

**MONTANA
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sunday, September 24, 2006
Best Western GranTree Inn
Bozeman, MT
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Officers

- Doug Kaercher, President
- John Prinkki, 1st Vice President
- Cynthia Johnson, 2nd Vice President
- Allan Underdal, Fiscal Officer
- Greg Chilcott, Urban Representative
- Bill Kennedy, Past President

District Chairs

- Richard Dunbar, District #1
- Mark Rehbein, District #2
- Don Rieger, District #3
- Art Kleinjan, District #4
- Arnie Gettel, District #5
- Bob Goffena, District #6
- Maureen Davey, District #7
- Ed Tinsley, District #8

District Chairs- continued

- Bernie Lucas, District #9
- Paddy Trusler, District #10
- Bill Carey, District #11
- David Schulz, District #12

Association Representatives

- Leo Gallagher, Attorneys
- Pam Castleberry, Clerk and
Recorders
- Marilyn Hollister, Clerks of Court
- Richard Brown, Coroners
- Gary A. Olsen, Magistrates
- Brian Gootkin, Sheriff & Peace
Officers
- Stephanie Downs, Treasurers
- _____, School Superintendents

Others Present: Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director; Sheryl Wood, MACo Associate Director; Patti Grosfield, MACo Finance Officer; Kerissa Smith, MACo Administrative Assistant; Tom Swindle, TOS & Associates; John Ostlund, Yellowstone County; Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County; Lance Olsen, Cascade County.

1. Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2006:

The motion to approve the minutes of June 8, 2006 was seconded and passed.

2. FY-06 Budget Report – MACo Fiscal Officer, Allan Underdal:

Fiscal Officer Allan Underdal reported that the Association's revenue was \$92,000 over expenses at the end of FY 06. Harold Blattie, Executive Director explained that the budget was projected to be a deficit of \$17,000, and due to reduced expenditures and enhanced revenue, we were able to bring our actual ending budget to a positive of \$92,000. MACo Finance Officer, Patti Grosfield reviewed some of the budgeted items and where the Association had savings.

A motion was made by Arnie Gettel to accept the budget. The motion was seconded and passed.

3. MACo Audit – Tom Swindle, TOS & Associates:

Tom Swindle reported on the financial statements ending June 30, 2006.

Art Kleinjan moved to approve the Audit Report. The motion was seconded and passed.

4. Nominations Report – Doug Kaercher, MACo President:

MACo President Kaercher announced the candidates for Second Vice President. The candidates to date are Lance Olsen, Cascade County; Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County; Jean Curtiss, Missoula County; and John Ostlund, Yellowstone County. Jean Curtiss has submitted a letter withdrawing her name from consideration. President Kaercher invited the other three nominees to speak.

Lance Olsen, Cascade County announced his withdrawal, noting that it was an honor to represent Cascade County and to continue Cascade County's involvement in MACo. Commissioner Olsen further stated that years ago Cascade County was not involved in MACo and they feel that they are now. Cascade County wants to make a positive contribution. Due to the fact that he is up for re-election in two years and the Second Vice President takes office as President at that same time, if he chose not to run for reelection, or happened not to win the election, the ladder of promotion in that process would be broken and he didn't feel that would be appropriate.

Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County acknowledged it was an honor to be nominated. He reported that he believes in MACo and the organization, and he wants to get involved and stay involved. Mike commended his fellow commissioners in Beaverhead County and their support. Mike informed the Board that he is not up for re-election for four years.

John Ostlund, Yellowstone County also stated that it is also an honor to be nominated for this position in MACo. John expressed that he has always been interested in serving on this great board, and he was honored to be a candidate with Mike.

President Kaercher reported that nominations would remain open until the closing general session and that nominations from the floor would also be accepted during the general membership meetings.

5. MACo Staffing/Recruitment Efforts – Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director:

Executive Director Blattie reported on the recent staff changes at MACo. Harold introduced Kerissa Smith as MACo's new Administrative Assistant and Shantil Siaperas, Publications Officer. Director Blattie also reported on Ray Barnicoat's retirement at the end of the year. Fred Hansen has been hired and is in the process of moving to Helena from Missoula. Director Blattie also reported that the Claims Office has hired Laurie Goltry as a full time claims assistant. The Claims office will also be hiring a new Claims Adjuster to fill a position created by the Trustees in July.

6. Convention Bids - Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director:

Flathead and Ravalli Counties submitted bids for the 2008 Annual Conference. Ravalli County has a new meeting facility at the Fairgrounds. There would be some small charges for catering. There would be sleeping rooms at the Bitterroot Inn and other facilities downtown. In Flathead County, all of the functions would be held at one location. There are several options: Red Lion Hotel, Grouse Mountain Lodge and the new Hilton Garden Inn. Hotel rooms would be at the September state rate. These bids will be presented to the membership at tomorrow's meeting.

7. Proposed Bylaw Amendments – Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director and Sheryl Wood, MACo Associate Director:

Executive Director Blattie and Associate Director Wood reviewed the proposed changes to the bylaws. Article II, section 3 defines Affiliate membership and Associate membership. Next is Article IV, section 3, subsection m. This change will make the By-Laws follow more closely with the NACo By-Laws. It is also so that any board member will disclose any conflicts of interest. Article V, section 1 amends the By-Laws to reflect the February 2006 decision of the Board to separate position descriptions from the Staff Policies and Procedures Manual. This amendment requires the Executive Director to maintain position descriptions and to obtain approval from the Board of Directors to add FTE positions or exceed budget authority. Article VI, section 1, Resolution and Legislative Committee, needs to be amended because it is not followed. The President appoints the Chair and members of this committee, like all other committees. The last change is in Article IX, section 5, Elections. The current language requiring 50% plus one vote in this section does not follow Robert's Rules of Order. There only needs to be a majority vote.

President Kaercher moved to strike the words "the board shall" from Article II, section 3, his motion is seconded. Bill Kennedy, Past President, moved to pass the amended By-Laws as presented and then send them to the floor for any other changes. He later withdrew his motion.

John Prinkki, 1st Vice President, moved to approve the By-Laws as presented, but to make a recommendation to the general membership to strike "the board shall" and replace with "at its discretion". The motion was seconded and passed.

8. Resolutions Committee Report – Mike Murray, Chair, MACo Resolutions Committee:

Chair Murray presented an overview of the late resolutions.

Bill Kennedy reported on Resolution 2006-34 Pre-Commitment Evaluations and Resolution 2006-37 Presumptive Eligibility. Bill Kennedy moved to pass the resolution on Pre-Commitment Evaluations to the floor. The motion was seconded and passed. Cynthia Johnson moved to pass the resolution on Presumptive Eligibility to the floor. The motion was seconded and passed.

Executive Director Blattie explained Resolution 2006-35 - Multiple Commissioner Vacancy.

Currently, there is no provision in law to fill multiple vacancies on a Commission. A motion was made by Dave Schulz to present this resolution to the membership. The motion was seconded and passed

Resolution 2006-36 Public Health Modernization is discussed. The Resolutions Committee suggests passing this resolution with a high priority. Bill Kennedy moved to present this resolution to the membership. The motion was seconded and passed.

Resolution 2006-32 Replace the word "Squaw" on local geographic features was presented. Bill Carey moved to bring Resolution 2006-32 forward, and the motion was seconded. Following general discussion, the motion failed.

9. MACo Evaluations – Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director:

In 2005, President Kaercher appointed an ad-hoc committee to review and amend the annual survey of the association. Unfortunately, due to other pressing issues, the committee was not convened. Jane Jelinsky at the MSU Local Government Center has offered to assist with the project. In years past, the survey was sent out to random elected officials, but it is now sent to all elected officials. There was a very poor response to the surveys again this year. Executive Director Blattie stated he intends to convene the committee to review and amend the survey so next year's responses are more complete.

10. Other Business:

MACo's support/opposition to ballot initiatives- Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director:

Executive Director Blattie distributed a request for a Letter of Advice from the Attorney General. Hill County submitted the questions as to whether the prohibition of the use of public resources applied to MACo; can MACo make expenditures or contributions in connection with ballot initiatives; and does a member of the commission violate statute by authorizing payment of dues, etc. Mr. Blattie reported that he expected to receive the letter from the AG's office prior to the end of the conference.

MACo logo items- Doug Kaercher, President:

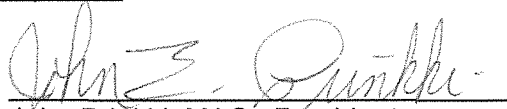
At their June meeting, the Board allocated \$500 for the purchase of the new MACo pins from Montana Silversmiths. MACo staff requested that once those funds are recovered, that they be used to buy a small stock of shirts with the new logo. Examples of the shirts were shown to the Board. Cynthia Johnson moved to use the money recovered from the sale of the pins to buy shirt stock. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mark Rehbein moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Approved this 11th day of December, 2006.



Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director



John Prinkki, MACo President