

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2376

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2376

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2376

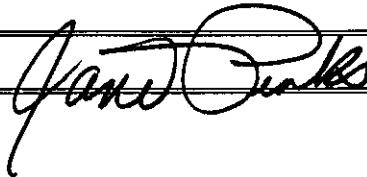
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 01/29/07

Recorder Job Number: 2154

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on SB 2376 indicating it would be turned over to the subcommittee to be put into the whole picture of Parks and Rec. If there is a lot of support and if we pull it into the Parks and Rec, it sometimes gives added security and at the same time it removes the names of the sponsors.

Senator John Warner, District 4, Ryder, testified in support of SB 2376, indicating this bill deals with the development of business around Lake Sakakawea by supporting the rebuilding of the marina at Fort Stevenson State Park. He made the comment that it doesn't matter who gets the credit as long as the job gets done, but he does want to protect the integrity of the Parks and Rec bill.

Representative Kenton Onstad, District 4, Parshall, testified in support of SB 2376 indicating that this bill is intended to help with the building of the Marina on the North side of the Lake. This has been a work in progress for many years. He indicated the Governor has stated many times that the state of North Dakota will be willing to put toward the development of this project. He then turned the specifics of the bill over to the other speakers.

Representative Dawn Charging, District 4, Garrison, testified in support of SB 2376 indicating this bill is one that she is very close to as she is from Garrison. She presented a picture of what the marina looked like in its heyday. She discussed the impact of the marina

on the area as well as the state of North Dakota. The reopening of this marina reopens the door to recreation in North Dakota.

Senator Bowman indicated he had toured the area a few years ago and was saddened about the water level. He questioned how investing this money now before the water level was up, how are the boats going to get in the water because it is so far out. The response was that this will be answered as other testifiers come forward. In addition, this is an opportune time to do the work because the water level is low.

Sue Schreiner, Past President, Garrison Chamber of Commerce and Trust Officer, Garrison State Bank and Trust, presented written testimony in support of SB 2376. She showed pictures in her testimony of the marina then and now and indicated the marina has been dry for 15 of its 25 years of life. She then reviewed the Garrison reservoir elevation study and Garrison's taxable sales. She also reviewed the reservoir elevation study correlation to the mean reservoir elevation and ft. Stevenson marina revenue. She said that at this time there is only one operational marina on Lake Sakakawea and that is on the south side of the reservoir. She stressed the need for a marina on the north side. She then discussed the proposed marina. She indicated a major portion of the funding for the marina will come from the federal government. And the award of this bill will ensure the federal funds.

Senator Grindberg questioned if funds are in place, where does the Army Corps of Engineers fall in the equation. The response was the Corps of Engineers indicated that if appropriate language is in the bill itself, they are willing to step out of the picture and transfer their funds to the state and let the state go ahead with this. Senator Grindberg then asked if this would be put in writing, if they can, that would be helpful.

Senator Wardner asked if the water comes back up is the elevation of the new marina high enough that it won't flood. The response was that if the water comes back up, what will

happen is that there will be two operational marinas because the low water marina will be operational in high water conditions.

Senator Lindaas asked at what point is the lowest level for the marina to be operational. The response was the new marina has an elevation level of 1790 and the channel entering the marina has an elevation of 1775. The level would have to be at 1780 before it is non-operational.

Senator Christmann asked if an environmental study has been completed. The response was yes as well as a study required by the Corps.

Paul Schlichting, General Manager, Cenex, Garrison, presented written testimony indicating he supports SB 2376. He stated how valuable the Marina is to the community and Fort Stevenson State Park.

Rick Olson, Stoney End Supperclub and Lounge, Garrison, presented written testimony and testified in support of SB 2376. He indicated that as a businessman his livelihood depends on tourism.

Senator Bowman asked if there are any ramps near Garrison. The response was there is only one, most are unusable.

Jill Denning, Gackle, Secretary, Friends of Lake Sakakawea, presented written testimony in support of SB 2376. She indicated the only other marina on the lake is full and no one else can get in there. She indicated this is the opportunity to develop a marina that can be used in both low and high water. She indicated the one caveat to this bill is that if the matching funds don't come through, the state doesn't have to come up with their portion.

Senator Holmberg asked if Garrison has put any money in for this. The response was that Garrison put forth \$6000 for the soil boring testing and there may be other ways.

Dick Messerly, Park Manager, Fort Stevenson State Park, President Elect, Garrison

Chamber of Commerce, presented written testimony in support of SB 2376. He indicated this bill is an investment which will provide a quick and sizeable return, the project is well-planned, this will aid in diversifying the economy and developing the economic engine of Lake Sakakawea.

Senator Christmann asked how much activity revolves around fishing and other lake activities and what is expected in the future. The response was that much attendance at the park has dropped off over the years, but is increasing with other activities. Most activities have centered around the fishing and boating.

Ron Krebsbach, Commission, McClean County, presented written testimony in support of SB 2376 indicating the implementation of this bill is vital in retaining a viable tourism business on Lake Sakakawea.

Senator Holmberg closed the hearing on SB 2376 indicating the Game and Fish subcommittee will look at this to meld the bills together. The subcommittee consists of Senators Christmann, Grindberg and Lindaas.

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2376


Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02/09/07

Recorder Job Number: 3281

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on SB 2376 indicating this bill would be put into the Parks and Rec bill.

Senator Krebsback moved a **DO NOT PASS** and that the contents of SB 2376 be included in SB 2019 the parks and rec bill. **Senator Kilzer** seconded. No discussion followed. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 8 yes 1 no, 5 absent. The motion carried. **Senator Krebsback** will carry the bill.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on SB 2376.

Date:
Roll Call Vote #:

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2376

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken D Not Pass

Motion Made By Krebsbach Seconded By Kilzer

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Ray Holmberg, Chrm	✓		Senator Aaron Krauter	✓	
Senator Bill Bowman, V Chrm	✓		Senator Elroy N. Lindaas		
Senator Tony Grindberg, V Chrm			Senator Tim Mathern		✓
Senator Randel Christmann			Senator Larry J. Robinson	✓	
Senator Tom Fischer			Senator Tom Seymour	✓	
Senator Ralph L. Kilzer	✓		Senator Harvey Tallackson		
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	✓				
Senator Rich Wardner	✓				

Total (Yes) 8 No 1

Absent 5

Floor Assignment Krebsbach

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 9, 2007 1:56 p.m.

Module No: SR-28-2766
Carrier: Krebsbach
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2376: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (8 YEAS, 1 NAY, 5 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2376 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2007 TESTIMONY

SB 2376

(1)

Chairman Holmberg and members of the Appropriations Committee, my name is Sue Schreiner. I am a Past President of the Garrison Chamber of Commerce and a Trust Officer at the Garrison State Bank and Trust. I am here today in support of SB 2376 appropriating \$1,200,000, or so much of that sum as may be necessary, to the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department for the construction of a marina at Ft. Stevenson State Park.

If you would refer to the first page of color photographs that I have provided for you, it shows the Ft. Stevenson Marina, fully operational at normal lake levels, which would be at an elevation above 1830 ftmsl. It holds 72 slips and has a launching ramp that is 60 ft wide and able to accommodate up to 4 boats launching simultaneously. The bottom of the ramp is at 1822 ftmsl. The other picture shown on that page is the same marina at its present day condition. Water levels at this time are at 1807 ftmsl. Our present marina will have its 25th birthday in 2007; on that birthday it will have been dry for 15 of those years; more than 50% of its life.

The Garrison Reservoir Elevation Study, found on the next page, compares the mean elevation to the taxable sales in our community. In looking at the 6 low water years between 1988 and 1993, when the marina was nonoperational or marginally so, the average taxable sales in our community were \$8.3 million per year. In comparing the following 6 years between 1994 and 1999, at normal water levels when the marina was fully operational, taxable sales averaged \$10.5 million per year. A \$2.2 million decrease in the low water years takes its toll on our business community. The outlook changes from one of economic development to one of economic survival.

The next page shows another Garrison Reservoir Study but this time shows a correlation between the marina revenue and the mean elevation. As you can see, an operational marina creates a major economic impact to the tourism/recreation industry not only to Garrison, but to other communities up and down the 1,530 miles of shoreline of Lake Sakakawea. It has a far-reaching effect on businesses in the major cities in the vicinity of Garrison through sales of RV's, boats, sporting goods and repair services, as well as to the revenues of our Great State of North Dakota.

There is only 1 operational marina on all of Lake Sakakawea; that being at the Sakakawea State Park on the south side of the lake. I am asking for your support to build one for the north side to service our needs as well. As important as the issue of revenue is the issue of safety. In this low water environment we need a facility on the north side to provide a safe harbor to vessels when storm conditions present themselves.

The second to the last page shows the present marina as well as the site of the new Garrison Bay Marina. This marina would have adequate water at a lake level 32 ft. lower than the present marina bottom. The channel going into the marina has 35 – 40 ft. of water depth in this low water environment. It is estimated that this new marina will cost in the range of \$6,000,000 to \$6,500,000. Of that amount, our U.S. Senators Dorgan and Conrad, along with Congressmen Pomeroy are working to secure \$5,500,000 in federal funding. Adding the state funding of \$1,200,000 as proposed in SB 2376 would insure the adequate amount of funding to build our marina. These matching funds will also help in our quest to get the Federal dollars transferred to the State, making this a project whose

design and construction will be completed by the ND State Parks and Recreation Department. This will not only insure us that the project will be completed, but it will be a savings of millions of dollars by taking it out of the hands of the Corps of Engineers, whose estimated costs have run as high as \$26,000,000.

Lastly I show you a picture of what we look at each and every time we drive into our present marina parking lot. Larger boats from the Ft. Stevenson Marina, as well as other marinas up and down the north shoreline of Lake Sakakawea, are sitting in storage lots, are for sale, or have been sold and moved to other locations, some of them outside of our Great State of North Dakota. Now is the time to build. The low water levels provide us with an opportunity to save on project costs as the height of the coffer dam directly correlates to the water level during the building process. I strongly urge you to recommend a "DO PASS" status for SB 2376. Thank you.

