MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Eighty-Third Session
March 26, 2025

The Committee on Natural Resources was called to order by Chair Natha C. Anderson at 4:01 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, in Room 3143 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 2 of the Nevada Legislature Hearing Rooms, 7120 Amigo Street, Las Vegas, Nevada and to 123 High Technology Center, Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda [Exhibit A], the Attendance Roster [Exhibit B], and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/83rd2025.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblymember Natha C. Anderson, Chair
Assemblymember Selena La Rue Hatch, Vice Chair
Assemblymember Venicia Considine
Assemblymember Rich DeLong
Assemblymember Bert K. Gurr
Assemblymember Alexis M. Hansen
Assemblymember Jovan A. Jackson
Assemblymember Venise Karris
Assemblymember Heidi Kasama
Assemblymember Elaine H. Marzola
Assemblymember Howard Watts

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst
Jeff Chronister, Committee Counsel
Cindy Glass, Committee Manager
Karen Cook, Committee Secretary
Cheryl Williams, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

Chair Anderson:
[Roll was called. Committee rules and protocol were explained.] I want to welcome everyone to this meeting, those here in Carson City as well as anyone joining in Las Vegas, Elko, or listening online. On today's agenda we are simply work-sessioning bills, always a good thing. So, let us move to the work session. As a reminder, it is not customary for the Committee to take testimony or rehear bills during a work session. However, I may invite the bill sponsor or witness to come forward to make clarifications on the bill or to answer questions during our consideration of the measure. We will begin with Assembly Bill 26. Ms. Peratt, would you please go ahead.

Assembly Bill 26: Revises provisions relating to dams. (BDR 48-261)

Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst:
As a reminder, as nonpartisan committee staff, I can neither advocate for nor oppose any of the measures that come before this Committee. Assembly Bill 26 revises provisions related to dams [Exhibit C]. This includes, but is not limited to, establishing a liability exemption for the State Engineer, assistant, or authorized agents in certain situations; revising provisions related to the construction, reconstruction, or alteration of dams; and clarifying the authority of the State Engineer to order the removal of certain dams, diversion works, or obstruction.

The bill is sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources on behalf of the Division of Water Resources of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The State Engineer presented on the bill on February 12, 2025. There is an amendment to the bill, which removes "authorized agents" from the exemption of liability in section 1 of the bill.

Chair Anderson:
Are there any questions on A.B. 26, the dam bill? Seeing none, is there a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 26?

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GURR MADE A MOTION TO AMEND AND DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 26.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER DELONG SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will ask Assemblymember Gurr, reluctantly, to do the floor statement. Try your best not to refer to what this is about.

[Exhibit D was submitted but not discussed and will become part of the record.]

Alright, let us move on to Assembly Bill 132.

Assembly Bill 132: Revises provisions relating to water. (BDR 48-586)

Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst:
Assembly Bill 132 is sponsored by Assemblymember Yurek and was heard on March 12, 2025 [Exhibit E]. The bill increases the maximum capacity of guzzlers from 20,000 gallons to 40,000 gallons and increases the maximum pipe length of guzzlers from one-quarter of a mile to one-half of a mile. There are no amendments to this bill.

Chair Anderson:
Are there any questions on A.B. 132? Seeing none, I will entertain a motion to do pass Assembly Bill 132.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER DELONG MADE A MOTION TO DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 132.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GURR SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will ask Assemblymember Yurek to provide the floor statement. Next, let us move on to Assembly Bill 354.

Assembly Bill 354: Revises provisions relating to the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names. (BDR 26-718)

Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst:
Assembly Bill 354 removes certain federal and state entities from the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names and replaces them with other federal and state entities [Exhibit F]. The bill is sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. Assemblymember Karris presented on this bill along with Dr. Paul White and Dr. Christine Johnson. It was heard on March 17, 2025.

There is an amendment to this bill, which, amongst other provisions, removes all federal entities from serving as voting members on the Board; provides that those federal entities, specifically the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service, remain on the Board in an advisory capacity; and decreases the number of voting members on the board from 12 to 9.

Chair Anderson:
Are there any questions regarding A.B. 354? Seeing none, I will entertain a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 354.

> ASSEMBLYMEMBER CONSIDINE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 354.
>
> ASSEMBLYMEMBER WATTS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

> THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will ask Assemblymember Karris to do the floor statement. Finally, Assembly Bill 405.

Assembly Bill 405: Revises provisions relating to agriculture. (BDR 50-911)

Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst:
Assembly Bill 405 is sponsored by Assemblymember Flanagan, et al, and was heard on March 24, 2025 [Exhibit G]. The bill requires the Director of the State Department of Agriculture to establish a program to assist in the development of community gardens and urban farms in areas of the state with high levels of food insecurity, including areas designated as food deserts. There are no amendments to this bill.

Chair Anderson:
Alright, I will entertain a motion to do pass Assembly Bill 405.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER LA RUE HATCH MADE A MOTION TO DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 405.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER WATTS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblymember Flanagan.

The last thing on our agenda today is public comment. [There was none.] Thank you, Committee, for all your time today, diligence, and making time to read those bills beforehand. That concludes our meeting for today. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 4 p.m. The meeting is adjourned [at 4:09 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

_____
Karen Cook
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

_____
Assemblymember Natha C. Anderson, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
A.B.26	C	Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau	Work Session Documents
A.B. 26	D	Kyle Roerink, Executive Director, Great Basin Water Network	Letter in neutral
A.B 132	E	Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau	Work Session Document
A.B.354	F	Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau	Work Session Document
A.B.405	G	Becky Peratt, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau	Work Session Document