



Montana Association of Counties

Serving Montana Counties Since 1909

2715A SKYWAY DR. HELENA, MT 59602

(406) 449-4360

Fax (406) 442-5238

www.mtcounties.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, February 1, 2016

Best Western Heritage Inn

Great Falls, MT

6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call and Introductions:** President Davey welcomed the Board and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was conducted.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Associate Director Wood requested the minutes of the September 24, 2015 meeting be corrected to reflect the attendance of the Past Presidents. Commissioner Malone moved and Commissioner Hendrickson seconded to approve the minutes of September 20, 2015 as presented and September 24, 2015 as amended. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Finance Report:** Finance Director Johnson reviewed the financial statements as of December 31, 2015. Discussion was held regarding the allocation change in the Directors and Officers insurance, and the Professional Services line item related to the Attorney fees for engaging in the Waters of the U.S. issue.
4. **Executive Director Report:**
 - a. **Staffing:** Executive Director Blattie reported that the Trustees of the PCT and WCT have requested a reorganization regarding the way in which MACo provides services. With the upcoming retirement of the Trust Administrator, a new position has been created that will oversee the day to day operations of the HCT, PCT and WCT, which will shift supervision of all of those staff away from the Executive Director. The Associate Trust Administrator will move into the Trust Administrator position. Position descriptions for the positions are being reviewed and updated.

The PCT and WCT have also undergone an operational review of the claims department and an audit of claims handling procedures. There will be changes in how to apply best practices in claims management.

- b. **ICRMP Tour:** Director Blattie reported that as part of the commitment to the Legislature for local government entities to collaborate and share services for its collective members, President Davey, and a representative from each of the Trusts along with staff went to Boise, ID to visit with their state association and pools on how they work together.

Director Blattie reported that MACo dues are not sustainable to be able to provide the necessary level of member services, and MACo will need additional revenue in the long-term.

As part of their collaborative work, Director Blattie and Tim Burton, the Executive Director of the League of Cities and Towns met with the Department of Administration regarding stepping up and providing more training and services as it relates to county budgeting.

Associate Director Wood, President Davey and 1st Vice President Devlin gave an overview of their thoughts on the visit as it related to shared services for training, collaboration on legislative issues and the benefits of being in the same building.

Director Blattie recapped the history of the two MACo buildings, and added that there are going to be requests for positions in this upcoming budget year, but there are no vacant offices left in either building, so other options may need to be considered such as leasing space and moving a department off-site or remodeling the conference room into offices.

Commissioner Briggs voiced concerns regarding the different philosophies of cities and counties, related to payment for services, etc. Commissioners Seilstad and Reno shared those concerns. Commissioner Barron agreed with Commissioner Briggs, but felt MACo owes it to the members to pursue options.

Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner Ostberg seconded to authorize staff to continue to explore areas of potentially collaborative services with the League of Cities and Towns and the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority.

Discussion was held regarding the time frame for recommendations. The motion passed on a majority voice vote.

- 5. FY 2017 Preliminary Budget:** Director Blattie presented the CPI for CY 2015 of .1%. For purposes of recruitment and retention, Director Blattie requested authority to build the preliminary budget with a \$1.00 per hour increase for all staff.

Commissioner Macdonald moved and Commissioner Ostlund seconded to approve building the FY 2017 preliminary budget with a \$1.00 per hour increase for all staff.

Discussion was held regarding the fiscal impact and other options, with Commissioners Chilcott and Seilstad voicing opposition, and Commissioners Reno, Barron and Macdonald voicing support. Commissioner Seilstad suggested using a dollar amount and spreading it among the staff. Commissioner Ostlund concurred.

Commissioner Devlin moved to amend the motion to allot \$50,000 for all staff. Motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Ostlund asked Commissioner Macdonald if he would withdraw the motion. Commissioner Macdonald declined to withdraw the motion.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

- 6. NACo County Leadership Institute Nominee:** President Davey requested the Board follow the past practice of nominating the 2nd Vice President, Bill Barron. Commissioner Briggs moved and Commissioner Schulz seconded to nominate 2nd Vice President Bill Barron to the 2016 NACo County Leadership Institute. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7. NACo & NW President's & Execs Meetings Report:** President Davey reported on the meetings and stated how it was interesting learning the different ways in which other Associations work and it was good to "meet the neighbors".
- 8. Resolution – State of MT Property & Supply:** Associate Director Wood requested signature authority to renew the Resolution for the State of MT Property & Supply bureau. Commissioner Seilstad moved and Commissioner Mullen seconded to authorize renewing the resolution for the State of Montana Property & Supply bureau. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Proposed Personnel Policy Amendments: Associate Director Wood reported that a consultant was preparing amendments to the Grievance and Discrimination policies, but they were not received in time for the meeting. They will be brought to the June Board meeting.

10. Association Reports:

a. Clerk and Recorders: Paula Jaconetty reported that the Clerks are currently in election training with the Secretary of State's office.

b. Superintendents of Schools: Patty Boyle reported their spring meeting will be held March 21 in Great Falls.

11. Other Business: Director Blattie reported that Matt Chase, Executive Director of NACo has announced that since the state associations do not charge NACo staff registration at conferences, NACo would not be charging registration fees for the State Association Executive Directors at the NACo Legislative and Annual Conferences.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Approved this 23rd day of June, 2016.



Maureen Davey, MACo President



L. Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director

Executive Committee

- Maureen Davey, President
- Todd Devlin, 1st Vice President
- Bill Barron, 2nd Vice President
- Dave Schulz, Immed. Past President
- Mike McGinley, Fiscal Officer
- Jim Reno, Urban Representative

Past President's

- Joe Briggs
- Greg Chilcott
- John Ostlund
- Carl Seilstad
- John Prinkki
- Bill Kennedy
- Carol Brooker
- Bob Mullen

District Chairs

- Gary Macdonald, District #1
- Doug Buxbaum, District #2
- Bob Lee, District #3
- Larry Hendrickson, District #4
- Ron Ostberg, District #5
- Richard Moe, District #6
- Susie Mosness, District #7
- Leonard Wortman, District #8
- Marty Malone, District #9
- Tony Cox, District #10
- Jeff Burrows, District #11
- Tom Rice, District #12

Association Representatives

- Leo Gallagher, County Attorneys
- Paula Jaconetty, Clerk and Recorders
- Connie Mattfield, Clerks of Court
- Valerie Hornsveld, Clerks of Court
- Jennifer Brandon, Clerks of Court
- Vacant, Coroners
- Linda Cantin, Magistrates
- Brian Gootkin, Sheriffs & Peace Officers
- Jane Stene, Treasurers
- Patty Boyle, School Superintendents

Others present: Harold Blattie, MACo Executive Director; Sheryl Wood, MACo Associate Director; Brian Hopkins, MACo General Counsel; Kathy Johnson, MACo Finance Director.