

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Thursday, March 09, 2017
- TIME:** 1:30pm or Upon Adjournment
- PLACE:** Room EW40
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Gibbs, Vice Chairman Gestrin, Representative(s) Moyle, Raybould, Shepherd, Wood, Boyle, Vander Woude, Miller, Burtenshaw, Mendive, Youngblood, Kauffman, Giddings, Blanksma, Erpelding, Rubel, Jordan
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Moyle, Shepherd, Boyle, Vander Woude, Erpelding
- GUESTS:** Joanie Fauci, self; Eric Wilson, Idaho Department of Lands
Chairman Gibbs called the meeting to order at 1:31pm.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Jordan** made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2017 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- SCR 114:** **Rep. Raybould**, District 34, stated this legislation authorizes the Legislative Council to appoint a 2-year committee to undertake studies of natural resource issues, particularly water resources of the state. The committee is made up of five members from the House and five members from the Senate. Ad hoc members can be added to the committee but cannot vote.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wood** made a motion to send **SCR 114** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Raybould** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
Chairman Gibbs passed the gavel to **Vice Chairman Gestrin** for the remainder of the meeting.
- S 1098:** **Rep. Gibbs**, District 32, stated this is simple legislation to get information needed in a more timely manner. This legislation clarifies what information would be included in Tax Commission forms for the submission of oil and gas severance tax. Changes include submitting this form monthly rather than the current quarterly report to the Tax Commission. The new form would include the name, description and location of every well, and every field in which the wells are located. Additionally, the Tax Commission would be authorized to conduct audits at least every three years.
In response to questions, **Rep. Gibbs** yielded the podium to **Eric Wilson**.
Eric Wilson, Resource Protection Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Idaho Department of Lands, in responding to a series of questions from the committee, stated there is currently a requirement for each well to be metered individually; tax information within the reports to the Tax Commission is considered confidential; and as for how taxes are paid, he stated it's based on production and is a gross tax of 2.5% of the gross value of materials sold, before deductions. Additionally, Mr. Wilson clarified it is standard practice for the point of sale to be upstream at the gathering facility, but the final volumes are measured at the endpoint after the gas has been refined. Finally, Mr. Wilson stated the reporting frequency of monthly rather than quarterly is standard practice in other states because the more often the measurements, the more accurate the reporting, which results in more accurate payments.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Wood** made a motion to send **S 1098** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Giddings** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Gibbs** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Keith Allred, Upper Blackfoot Confluence, introduced himself and provided an informational presentation on the Upper Blackfoot Confluence partnership. He stated this conservation partnership is built on a common interest from conservation groups, local stakeholders, mining companies, and state and federal agencies to improve water quality and the fishery in the Upper Blackfoot River and its tributaries. He provided examples of several of the ongoing projects including restoring fish passages, restoring fish habitat, restoring stream function, improving irrigation efficiency, improving on-ranch operations, and improving recreation access.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:34pm.

Representative Gibbs
Chair

Tracey McDonnell
Secretary