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# Montana Association of Counties

*Serving Montana Counties Since 1909*

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2715 SKYWAY DRIVE, SUITE A, HELENA, MT 59602  
(406) 449-4360 Fax (406) 442-5238  
www.mtcounties.org

## MEETING MINUTES

### MACo COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LABOR COMMITTEE

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom | September 29, 2020

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#### Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Borner, Chair, Musselshell	<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Ann Harwood, Toole	<input type="checkbox"/> Duane Mitchell, Richland
<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Briggs, Vice Chair, Cascade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pam Holmquist, Flathead	<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Olsen, Butte-Silver Bow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruth Baue, Treasure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Jones, Yellowstone	<input type="checkbox"/> John Overcast, Glacier
<input type="checkbox"/> John Carnahan, Phillips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Krausz, Custer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Seifert, Gallatin
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Crago, Stillwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Macdonald, Roosevelt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Strohmaier, Missoula
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Everett, Anaconda-Deer Lodge	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim McCormick, Lewis & Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Vandersloot, Big Horn
<input type="checkbox"/> Tyrell Hamilton, Stillwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike McGinley, Beaverhead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Converse, MEDA Rep.

#### 1. Roll Call & Introductions

Chair Borner called the meeting to order, and Jason Rittal, MACo Deputy Director, conducted roll call.

**Guests:** Gus Byrom, MT Department of Commerce; Cody Ferguson, MT Department of Commerce; Rebecca Shaw, MT Department of Commerce; Cheryl Ulmer, Senator Tester's Office; Rebecca Myers, Northbound Public Affairs

#### 2. Review Assigned Resolutions

NOTE: Resolutions become legislation and policy statements guide staff regarding MACo's action on other legislation. The Committee was tasked with reviewing their assigned resolution and making a recommendation to drop (do not pass), amend, carry forward as is (do pass), or incorporate into policy statements (do not pass; incorporate into policy).

The committee discussed its two assigned resolutions and made recommendations to the membership:

- Establishing a More Equitable Number & Geographical Distribution of Dispatch Cities, sponsored by the committee  
Purpose: Mitigating or eliminating the arbitrary adverse impacts to local capital project costs in some areas of Montana as a result of the designation of, location of, and number of currently designated dispatch cities.  
Committee Recommendation: Do Pass
- Leasing of County Property, sponsored by Missoula County (District 11)  
Purpose: To allow for leasing for greater than 10 years.  
Committee Recommendation: Do Pass  
NOTE: This resolution was also assigned to the Land Use, Planning & Development Committee for review.

#### 3. Review/Approve Committee Policy Statements

The Committee amended their policy statements to include the following addition:

*#16 – MACo supports requiring county participation in any decisions surrounding abatement of county property taxes or other county taxes. Tax abatements can be a critical tool in attracting investment into counties, but tax abatements and the projects requesting them have varying impacts at the local level and thereby local officials should be integral in the decisions surrounding them.*

**4. Other Business**

The committee had no further business

**5. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the committee adjourned.