

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY & WATER COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY & WATER COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of the Meeting January 5, 2022 1:00 P.M., HHR1

Members Present:

Senator, Kerr, Co-Chair
Senator Gowan
Senator Gray
Senator Mendez*
Senator Otondo*
Senator Rogers*
Senator Shope
Senator Stahl Hamilton*
Senator Steele*

Representative Griffin, Co-Chair
Representative Burges, Vice Chair
Representative Abraham
Representative Cano
Representative Carroll
Representative Dalessandro*
Representative Dunn
Representative Martinez
Representative Mathis
Representative Parker
Representative Quinonez

*Participated remotely via a teleconference platform.

Members Excused:

Representative Finchem

Staff:

Rachel Caldwell, Senate Research Analyst
Paul Bergelin, House Research Analyst
Ahjahna Graham, House Research Analyst

Co-Chair Griffin called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and attendance was noted.

INTRODUCTION

Representative Griffin asked for the members to introduce themselves.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

Presentation by the Arizona Game and Fish Department

Kurt Davis, Commission Chairman, Arizona Game and Fish Commission, made opening comments and introduced Director Ty Gray.

Ty Gray, Director, Arizona Game and Fish Department, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Game and Fish Department" (Attachment A).

Mr. Gray answered questions posed by the Committee.

Public Testimony

No public testimony took place.

Discussion and Recommendation

Representative Griffin requested a motion on the recommendation.

Senator Kerr moved that the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference and the Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference recommend that the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Game and Fish Commission, and Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department be continued for eight years.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Presentation by the Arizona Office of the Auditor General

Adam Tillard, Audit Manager, Office of the Auditor General, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona" (Attachment B).

Presentation by the Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority

Daniel Dialessi, CFA and Executive Director, Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona" (Attachment C).

Mr. Dialessi answered questions posed by the Committee.

Public Testimony

John Mendibles, Executive Director, League of Veterans, spoke about renewable energy and Arizona water resources.

Discussion and Recommendation

Representative Griffin requested a motion on the recommendation.

Senator Kerr moved that the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference and the Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference recommend that the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority be continued for eight years.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE WATER QUALITY APPEALS BOARD

Presentation by the Water Quality Appeals Board

Fred Brinkler, Board Member, Water Quality Appeals Board, participated remotely via a teleconference platform, explained the Water Quality Appeals Board, the duties and the appeals process.

Public Testimony

No public testimony took place.

Discussion and Recommendation

Representative Griffin requested a motion on the recommendation.

Senator Kerr moved that the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference and the Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference recommend that the Water Quality Appeals Board be continued for eight years.

The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Presentation by the Arizona Office of the Auditor General

Marc Owen, Performance Audit Manager, Office of the Auditor General, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Environmental Quality" (Attachment D).

Mr. Owen answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Misael Cabrera, Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, responded and explained information presented in the Auditor General's report and the advancements in the department.

Mr. Cabrera answered questions posed by the Committee.

Public Testimony

Sandy Bahr, Director, Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter, expressed concerns about the Department of Environmental Quality and the findings of the Auditor General's report.

Discussion and Recommendation

Representative Griffin requested a motion on the recommendation.

Senator Kerr moved that the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference and the Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee of Reference recommend that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality be continued for eight years.

Senator Mendez offered a substitute motion that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality be continued for two years. The motion FAILED by show of hands.

Senator Kerr's original motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Representative Griffin offered closing comments.

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment E).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)