

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROGER DEBRUYCKER, on January 30,
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)
Rep. John Johnson (D)
Sen. Linda J. Nelson (D)
Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Roger Lloyd, Legislative Fiscal Division
Theda Rossberg, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
Administration and Finance
Parks Division

Executive Action: FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
Administration and Finance
Parks Division

Tape 1, A
Speed 4.8

HEARING FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION

NEW PROPOSALS:

Testimony by SEN. BARRY STANG, SD 35, ST. REGIS.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .5;}

Testimony by Jim Richards, Montana Wildlife Federation.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5/2; Comments: .}

Testimony by Peter Funk, Representing Trout Unlimited.
{Tape: 1.; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.0; Comments: .}

Testimony by Ken Hoovestal, Walleye Unlimited.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count 7.8:

EXHIBIT 1. Testimony by Bob LeFebre, Chairman of POSAC.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.5; Comments: .}

Testimony by Jean Johnson, Executive Director Montana Outfitters and Guides Association.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.6; Comments: .}

Discussion:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.6; Comments: .}

Informational Testimony

Pat Graham, Director Fish Wildlife and Parks.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20.1; Comments: .}

Questions and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.7; Comments: .}

Dave Mott, Administrator Administration and Finance Division gave testimony and information on the automated license system proposal.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.2; Comments: .}

Roger Lloyd, Legislative Fiscal Division reviewed some options on Page C-13 for the committee to consider.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.9; Comments: .}

Questions and Responses by committee members and Mr. Mott:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30.6; Comments: .}

Mr. Lloyd referred to Pages C-14 and C-15.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35.6; Comments: .}

Discussion on projected automated license costs:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 37.3; Comments: .}

Informational Testimony:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 40.9; Comments: Mr. Mott explained the automated license costs in the chart handed out on January 29, 1997.}

Tape 1, B
Speed 4.8

Mr. Motts review continued.

Questions and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.0; Comments: Automated License costs .}

Discussion and Questions continue:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.7; Comments: .}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION

BUDGET ITEMS

EXHIBIT 2, Pages C-11 and C-12 - EXECUTIVE NEW PROPOSALS:

1) Automated License System:

Motion: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE \$2,400,000 BIENNIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE AUTOMATED LICENSE SYSTEM.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.3; Comments: .}

Mr. Lloyd clarified the figures for the committee.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 18.6; Comments: .}

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 1 with SEN. NELSON and SEN. BAER voting no.

EXHIBIT 3, Page C-14. Mr. Lloyd reviewed Legislative Options and Language issues in HB2.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.9; Comments: .}

Discussion:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.4; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE: "THE AUTOMATED LICENSE SYSTEM WAS APPROVED, BUT SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATURE SHOULD EXAMINE THE SYSTEM CAREFULLY FOR FUTURE COST SAVINGS BY LOWERING LICENSE AGENTS' FEES". Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 29.1; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 4, Page C-15 - Mr. Lloyd's testimony.

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED THE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE TO DESIGNATE THE APPROPRIATIONS AS ONE-TIME-ONLY FOR THE AUTOMATED LICENSE ACCOUNT. Motion carried unanimously.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 31.3; Comments: .}

2) Data Processing Support:

EXHIBIT 5, Page C-16. Mr. Lloyd reviewed his LFD comments.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 32.1; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 6, Graphs - Mr. Mott reviewed graphs on computers.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.6; Comments: .}

Discussion:3) Geographic Information System Implementation:

EXHIBIT 7. Mr. Mott reviewed the GIS Implementation.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 39.6; Comments: .}

Tape 2,A
Speed 4.8

Mr. Motts continued discussion on GIS.

Questions and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .3; Comments: .}

Note: No action was taken on Item 3.

EXHIBIT 8, Pages G-80 and G-81. - Mr. Lloyd reviewed the three proprietary accounts in the GIS.

Discussion:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.9; Comments: Discussion on rates for duplicating materials..}

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED RATES AS STATED ON PAGE G-81. Motion carried unanimously.

Vehicle Account Rates:

EXHIBIT 9 - Vehicle Account Rates Schedule.

Mr. Mott reviewed those rates.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.0; Comments: .}

Discussion:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.2; Comments: .}

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.0; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE RATES FOR THE VEHICLE ACCOUNT AS PRESENTED ON PAGE G-82. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: SEN. KEATING MOVED TO APPROVE THE WAREHOUSE RATES AS SHOWN ON PAGE G-84. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: SEN. NELSON MOVED TO CLOSE THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING PARKS DIVISION

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.6; Comments: .}

Arne Olsen, Administrator Parks Division presented some videos on the Parks Division.

EXHIBIT 10, Parks Brochure.

Overview of the Parks Division:

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 21.0; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 11, State Park Program Accomplishments.

Mr. Olsen gave the committee members an educational video on the Parks.

Tape 2,B
Speed 4.8

Mr. Olsen's overview on the parks and the funding continued.

Mr. Lloyd reviewed the funding for the Parks Division, Page C-53 {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.5; Comments: .}

Mr. Lloyd reviewed Program Issues titled Increasing Responsibility, Limited Money, Pages C-58, C-59 and C-60.

Testimony - George Ochensky
{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.7; Comments: .}

Questions and Responses:
{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.8; Comments: .}

EXECUTIVE ACTION PARKS DIVISION

BUDGET ITEMS

EXHIBIT 12, Page C-54 - Mr. Lloyd gave an overview of the budget items.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 31.8; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 13, Page C-52 - Mr. OLsen stated there was a reduction of general fund by \$10,998 in general fund.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET REDUCTION OF \$10,978. Motion carried unanimously.
{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 34.7; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 14, Requests for Funding Adjustment.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FUNDING SWITCH. Motion carried Unanimously.

4) Weed Control: Tape 3,A
Speed 4.8

Mr. Olsen reviewed Item 4.

Mr. Lloyd reviewed the LFD Issues, Page C-54.

Mr. Olsen reviewed the 4 items on Page C-55.
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.6; Comments: .}

Mr. Lloyd said to decrease grants to \$180,571. The offset from that adjustment would appear in Item 13.

Mr. Olsen explained that the net amount from that change would be "0".

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 5, BIENNIAL GRANTS WITH THE AMENDED FIGURE OF \$180,571. Motion carried unanimously. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.0; Comments: .}

EXHIBIT 15 - Off Highway Vehicle Program.

Mr. Olsen reviewed the different grants in that program.

9) Legislative Contract Authority:

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 9 FOR \$25,000 EACH YEAR. Motion carried unanimously.

10) State Park Brochures:

Mr. Lloyd reviewed his LFD Comments, Page C-55.

Motion/Vote: SEN. JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 10. Motion carried unanimously.

11) Federal Money for Maintenance:

Mr. Lloyd explained the LFD Comments on Page C-56.

EXHIBIT 16 - Cost Increase Comparison.

Mr. Olsen reviewed those comparisons.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.6; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE \$60,000 EACH YEAR FOR ITEM 11, FEDERAL MONEY FOR MAINTENANCE AND RESTRICTING THE SWITCHING OF FUNDS. Motion carried 4 - 1 with CHAIRMAN DEBRUYCKER voting no.

Discussion:

{Tape: 3.A; Side: ; Approx. Time Count: 33; Comments: .}

12) Replacement Equipment:

Explanation of dollar errors by the department in Item 12.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35.2; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CORRECTED FIGURES OF \$1,473 IN FY98 AND (\$188,603) IN FY99 FOR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT. Motion carried unanimously.

13) Operating Expenses:

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CORRECTED FIGURES IN ITEM 13 TO \$447 IN FY98 AND \$1,187 IN FY99. Motion carried unanimously

14) Grants:

Discussion:

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 41.5; Comments: .}

Mr. Olsen gave an overview on Item 14, Grants.

Tape 3,B
Speed 4.8

Motion/Vote: SEN. BAER MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 14, GRANTS. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Base Adjustments:

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS. Motion carried unanimously.

new proposals: Page C-57.

1) Federal Money for Motorboat Site Operation and Maintenance:

Mr. Lloyd reviewed the LFD Issues for Item 1.

Mr. Olsen gave an overview on the Motorboat Sites. He stated that the figures on Page C-57 could be reduced to \$150,000 each year.

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 1, WITH THE CORRECTED FIGURES OF \$150,000 EACH YEAR. Motion carried 4 - 1 with CHAIRMAN DEBRUYCKER voting no.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 16;}


EXHIBIT 17 - Nancy Wilson, V.P. Operations Sports Inc.
sent late testimony in support of the automated license System.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:05 P.M.



REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER, Chairman



THEDA ROSSBERG, Secretary

RD/TR