project and recommendations. Questions were asked. How TSEP loans are calculated was reviewed.  
{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 24.6-Tape 1:b:1.3}

TSEP Project No. 25 - City of Livingston

Mr. McCracken reviewed the project. Questions were asked. Financing options were discussed.  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 1.4-7.2}

TSEP Project No. 2 - Fort Peck Water Dist. - additional testimony

Mr. Gene Alsberg, Director of the Fort Peck Rural Water District, spoke in support of the project and described the problems encountered under the present system. Questions were asked. The cost of the new system and the availability of water in the area was discussed.  
{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 7.3-15.5}

TSEP Project No. 9 - City of Helena

Ms. Broadwater reviewed the project.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 15.6-16.8}

Mr. Kim Milburn, Public Works Director for the City of Helena, reviewed the city's plan. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 16.9-23.0}

TSEP Project No. 28 - Billings/Neighborhood

Mr. McCracken reviewed the project and recommendations of this storm sewer improvement project.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 23.1-24.6}

Mr. Jim Kembel, representing the City of Billings, distributed a letter from the City Administrator in support of funding the project. EXHIBIT 4

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 24.7-end of side b}

Discussion: Bridge Funding analysis

Mr. McCracken addressed the topic of bridge funding analysis and gave a brief review of the Richland County and Lewis and Clark County projects. EXHIBITS 5, 6 and 7

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-5.9}

Mr. Dave Cole, DOC Community Development Bureau Chief, discussed the relationship of Initiative 105 to the subject. Discussion took place regarding the local governments raising the maximum amount of funds available from mill levies before applying for TSEP monies. The procedure the Department of Transportation uses for cost-sharing on county bridge projects was explained by Mr. McCracken. Mr. Edgcomb pointed out that the DOT did not fund projects for bridges under 20 feet long.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 6.0-16.9}

SEN. BECK said he felt one criteria for bridge project funding should address how many persons use the bridge and another one should guarantee that proposed solution be a long-term one. The value and type of mill levies and their relationship to TSEP funding was discussed. Mr. McCracken suggested that a threshold criteria could be that the county had to levy the maximum mill levies allowable under I-105 before being approved for TSEP funding. The drawbacks of this approach were discussed. SEN. LYNCH suggested language that no funding would be provided unless the county applying could show it intended to levy their maximum bridge allowance. Mr. Cole said DOC was putting together a manual to assist counties in preparing bridge capital improvement plans and suggested this could part of the TSEP funding criteria. CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL requested that DOC draft a new ranking system

based on the committee's input, prioritizing the criteria contained in EXH. 5.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 17.0-Tape 2:b:7.3}

Discussion took place regarding the accounting of bridge levy dollars by the counties. Mr. Cole suggested that the committee consider funding bridge projects with TSEP loans rather than grants.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 7.4-17.0}

#### TSEP Project No. 5 - City of Glendive

Ms. Judy Broadwater, DOC TSEP Program, discussed the proposed water treatment improvement project and recommendations. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 17.2-20.0}

Mr. Kevin Dorward, City of Glendive, and Mr. Wilbur Wallace, Glendive Public Works Director, answered questions.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 20.1-22.7}

#### TSEP Project No. 34 - City of Big Timber

Mr. Edgcomb reviewed the project, which would improve Big Timber's wastewater system.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 22.8-24.7}

#### TSEP Project No. 38 - Town of Bainville

Mr. McCracken reviewed the project to improve the town's water and sewer systems.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 24.8-26.5}

#### TSEP Project No. 26 - Lincoln/Lewis & Clark County Sewer District

Ms. Broadwater reviewed the project, which was not recommended for funding. Discussion took place regarding the impact of mining expansion on the project.

#### TSEP Project No. 22 - City of Choteau - additional information

Ms. Broadwater provided additional information regarding alternative funding sources for this project.

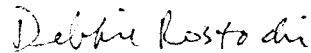
{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 26.6-Tape 3:a:3.0}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 noon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ernest Bergsagen', written over a horizontal line.

REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEN, Chairman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Debbie Rostocki', written over a horizontal line.

DEBBIE ROSTOCKI, Secretary

EB/DR

This meeting was recorded on three sixty-minute audiocassette tapes.