

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL, on January 29,
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: Department of Administration -
Information Services Division
- Information Technology
presentation - cont. from
1/28/97
HB 7 - Reclamation and
Development Grants Program -
cont. from 1/28/97

Executive Action: none

Department of Administration

Information Services Division (ISD)

Information Technology (IT) presentation - cont. from 1/28/97

Mr. Tony Herbert, Department of Administration ISD Administrator,
continued his overview of IT from 1/28/97, discussing the state's
IT enterprise and IT issues associated with moving into the new
millenium. EXHIBIT 1 Questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-Tape 1:b:3.7}

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 7 - CONT. FROM 1/28/97
RECLAMATION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM (RDGP)

Ms. LeFebvre distributed a hearing agenda. EXHIBIT 2

RDGP Project No. 9 - Carbon County Dry Hydrant Project

Ms. Barb Beck, representing Carbon County and the Beartooth RC & D, discussed the project briefly.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 4.3-8.5}

REP. BOB CLARK, HD 8, rose in support of the project; Mr. Bob Stevens, on behalf of the Montana Grain Growers and the Dutton and Power Volunteer Fire Departments, testified in support of the project. Mr. Bruce Zimmerman, State Fire Marshall, rose in support of the proposal.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 8.6-11.5}

Mr. Mike Volesky, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, spoke in support of the measure, as did Mr. Kelly Elser, Mayor and Fire Chief of Sheridan, MT.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 11.6-14.0}

Mr. Dave Lebo, Silver Bow Volunteer Fire Council, spoke in support of the project. SEN. TOM BECK commented in support of the project and questions were asked. CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL suggested negotiating with insurance companies as an alternative to state funding. Ms. Judie Tilman and Mr. Lebo explained how Butte-Silver Bow County had financed their dry hydrants.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 14.1-28.3}

RDGP Project No. 13 - MT Bureau of Mines & Geology
Training for Environmentally Sound Development

Mr. Robin McCulloch, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, reviewed the project. EXHIBITS 3, 3A and 3B

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 28.4-33.7}

Mr. Tad Dale, a mining engineer from Butte, testified in support of the proposal.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 33.8-37.5}

Mr. Mike Collins, President of the Montana Independent Miners, and Mr. Ryan Harris, a small miner reclamation specialist speaking on behalf of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), spoke in support of the project.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 37.6-41.9}

Mr. Bruce Cox, a consultant for small mining projects, testified as a proponent. EXHIBIT 4

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 42.3-44.1}

Mr. Ted Antomoci, a long-time small mine operator, rose in support of the proposal, as did Mr. Bob Williams, Montana Mining Association.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-4.3}

Mr. Bill Wibberding, a Drummond-area small mine operator and farmer, testified in support of the project; Mr. Harvey Frederick, a Corvallis miner also rose in support of the project.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 4.8-10.3}

RDGP Project - unranked
Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
Oil & Gas Potential - Fromberg Fault Zone

Mr. David Lopez, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, reviewed the project. EXHIBIT 5

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 13.4-24.6}

Ms. Gail Abercrombie, Executive Director of the Montana Petroleum Association, spoke in support of the project.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 24.9-27.6}

RDGP Project - unranked
Rosebud Conservation District
Coal Mine Pits as Water Impoundments

Mr. David Davenport, Rosebud Conservation District, reviewed the project. EXHIBITS 6, 7 and 8

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 29.1-37.7}

Mr. John Wheaton, a hydrogeologist with the Bureau of Mines, discussed the technical aspects of the project.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 37.8-44.1}

Mr. Jim Mockler, Montana Coal Council Executive Director, rose in support of the project.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-2.1}

SENATOR MATT COLE, SD 4, rose in support of this project as well as the Carbon County Dry Hydrant Project.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 2.2-4.5}

Mr. Ken Williams, on behalf of the Montana Power Company and the Western Energy Company, testified in support of the proposal.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 4.6-5.4}

RDGP Project No. 12 - Montana State University (MSU)
Reclaimed Metal Mine Lands

Mr. Dennis Neuman, Acting Director of the Reclamation Research Unit at MSU, discussed the proposal and stated that the DEQ and

the federal Environmental Protection Agency were in support of the project. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 6.2-14.7}

The hearing on RDGP Project No. 12 was closed. **Ms. LeFebvre** discussed information contained in a Department of Natural Resources and Conservation audit which concerned the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation and reviewed the LFD's revised revenue targets. Discussion took place.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 16.6-40.9}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernest Bergsagel", written over a horizontal line.

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman

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

Debbie Rostocki, Secretary

EB/DR

This meeting was recorded on two 90-minute audiocassette tapes.