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## Water Policy Interim Committee

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### 63rd Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

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JENNIFER FIELDER  
BRADLEY MAXON HAMLETT  
SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

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STEVE FITZPATRICK  
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#### COMMITTEE STAFF

JASON MOHR, Lead Staff  
HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney  
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

# MINUTES LOG

## CSKT Compact Technical Working Group

August 13, 2014

Room 335, State Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. To the left of each section in these minutes is a time designation indicating the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side menu of the home page, select *Committees*, then *Interim*. Once on the page for *Interim Committees*, scroll down to the appropriate committee. The written minutes summary, along with the audio and video recordings, are listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page.

Hard copies of the exhibits for this meeting are available upon request. Legislative Council policy requires a charge of 15 cents a page for copies of the document.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

MR. JOHN METESH, chair  
MR. ANDREW BRUMMOND, VIA PHONE  
MR. RUSSELL LEVENS  
MR. KIRK WAREN  
MR. LARRY DOLAN  
MR. MIKE MCLANE, ARRIVED LATE

### **STAFF PRESENT**

JASON MOHR, lead staff  
NADINE SPENCER, secretary

## **AGENDA & VISITORS' LIST**

Agenda, [Attachment 1](#).  
Visitors' list, [Attachment 2](#).

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

None

## **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

00:00:02 John Metesh, state geologist, director, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG), called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The secretary called the roll, [Attachment 3](#).

## **AGENDA**

00:00:28 Mr. Metesh

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

00:00:55 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

## **REVIEW OF TWG WORK PLAN**

00:01:12 Mr. Metesh  
00:02:11 Jason Mohr, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
00:02:27 Mr. Metesh  
00:03:26 Mr. Mohr  
00:03:54 Mr. Metesh  
00:04:02 Russell Levens, hydrosciences section supervisor, Water Management Bureau, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:04:06 Mr. Mohr  
00:06:29 Mr. Metesh  
00:06:38 Mr. Mohr  
00:08:10 Mr. Metesh  
00:08:26 Mr. Levens  
00:08:40 Mr. Metesh  
00:09:35 Mr. Mohr  
00:10:10 Mr. Metesh  
00:10:25 Kirk Waren, senior research hydrologist, Ground Water Investigation Program, MBMG  
00:10:46 Mr. Mohr  
00:11:11 Mr. Metesh  
00:11:28 Mr. Waren  
00:11:34 Mr. Metesh  
00:11:38 Mr. Mohr

## DISCUSSION OF DRAFT FINDINGS

00:12:45 Mr. Metesh  
00:13:23 Mr. Levens  
00:13:31 Mr. Metesh  
00:13:44 Mr. Levens  
00:14:26 Larry Dolan, surface water hydrologist, Water Management Bureau, DNRC  
00:15:23 Mr. Metesh  
00:16:20 Andrew Brummond, water rights/streamflow specialist, Region 4, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)  
  
00:18:29 Mr. Dolan  
00:19:20 Mr. Brummond  
00:20:06 Mr. Metesh  
00:20:12 Mr. Dolan  
00:20:26 Mr. Metesh  
00:20:46 Mr. Levens  
00:20:56 Mr. Dolan  
00:21:10 Mr. Metesh  
00:24:10 Mr. Brummond  
00:24:41 Mr. Metesh  
00:27:34 Mr. Metesh explained the sections of the Technical Working Group draft report of findings, [Exhibit 1](#).  
  
00:28:18 Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of the Hydross model, section I.  
00:33:38 Mr. Metesh  
00:35:33 Mr. Dolan  
00:36:29 Mr. Metesh  
00:37:10 Mr. Dolan  
00:37:35 Mr. Metesh  
00:37:57 Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of irrigation characteristics input data to the Hydross models, section I.  
  
00:46:40 Jerry Laskody, chairman, Mission Irrigation District  
00:47:41 Mr. Dolan  
00:49:00 Mr. Laskody  
00:49:16 Mr. Dolan  
00:49:44 Mr. Laskody  
00:50:18 Mr. Dolan  
00:51:30 Mr. Laskody  
00:52:47 Mr. Dolan  
00:53:03 Mr. Laskody  
00:53:35 Mr. Dolan  
00:53:47 Mr. Laskody  
00:54:15 Mr. Dolan  
00:54:49 Mr. Metesh  
00:55:22 Mr. Dolan  
00:55:42 Mr. Metesh  
00:56:20 Mr. Levens  
00:57:10 Mr. Metesh  
00:57:24 Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of Hydross model calibration, section I.

01:04:41 Mr. Waren  
 01:05:03 Mr. Dolan  
 01:05:17 Mr. Waren  
 01:05:22 Mr. Dolan  
 01:05:44 Mr. Levens  
 01:06:45 Mr. Dolan  
 01:07:46 Mr. Metesh  
 01:09:19 Mr. Dolan  
 01:09:49 Mr. Metesh  
 01:10:08 Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of Hydross model output as a water-balance check on irrigation consumption, section I.  
  
 01:16:49 Mr. Metesh  
 01:17:07 Mr. Dolan  
 01:18:54 Mr. Brummond  
 01:19:14 Mr. Dolan  
 01:20:54 Mr. Metesh  
 01:21:09 Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of Hydross modeling of increases in instream flow from irrigation system improvements, section I.  
  
 01:21:33 Mike McLane, water resources specialist, FWP, entered the meeting.  
 01:26:59 Mr. Metesh  
 01:28:42 Mr. Dolan  
 01:28:51 Mr. Metesh  
 01:29:00 Mr. Dolan  
 01:29:05 Mr. Metesh  
 01:29:19 Mr. Dolan  
 01:29:54 Mr. Laskody  
 01:30:22 Mr. Metesh  
 01:30:31 Mr. Dolan  
 01:30:38 Mr. Metesh  
 01:32:37 Mr. Dolan  
 01:32:48 Mr. Metesh  
 01:32:53 Mr. McLane  
 01:32:58 Mr. Metesh  
 01:34:06 Mr. Levens  
 01:34:14 Mr. Metesh  
 01:34:29 Mr. Levens  
 01:34:41 Mr. Metesh said that the Metric analysis, section II, may be added into other sections.  
 01:34:58 Mr. Levens discussed crop water use by current irrigation practices, section III, and the issue of evapotranspiration, net irrigation requirements and crop consumptive use.  
  
 01:38:20 Mr. McLane  
 01:38:45 Mr. Levens  
 01:39:18 Mr. Dolan  
 01:39:34 Mr. McLane  
 01:39:56 Mr. Laskody  
 01:40:39 Mr. Levens  
 01:41:26 Mr. Dolan

01:41:42	Mr. Levens
01:42:10	Mr. Dolan
01:42:51	Mr. Metesh
01:44:08	Mr. Dolan
01:44:48	Mr. McLane
01:45:45	Mr. Metesh
01:47:05	Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of farm turnout allowances (FTAs), section III.
01:52:28	Mr. Metesh
01:53:48	Mr. Dolan
01:55:00	Mr. Metesh
01:57:01	Mr. Dolan
01:57:38	Mr. Metesh
01:57:50	Mr. Dolan
01:58:32	Mr. Metesh
01:59:01	Mr. Laskody
02:03:26	Mr. Dolan
02:04:46	Mr. Dolan discussed the issue of river diversion allowances (RDAs), section III.
02:12:16	Mr. Laskody
02:14:30	Mr. Dolan
02:16:54	Mr. Brummond
02:17:45	Mr. Dolan
02:18:53	Mr. McLane
02:21:36	Mr. Dolan
02:22:07	Mr. McLane
02:22:48	Mr. Dolan
02:22:56	Mr. Metesh
02:23:12	Mr. Dolan
02:24:46	Mr. McLane
02:25:04	Mr. Dolan
02:25:23	Mr. McLane
02:27:26	Mr. Metesh
02:28:06	Mr. McLane
02:28:29	Mr. Metesh
02:28:57	Mr. Dolan
02:29:01	Mr. Metesh
02:30:45	Mr. Levens
02:31:16	Recess
03:36:03	Reconvene

**CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF DRAFT FINDINGS**

03:36:15	Mr. Metesh said that stream discharge network, section IV, may be added into another section.
03:37:06	Mr. Waren discussed aquifer characterization, section V.
03:44:19	Mr. Levens
03:45:03	Mr. Waren
03:47:23	Mr. Levens

03:47:51 Mr. Metesh  
 03:48:41 Mr. Dolan  
 03:49:17 Mr. Waren  
 03:50:02 Mr. Levens  
 03:50:34 Mr. Waren  
 03:51:27 Mr. Metesh  
 03:51:57 Mr. McLane  
 03:52:58 Mr. Metesh opened discussion on section VI, instream flow quantification methods.  
 03:53:25 Mr. Brummond discussed the issue of "robust river standard", section VI.  
 03:55:42 Mr. Metesh  
 03:56:21 Mr. Brummond  
 03:56:59 Mr. Brummond discussed the issue of quantification of on-reservation, instream flow rights, section VI.  
 04:01:43 Mr. Metesh  
 04:01:54 Mr. Brummond  
 04:02:53 Mr. Dolan  
 04:03:12 Mr. Brummond  
 04:03:58 Mr. McLane  
 04:04:24 Mr. Brummond  
 04:05:07 Mr. Metesh  
 04:05:16 Mr. Brummond discussed the issue of quantification of water right claims to be co-owned with FWP, section VI.  
 04:07:50 Mr. Brummond discussed the issue of changes in legal availability of water due to proposed off-reservation instream rights, section VI  
 04:11:39 Mr. Metesh  
 04:11:47 Mr. Waren  
 04:12:29 Mr. Brummond  
 04:13:39 Mr. Levens  
 04:14:22 Mr. Metesh  
 04:14:35 Mr. Mohr  
 04:14:54 Mr. Levens  
 04:15:25 Mr. Metesh  
 04:15:44 Mr. Levens  
 04:16:15 Kate Vandemoer, hydrologist, Concerned Citizens of Western Montana  
 04:20:01 Mr. Metesh  
 04:21:01 Ms. Vandemoer  
 04:21:54 Mr. Dolan  
 04:23:05 Mr. Brummond  
 04:24:10 Ms. Vandemoer  
 04:25:26 Mr. Dolan  
 04:25:52 Mr. Brummond  
 04:26:29 Mr. Laskody  
 04:27:33 Mr. Brummond  
 04:28:36 Ms. Vandemoer  
 04:31:02 Mr. Brummond  
 04:31:36 Ms. Vandemoer  
 04:32:26 Mr. Metesh

04:33:49 Mr. McLane  
04:37:01 Ms. Vandemoer  
04:37:51 Mr. Brummond  
04:39:00 Mr. Laskody  
04:39:32 Mr. Brummond  
04:39:42 Mr. Laskody  
04:41:46 Mr. Metesh  
04:44:04 Mr. McLane provided a copy of the introduction he completed on the Technical Working Group report to the Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC), [Exhibit 2](#).  
04:45:37 Mr. Waren  
04:45:49 Mr. McLane  
04:46:15 Mr. Metesh  
04:46:42 Mr. McLane  
04:47:40 Mr. Mohr  
04:48:49 Mr. McLane  
04:49:39 Mr. Mohr  
04:50:31 Mr. Levens  
04:50:49 Mr. Mohr  
04:51:06 Mr. Waren  
04:51:53 Mr. Mohr  
04:52:50 Mr. Dolan  
04:53:06 Mr. Levens  
04:53:17 Mr. Metesh  
04:54:33 Mr. Mohr  
04:54:56 Mr. Laskody  
04:57:12 Mr. Metesh  
04:57:59 Mr. Mohr  
04:58:10 Mr. Metesh  
04:59:03 Mr. McLane  
04:59:31 Mr. Metesh  
04:59:41 Mr. Levens  
05:00:01 Mr. McLane  
05:00:17 Mr. Metesh  
  
05:01:50 Mr. Metesh adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

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