

## Government Relations Committee of HRDC, IX

**Date:** 04/01/2025

**Location:** Virtual

**Committee members present:**, Bruce Grubbs, Gene Townsend, Steve Klein, Scott MacFarlane, Linda Young

**Committee members excused:**

**Staff present:** Heather Grenier, Krista Dicomitis

**Guests present:**

Gene Townsend called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

### **Opening Public Comment:**

Gene Townsend requested opening public comment. No public comment was made.

### **Agenda:**

#### **1. Previous meeting minute approval**

The previous meeting minutes from February 4th, 2025 were reviewed. There were no edits requested. Linda Young moved to approve the meeting minutes. Bruce Grubbs seconded. All members voted in favor to approve the minutes.

#### **2. April Outreach Calendar**

Heather Grenier provided an update on past outreach efforts including the tours given at Homeward Point for Gallatin County and Park County commissions. Bozeman City Commission will be invited again this evening. Katherine Daly provided an update on the Park County Housing Coalition and Gardiner projects to the Gardiner Resort Tax Group. Heather will also be meeting with the newest Park County Commissioner in the coming weeks. As budget processes are underway with local governments, additional meetings and conversations may be added to the calendar. Belgrade, Manhattan, and Big Sky Resort Tax District are upcoming visits planned.

#### **3. Legislative Priorities**

Medicaid Expansion was signed by the Governor. HB 843 for allocating funding to the HRDC's across the state for rapid rehousing was proposed, mirroring the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) we already receive. Medical Respite should be voted on tomorrow morning. SB 537 amending marijuana tax revenue to allow state funded shelter for addiction and recovery services was resurfaced. SB 172 impacting the potential for Park County resort tax is also being monitored. SB 405 for the Montana Housing Fund passed the committee as of today. HB 878 for the coal trust revenue allocation for affordable housing development was also heard today.

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### **4. State Budget**

Questions were raised about what conversations may be happening around state budgets, specifically if there is any movement to set some of the State's surplus aside to support Federal cuts. No one has heard of anything at this point, and Bruce offered to ask someone on the appropriations committee when he is at the Capitol next.

### **Executive Session:**

There was no Executive Session held. The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m. The next meeting will be held on May 6th, 2025.