

## MINUTES

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

#### JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

**Call to Order:** By CHAIRMAN ROYAL C. JOHNSON, on January 28, 1997, at 8:10 AM, in room 312-2 at the State Capitol.

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Royal C. Johnson, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Daryl Toews, Vice-Chairman (R)  
Rep. Don Holland (R)  
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)  
Sen. Ken Miller (R)  
Rep. Ray Peck (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Division  
Connie Jacobs, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None  
Executive Action: Montana University System  
Agency Budgets.

#### Orientation

**CHAIRMAN ROYAL JOHNSON** called the meeting to order, and mentioned that Executive Action on the University System Agency Budgets would be the only item of business for the day. **Ms. Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Analyst**, referenced the Agency budgets and discussed issues with the unfunded salary increases.

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 2 (Ms. Whitney)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-11; Comments: .}

**Mr. Curtis Nichols, Office of Budget Program Planning**, stated that the University System Units had options for funding the salary increases other than through tuition increases. **Ms.**

Whitney concurred. **Commissioner Dick Crofts** described the position of the University System, and the lack of resources with which to fund the salary increases.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11-19; Comments: .}

Questions and comments from the committee. **Mr. Rod Sundsted of the Office of Higher Education** and **Mr. Robert Specter, Montana State University**, also addressed the committee questions.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20-43; Comments: .}

Questions and comments from the committee, continued.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-8; Comments: .}

### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AGENCIES

Comments and discussion regarding lump sum funding.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 8-22; Comments: .}

**Motion:** **REP. DON HOLLAND** MOVED THAT THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

1) ADD TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET 1,762,287 GENERAL FUND FOR THE BIENNIUM FOR UNFUNDED AGENCY FACULTY SALARIES, TO BE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

1) AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION - 326,874 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 535,758 IN FISCAL 1999.

2) EXTENSION SERVICE - 272,027 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 445,863 IN FISCAL 1999.

3) FIRE SERVICES TRAINING - 3,653 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 5,988 IN FISCAL 1999.

4) BUREAU OF MINES - 30,749 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 51,878 IN FISCAL 1999.

5) FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION - 33,912 IN FISCAL 1998 AND 55,585 IN FISCAL 1999; AND

2) APPROVE THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE REQUESTING THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION POLICY AND BUDGET STUDY THE AGENCIES:

"IT IS THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON POST SECONDARY EDUCATION AND POLICY AND BUDGET CONSIDER AS ONE OF ITS TOP PRIORITIES THE RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM WITHIN OR AMONG THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, THE MONTANA EXTENSION SERVICE, THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL, THE BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOLOGY, AND THE FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION EXPERIMENT STATION, IF SENATE BILL NO. 21 IS PASSED AND APPROVED".

EXHIBIT 3 (REP. HOLLAND)

## EXHIBIT 4

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22; Comments: .}*

Discussion on the motion.

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23-35; Comments: .}*

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED, 5-1, WITH **REP. RAY PECK** VOTING AGAINST THE MEASURE (SEN. MILLER VOTED BY PROXY).

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 36; Comments: .}*

Discussion concerning the Agricultural Experiment Station budget, on page E-139.

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 36-42; Comments: .}*

**Motion:** **SEN. GREG JERGESON** MOVED THAT PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS FOR ORGANIZED RESEARCH (AG. EXPER. STN.) INCLUDING PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, FIXED COSTS, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT AND FACULTY AGREEMENTS - 97 (ITEMS 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 5), AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS ON PAGE E-141 BE APPROVED.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-8; Comments: .}*

**Motion:** **SEN. DARYL TOEWS** MOVED TO ADOPT PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, FIXED COSTS (ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3), AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE U.S. RANGE STATION (AG. EXPER. STN.) ON PAGE E-143.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9; Comments: .}*

**Motion:** **SEN. JERGESON** MOVED TO APPROVE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, FIXED COSTS, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT (ITEMS 1, 2, 3, 4) AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTANA EXTENSION SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE ON PAGE E-145.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10-13; Comments: .}*

**Motion:** **REP. HOLLAND** MOVED THAT ITEM NUMBER FOUR (FACULTY AGREEMENT - 97 (14,919)) FOR FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION EXPERIMENT STATION RESEARCH, ON PAGE E-148, BE APPROVED.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13-16; Comments: .}*

Note: EXHIBIT 1, handed out by **Ms. Whitney** replaced the Bureau of Mines present law table on page E-150 in the book. Executive action took place on the present law table on EXHIBIT 1.

**Motion:** **REP. HOLLAND** MOVED THAT BUREAU OF MINES PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS ON EXHIBIT 1 INCLUDING PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, GROUNDWATER FULL FUNDING (ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3) AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS BE APPROVED.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.  
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16-19; Comments: .}

Discussion regarding the proprietary funds of the Bureau of Mines. **Dr. John Steinmetz, Director of Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology**, requested that the proprietary funds be increased.  
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19-25; Comments: .}

**Motion:** **SEN. JERGESON** MOVED TO INCREASE BOTH THE PROPRIETARY FUNDS AND OPERATING EXPENSES IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF 15,000 EACH, FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998 AND FISCAL YEAR 1999.

**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.  
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 26; Comments: .}

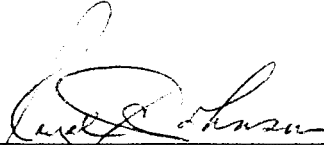
**Motion:** **SEN. TOEWS** MOVED TO ADOPT PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, FIXED COSTS, EXPENDITURE REALIGNMENT, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT (ITEMS 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 5) AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS ON PAGE E-152 FOR FIRE SERVICES TRAINING.

**NOTE:** **CHAIRMAN JOHNSON** ABSTAINED FROM THIS VOTE DUE TO PERSONAL INTEREST.

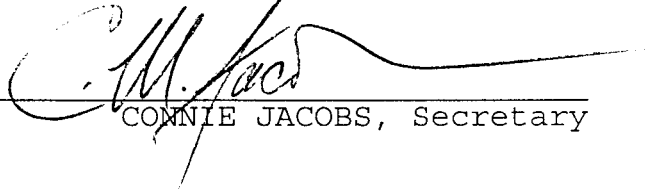
**Vote:** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, 5-0.  
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 26-32; Comments: .}

ADJOURNMENT

**Adjournment:** This meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.



REP. ROYAL C. JOHNSON, Chairman



CONNIE JACOBS, Secretary

RCJ/cj

Note: This meeting was recorded on two (2) 90 minute tapes.