

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Seventy-fourth Session
February 7, 2007**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources was called to order by Chair Dean A. Rhoads at 3:31 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2007, in Room 2144 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Dean A. Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike McGinness, Vice Chair
Senator Mark E. Amodei
Senator Michael A. Schneider
Senator Maggie Carlton

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Joseph J. Heck (Excused)
Senator Bob Coffin (Excused)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Scholley, Committee Policy Analyst
Randy Stephenson, Committee Counsel
Ardyss Johns, Committee Secretary

CHAIR RHOADS:

We will call this meeting of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources to order. The first order of business is Rules of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources ([Exhibit C](#)). If there are no questions, I will entertain a motion.

SENATOR MCGINNESS MOVED TO ADOPT THE RULES OF THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.

SENATOR AMODEI SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS HECK AND COFFIN WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

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CHAIR RHOADS:

We will not ordinarily meet on Fridays unless necessary to meet deadlines toward the end of the Session. I have one bill draft request (BDR) requiring Committee introduction, BDR 48-263.

BILL DRAFT REQUEST 48-263: Revises provisions governing subsisting rights to water livestock. (Later introduced as [Senate Bill 75](#).)

SENATOR SCHNEIDER MOVED TO INTRODUCE BDR 48-263.

SENATOR MCGINNESS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS HECK AND COFFIN WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

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CHAIR RHOADS:

I had a request from one of my constituents concerning the South Fork Dam and Reservoir in Elko County. It seems there are 30 or 40 South Fork Dams in the United States. He suggested renaming the dam after Dale Porter, who proposed and helped guide the South Fork Dam and Reservoir to its successful completion. I propose a Committee request for a bill draft.

SENATOR CARLTON MOVED TO REQUEST A BILL DRAFT TO RENAME THE SOUTH FORK DAM AND RESERVOIR TO THE DALE PORTER DAM AND RESERVOIR.

SENATOR SCHNEIDER SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS HECK AND COFFIN WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

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CHAIR RHOADS:

Our Committee Policy Analyst, Susan Scholley, will now give us an outline of what is in store for us during this Session.

SUSAN SCHOLLEY (Committee Policy Analyst):

I am honored to be serving as the Committee Policy Analyst for the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. This assignment is due, in part, to the fact that I served as staff to Senator Rhoads' water study committee during the interim. Although this is my fourth session with the Nevada Legislature, it is my first Senate Committee assignment, and I am looking forward to experiencing a Session in the Senate.

I want to remind both the Committee and the public that the Legislative Counsel Bureau is a nonpartisan agency, and as a nonpartisan staff person, I neither advocate nor oppose legislation. My role is to assist the Committee and its members in processing bills and finding the information you need to make informed decisions.

As you know, at the beginning of every Session, Committee staff prepares a Committee brief to recap the last Session, to review the Committee's jurisdiction and to alert you to some of the issues you will be facing in the upcoming Session. I have distributed copies of the brief to all of you ([Exhibit D](#), original is on file in the Research Library). There are no major changes to the Committee's jurisdiction this year with the exception of a new chapter of the *Nevada Revised Statutes*, chapter 445D, on environmental covenants.

On pages 4 to 8 of the brief, I have summarized many of the bills heard by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and passed by the Legislature during the 73rd Session. I hope you find it useful in remembering what happened two years ago. I also included a number of bills that, although they did not come through this Committee, relate to the Committee's jurisdiction, so they may bear upon issues you have before you in 2007. On pages 8 and 9, I have listed some general topics to come before the Committee this Session. There are a number of water bills already on file.

Although I know you all have received a copy of the 120-day Session calendar, I want to emphasize a couple of the deadlines. February 12, 2007, is the final deadline for individual BDRs and February 23 is the deadline for requesting committee BDRs. April 13 is the deadline for passage out of the committee of

Senate Committee on Natural Resources
February 7, 2007
Page 4

the first House and April 24 is the deadline for passage of Senate bills out of the Senate.

Ms. SCHOLLEY:

That concludes my presentation, and if I can be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to ask. Even if your question does not relate to Senate Natural Resources, we are happy to either find the answer or find someone who can find the answer.

CHAIR RHOADS:

There being no further business, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources is adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Ardyss Johns,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Dean A. Rhoads, Chair

DATE: _____