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**A BIG thank you to all our
advertisers!!**

A note from our MACo President

Thanksgiving has come and gone and the roads in Montana were a real challenge for travel. I hope every one had time to spend with family, ate too much turkey and fixings, and took some time to reflect on the things that are truly important in our life.



The stores are filled with bargains as shoppers head out for the next big holiday. It's hard to imagine that in less than a month Christmas will be here. Smiles will be everywhere as little tricycle motors open gifts from mom and dad or grandma and grandpa. Noise from tearing paper and laughter fill the room as mom starts to prepare the next big dinner and we all give thanks for the real reason for the day and celebrate the most important birthday of all.

After Christmas the real work begins again and the legislature will be back in session.

On behalf of MACo, I want to thank all of the past legislators for their hard work and dedication to our great State and congratulate the newly elected and returning senate and house members. Our new Senate President Jim Peterson and Speaker of the House, Mike Milburn will have many challenges in the months ahead with the shortfall in funding likely to dominate everyone's attention.

Our annual fall convention was held in Billings this year and much of the discussion from commissioners around the state focused on the legislature convening in January. The MACo Executive Committee received our marching orders and protecting the Entitlement Fund was at the top of the list. Most commissioners that were around when the Big Bill was passed remember the promises made that this funding would always and other revenue sources be reserved for local government. Our mission will be to ensure that funding is protected.

The Executive Committee, Harold, Sheryl and the staff are committed to working with the legislature to find responsible solutions for the funding problems we face while still providing the essential services to the citizens of our counties.

I want to extend a personal invitation to all newly elected county officials to attend our training in Helena December 6-9, 2010. The MACo Executive Committee, MACo First Vice President Connie Eissinger, Second Vice President Greg Chilcott, Treasurer Cyndi Johnson, Urban Counties Representative Andy Hunthausen, Past President Carl Seilstad and I all look forward to meeting the newly elected county officials and helping you with the tools you need to manage county government.

Lastly I want to thank all of the elected officials leaving office December 31st for their service and dedication to counties. We hope you will stay involved as your knowledge and experience is invaluable. All my best on your future endeavors.

MACo President
John Ostlund



MACo News

2010 Newly Elected Officials



Anaconda-Deer Lodge

Commissioner (#5): Elaine Lux-Burt
Justice of the Peace: Larry Pahut
CLEO: Tim Barkell

Beaverhead

School Superintendent: Linda Marsh
Treasurer: Cathy Hucke

Big Horn

Commissioner: Sidney Fitzpatrick Jr.

Blaine

Commissioner: Frank DePriest

Broadwater

No newly elected officials

Butte-Silver Bow

Commissioner (#2): Sheryl Ralph
Commissioner (#5): Dennis Henderson
Commissioner (#7): David "Bud" Walker
Commissioner (#10): William Andersen

Carbon

Commissioner: John Grewell
Clerk & Recorder: Marcia Henigman
Justice of the Peace: Kevin Nichols

Carter

No newly elected officials

Cascade

Sheriff: Bob Edwards
Treasurer: Jamie A. Bailey

Chouteau

Commissioner: Stan Kilmas
Clerk & Recorder: Lana Claassen

Custer

Commissioner (#1): Vicki Hamilton
Commissioner (#2): Keith Holmlund
Clerk & Recorder: Linda Corbett

Daniels

Justice of the Peace: Jerod Nieskens

Dawson

Attorney: Olivia Norlin-Rieger

Fallon

Treasurer: Barb Ketterling

Fergus

Commissioner: Sandra Youngbauer

Flathead

Commissioner: Pam Holmquist
Justice of the Peace (#1): Daniel R. Wilson
Sheriff: Chuck Curry

Gallatin

Justice of the Peace: Rick West
Justice of the Peace: Bryan Adams

Garfield

Justice of the Peace: Peggy Pierson

Glacier

Attorney: Carolyn Brown
Sheriff: Vernon "Napi" Billadeaux

Golden Valley

Commissioner: William Lehfeltd

Granite

Commissioner: Scott Adler
Justice of the Peace: Debbie Fratzke

Hill

Commissioner: Jeff Lovi
Clerk & Recorder: Darla Dahl
Justice of the Peace: Audry Barger
School Superintendent: Gary Pfister
Treasurer: Sandy Brown
Public Administrator: Barb Salerno

Jefferson

No newly elected officials

Judith Basin

No newly elected officials

Lake

Commissioner (#2): Ann Smith Brower
Clerk & Recorder: Paula Holle
Sheriff: Jay Doyle

Lewis & Clark

Justice of the Peace: Mike Swingley

Liberty

Justice of the Peace: Holly Fredrickson

Lincoln

Commissioner: Ron Downey
Sheriff: Roby R. Bowe
Public Administrator: Patricia Noble



MACo News

2010 Newly Elected Officials



Madison

Commissioner (#2): Dan A. Happel

McCone

Commissioner: James Moos

Meagher

Commissioner: Nancy Schlepp
Attorney: Kimberly Duschene
Justice of the Peace: Jerry Churchill

Mineral

Commissioner: Roman Zylawy
Attorney: Marcia Boris
Clerk & Recorder: Staci Hayes
Sheriff: Ernest "Ernie" Ornelas
Treasurer: Mary Yarnall

Missoula

School Superintendent: Erin Lipkind
Sheriff: Carl Ibsen

Musselshell

Commissioner: Bryan Adolph

Park

No newly elected officials

Petroleum

Commissioner: Gary L. Gershmel

Phillips

Clerk & Recorder: Marian Ereaux
Justice of the Peace: Gary Taylor
Sheriff: Scott Moran

Pondera

No newly elected officials

Powder River

Commissioner: David J. Richards
School Superintendent: Marjorie Riley
Public Administrator: Phoebe Amsden

Powell

Justice of the Peace: Joanne Nelson

Prairie

No newly elected officials

Ravalli

Commissioner (#1): Ron Stoltz
Commissioner (#4): Matt Kanenwisher
Commissioner (#5): Suzy Foss

Attorney: William "Bill" Fulbright
Treasurer: Mary Hudson-Smith
Public Administrator: Jennifer Lint

Richland

Commissioner: Shane Gorder
Clerk & recorder: Stephanie Verhasselt
Public Administrator: Marty Casey

Roosevelt

Commissioner: Duane Nygaard
Attorney: Ralph J. Patch
Justice of the Peace: Penny Hendrickson

Rosebud

Commissioner: Doug Martens
Justice of the Peace: Lee A. Busch Sr.

Sanders

Commissioner: Glen E. Magera
Attorney: Bob Zimmerman
Sheriff: Tom Rummell
Coroner: Kathryn "Kathy" Harris

Sheridan

No newly elected officials

Stillwater

Commissioner: Gerald "Jerry" Dell

Sweet Grass

Commissioner: William E. Wallace

Teton

No newly elected officials

Toole

Justice of the Peace: Sherrie Murphy

Treasure

Justice of the Peace: Erin Fink

Valley

No newly elected officials

Wheatland

No newly elected officials

Wibaux

No newly elected officials

Yellowstone

Attorney: Scott Twito
Sheriff: Mike Linder



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 December 6 - 9 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, please see the draft agenda below or visit our web site at www.maco.cog.mt.us.

AGENDA

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

Monday, Dec. 6

3:00-6:00 pm **Registration** - Red Lion Colonial Lobby
5:30-6:00 pm **No Host Social** - Red Lion Capitol Room
6:00 pm **Dinner**
Facilitator: Dan Clark, Director, Local Government Center, MSU
Welcome: John Ostlund, MACo President & Yellowstone County Commissioner
Self Introductions
Keynote Address: Dr. Douglas Steele, Provost and Director of Extension, Montana State University

Tuesday, Dec. 7

7:30 - 8:00 am **Registration** - MACO Conference Room
8:00 - 8:15 am **Welcome and Explanation of Certification Process:** Dan Clark, Director, Local Government Center, MSU
8:15 - 10:15 am **Course 101.1 - Introduction to County Government:** An in depth review of the legal basis of Montana county government and the roles of county commissioners.
10:15 - 10:30 am **Break**
10:30 - 12:30 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.
12:30 - 1:45 pm **Lunch**
1:45 - 2:45 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.
2:45 - 3:00 pm **Break**
3:00 - 5:00 pm **Course 104.1 - County Functions and Services:** A review of essential county functions and services and how they are delivered.

Wednesday, Dec. 8

8:00 - 9:00 am **Course 107.1 - The Montana Association of Counties & The National Association of Counties:** An overview of key organizations that support county elected officials.
9:00 - 10:00 am **Course 105.1 - Local Government Law:** A review and discussion of how to find and use the law related to county government.
10:00 - 10:15 am **Break**
10:15 - 11:15 am **Course 105.1** (continued)
11:15 - 12:15 pm **Course 106.1 - The Montana Legislative Process:** A review and discussion of how the Montana legislative process works from the perspective of county government.
12:15 - 1:45 pm **Lunch**
1:45 - 2:45 pm **MACo Insurance pools:** "The Basics"
2:45 - 3:00 pm **Break**
3:00 - 5:00 pm **Course 501 - Pending Legislation Affecting Local Government:** A discussion of the proposed bills and pending legislation affecting local county governments.

Thursday, Dec. 9

8:00 - 10:00 am **Course 506 - County Special Boards Governance:** An examination of the options and legal requirements for creating and overseeing the activities of county boards.
10:00 - 10:15 am **Break**
10:15 - 12:15 pm **Course 109.1 - Managing Conflict Constructively:** A review and discussion of the skills related to conflict resolution, awareness about conflict modes, conflict communication skills, and establishing a structure for management of conflict in the workplace.
12:15 - 1:00 pm **Lunch**
1:00 - 3:00 pm **Course 108.1 - Human Resource Risk issues: Case Studies -** An in-depth review of the legal requirements and risk exposures associated with critical human management issues.
3:00 pm **Adjourn**

For a more detailed Draft Agenda, please visit our web site: www.maco.cog.mt.us




MACo News

MACo Committee Appointments

MACo President John Ostlund will soon be making MACo committee appointments for the upcoming year. The appointments will be based on the preferences indicated on the Commissioner Biographies received. If you are interested in serving on a MACo committee, and did not attend the conference or submit a Commissioner bio, please do so and indicate your committee preferences by ranking them numerically 1-5.

The form can be found under "Commissioner Bio Form" on our website at www.maco.cog.mt.us

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MACo Alert

2011 New Year's "Resolutions"....

It's time once again for the Annual New Year's Resolutions reminders! This is to remind you of certain duties and requirements for Commissioners. The first Commission meeting of the year is a good time to adopt policies and set guidelines for the year.

This annual notice may look familiar, but please review the items carefully as new items have been added.

NOTE: Not have all of these actions need to be done annually – but it is a good idea to review and update if needed, and remind the public, the media, elected officials and employees, as appropriate.

Adopt a resolution setting commissioner meeting dates (7-5-2122, MCA)

(1) The governing body of the county shall establish by resolution a regular meeting date and notify the public of that date.

(2) The governing body of the county, except as may be otherwise required of them, may meet at the county seat of their respective counties at any time for the purpose of attending to county business. Commissioners may, by resolution and prior two days' posted public notice, designate another meeting time and place

Elect a Presiding Officer of the Board: (7-4-2109, MCA)

The board of county commissioners must elect one of its members presiding officer. The presiding officer shall preside at all meetings of the board, and in case of the presiding officer's absence or inability to act, the members present shall select one of their number to act temporarily as presiding officer.

Establish Office Hours: (7-4-102, MCA)

Unless otherwise provided by law, each officer shall keep the officer's office open for the transaction of business during the office hours determined by the governing body by resolution after a public hearing and only if consented to by any affected elected county officer each day except Saturdays and legal holidays.

County and city treasurers may, in the interest of the safekeeping of funds, securities, and records under their control, close their offices during the period from noon to 1 p.m. every day.

Set and or modify per diem/travel rates: It is recommended that counties adopt a resolution establishing mileage, lodging and per diem rates for business travel. For information on these rates, please refer to MCA §§2-18-501. Meals, lodging, and transportation of persons in state service; 2-18-502. Computation of meal allowance; and 2-18-503 Mileage – allowance.

For more information regarding the standard mileage rate, visit the Internal Revenue Service website at: www.irs.gov.

The state lodging rate is \$77; high-cost areas include Big Sky/West Yellowstone - Gallatin County, Butte - Silver Bow County, Helena - Lewis & Clark County, Missoula - Missoula County, Polson - Lake County, and Kalispell - Flathead County. For more information, visit the General Administration Services Web site at www.gsa.gov.

*** NEW Establish the rate of credit for incarceration: (46-18-403, MCA)**

46-18-403. Credit for incarceration prior to conviction. (1) A person incarcerated on a bailable offense against whom a judgment of imprisonment is rendered must be allowed credit for each day of incarceration prior to or after conviction, except that the time allowed as a credit may not exceed the term of the prison sentence rendered.

(2) A person incarcerated on a bailable offense who does not supply bail and against whom a fine is levied on conviction of the offense may be allowed a credit for each day of incarceration prior to conviction, except that the amount allowed or credited may not exceed the amount of the fine. The daily rate of credit for incarceration must be established annually by the board of county commissioners by resolution. ***The daily rate must be equal to the actual cost incurred by the detention facility for which the rate is established.***



MACo Alert

*** NEW Review the calculations for “reasonable costs of confinement” and your contract with the Department of Corrections:**

In recent discussions with the Department of Corrections on pending legislation, it was learned that contracts with the Department were originally signed to be “perpetual”, and they would remain in effect unless amended or terminated through the terms in the contract. A review of these contracts identified that quite a few counties have not updated or renewed their contracts since they were originally signed in 2002, and that some county commissioners may not be aware these contracts exist.

All of the Department of Corrections contracts are on the Department of Corrections website at: <http://www.cor.mt.gov/Resources/Contracts/cindex.mcp> Use your county name to find your contract in the directory.

Use of detention center -- payment of costs. (7-32-2242 M.C.A.)

(1) Local government, state, and federal law enforcement and correctional agencies may use any detention center for the confinement of arrested persons and the punishment of offenders, under conditions imposed by law and with the consent of the governing body responsible for the detention center.

(2) (a) If a person is confined in a detention center by an arresting agency not responsible for the operation of the detention center, the costs of holding the person in confinement must be paid by the arresting agency at a rate that is agreed upon by the arresting agency and the detention center and that covers the reasonable costs of confinement, excluding capital construction costs, except as provided in 7-32-2245 or subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(b) If a city or town commits a person to the detention center of the county in which the city or town is located for a reason other than detention pending trial for or detention for service of a sentence for violating an ordinance of that city or town, the costs must be paid by the county, except as provided in 7-32-2245. If the department of corrections is the arresting agency and the inmate is a probation violator, the costs must be paid by the county in which the district court that retains jurisdiction over the inmate is located, except as provided in 7-32-2245.

(c) Payments must be made to the government unit responsible for the detention center or to the administrator operating a private detention center under an agreement provided for in 7-32-2201, upon presentation of a claim to the arresting agency.

(3) If a person is a fugitive from justice from an out-of-state jurisdiction, the costs, including medical expenses, of holding the person in a detention

MACo has been meeting with the Department regarding concerns over the “agreed upon rates”, and what costs are included in the “reasonable costs of confinement”. A working group has been established with MACo, MSPOA and the Department to develop a procedure and worksheets to clearly define which costs are to be included in the calculations, and what documentation the Department will require from counties to verify the costs. We will keep you informed as more information is developed on this issue.

& New Year’s Reminders

Appoint Commissioner Liaisons to County Boards: This is a good opportunity for you to appoint your representatives to County boards and commissions.

Establish County Classification: At your September meeting, you should have adopted your county classification effective January 1, 2011. If you did not adopt this resolution in September, we suggest you do so as soon as possible. More information regarding your county’s classification can be found on the MACo website at www.mtcounties.org

center pending extradition must be paid by the out-of-state jurisdiction.

Continued next page...



MACo Alert

7-1-2112. Designation of county classification by county commissioners.

(1) The several boards of county commissioners must, at their regular session in September of each year, make an order designating the class to which such county belongs, as determined by the taxable valuation of such county for the year in which such order is made, under and in accordance with the provisions of 7-1-2111.

Such classification shall not change the government of the county then in existence until the next succeeding first Monday in January.

Bond Inspection: (7-4-2213, MCA)

(1) At a regular meeting of the board of county commissioners in March and September of each year, the board of county commissioners shall carefully examine all official bonds of all county and township officials then in force and effect and investigate the qualifications and financial condition and liability of all sureties on the bonds and their sufficiency.

(2) If it appears to the satisfaction of the board or a majority of the members of the board that any surety upon any bond has, since the approval and acceptance of the bond, died or withdrawn, left the state, disposed of all of the surety's property in this state, or become mentally ill, insolvent, financially embarrassed, or not good and responsible for the amount of the liability on the bond, the board shall immediately cause the clerk of the board to notify in writing the judge of the district court of that district of its action and conclusion and all facts in connection with and the reasons for the action.

(3) The judge shall take notice of and investigate the matter and take steps, by order to show cause or other order, citation, step, or action, as may be necessary to make the bond good and sufficient according to the requirements of law and ample security for the amount of the bond.

It is recommended you note in your minutes that you've reviewed your bonds, and if applicable, found them to be covered within your insurance policies.

Board meeting minutes must be available within 21 days: 7-5-2123. Publication of board proceedings and annual financial statement.

(1) (a) The board of county commissioners has jurisdiction and power, under the limitations and restrictions prescribed by law, to publish in a newspaper at the adjournment of each session of the board, in full and complete detail or in summary form or by reference, with the full and complete text made available on request, a complete list of all claims ordered paid for all

purposes, showing the name, purpose, and amount, and a fair summary of the minutes and records of all of its proceedings.

(b) The board may publish the county clerk's annual statement of the financial condition of the county, in full and complete detail or in summary form. If the board does not publish the annual statement in complete detail or in summary form, it shall publish a notice that the annual statement is available and will be provided upon request from the county clerk.

(2) **Publication in full, in summary, or by reference of the minutes and records of proceedings must be made within 21 days after the adjournment of the session.** Publication of the financial statement or notice of the availability of the financial statement must be made within 30 days after the presentation of the financial statement to the board. The board may not allow or order paid any claim for any publication of minutes and records of proceedings or annual financial statement unless the publication is made within the time prescribed in this subsection.

As always, if you have any questions on these or any other matters, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Montana Association of Counties
2715 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59602

Harold Blattie, Executive Director
hblattie@mtcounties.org

Sheryl Wood, Associate Director
swood@mtcounties.org

! REMINDER !

Please remember that your new and changed taxing jurisdictions must be reported to the Department of Revenue no later than January 1, 2011.



MACo News

Emelia's Safety Corner

Safety tip of the Month

By: Emelia McEwen, MACo JPA/JPIA Senior Loss Control Specialist

Sitting too long can link to cancer

Researchers from the American Cancer Society found that employees who spend too much time in their seats might not only be adding to their bodily aches and pains; they may also be placing their lives in danger.

Researchers found that it's not just how much physical activity people get, by how much time they spend sitting, that can affect their risk of death. The study found that time spent sitting was independently associated with total mortality, regardless of physical activity level. Researchers concluded that employers should not only be promoting physical fitness, but also reduce time sitting.

The study found that more time spent sitting was associated with a higher risk of mortality, particularly in women. Women who reported more than six hours per day of sitting were 37 percent more likely to die during the time period studied than those who sat fewer than three hours a day. Men who sat more than six hours a day were 18 percent more likely to die than those who sat fewer than three hours per day. The association remained virtually unchanged after adjusting for physical activity level.

When combined with a lack of physical activity, the association was even stronger. Women and men who both sat more and were less active were 94 percent and 48 percent more likely to die compared with those who reported sitting the least and being more active.

The study's findings illustrate the importance of health and wellness programs that encourage employees to regularly take breaks, get up from their desk, and get active. If possible, start a walking club during the employees' lunch hour. For more information, visit the American Cancer Society website at <http://www.cancer.org/>



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MACo News

McCulloch Thanks County Election Officials, Staff and Workers For Running Efficient 2010 General Election in Montana

Montana Secretary of State and Chief Elections Officer Linda McCulloch on Wednesday thanked both county election officials and county election workers for running an efficient 2010 General Election, which was held on Tuesday, November 2.

Statement from Secretary of State Linda McCulloch:

“Montana’s Election Administrators and Clerk & Records run organized, efficient and secure elections. Thank you to the 56 county election officials and their staff, and the thousands of election judges and poll workers who assisted voters across the state in casting a ballot in the General Election. Their commitment and dedication to the elections process is an invaluable public service.”

The latest 2010 General Election results are available on the Secretary of State’s website @ sos.mt.gov.



NACo Webinar: Leadership Series

For NACo Members Only

December 14: Aligning Counties and Cooperative Extension: Working Together to Serve Our Communities.

NACo Events

January 12-13: NCCAE State Association Presidents and Executive Directors Meeting (Washington DC)

January 19: Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee Retreat (Orleans Parish/New Orleans, Louisiana)

For more information and to register go to: www.naco.org

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MACo News

2011 Legal Holidays

Holidays


Observed

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

Friday, December 31, 2010*
 Monday, January 17
 Monday, February 21
 Monday, May 30
 Monday, July 4
 Monday, September 5
 Monday, October 10
 Friday, November 11
 Thursday, November 24
 Monday, December 26**

* January 1, 2011 - the legal public holiday for New Year's Day - falls on a Saturday. For most State of Montana employees, Friday, December 31, 2010, will be treated as a holiday for pay and leave purposes.

** December 25, 2011 - the legal public holiday for Christmas Day - falls on a Sunday. For most State of Montana employees, Monday, December 26, 2011, will be treated as a holiday for pay and leave purposes.



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MACo News

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Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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Dore Schwinden, Director



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phone (406) 841-2840 * e-mail bbrensdal@mt.gov * website www.housing.mt.gov



Financing for economic development

Karyl Tobel, Assistant Division Administrator, Business Resources Division

phone (406) 841-2732 * e-mail: karylt@mt.gov * website www.businessresources.mt.gov



Financing for Montana businesses

Karyl Tobel, Assistant Division Administrator, Business Resources Division

phone (406) 841-2732 * e-mail: karylt@mt.gov * website www.businessresources.mt.gov

Herb Kulow, Portfolio Manager, Board of Investments, Infrastructure Loan Program

phone (406) 444-1218 * e-mail: hkulow@mt.gov * website www.investmentmt.com/programs/instate



Local government financing

Kelly A. Casillas, Administrator, Community Development Division

phone (406) 841-2776 * e-mail kcasillas@mt.gov * website www.comdev.mt.gov

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MACo News

Montana Ready: Disaster Preparedness 2010

December 14 & 15, 2010

MSU Billings Downtown
2804 3rd Avenue North (SW Corner of Broadway &
3rd Ave N.)
Billings, Montana

Featuring: The Honorable Sally A. Heyman

Commissioner Miami-Dade County Board of
County Commissioners.

The success of any response to a disaster, natural or human-made depends on the ability of response systems to work together. Collaboration is most important in rural communities where local resources may be limited. In a disaster, Montana's health care industry, law enforcement, city and county administrators, elected officials, first responders and emergency services will bear the burden of caring for Montanans while the event is occurring and in its aftermath. To bolster our capacity to effectively and seamlessly work together for our communities, the Yellowstone County Commissioners in partnership with MSU Billings are hosting a two day workshop to share critical information for all emergency planners and those who interact to respond to disasters in our region. During this workshop you will gain valuable insight from first-hand accounts about, making your EOP a reality, mobilizing resources, managing insurance and how to make the most of funding resources available to you.

Through presentation of a variety of real and simulated events, you will hear from local and national experts in the field of disaster management. And you will have an opportunity to communicate one on one with responders from surrounding areas who may be your most valuable resource in a disaster.

Who Should Attend:

Law Enforcement, Elected Officials, City and County Administrators, First Responders, Chief Medical Officers, Federal & State Agency representatives, EOC Managers, Supply Chain and Materials Management Directors, Animal and Livestock Management Personnel.

To register or for more information go to
www.msubillings.edu/disaster

or

call MSUB Downtown 406-896-5890

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WE HAVE MOVED !

New address is:

21 3rd Street North, Suite 500

Great Falls, MT 59401

406-452-2526



MACo News

2011 MACo Risk Management Loss Control Conference

By: *Emelia McEwen, MACo JPA/JPIA
Senior Loss Control Specialist*

Unleashing the Power of Personal Accountability, Fall 2010 Road Reviews, Impaired Driving, and Electrical Safety, are just some of the 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 Rob Krazan. He was a 3rd degree burn victim that resulted from an on the job accident. Rob would like to tell you his story and how it changed his life.

The three-day event, set for January 11-13 2011, will feature programs and sessions tailored to safety, roads, law enforcement and human resource personnel. Registration will be available on the MACo website on December 6, 2010. A draft agenda has already been posted on the website as well as a detailed description on this exciting event.

For additional information about the conference, please contact Emelia McEwen at 449-4370 or emcewen@mtcounties.org. For questions regarding registration, please contact Karen Houston at 449-4360 or khouston@mtcounties.org.

MACo News seeks your suggestions

Every month, the 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 benefits our readers.

To talk to someone directly or to submit a note regarding *MACo News*, please contact Sharon Wilson at 449-4360 or by e-mail: maco@mtcounties.org.

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MACo News



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Desktop vs. On-Site Property Valuations

A question that is posed to valuation consultants on a daily basis is:

Just what is the difference between a desktop and an on-site valuation?

Usually, this is closely followed by:

I assume that the on-site valuation will be more expensive; why should I pay extra for this?

Often, this pertains to differences between desktop and on-site valuations of insured real property (buildings), as numerous reliable tools are available for desktop valuation of these assets. However, to use any tool effectively, you must be aware of its limits. Hence, when considering desktop valuation of buildings, ask yourself whether sufficient data is available to address the following:

1) The accuracy of available square footage data

During an on-site inspection, the appraiser will accurately determine the building area. This is critical - all cost estimating programs are based on the square footage area, or volume, of a building. If the area is incorrect, the value conclusion will be wrong. Typically, the areas for buildings that are initially available are low; they may not account for irregular shapes, all floors, or wall heights. Areas provided may be net as opposed to gross, especially when dealing with commercial office or retail space. In our experience, even the areas provided in loss control surveys are low by 10-15%.

If the areas are less than actual, they will result in an artificially high \$/SF when divided into the current insurable value, perhaps giving a false sense of security.

2) Identification of construction materials

Incorrect choice of materials when using construction estimating software can change the final conclusion significantly. This includes the correct determination of construction (ISO) class, as well as the actual construction materials. At a minimum, a set of as-built plans should be used in a desktop valuation.

3) Quality of construction

All construction estimating programs have built-in quality ratings and default settings that can be adjusted to account for superior or inferior quality of construction and materials. This is a subjective decision based on property inspection and consultant experience, and can make a significant difference - sometimes 12-15% from average to above average - in the final value conclusion.

4) Appropriate model usage

Sophisticated construction estimating programs have many different models to choose from, and it is often difficult to choose the appropriate model. In the Marshall & Swift - Building Valuation System, one of 20 different model occupancies could be chosen for a manufacturing facility. In some instances, an on-site inspection might indicate that it is appropriate to allocate different portions of a building to different models, e.g., 20% to office, 30% to manufacturing, and 50% to warehouse.

This topic to be continued in the January 2011 MACo newsletter

We are a leader in providing Risk Management solutions to Public Entity and Scholastic organizations. We provide:

- *First Dollar or Deductible Programs*
- *Pools, Captives, or Risk Retention Groups*

Large or small, we'll be your partner in providing Risk Management services for your Public Entity.



MACo News

County Sanitarian says Burning trash usually unlawful in Montana

By: Corrine Rose, Teton Sanitarian

Burning your household garbage is dangerous to your health and our environment, and generally against the law in Montana. If you're still using a burn barrel, wood stove, or fire-pit for your trash, it's time for a change. Stop burning your garbage.

Household burn barrels, fire-pits, wood stoves, or similar homemade devices produce low-temperature fires. They receive very little oxygen and produce a lot of smoke. Under these conditions, a variety of toxic substances is produced. Garbage has changed. Today's household trash contains a lot of plastics and paper treated with chemicals, coatings and inks. Pollutants produced by backyard burning of trash are released primarily into the air and close to ground level where they are easily inhaled—with no pollution controls.

Burn barrel air emissions include carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides. Smaller amounts of more poisonous chemicals are commonly detected in the smoke: benzene, styrene, formaldehyde, polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs or "dioxins"), polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs or "furans"), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and heavy metals such as lead, mercury, and arsenic.

Smoke created by backyard garbage burning especially affects people with sensitive respiratory systems, as well as children and the elderly. Exposure to smoke can also increase the risk of heart disease, cause rashes, nausea and headaches.

Among the environmental and health risks posed by residential garbage burning, dioxin is the

key concern. Dioxin is a potent human carcinogen that is especially harmful for pregnant women, children, and the elderly. Dioxin is also an endocrine disrupter and can cause reproductive, developmental and immunological problems in humans and animals. United States Environmental Protection Agency research shows that burn barrels are the number one source of dioxin in the United States. Just one burn barrel can produce as much or more than a full-scale municipal waste combustor burning 200 ton/day.

Several years ago our state legislature enacted the Clean Air Act of Montana Title 75. Environmental Protection, Chapter 2. Air quality "to achieve and maintain levels of air quality that will protect human health and safety and, to the greatest degree practicable, prevent injury to plant and animal life and property..." The Administrative Rules that implement the Clean Air in relation to the burning of household garbage are 17.8.604-Materials. Prohibited from Open Burning and 17.8.326 Prohibited Materials for Wood or Coal Residential Stoves. If you are burning anything other than untreated wood or paper in your burn barrel or wood stove, you are probably in violation of state rule and law.

Everyone, in both Teton and Pondera County, has access to an approved solid waste disposal site and everyone has a responsibility for disposal of their garbage properly. There are also recycling opportunities in some communities or neighboring communities. There is very good information on the Web about burning household garbage. I need to credit Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site for information I incorporated into this article including the following statement: "If you are burning garbage, you're making poison."

For more information contact, Corrine Rose, county sanitarian, or DEQ, Air Resources Management Bureau, at 406-444-3490, if you have any questions concerning this article.

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Around Our Counties

Big Horn County

He has an id and an official Sheriff's "belt," but the newest member of the Big Horn County Sheriff's department has to have his partner carry his badge for him.

Hooch is a six-year-old Belgian Manolis and Deputy Michael Fuss has been trained and trained with his canine partner since he was born.

The K-9 deputy looks kind of like a big German Shepherd, and has been multi-trained for several different duties, making him a great asset to the county and other law enforcement agencies, said Big Horn County Sheriff Lawrence Big Hair.

Fuss said Hooch is trained in what is called dual purpose. He can find drugs, track, do area searches, article searches and building searches in addition to the apprehension of fleeing suspects.

"The county commissioners have been very supportive of us getting this program going, and have been good to work with," said Fuss. "We appreciate the help they've given us."

Carbon County

The new Carbon County maintenance shop, which replaces the old one burned to the ground last December, is almost finished. Funding for the new building

came from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality who awarded Carbon County \$63,648 for energy projects under the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's program. The grant will provide for energy efficient improvements to the 6,000 Sq. Ft. shop including upgrading the level of insulation and floor radiant heat. Annual energy savings could come to \$371. A GSHP system with floor radiant heat with an estimated 350 percent efficiency rating would be installed rather than a standard 80 percent efficient natural gas forced air system. The annual savings from installing a GSHP system would be \$4,386, resulting in a total energy savings of \$4,757, or about 476 dkt of natural gas per year.

Cascade County

Local governments in Great Falls are pushing to have the state of Montana designate Giant Springs Road on the edge of Great Falls as a Montana scenic-historic byway, which they say will boost tourism and make the landmark eligible for federal funding.

"It's just a beautiful little drive along the Missouri River," Cas-

cade County Commissioner Jane Weber said.

The County Commission followed in the steps of the City Commission by approving a resolution in support of designating the road as a "Montana scenic-history byway" for its "exemplary scenic, historic, natural, cultural archaeological and recreational qualities."

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks officials wrote the application for the designation and recently submitted it to the state Department of Transportation, which is considering eight such application statewide. Local government support is required for consideration.

Custer County

The Custer County Commission have made it a priority this year to begin working to resolve a long history of problems with the sewer system in Rural Improvement District #1, which runs from Clark Street north to Valley Drive East, bound on the east by the city limits line and on the west by Kootenai and Cheyenne avenues.

A survey of system users was done in the spring as part of the data required for various funding sources, and a number of grant

applications have been submitted.

Problems with the existing system are numerous. Parts of the RID #1 line are over 100 years old. The clay tile pipe is broken and cracked, as well as too small. Service taps were poorly constructed and manholes have deteriorated.

Altogether, the system is too worn down and damaged and needs to be completely replaced.

Flathead County

The Flathead County Commissioners unanimously approved hiring Flathead County interim planning director BJ Grieve as the new county planning director. Nine people applied for the job, and Grieve was one of three finalists.

Grieve, 33, was the assistant planning director when former planning director Jeff Harris left the job July 30. Grieve filled in as interim director.

Grieve said he will focus on making sure he and his staff are consistent and predictable as they handle the county's planning business.

Judith Basin County

Judith Basin County now has an in-house ambulance coordinator, Suzanne Aune of Hobson has taken over the position from Liz Howell and will be in the



Around Our Counties

office located on the right at the bottom of the Stairs in the basement of the courthouse.

The county advertised for the position the last couple of weeks in September and began screening applicants on October 5. Aune's first day in Stanford was October 12.

The job involves the organization of the three ambulance services—Geyser, Hobson and Stanford—in the county as well as submitting all claims, insurance and expenses. Aune will be available should any of these organizations need anything or have questions and/or concerns; in other words, she will be their go-to-person.

Lewis & Clark County

Lewis and Clark County Sheriff Deputy Alan Hughes thought he was going to the luncheon to deliver a speech about responding to hazardous material emergencies. He also expected a small crowd—five or six people.

The first surprise came when he arrived at the Eagles Lodge to find a room filled with dozens of people. The second came about a minute into his lecture, when Exchange Club of Helena member Rick Schlenker interrupted to tell Hughes why he was

actually there.

"Every year, we honor a Law Enforcement Officer of the year. And you are it. Congratulations," Schlenker said.

The surprise caught Hughes off guard, though he managed to give some variant of his speech after the unexpected award ceremony, during which Sheriff Leo Dutton praised the deputy's professionalism, accountability and dedication.

Hughes has worked with the Sheriff's Office just shy of eight years, a job he landed after moving from Los Angeles to Montana for his wife, who missed home. He had experience working with a volunteer fire department in California, and the new job sounded appealing to him.

Powell County

Powell County will be losing an important part of its structure with the turning of the new year.

Ron Hanson, the Powell County planner for the past 16 years, will be retiring at the end of this year.

"At this point, I'm tired. I told the commissioners last spring that there were a few things that I wanted to finish out: the work on the

roundhouse, doing the Garrison Rocky Mountain Phosphate Plant site, finishing up Johnson Creek, and the outdoor education center," said Hanson.

Hanson said he's been blessed with the experiences that he's had with working for the county.

Richland County

Montana State University Extension has awarded Richland County commissioners with the 2010 Arrowhead Award for their assistance to Montana Extension programming with the additional funding to add the Extension Office/Regional Extension

Learning Center Meeting Room to the Eastern Agriculture Research Center. With a projected finish date of this spring, the Learning Center will assist in education through Extension programming. Education of Richland County producers and consumers will be enhanced by a state of the art facility that will "connect" eastern Montana with specialists and other educators from across the nation. With support of local ag and youth groups, including 4-H, the new building will be used to convey the latest in research-based methods with a focus on improving the quality of life in our community.

The staff at MACo would like to wish all of you Happy Holidays and a very Happy and Healthy New Year!



We are thankful for all of your support and look forward to a rewarding & successful New Year!



Farewell Outgoing County Officials

Anaconda-Deer Lodge
Commissioner: Peter Lorello
Justice of the Peace: Joanne Welch
CLEO: John Sullivan

Beaverhead
School Superintendent:
Emily Mae Rebish
Treasurer: Kathy Allard

Big Horn
Commissioner: John T. Doyle

Blaine
Commissioner: Don K. Swenson

Butte-Silver Bow
Commissioner: Joe Lee
Commissioner: Charlie O'Leary
Commissioner: Mark Moodry
Commissioner: Mike Sheehy

Carbon
Commissioner: David Davidson
Clerk & Recorder: Linda Ladvala
Justice of the Peace: Johnny Seiffert

Cascade
Sheriff: David Castle
Treasurer: Jess L. Anderson

Custer
Commissioner: Gary Matthews
Clerk & Recorder: Marie Wehri

Daniels
Justice of the Peace: Alvin "Bud" Kaul

Dawson
Attorney: Scott Herring

Fallon
Treasurer: Faye M. Koenig

Fergus
Commissioner: John Jensen

Flathead
Commissioner: Joe Brenne-
man

Justice of the Peace:
David M. Ortley
Sheriff: Mike Meehan

Gallatin
Justice of the Peace:
Wanda Drusch
Justice of the Peace:
Gordon L. Smith

Garfield
Justice of the Peace: Art Gallinger

Glacier
Attorney: Larry Epstein
Sheriff: Wayne Dusterhoff

Golden Valley
Commissioner: Leslie Burroughs

Granite
Commissioner: Suzanne Browning
Justice of the Peace: Richard Motta

Hill
Commissioner: Mike Anderson
Clerk & Recorder: Diane E. Mellem
Justice of the Peace: Terry Lee Stoppa
School Superintendent:
Shirley Isbell
Treasurer: Carrie A. Dickson
Public Administrator:
Patricia J. Childs

Lake
Commissioner: Chuck Whitson
Clerk & Recorder: Ruth E. Hodges
Sheriff: Lucky Larson

Lewis & Clark
Justice of the Peace: Wallace A. Jewell

Liberty
Justice of the Peace: Neal Allen Eveland

Lincoln
Commissioner: John Konzen
Sheriff: Daryl R. Anderson
Public Administrator:
Jeannie Dennis

Madison
Commissioner: Marilyn Ross

McCone
Commissioner: Aaron King

Meagher
Attorney: Linda Hickman
Justice of the Peace:
Ronda K. Shinabarger

Mineral
Commissioner: B.J. McComb
Attorney: M. Shaun Donovan
Clerk & Recorder: Katherine Jasper
Sheriff: Hugh Hopwood, Jr.
Treasurer: Annabelle Getz

Missoula
School Superintendent:
Rachel Vielleux
Sheriff: Mike McMeekin

Musselshell
Commissioner: Michael Kilby

Petroleum
Commissioner: Isaac "Lee" Iverson

Phillips
Clerk & Recorder: Laurel W. Hines
Justice of the Peace:
Gayle Stahl
Sheriff: Thomas K. Miller

Powder River
Commissioner: Ray Traub
School Superintendent:
Charlotte Miller
Public Administrator:
Frankie George

Powell
Justice of the Peace: Terry J. McGillis

Ravalli
Commissioner: Carlotta Grandstaff
Commissioner: Jim Rokosch
Commissioner: Kathleen Driscoll
Attorney: George H. Corn

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hbein
Clerk & Recorder: Penni D. Lewis
Public Administrator: Frank DiFonzo

Roosevelt
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Rosebud
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Justice of the Peace: Mary O'Hara Kunst

Sanders
Commissioner: Justin "Gail" Patton
Attorney: Coleen Magera
Sheriff: Eugene "Gene" R. Arnold
Coroner: Roberta Smith

Stillwater
Commissioner: Dennis Hoyem

Sweet Grass
Commissioner: Philip Hathaway

Toole
Justice of the Peace: Russ Mann

Treasure
Justice of the Peace: Willis F. Etter

Yellowstone
Attorney: Dennis Paxinos
Sheriff: Jay Bell

MACo recognizes the elected officials who are ending their service in county government. We are grateful for their dedication, and we wish them great happiness. We tried our hardest to recognize everyone and sincerely apologize if we left anyone out.



Calendar of Events

Events

December

- 2 10:00 am - Council of County Officials, MACo Office, Helena
- 3 Governor IT Conference, Helena
- 6 MACo Board of Directors, MACo Office
- 6 Rules Training, Committee Chair Training
- 6-9 Newly Elected Officials-Orientation/Commissioner Certification, Helena
- 24 Christmas Eve (MACo Office Closed)
- 31 New Years Eve (MACo Office Closed)

January

- 3 62nd Legislative Session Convenes
- 11-13 MACo Risk Management Loss Control Conference
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (MACo Office Closed)



December 2010



Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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Wendy Sesselman, WC Claims Supervisor
Dennis Jupka, Senior Claims Adjuster
Bonnie Knopf, Data Specialist
Christine Holling, Claims Adjuster
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Kerissa Lyman, PT Admin. Assistant
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Tom Beneventi, Custodian/Maintenance

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