

**MEMBERS:**

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SEN. MIKE GREEN
SEN. MIKE KOWALL
SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF
SEN. REBEKAH WARREN, MINORITY VICE CHAIR
SEN. MORRIS HOOD III

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND GREAT LAKES
SENATOR TOM CASPERSON
CHAIRMAN

705 FARNUM
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-7840
FAX: (517) 373-3932

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes
Minutes

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes was held Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 8:36 a.m.

Members present: Senators Caspersen, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, Hood

Members excused: none

Senator Caspersen called the meeting to order and led committee and audience members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Green moved to adopt the minutes from May 2, 2013 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Pavlov moved to adopt the minutes from May 6, 2013 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Caspersen announced the order of business for the day:

- SB 163 Sen. Green Natural resources; wetlands; permit exemptions for wetlands and inland lakes and streams; revise, and require more information from department justifying denial of any part 13 permits.

Senator Caspersen placed before the committee Senate Bill 163 (Sen. Green). Senator Caspersen announced that there was a substitute before the committee members. Senator Green explained the bill and substitute to committee members and answered questions.

The following people testified on Senate Bill 163 and answered questions from committee members:

- Maggie Datema & Amy Lounds, Department of Environmental Quality—Support
- Matt Smego & Laura Campbell, Michigan Farm Bureau—Support
- Cheryl Sweetland, citizen—Support with reservations
- Lee Schwartz, Home Builders Association—Support
- Michael Perry & Dorance Amos, 3 Morrison's Inc.—Oppose
- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council—Oppose

The following people submitted cards, but did not wish to testify, on Senate Bill 163:

- Doug Roberts, Consumers Energy—Support
- Andy Such, Michigan Manufacturing Association—Support

- Mike Newman, Michigan Aggregates Association—Support
- Dave Ladd, Cliffs Natural Resources—Support
- Manny Lentine, County Road Association of Michigan—Support with Technical Concerns
- Gildo Tori, Ducks Unlimited—Neutral with reservations
- Mark Stadt, DTE Energy—Support
- Tiffany Watrous, Detroit Regional Chamber—Support
- Jason Geer, Michigan Chamber—Support
- Deena Bosworth, Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners—Support

Senators Warren and Hood made a statement to the committee members regarding their voting intention.

Senator Casperson announced that the committee would hold the vote on the bill at an upcoming committee meeting. There being no further business before the committee, Senator Casperson adjourned the committee without objection at 9:31 a.m.

Date Approved by Committee: May 21, 2013

**An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.