COUNTIES IN ATTENDANCE

District 10
- X Flathead
- X Lake
- X Lincoln
- X Sanders

District 11
- X Mineral
- X Missoula
- X Ravalli

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE
Chair Holmquist called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
Deputy Director Rittal called the roll. All members in each District represented.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Minutes
Chair Holmquist called for a motion to consider approval of the minutes from last year. Commissioner Strohmaier motioned to approve and Commissioner Zylawy seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting Location
Mineral County expressed their desire to host but is uncertain of the availability of a venue. It was decided that they would host if they could, and Ravalli County would be the backup. There were no objections.

District Chair & Vice Chair Elections
Commissioner Vero nominated Commissioner Strohmaier for Chair of District 11 Chair, which was seconded by Commissioner Chilcott. Commissioner Chilcott then nominated Commissioner Huls to continue as Vice Chair, which was seconded by Commissioner Burrows. With no further nominations, both Commissioner Strohmaier and Commissioner Huls were elected via acclamation.

MACo Officer Nominations – 2nd Vice President
MACo Staff reported that one nomination had been received at this point. Commissioner Joette Woods of Liberty County was nominated at the Districts 1, 2 & 3 meeting as well as endorsed by Districts 4, 5, 6 & 7 in the previous days.

Commissioner Strohmaier nominated Commissioner Vero of Missoula County, and Commissioner Barron seconded the nomination.

Staff announced that nominations remained open until the closing business session during the membership annual meeting in September.
MACo President’s & Officers’ Reports

President Strouf provided an update on his year in office thus far including attendance at the County Leadership Institute, replacing Commissioner Hart on the NACo Board of Directors, and attending the NACo Board Meeting in Atlanta along with the Presidents & Executives meeting and NACo’s Conference where he additionally served on some committees. President Strouf also attended MACo’s Broadband Summit and served on the MPERA Board of Directors.

1st Vice President Zylawy expressed his gratitude for being asked to serve and pledged to do his best in the coming year as he steps into the President’s position and his responsibilities become much more diverse.

MACo Updates & FY 2023 Budget

Director Bryson and Deputy Director Rittal gave an overview of the legislative process for MACo, and the new makeup of the lobbying team. Shantil will not lobby but will be helping from the office. Jason will be the Legislative Director with a focus on appropriations and orchestrating our efforts. Eric will take Clerk & Recorders and Tax and Karen Alley will take land use, some local government, and fill in where needed.

They then outlined the resolutions that had come forward thus far as well as those that are anticipated and followed with a discussion on the types of legislation that can be expected including elections and property tax reform as well as possible attacks on the Entitlement Share and MACo’s ability to lobby. The group had a robust conversation about pending legislation, other issues such as the use of the marijuana tax, mental health, state mandates, and county budget issues.

Other Item of Note: ARPA still has the additional payment slated for counties that Treasury is to get out by the end of the fiscal year. More to follow. The State has applied for Broadband planning funds.

MACo Legislative Report & Discussion

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Resolutions

Four Resolutions – Missoula County

Missoula County brought forward four resolutions for consideration:

1. Sheriff’s Deputies’ Compensation: Remove applicability of the percentages set forth in 7-4-2508 when sheriff’s deputies are covered by a collective bargaining agreement.
2. Elected Officials’ Salaries: Set the uniform base as the minimum amount that an elected official could be paid and that the compensation board would set the specific salaries, and further clarify amounts paid to the Sheriff and how that is calculated for Deputy Sheriffs.

3. Municipalities Annexing Parks & Stormwater: Force municipalities annexing property with parks and stormwater be compelled—unless the county chooses to maintain—to take over the ownership and maintenance of parks and stormwater systems.

4. Recording Surveys: New process for recording surveys in statute (brought forward by Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer Gernant)

All four resolutions received motions and seconds to move them forward to the Resolutions Committee. All motions carried.

MACo staff departed to embark on the journey to their next destination, and MDT along with their Consulting Team working on the Bridge Study took over.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATES
Secondary Roads, Federal Lands Access Program & STIP: Andy White, MDT
Off-System Bridge Study & Implementation Plan: Lisa Gray, HDR