



MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
108TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 17-21, 2017



2017 CONFERENCE HOSTS

GALLATIN COUNTY

2017 COMMISSIONER HOSTS

STEVE WHITE
DON SEIFERT
JOE SKINNER

2017 CONFERENCE VENUE

BEST WESTERN GRANTREE INN
1325 N 7TH AVENUE
BOZEMAN, MT 59715
(406) 587-5261



MACo ENHANCES

the public service

mission of counties by

PROMOTING INTEGRITY

and **providing**

PROACTIVE LEADERSHIP

while **acknowledging**

and **respecting**

MONTANA'S DIVERSITY.

WELCOME FROM THE MACo PRESIDENT



MACo President 2015-2016

Dear MACo Colleagues & Friends:

Welcome to the MACo Annual Conference. This will be the 108th Annual Conference for the Montana Association of Counties; which means 1909 was our first conference.

In 1909 there were fewer and bigger counties than we have today. My county, Prairie, did not exist. It was a time of massive expansion due to mining and the homestead act.

With a little research, we found some interesting things in 1909:

- 1) The Hudson Motor Car Company was founded.
- 2) Ty Cobb hit 2 (two) inside homers in the same game!
- 3) Taft was inaugurated in a snowstorm that dropped 10 inches of snow. (Today, that would shut DC down for a week!) Taft was the only individual to be President of the United States and then Chief Justice of the United States.
- 4) The first forestry school was established in Kent, Ohio.

So, I hope you all had a safe trip to beautiful Bozeman, Montana. Let's step back in time to drive our new Hudson cars to Bozeman while listening to a baseball game via radio. Along the way we will debate on how our new President, Mr. Taft, is doing. We will enjoy our scenic forest as we drive, not knowing that the next summer (1910) we would have one of the largest forest fires ever recorded (over 3 million acres!). That one fire killed 87 people, and many towns were burned to the ground. In the next decade, almost 20 million acres of Montana's forest lands burned (over 17% of all forest lands in Montana)! I hope we have and are learning valuable lessons by cherishing our history.

History has a habit of repeating itself, especially when forgotten. As we all struggle to reduce the dangers of fire by being well prepared, share your successes and failures with others at the conference.

I'm suspecting that drought and fires will be hot topics at MACo. Let's make the discussion productive.

Staff at MACo works hard to put this conference together to make it work like a finely tuned clock. Our committee chairs try to put agendas in front of you that will allow you to take home something useful. Let them all know that you appreciate their hard and caring work.

Visit our vendors when you get opportunities to do so. Our vendors are a vital asset to the success of our conference.

Some here will have opportunity to tour around Bozeman and drop a buck or two . . . Of which I am sure Gallatin County and Bozeman will appreciate.

Again, welcome to the conference. It has been a pleasure serving you as president.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Devlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "T".

President Todd Devlin
Montana Association of Counties

MACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA



NEED INTERNET ACCESS?

USE THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO ACCESS THE HOTEL'S WIFI



GranTree Inn: Username & Password: **bobcat**

Holiday Inn: No Username/Password Needed

ON-SITE REGISTRATION OPEN:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Sunday, September 17 | 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. |
| Monday, September 18 | 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, September 19 | 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, September 20 | 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. |

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Aspen Room | Workers' Compensation Trust Trustees Lunch Meeting |
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SPONSOR

Brentwood Services

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| 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Holiday Inn State/University Rooms | Urban Counties No-Host Lunch Meeting |
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|---|-------------------------------|
| 1:00 p.m. Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium | Exhibitors Begin Setup |
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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 3:00-5:00 p.m. Tamarack/Aspen Rooms | Board of Directors Meeting |
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SPONSOR

C & H Engineering & Surveying

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|---|---|
| 5:30-10:00 p.m. Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms | President's Reception & Dinner |
|---|---|

Presiding: Todd Devlin, MACo President, Prairie County Commissioner

1. Introduction of the head table and Executive Committee
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Todd Devlin
3. Invocation: Joe Skinner, Gallatin County Commissioner
4. Welcome: Don Seifert, Gallatin County Commissioner

(RECEPTION ITINERARY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION & DINNER (CONTINUED)

5. Dinner
6. Speaker: Mia Fontaine
7. Entertainment: Helena Handbasket has been performing Americana/ Old-time Fiddle music as a group at music festivals, private and legislative functions, and Contra dances across Montana for about 12 years. The individual members, Terry and Jim Gundersen and Candace and David Payne, have been playing together in various groups, with the most notable being the Helena-based Parlor Pickers where the band members all met each other about 25 years ago. Although they are “Helena” Handbasket, none actually reside in the city of Helena. Terry and Jim are Broadwater County residents near Goose Bay on Canyon Ferry Lake, and Candace and David live in the north Helena valley and are also part-time Park County residents.

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

COFFEE & SODA WILL BE AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

SPONSORS

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7:00-8:30 a.m. No-Host Prayer Breakfast
Holiday Inn
Montana/State/University Rooms

Presiding: Todd Devlin
Speaker: Gallatin County Chaplain Randy Jones
Music: Laura Werley and Patrick Hern

SPONSOR

HD Supply Waterworks

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Spouse/Guest Quilting Project
Tamarack Room

(MONDAY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

MACo OPENING GENERAL SESSION

8:30-10:00 a.m.

MACo Business Meeting

Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms

Presiding - Todd Devlin

1. Flag Ceremony: Frank Dougher Boy Scouts
2. National Anthem: Ashton Carrier
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Todd Devlin
4. Invocation: Gallatin County Chaplain Randy Jones
5. Welcome: Mayor Carlson Taylor, City of Bozeman
6. Response: Bill Barron, MACo 1st Vice President,
Lake County Commissioner
7. Roll Call: Mike McGinley, MACo Fiscal Officer,
Beaverhead County Commissioner
8. Approval of 2016 Annual Conference Minutes: Todd Devlin
9. Memorial Resolution: Don Siefert, Gallatin County Commissioner
10. Announcements: Todd Devlin
11. Nominations Committee Report: Todd Devlin
12. Convention Site 2018 – Missoula: Todd Devlin and
Missoula County Commissioners
13. Presentation of Proposed Resolutions: Jean Curtiss,
Missoula County Commissioner
14. President's Report: Todd Devlin
15. Fiscal Officer's Report: Mike McGinley
16. Executive Director's Report: Harold Blattie

10:00-10:30 a.m

**Coffee Break: Visit with Exhibitors
(Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show)**

Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

SPONSOR

Montana Joint Council of Extension Professionals

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

**Overview State Health Assessment
& 2018-2022 Proposed State Health
Improvement Plan (SHIP) Priorities**

Presenter: Todd, Harwell, Administrator, Department of Public Health & Human Services

Collaboration through community partnerships is fundamental in improving the health of all Montanans. This collaboration is captured in the SHIP. The

State Health Assessment describes Montana’s health status through comprehensive data analysis on wide-ranging public health issues. The SHIP outlines the strategic approach the public health system will take over the next five years to make progress on key health issues to improve the health of all Montanans, which will require state, local and tribal health, as well as other government sectors to set priorities and coordinate resources. This presentation will highlight the leading health issues facing Montana, the priority health areas for the next five years, and how communities and their leaders can get involved.

11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon **Road to 2020 Census:**
 Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms **How Counties Can Prepare**

Presenter: Sonny Subia, Partnership Specialist, US Census Bureau

Census 2020 is upon us, and it’s not too early to start preparing for the upcoming Census count. Join the US Census Bureau to learn about the new strategies that will be utilized to help ensure that your county receives the best and most accurate count. Learn how to ensure your county receives its fair share of federal monies. The Census Bureau will discuss participation in geographical programs to update the master address file that will be used in Census 2020. Presenters will also share strategies to involve your community and trusted voices to help with Census awareness. Local voices are very important to successfully spread the importance of the 2020 Census. Census data directly affect how more than \$589 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. The Census count happens only once every ten years so make sure you and your counties are prepared to make this a successful 2020 Census count.

12:00 noon-1:30 p.m. **Lunch**
Holiday Inn
Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms

Speaker: Congressman Greg Gianforte

SPONSOR
 Great West Engineering

(MONDAY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

MONDAY WORKSHOPS: 1:30 - 4:00 P.M.

1:30-2:30 p.m.
Madison Room

**Workshop A: PCT Liability Claims:
Settlement Versus Trial**

Presenters: Jerry Spears, Trust Operations Director;
Shannon Shanholtzer, Trust Administrator; David Payne, Claims Administrator;
Dennis Jupka, Senior Claims Adjuster; Debbie Messerli, Claims Adjuster; and
DeeAnn Cooney, Defense Counsel

This two-part workshop will review the liability claim process from start to finish. Emphasis will be on how the decision is made on whether we defend the member county via litigation or settle with the claimant outside of court. MACo PCT staff will present data of past claims and will be available for a panel discussion.

1:30-2:30 p.m.
Lewis/Clark Rooms

Workshop B: DEQ Programs Parts I & II

Part I: Abandoned Mine Lands Program

Presenters: Bill Snoddy, Project Manager, DEQ;
Autumn Coleman, Program Manager, DEQ; and

The Montana Abandoned Mines Lands program is responsible for monitoring and reclamation of the over 6000 abandoned coal and hard rock mines in Montana. The program's focus is on coal problems but it does have the ability to address hard rock emergencies as they arise. Working with landowners, local governments, and federal oversight through the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the program has the ability to reclaim sites at no cost to the landowner. The program is funded through fees on coal production collected through the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Without re-authorization the act will expire in 2021 and the ability to address historic mining issues will be lost.

Part II: Motor Vehicle Recycling & Disposal Program

Presenter: Brady Christensen, CHMM, Materials, Management, Program, DEQ

In 1973, the Montana Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal Act was enacted for the establishment, control, operation, and licensing of public and private motor vehicle wrecking facilities. The Motor Vehicle Recycling & Disposal Program within the Montana Department of Environmental Quality receives a small percentage of statewide motor vehicle registration

fees and administers these funds through grants to individual counties to operate their Junk Vehicle Programs. Counties use these funds to pick up from the public unwanted vehicles free of charge, conduct inspections, and resolve junk vehicle related complaints. The state and counties work together to ensure that private motor vehicle wrecking yards operate and remain in compliance with applicable rules and statues along with issuing the yearly renewal of their wrecking yard license.

2:30-3:00 p.m. **Coffee Break: Visit with Exhibitors**
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium **(Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show)**

SPONSORS

CTA Architects Engineers
Montana State University

WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED)

3:00-4:00 p.m. **Workshop C: PCT Liability Claims**
Madison Room **Settlement Versus Trial (Continued)**

3:00-4:00 p.m. **Workshop D. Jail Diversion**
Lewis/Clark Rooms

Presenter: Cola Rowley, Missoula County Commissioner

4:00-6:00 p.m. **Coalition of Forest Counties Meeting**
Madison Room

Greg Chilcott, Chair, Ravalli County Commissioner

4:00-6:00 p.m. **Oil, Gas & Coal Counties Meeting**
Lewis/Clark Rooms

Richard Dunbar, Chair, Phillips County Commissioner

Dinner on your own

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

6:00-8:00 a.m. **Property & Casualty Trust Trustees
Breakfast Meeting**
Holiday Inn
Jefferson Room

SPONSOR

QCI Asset Management, Inc.

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. **Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show**
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

8:00-10:00 a.m. **MACo Committee Meetings**

Attendees who are not MACo committee members are encouraged to participate in the meeting(s) of the committee of their choice.

Holiday Inn **Agriculture Committee**
Montana/State/University Rooms
Larry Hendrickson, Chair, Liberty County

Madison Room **Comm. Econ. Dev. & Labor Committee**
Joe Briggs, Chair, Cascade County

Lewis/Clark Rooms **Justice & Public Safety Committee**
Laura Obert, Broadwater County

Aspen Room **Land Use, Planning & Dev. Committee**
Joe Skinner, Chair, Gallatin County

8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Spouse/Guest Quilting Project**
Tamarack Room

10:00-10:30 a.m. **Coffee Break: Visit with Exhibitors
(Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show)**
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

SPONSORS

First Interstate Bank
Correctional Risk Services

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|---|---|
| 10:30-12:30 p.m. | MACo Committee Meetings |
| Aspen Room | Energy Committee Doug Martens, Chair, Rosebud County |
| Madison Room | Health & Human Services Committee Carl Seilstad, Chair, Fergus County |
| Holiday Inn Montana/State/University Rooms | Public Lands Committee Greg Chilcott, Chair, Ravalli County |
| Lewis/Clark Rooms | Transportation Committee John Ostlund, Chair, Yellowstone County |
| 12:30-1:30 p.m. | Lunch – Exhibitor/Sponsor Appreciation |
| Holiday Inn Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms | |

SPONSOR

MACo Health Care Trust

MACo GENERAL SESSION

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1:30-2:30 p.m. | The Who, What, When, Why, Where & How of Permitting Within County Road Right-of-Way |
| Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms | |

Presenters: John Ostlund, Yellowstone County Commissioner;
 Mike Black, PE, Senior Civil Engineer, Yellowstone County;
 Tim Miller, Road and Bridge Director, Yellowstone County;
 Eric Griffin, Public Works Director, Lewis & Clark County;
 Christal Ness, Land Use Ombudsman, Lewis & Clark County;
 Mike Divish, Road and Bridge Foreman, Gallatin County; and
 Erin Howard, Road and Bridge Office Manager, Gallatin County

Please join this panel presentation and discussion to listen and share what works in the County Road Right-of-Way Permitting process, and please share what doesn't work or your pitfalls. There will be time for Questions and "Attempted" Answers.

(TUESDAY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

TUESDAY CONTINUED ...

2:30-3:00 p.m. **Coffee Break: Visit with Exhibitors
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium (Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show)**

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Morrison-Maierle Inc.
Montana State University

3:00-3:30 p.m. **MDT Fuel Tax Allocations & Field
Inventory**

Presenter: Brian Anderson, Geospatial Information Supervisor
Montana Department of Transportation

Each year the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is required to determine fuel tax allocations distributed to Montana's cities, counties, and consolidated city-county governments. This presentation will walk through the steps MDT takes to calculate the allocations and conduct field inventory reviews while working with counties. Topics covered include timelines, definitions, contacts, processes, and how to get your hands on some sweet county maps.

3:30-4:00 p.m. **Montana Interactive – Burn Permits**

Presenters: Bob Drake, Fire Chief of the Tri Lakes Volunteer
Fire Department; and
Carol Arkell, DES Coordinator, Stillwater County

Many counties across the state of Montana are operating on limited resources, often relying on volunteers to perform essential duties. Of the 435 fire departments in the state, over 400 rely on volunteers. With limited resources comes a great need for efficient processes that ease the burden on county officials and volunteers, allowing for streamlined communications and a single source of information. This panel will discuss the County Burn Permit service, which has diverted over 236,000 calls from county personnel since launching in 2009. The online service allows citizens to purchase, renew, and activate burn permits in a convenient manner, while also allowing county officials to track controlled burns in surrounding areas and open or close burning within their county based on weather conditions. Topics to be discussed include how to start using the County Burn Permit service, how counties currently using the service decided on permit pricing, and the benefits realized from the service.

4:00-5:00 p.m. **Health Care Trust**
Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms **Member Annual Meeting**

All counties are invited to attend.

4:00-5:00 p.m. **Coalition of Wildlife Counties Meeting**
Aspen Room

Bill Wallace, Chair, Sweet Grass County Commissioner

4:00-5:00 p.m. **6 County Fort Peck Lake Group Meeting**
Holiday Inn
Montana Room

Jim Moos, McCone County Commissioner

5:00-6:30 p.m. **Social – Sponsored By All Exhibitors**
Courtyard

Dinner on your own

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

7:00-8:30 a.m. **Health Care Trust Trustees**
Holiday Inn **Breakfast Meeting**
Montana Room

SPONSOR

QCI Asset Management

7:30-8:30 a.m. **Reservation Counties Breakfast Meeting**
Holiday Inn
State/University Rooms

8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon **Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show**
Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Spouse/Guest Quilting Project**
Tamarack Room

(WEDNESDAY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

WEDNESDAY MACo GENERAL SESSION

8:30-10:00 a.m. MACo/NACo Committee Reports

Presiding: Todd Devlin

1. MACo Agriculture Committee
- Larry Hendrickson
2. NACo Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee
- Maureen Davey
3. MACo Community, Economic Development & Labor Committee and
NACo Telecommunications & Technology Committee
- Joe Briggs
4. NACo Community, Economic & Workforce Development Committee
- Mike McGinley
5. MACo Energy Committee and
NACo Environment, Energy & Land Use Committee
- Doug Martens
6. Finance, Pensions & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
- Sidney Fitzpatrick, Big Horn County
7. MACo Health & Human Services Committee and
NACo Human Services & Education Committee
- Carl Seilstad
8. NACo Health Committee
- Andy Hunthausen, Lewis & Clark County
9. MACo and NACo Justice & Public Safety Committees
- Bill Barron
10. MACo Land Use & Development Committee
- Joe Skinner
11. MACo & NACo Public Lands Committees
- Greg Chilcott
12. MACo Tax, Budget & Finance Committee
- Mike McGinley
13. MACo & NACo Transportation Committees
- John Ostlund

9:30-10:00 a.m. Exhibitor/Sponsor Meeting

Atrium

**10:00-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break: Visit with Exhibitors
(Exhibitor/Sponsor Trade Show)**

Hyalite Room/Foyer/Atrium

SPONSORS

Election Systems Software
Gallatin College MSU

**10:30-10:50 a.m. The Next Best Thing:
Retirement Readiness**

Presenters: Carlos Greene, NACo-FSC Senior Program Director of Retirement Services; and Jared Williams, Nationwide Retirement Specialist

**10:50-11:10 a.m. New Solutions and Efficiencies
Through US Communities**

Presenter: Carlos Greene, NACo-FSC Senior Program Director of Retirement Services

11:10 a.m.-12:00 noon PILT & SRS Funding Status

Presenter: Jonathan Shuffield, Associate Legislative Director for Public Lands, NACo

**12:00 noon-1:30 p.m. Lunch
Holiday Inn
Gallatin/Jefferson Rooms**

Speaker: Governor Steve Bullock

SPONSOR
TransCanada

MACo CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

1:30-4:00 p.m. MACo Business Meeting
Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms

Presiding: Todd Devlin

Roll Call: Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County Commissioner

1. Department of Revenue, Mike Kadas, Director
2. LTAP Director – Matthew Ulberg (video introduction)
3. Unfinished business from the opening general session
4. Appreciation Resolution
5. Nominations Committee Report
6. Election of Officers
7. Resolutions
8. Proposed By-Law Amendments
9. Congressional Reports/Videos
10. Other business

(WEDNESDAY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

WEDNESDAY CONTINUED ...

No Actual Scheduled Break; Break Items Back of Room

**THE FOLLOWING MEETING WILL BEGIN UPON ADJOURNMENT
OF THE GENERAL SESSION:**

4:00-5:00 p.m. Hard Rock Mining Counties Meeting
Aspen Room

Bill Wallace, Chair, Sweet Grass County Commissioner

5:30 p.m. Social and Annual Banquet
Foyer & Madison/Lewis/Clark Rooms

Presiding: Todd Devlin

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introduction of the Head Table
3. Invocation: Gallatin County Commissioner
4. Dinner
5. Installation of Officers
6. Invocation: Gallatin County Commissioner
7. Entertainment: Ringling Five

BEVERAGE TICKETS SPONSOR
RDO Equipment Company

BANQUET SPONSOR
Allegiance Benefit Plan Management

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:30-9:00 a.m. New Board of Directors'
Tamarack/Aspen Rooms **Breakfast Meeting**