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# Theme of general elections: change

By Mike Harbour, MACo Communications Officer

Voters in the Nov. 4 general election chose to change the status quo in Montana county offices by electing 39 new commissioners out of 69 races.

In the rest of the dozens of other office elections, which mainly consisted of district court clerk races, voters went the other way by mostly choosing incumbents.

While voters in all 56 counties got the chance to vote on commissioner candidates, only two counties, Golden Valley and Petroleum, each had just a single commissioner race to decide. All other counties had at least two offices up for grabs, usually a commissioner and the district court clerk.

Of the 69 commissioner races, more than 20 were uncontested. That's a classification that appeared in both urban and rural counties. For example, Yellowstone County Commissioner John Ostlund had

no challengers in the most populous county in the state.

By dint of its city-county governing structure and double-digit precincts, Butte-Silver Bow County laid claim to the most contests with 17, six of those for commissioner offices.

Among incumbents who were reelected, perhaps the most notable is Bill Tande, a Daniels County commissioner who began his tenure as longest-serving Montana commissioner in office in 1979. Tande, who ran unopposed, will be the veteran on the commission, since appointees to the other two seats, Donald Oaks and

Monica Hand, did not win. Instead, Oak's seat will be filled by Gary Linder, and Hand's replacement is James Snare.

For complete county election results, see pages 12-13 of this issue, or visit our Web site for a spreadsheet version.



# Conference to feature safety, health topics

Traffic sign reflectivity, accident investigation, and job safety analysis are just some of many topics to be covered at MACo's Risk Management Loss Control Conference at Helena's Red Lion Colonial Hotel in mid-January.

The conference will open with keynote speaker Michael Punke, author of "Fire and Brimstone." His presentation, like his book, will be on the North Butte mining disaster of 1917. Punke is a lawyer, novelist, and Montana resident.

The three-day event, set for Jan. 13-

15, will feature programs and sessions tailored to safety, roads, and law enforcement personnel.

Registration will be available at the MACo Web site on December 1; a draft agenda already is posted there, as is a detailed description on this exciting event.

For more information about the conference, contact Emelia McEwen at 444-4370 or macorma@maco.cog.mt.us. For questions on registration, contact Karen Houston at 444-4375 or macomtg@maco.cog.mt.us.





# MACo News

## First phase of training, commissioner certification set for next month

MACo, together with the Local Government Center at MSU-Bozeman, will be presenting Phase I of its annual elected officials training/commissioner certification Dec. 1 – 4 in Helena in the MACo conference room.

Courses will be taught on numerous topics, such as open meeting, code of ethics, and local government laws.

For more information, see the draft agenda below or visit our Web site at [www.maco.cog.mt.us](http://www.maco.cog.mt.us).

### DRAFT AGENDA MACo and Local Government Center, MSU-Bozeman Elected Officials Training/Commissioner Certification - Phase I

#### Monday, Dec. 1

3 pm **Registration**  
5:30 pm **Dinner with MACo Board of Directors, Red Lion Colonial Hotel**  
**Welcome: Mike McGinley, MACo President and Beaverhead County Commissioner**  
**Self Introductions**  
**Keynote Address: To be announced**

#### Tuesday, Dec. 2

8-10 am **Creating Gracious Space.**  
10-10:30 am **Break**  
10:30-12:30 pm **Course 101.1**  
**Intro to County Government**  
An in-depth review of the legal basis of Montana county government and the roles of the county commissioners.  
12:30-1:30 pm **Lunch**  
1:30-2:30 pm **Course 102.1**  
**The Commission Decision Process**  
An overview of the decision process of the board of county commissioners and of the constitutional rights and limitations of Montana citizens to participate in county government decisions.  
3:30-4 pm **Break**  
4-5 pm **Course 103.1**  
**The Montana Code of Ethics**  
An in-depth review of the statutory requirements imposed upon all elected and appointed county officials by the Montana Code of Ethics.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 3

8-10 am **Course 104.1**  
**County Functions and Services**  
A review of essential county functions and services and how they are delivered.  
10-10:30 am **Break**  
10:30-12:30 pm **Course 105.1**

#### **Local Government Law**

A review and discussion of how to find and use the law related to county government.

#### **Lunch**

#### **Course 106.1**

#### **The Montana Legislative Process**

A review and discussion of how the Montana legislative process works from the perspective of county government.

#### **Break**

#### **Course 107.1**

#### **The Montana Association of Counties and National Association of Counties**

An overview of key organizations that support county elected officials.

12:30-1:30 pm  
1:30-3:30 pm

3:30-4 pm  
4-5:30 pm

#### Thursday, Dec. 4

8-9 am **Course 107.1, continued.**  
9-10 am **Course 108.1**  
**Human Resource Risk Issues**  
An in-depth review of the legal requirements and risk exposures associated with critical human resource management issues.  
10-10:30 am **Break**  
10:30-11:30 am **Course 108.1, continued.**  
12-1 pm **Lunch – Douglas Steele, Vice Provost and Director, MSU - Extension**  
**Course 501.1**  
**Pending Legislation Affecting Local Government**  
A look at proposed bills that could affect county government.  
3-3:30 pm **Break**  
3:30-5:30 pm **Course 507.1**  
**Elements of Land Use Law**  
A review of the legal requirements for, and critical elements of, the land use planning process.  
5:30 pm **Adjourn.**



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# MACo News

## Ravalli, Gallatin counties win awards

By Emelia McEwen, MACo Senior Loss Control Specialist

Two MACo-trained county entities were named winners in the 2008 Governor's Safety and Health Awards Program held last month in West Yellowstone.

The Ravalli County Road Department was named the small public employer of the year, while the Gallatin County Nursing Home placed second in the large public employer category.

The program was created to recognize commitment to excellence in the workplace safety and health arena. It also promotes greater awareness of workplace health and safety across the state and offers the opportunity for leaders to share model programs.

The awards are the highest honors given by the State of Montana in recognition of health and safety excellence. Employees of the Ravalli County Road Department were presented with a banner and plaque during the awards ceremony, and Gallatin County Nursing Home representatives received a plaque.



Representatives of Ravalli County's road department received its Governor's Award (top) as did staff from the Gallatin County Nursing Home (left) on Oct. 3.

## Knudsen, Sehestedt join MACo

Talia Knudsen has joined MACo as the association's new administrative assistant, while Mike Sehestedt took the newly created position of chief legal counsel.

Knudsen is a Montana native who grew up in Helena. She was the administrative assistant for MDM Supply in Helena before joining MACo, and she previously worked for the state Legislative Services Division. Knudsen has a journalism degree from the University of Montana and has called Helena home for the last three years.



Talia Knudsen

Sehestedt in October left a 30-plus-year career at Missoula County, where he was the chief civil deputy. A Nebraska native, he's also a UM graduate where he earned his juris doctor in law. Some of the many highlights of Sehestedt's career at Missoula County include helping to establish the county's risk management pool, representing the county in front of state and federal courts, and preparing proposed legislation and amendments to pending legislation.



Mike Sehestedt

Knudsen will handle a wide range of front-office duties for MACo, as well as legislative work when Montana's senators and representatives gather next year in Helena. Sehestedt will serve as general counsel for the association and its insurance trusts, taking over many duties from MACo's longtime contract attorney Norm Grosfield, who will retire in December.

## State Holidays This Month

- Nov. 4 — Election Day
- Nov. 11 — Veterans' Day
- Nov. 27 — Thanksgiving



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# MACo News

## Know your numbers when dealing with health insurance

By Owen Voigt, MACo Health Care Trust Administrator

What is a deductible? For health insurance, a deductible is an amount the covered person pays beginning at the start of the benefit period. Your benefit period may begin either on January 1 or July 1, depending on your contract. The covered person pays towards the deductible until it is met. Health insurance deductibles are different than auto or homeowners insurance where you pay a deductible for each event.

Example: If you have a \$1,000 health insurance deductible and you receive \$400 of medical services one month and a month later another \$600, those both count toward your deductible. You then will have met your deductible and for the rest of that benefit period, no more deductible is due.

What is co-insurance? Health insurance is unique in that it requires co-insurance; you and your health insurance/benefits carrier share the medical bills you incur. The co-insurance is usually 80/20, meaning you pay 20 percent of the bill and your insurer pays 80 percent. Typically, co-insurance is paid after the deductible is met.

Example: If your plan has a \$1,000 deductible with 80/20 co-insurance and you incur \$2,000 of medical bills, you will pay the \$1,000 deductible, leaving \$1,000. Of that, you will pay 20 percent, or \$200, and the insurer will pay 80 percent of the \$1,000, or \$800. Net \$2,000 in bills, and you'll pay a total of \$1,200; the insurer pays \$800.

What is the maximum out of pocket, or maximum member liability? This is the amount of your medical bills you have to pay before your insurer will pay 100 percent.

Example: You have a \$1,000 deductible with 80/20 co-insurance and a \$3,000 maximum out of pocket. Over a period of several months, let's say you incur a total of \$11,000 in medical bills; the following figures illustrate how much is paid by you and how much by the insurer.

Medical bills	\$11,000
Deductible	\$1,000
Remaining amount	\$10,000
Your co-insurance (20%)	\$2,000
Insurer's co-insurance (80%)	\$8,000

In this example, your payment toward the \$11,000 in bills is \$3,000 (your maximum out of pocket, including a \$1,000 deductible and \$2,000 of co-insurance), and the

insurer pays \$8,000. Any additional medical bills incurred within the benefit period from eligible medical services will be paid at 100 percent. For a \$120,000 major medical event (if the bills are eligible), you'll pay \$3,000 and your insurer will pay \$117,000.

Here is where it gets tricky; some insurers penalize you if you go to a provider, doctor, hospital or other health care provider out of their preferred provider networks. Some insurers do not count the deductible towards their maximum out of pocket or maximum member liability. If you are ever wondering about what counts or not, you can call your customer service representative or give us a call at MACoHCT and we can help you sort it out.

There are only three kinds of medical services: illness, injury and wellness. Examples of illness are pneumonia, asthma or diabetes. Examples of injury are a broken arm, twisted ankle, or a cut to your hand. Examples of wellness or preventive procedures are having an annual mammogram, a blood draw to check your triglycerides, or a colonoscopy as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. Illness and injury benefits are subject to the plan benefits or limitations as stated in the plan; wellness/preventive benefits usually have a limit such as \$250 for mammograms and \$1,500 for colonoscopies.

Did you know only about 13 percent of the people in a plan will meet a \$1,000 deductible in a year, and only about seven percent of the people in a plan will use about 80 percent of the total benefits paid?

It seems frustrating how much health services and insurance costs, while life insurance seems cheap. One of the things I have learned is people are disappointed to pay so much for health insurance premiums and don't receive any benefits. Another thing I have learned is even though life insurance premiums are inexpensive, no one ever complains about not getting to use this benefit.

### Health Care Trust Calendar of Events

Nov. 1-Dec. 15	January open enrollment period
Nov. 10	Annual MDCR Part D notice mailed
Nov. 14	January renewal rates deadline

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# MACo/County News

## MACo News seeks your suggestions

Every month, MACo staff strives to publish a helpful and insightful newsletter in *MACo News*. We strive to make it an indispensable source of information for county elected officials.

As part of our efforts to continuously improve the *News*, we welcome any suggestions or comments from our readers. We'll even be glad to consider any story ideas, too, as long as it benefits our audience.

To talk to someone directly or to submit a note regarding *MACo News*, contact Communications Officer Mike Harbour at 444-4380 or [macopb@maco.cog.mt.us](mailto:macopb@maco.cog.mt.us).

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## Court clerks complete certification

Thirty-four clerks of district courts throughout Montana received professional certification in October via a program conducted by the Montana Association of Clerks of District Court and the MSU Local Government Center.

"The coursework required for professional certification includes the principles of court management, personnel management, the legal requirements and procedures of the clerk of court's office and effective communication skills," said Dan Clark, the center's executive director.

"In undertaking this rigorous course of professional study, those who attended demonstrated both competence as a clerk of district court and commitment to serving the people of his or her county."

Clark said that to be certified, a clerk must attend 40 hours of education in four years, attend three out of four annual professional association conventions, and attend at least one district meeting each year.

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Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 caused massive flooding in the south, but devastating floods have also attacked the Midwest, Mid-Atlantic states and New England in recent years. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. flood losses between 1994 and 2004 averaged more than \$2.4 billion per year.

While most floods affect homes and commercial properties near water bodies, locations away from the water are not immune. FEMA reports that 25 percent of flood insurance claims comes from areas with a low-to moderate risk of flooding. In these areas, flooding can result from torrential rainfalls, rapid melting of heavy snows, and breakage of water mains. Business owners who have not paid attention to their insurance coverage may be surprised when floods occur.

Standard commercial property insurance policies do not provide coverage for losses caused by water. A typical policy defines water as:

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- Mudslide or mudflow;
- Water that backs up or overflows from a sewer, drain or pump; or
- Water under the ground pressing on, flowing or seeping through foundations, walls, floors or paved surfaces, paved and unpaved basements, or doors windows and other openings.

For financial protection from floods, businesses should consider buying a flood insurance policy from the National Flood Insurance Program.

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# County News

## Interoperability Montana urges commissioners to play role in project

By Joe Brenneman and Bill Fleiner, Interoperability Montana

Analysis of emergency events ranging in scale from the horrific terrorist attack on the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, or the natural disaster in New Orleans to the shooting at the border in Glacier County consistently reveal that communications between responding agencies is the weakest link in our emergency response system. Tragically, the courage, dedication, and training of our emergency responders are all too often compromised by the lack of interoperable communication, or in more comprehensible nongovernmental speak, "We can't talk to each other when we really need to!"

The only purpose of the Interoperability Montana Project is to address that fundamental need for emergency responders. We have adopted a different strategy than the states surrounding us. Our method is based upon the belief that the best system is one that is developed, maintained, and operated under the auspices of local jurisdictions while partnering with state and federal agencies to maximize effectiveness. Various consortia have formed around the state to give guidance to the development of a statewide communication system that works for Montana. To provide a comprehensive management plan for the entire state the Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD) was formed.

The scope of the project dictated that the majority of the emphasis to date went toward the oversight of the

project management necessary to build the infrastructure necessary to make the system work. Now that the Northern Tier Project is very close to going live; it is imperative that a sustainability plan is developed for maintaining, operating and enhancing the statewide communication system while keeping the system under local control.

To address the vital issue of long-term sustainability, a draft proposal was submitted at the October IMPD meeting in Helena. This preliminary proposal used MACo county dues paid as a possible guideline for individual county contribution, as well as funding guidance for partners in the program. This public document provides a starting point for discussion on how best to plan for long-term operation of our very own statewide interoperable communications system. The final governance and funding strategy will likely vary a great deal from the initial proposal, but without the necessary first step, we continue to lack a concrete initial proposal to initiate discussion.

This communication system will not be forced upon any jurisdiction, either city or county. The daunting challenge faced by IMPD and the regional consortia is to build a system with sufficient advantages to encourage participation by all emergency agencies in Montana. The IMPD welcomes attendees at the monthly meeting in Helena. County commissioners who wish to play an active role formation and development of the sustainability plan for our statewide communications system are encouraged to join the IMPD governance committee.

Information on the statewide interoperability communications system, including contact information for IMPD board members, is available at <http://interop.mt.gov>.

For more information, contact Flathead County Commissioner Joe Brenneman at 758-5508 or [jbrenneman@flathead.mt.gov](mailto:jbrenneman@flathead.mt.gov) or Interoperability Montana's Bill Fleiner at [wfleiner@mt.gov](mailto:wfleiner@mt.gov) or 980-2053.



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# County News

## Applications for PERI scholarships for 2009 conference now online

Applications are available for the 12th Annual Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI) Small Entity Scholarship Program, which will provide financial assistance to help small organizations attend the 2009 Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA) Conference and Expo. PERI will accept scholarship applications through Feb. 27, 2009.

PERI, a nonprofit research institute focused on risk management training and education, plans to award up to 20 scholarships valued at \$1,000 in financial assistance to small public entities and community nonprofit organizations interested in attending the 2009 PRIMA Conference in Dallas, Texas, next May.

"Education and training are at the core of PERI's mission," said Gerard Hoetmer, PERI executive director. "The PRIMA Conference is an ideal forum for local governments and nonprofits to advance their understanding of risk management."

The scholarship program is open to employees and elected officials of local governments and schools, and staff and board members of small community nonprofit organizations. The scholarships have made it possible for small local governments, school districts, and nonprofits to attend the annual PRIMA conferences.

The 2009 PRIMA Conference, set for May 31-June 3, will feature an extensive lineup of workshops and presentations by leading risk management professionals along with an expo showcasing the latest products and services from vendors and suppliers.

For more information on the application, program or conference, visit [www.primacentral.org](http://www.primacentral.org), or contact PRIMA at (703) 528-7701 or [info@primacentral.org](mailto:info@primacentral.org).

## Grant workshop to be held in Billings

MSU-Billings and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grant writing workshop in Billings, Nov. 13-14. Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend.

Tuition is \$425 and includes a workbook and an accompanying 220MB resource CD that's packed full of tools and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Seating is limited, and online reservations are necessary.

For more information, visit <http://grantwritingusa.com/events/write/bimt1108.html>. You also may contact Grant Writing USA's Cathy Rittenhouse at (800) 814-8191 or [cathy@grantwritingusa.com](mailto:cathy@grantwritingusa.com), or MSU-Billings' John Walsh at 896-5872 or [jwalsh@msubillings.edu](mailto:jwalsh@msubillings.edu).



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## NACo's Altemus grateful to visit MACo annual conference

*Editor's note: NACo 1st Vice President Teresa Altemus was a luncheon speaker at MACo's 99th Annual Conference in Hamilton in September. Altemus expressed her appreciation to MACo in a letter to MACo Executive Director Harold Blattie; we've reproduced the letter below.*

Harold,

Thank you and to all the commissioners in Montana for making me feel "right at home!" I truly had a great time getting the opportunity to renew "old" friendships and making new ones! I had the best time and the only regret I had was not having the time to stay longer. I secretly hope I can come back next year (maybe John will "hold" his invitation to fly with him open)! I still have my "take-away's" and will never look at oysters from the York River again without thinking about the "oysters" in Montana!

I truly enjoyed attending all of the meetings, workshops and general sessions. I had a wonderful time! I see it as my responsibility when I attend a state meeting as NACo's 1st vice president to find out how NACo as an organization can continue help member counties from across this country.

When I ran for NACo 2nd vice president, you may recall that I said many times that when I went to the respective state meetings that I would do my best to get to

know your supervisors and commissioners and find out how I can best serve NACo and you! This is a job I take seriously...to some maybe too seriously. I am pleased that I could be in small measurement some help. I really enjoyed the trailer eco/river display outside! I learned that I can't build a rip-rap system right! I flooded the downstream neighbor! The rivers in my county don't have the bends in them like the rivers in BEAUTIFUL Montana!

After the many conversations with your commissioners, I understand the thoughts behind not wanting to give up the land use freedoms that everyone enjoys. Last night at my board meeting, we had a discussion on family land transfers, and I will say that my thoughts drifted to Montana and the shock that your commissions and citizens might experience if they were limited to transferring family land. The reason we have this provision in our ordinance is because there were some that were trying to circumvent the subdivision ordinance. I believe we still need to "tweak" so the families that really want the chance to give land to their children can. It is a daunting process, one I recognize will not be liked by all.

Again, thank you Cyndi, Mike, Allan, Carl, Greg and John for everything!

My best,  
Teresa



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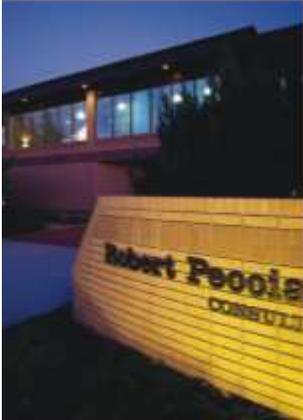


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## Energy independence focus of NACo's newest county forum

The role of counties in shaping our energy independent future and how it can help secure our nation's economy and natural environment will be the topic of NACo's County Forum on Energy Independence in Baltimore, Md., on Dec. 10-11.

The forum's goals:

- Understand the county role in moving the nation toward an energy independent future;
- Develop goals, policies and plans for local energy strategies;
- Discuss current strategies, challenges, and emerging opportunities with an eye toward economic development and job creation; and
- Learn the latest resources, tools, and best practices to meet your energy goals.

Due to the structure of this forum, which will include several breakout sessions with special training opportunities on tools and resources, counties are encouraged to send both elected officials and county staff, such as energy and environmental managers, engineers, and economic development officials.

Discussions and information will focus on challenges and opportunities in this accelerated issue area. Conversations will be structured in a roundtable format that will allow all attendees to network, brainstorm, and learn from each other.

Topics will include energy efficiency and renewable energies, alternative fuels and vehicles, economic development and job growth, energy infrastructure development, and emissions reductions and environmental benefits.

Registration is due by Nov. 21 and the fee is \$100 per person; only three people per county or organization may register.

For more information, contact Kelly Zonderwyk at [kzonderwyk@naco.org](mailto:kzonderwyk@naco.org) or (202) 942-4224.

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## Rural health works grants available

NACo is now accepting applications for the Rural Health Works Technical Assistance Grant for rural counties. Rural Health Works is strategic planning process that assists counties to evaluate their healthcare system and to generate county-specific data on the relationship between the health care sector and the local economy. The ultimate goal of the project is to strengthen rural economies by improving the local health system.

NACo will grant a total of three awards on a competitive basis. The award, valued at more than \$18,000 for each county, includes intensive technical assistance on the Rural Health Works model.

The application is available from [www.healthycounties.org](http://www.healthycounties.org), and the application deadline is Dec. 15. For more information, contact Christina Rowland at [crowland@naco.org](mailto:crowland@naco.org) or (202) 942-4267.

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# County Election Results

## Change is theme of 2008 general elections across Montana

### **Anaconda-Deer Lodge**

Commissioner (# 1): Mark Sweeney  
Commissioner (# 2): Rose Nyman  
Commissioner (# 3): Neal Granat Warner  
Chief executive officer: Rebecca Guay  
Attorney: Joan Sanders Borneman  
Chief law enforcement officer: John P. Sullivan

### **Beaverhead**

Commissioner (# 1): Tom Rice  
Clerk of district court: Sheila Bronkhorst

### **Big Horn**

Commissioner (# 1): John Pretty on Top  
Clerk of district court: Karen Yarlott

### **Blaine**

Commissioner (# 1): Dolores Plumage  
Clerk of district court: Kay O'Brien Johnson

### **Broadwater**

Commissioner (# 1): Laura Obert  
Commissioner (# 2): Elaine Graveley

### **Butte-Silver Bow**

Commissioner (# 3): John Morgan  
Commissioner (# 4): Terry L. Schultz  
Commissioner (# 5): Don Krononberg Sr.  
Commissioner (# 6): Wally Frasz  
Commissioner (# 8): Ristene Kurilich Hall  
Commissioner (# 12): David Palmer  
Clerk of district court: Lori Maloney  
Chief executive officer: Paul David Babb  
Attorney: Eileen Joyce  
Clerk & recorder: Sally J. Hollis  
Public administrator: Jeanne Joki Tanner  
Sheriff: John P. Walsh  
Coroner: Lee LaBreechee  
Superintendent of schools: Cathy Maloney  
Treasurer: Patrick Callaghan  
Assessor: Dan Fisher  
Auditor: Danette Harrington

### **Carbon**

Commissioner (# 1): Doug Tucker  
Clerk of district court: Rochelle Loyning

### **Carter**

Commissioner (# 1): Steve Rosencranz  
Dist. court clerk/school superintendent: Marilyn Hutchinson

### **Cascade**

Commissioner: Bill Salina  
Clerk of district court: Ruth Reeves

### **Chouteau**

Commissioner: Daren Schuster  
Clerk of district court/superintendent of schools: Rick Cook

### **Custer**

Commissioner: Jack Nesbit  
Clerk of district court: Hazel Parker

### **Daniels**

Commissioner (# 1): Bill Tande  
Commissioner (# 2): Gary Linder  
Commissioner (# 3): James Snare  
Clerk of district court: Patricia McDonnell

### **Dawson**

Commissioner: Jim Skillestad  
Clerk of district court: Tammy Kinsey Helmuth  
Clerk & recorder/assessor: Nancy Howard

### **Fallon**

Commissioner: Deb Ranum  
Clerk of district court: Jeraldine Newell

### **Fergus**

Commissioner (# 1): Ken Ronish  
Clerk of district court: Phyllis Smith  
Justice of the peace: Rana Wichman

### **Flathead**

Commissioner: Jim Dupont  
Clerk of district court: Peg Allison

### **Gallatin**

Commissioner (# 1): Bill Murdock  
Clerk of district court: Jennifer Brandon

### **Garfield**

Commissioner (# 2): Robert Cosgriff  
Sheriff/coroner: Frank Edwards

### **Glacier**

Commissioner (# 2): Tony Sitzmann  
Clerk of district court: Diane Anderson  
Superintendent of schools: Darryl Omsberg

### **Golden Valley**

Commissioner: David Paugh

### **Granite**

Commissioner: Clifford Nelson  
Clerk of district court: Carol Borhnsen

### **Hill**

Commissioner (# 1): Mike Wendland  
Clerk of district court: Dena Tippetts

### **Jefferson**

Commissioner (# 2): David Kirsch  
Clerk of district court: Marilyn Craft

### **Judith Basin**

Commissioner (# 1): William Annala  
Clerk of district court/superintendent of schools: Julie Peevey

### **Lake**

Commissioner (# 1): Bill Barron  
Clerk of district court: Lyn Fricker

### **Lewis & Clark**

Commissioner: Derek Brown  
Clerk of district court: Nancy Sweeney

### **Liberty**

Commissioner (# 1): Rlynn Rockman  
Clerk of district court: Anne Seidlitz-Melton

### **Lincoln**

Commissioner: Anthony Berget  
Clerk of district court: Susan Farmer

### **Madison**

Commissioner (# 1): David Shulz  
Commissioner (# 2): Marilyn Ross  
Attorney: Chris Christensen

### **McCone**

Commissioner: Connie Eissinger  
Clerk of district court: Trudy Kirkegard

*(please see next page)*



# County Election Results

## Change is theme of 2008 general elections across Montana

### **Meagher**

Commissioner: Ben Hurwitz  
Clerk of district court: Donna Morris

### **Mineral**

Commissioner (# 3): Duane Simons  
Clerk of district court: Kathleen Brown

### **Missoula**

Commissioner: Michele Lanquist  
Clerk of district court: Shirley Faust

### **Musselshell**

Commissioner: Larry Leske  
Clerk of district court: Connie Mattfield

### **Park**

Commissioner (# 2): Marty Malone  
Commissioner (# 3): C. Randall Taylor  
Clerk of district court: June Little  
Auditor: Martha Miller

### **Petroleum**

Commissioner: Larry Ahlgren

### **Phillips**

Commissioner: Richard Dunbar  
Clerk of district court: Iris Robinson

### **Pondera**

Commissioner: Joe Christiaens  
Clerk of district court: Kara Thompson

### **Powder River**

Commissioner: Lee Thompson  
Clerk of district court: Aletta Shannon

### **Powell**

Commissioner (# 1): Cele Pohle  
Clerk of district court: Joan Burke  
Treasurer: Lisa Smith

### **Prairie**

Commissioner (# 1): Ann Marie Davis  
Clerk of district court/clerk & recorder: Toni Kalfel  
Treasurer/superintendent of schools: Jaime Smith

### **Ravalli**

Commissioner (# 2): Greg Chilcott  
Commissioner (# 3): James Inman  
Clerk of district court: Debbie Harmon

### **Richland**

Commissioner (# 1): Loren Young  
Clerk of district court: Arlene Carranza Riggs

### **Roosevelt**

Commissioner (# 1): Jim Shanks  
Dist. court clerk/school superintendent: Patricia Stennes

### **Rosebud**

Commissioner (# 1): Bob Lee  
Clerk of district court: Elizabeth Cole  
Superintendent of schools: Joby Parker

### **Sanders**

Commissioner (# 3): A. Ben Cox  
Clerk of district court: Diane Rummel  
Justice of the peace: Donald Strine  
Public administrator: Donna Neal

### **Sheridan**

Commissioner: Robert Nikolaisen  
Clerk of district court: Cheryl Olson

### **Stillwater**

Commissioner (# 1): Dennis Shupak  
Clerk of district court: Sandra Fox

### **Sweet Grass**

Commissioner (# 1): Susan Mosness  
Clerk of district court: Deanna Novotny  
Public administrator: Elaine Allestad

### **Teton**

Commissioner (# 1): James Hodgskiss  
Clerk of district court: Lisa Sinton

### **Toole**

Commissioner (# 1): Ben Ober  
Clerk of district court: Sandra Peers

### **Treasure**

Commissioner (# 1): Morris Spannagel  
Justice of the peace: Willis Etter

### **Valley**

Commissioner (# 1): Dave Pippin  
Clerk of district court: Melissa Greenhagen

### **Wheatland**

Commissioner (# 1): Richard Moe  
Clerk of district court: Janet Hill

### **Wibaux**

Commissioner (# 1): Sandy Nelson  
Clerk of district court: Michael Schneider

### **Yellowstone**

Commissioner (# 1): John Ostlund  
Clerk of district court: Carol Muessig

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# Announcements & Reminders

## Mark Your Calendars

### 2009 Holidays

The following is a list of legal holidays in 2009 and the dates they will be observed by most state employees.

#### Legal holidays

New Year's Day  
 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day  
 Lincoln's & Washington's Birthday  
 Memorial Day  
 Independence Day  
 Labor Day  
 Columbus Day  
 Veterans' Day  
 Thanksgiving Day  
 Christmas Day

#### Observed

Thurs., Jan. 1  
 Mon., Jan. 19  
 Mon., Feb. 16  
 Mon., May 25  
 Fri., July 3  
 Mon., Sept. 7  
 Mon., Oct. 12  
 Wed., Nov. 11  
 Thurs., Nov. 26  
 Fri., Dec. 25

**NOTE:** If the holiday occurs on a weekend, the workday closest to the holiday is treated as the holiday for pay and leave purposes.

### November

Nov. 7 Legislative Audit Committee\*  
 Nov. 17-18 Revenue & Trans. Interim Committee\*  
 Nov. 18-20 MACo Joint Ins. Pools Trustees Retreat, Forsyth  
 Nov. 18 Legislative Finance Committee\*  
 Nov. 19 LAWS (session tracking) Training\*

### December

Dec. 1-5 MACo Elected Officials Training/Commissioners Certification\*

### Upcoming MACo Events

Jan. 13-15 Risk Management Loss Control Conference\*  
 Feb. 9-12 Midwinter Conference\*  
 Sept. 20-24 Annual Conference\*

\*All meetings are held in Helena unless noted.

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6. Jerome Kolar, Judith Basin County
7. Maureen Davey, Stillwater County
8. Andy Hunthausen, Lewis & Clark Co.
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10. Carol Brooker, Sanders County
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12. Tom Rice, Beaverhead County

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