



Highlights

2-3	MACo Annual Conference Information, Tande Obituary
4	Delegate Assembly Rules 2nd VP Candidate
5-6	Resolutions, Policy Statements, Committee Meetings
7	IT Committee, Paint the State, Sheriff Honored
8	MT Reaches 100% E911 Landfill Fee Passed
9	Emelia's Safety Corner
11	Ticks & West Nile Virus
13	Cyber Insurance
14	MACo Employee Profile & Commissioner Profile
15	Sharing Fingerprints
16-17	Heritage Act, Library Grand Opening, Junk Car Removal
18	"Remembering Charlie" NACo Grant
19-20	Around our Counties
21-22	Legislative Meetings Calendar of Events

A BIG thank you to all our advertisers!!

Fraud Prevention

By: Jack Holstrom, JPIA Personnel Services Administrator and Mike Sehestedt, MACo Chief Legal Counsel

Even the casual reader of major Montana newspapers should have noticed what seems to be an epidemic of employee theft from employers. These thefts can take many forms. The most common schemes used are:

- Failure to record cash transactions.
- Claims for false reimbursements.
- Use of company accounts for personal transactions.
- Payroll fraud.
- Fraud through supplier accounts and other payables kickbacks.

The magnitude of this problem is demonstrated by estimates that embezzlement related losses nationwide now exceed \$6 billion a year. One particularly concerning statistic is that as many as 40% of the fraudulent theft cases involve collusion of the employee with others either inside or outside the organization.

Montana Counties are not immune to this epidemic. MACo JPIA has incurred losses of more than \$200,000 in 8 employee dishonesty cases since January 1, 2006. While some of these losses have been recovered the total net loss is still substantial.

What can you do to keep your County from being victimized by employee theft? First, do not rely on your annual audit to uncover evidence of theft. The annual audits required of counties are not designed to uncover employee theft. The audits do note areas where the auditors feel that inadequate internal controls or other procedures create an opportunity for theft. When your County's annual audit makes recommendations for improved procedures or other safeguards make sure that those recommendations are implemented and followed. Employee theft is an embarrassment for elected officials charged with protecting the taxpayer's money under any circumstances and it is particularly embarrassing when the recommendations of your auditors have not been followed.

Second, pay attention to the revenue received reports from the various county departments and to the claims paid. If there is a significant variation in revenue received or you do not know what a particular claim is for, then you should ask why the variation in revenue or who the vendor is and why the payment. This practice may detect theft early and even more important by showing employees that management is paying attention it may deter theft by suggesting that early detection is likely.

Third, rotate duties. An employee familiar with county auditing and accounting procedures may be able to cover for thefts on a continuing basis so long as they have control of the records and the daily balance. Rotating duties makes this more difficult as does an absence on vacation. In this regard significant changes in revenue received that correspond to an employee's absence should be a red flag to every manager.

Fourth, consider establishing a policy of conducting surprise internal audits. This policy and the procedures to be followed should be developed with the help of a qualified CPA.

Fifth, make it clear to employees that suspicions of theft should be reported, that these reports will be held in confidence, and that there will be follow up.

Continued on page 12



MACo News

DON'T MISS OUT!!!

Register for the Annual Conference!

Cost for registering before September 12th is \$165.00

Cost for registering after September 12th or at the door is \$190.00

If you haven't already visited our website and registered online, then please do so as soon as possible to help us better estimate attendance.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Karen Houston, MACo Meeting Planner, at 449-4360 or khouston@mtcounties.org.

Draft Agenda Crown Plaza—Billings

Sunday, Sept. 26th

8:30 am - 2:00 pm Golf for anyone interested
1:00 pm Registration—3rd Floor
Noon - 2:00 pm JPA Trustees Meeting
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Resolutions Committee Meeting
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting
5:30 pm - 10:00 pm President's Reception and Dinner

Monday, Sept. 27th

7:00 am - 8:30 am No-Host Prayer Breakfast
8:30 am - 10:00 am MACo Opening General Session
10:30 am - Noon President's Report
1:30 pm - 4:00 pm General Session/Health Care Reform
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Urban Counties Meeting
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Hard Rock Mining Counties Meeting
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Oil, Gas & Coal Counties Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 28th

7:00 am - 8:30 am JPIA Trustees Breakfast Meeting
8:00 am - 9:45 am MACo Committee Meetings
10:15 am - Noon MACo Committee Meetings
1:00 pm - 2:50 pm Committee Reports

***** Workshops *****

3:20 pm - 4:20 pm **A.** Findings of Fact & Conclusions of Law
B. The Top Ten Ways to Guarantee Employee Lawsuits

4:20 pm - 6:00 pm MACo Health Care Trust Members Annual Meeting
4:20 pm - 6:00 pm 6 County Fort Peck Lake Group Meeting
4:20 pm - 6:00 pm Montana Coalition of Forest

Wednesday, Sept. 29th

7:00 am - 8:30 am Health Care Trust Trustees Breakfast Meeting
7:30 am - 8:30 am Reservation Counties Breakfast Meeting
8:30 am - Noon **General Session**
Noon - 1:30 pm Exhibitor/Sponsor Appreciation Lunch
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Closing General Session
5:30 pm Social & Annual Banquet

Thursday, Sept. 30th

7:30 am - 9:00 am New Board of Directors' Breakfast Meeting



*For a more detailed Draft Agenda
please visit our website
www.maco.cog.mt.us*





MACo News



Got Game ?

Come and join us for a round of golf during the MACo Annual Conference, which is being held

September 26, 2010

Tee times start at 8:30 am

Location: Billings' Exchange City Golf Course

19 S 19th Street West

Fees: 18 holes - \$17, Cart - \$15

For more information or to sign up please contact:
Maureen Davey, Stillwater County Commissioner

Ph: 406-322-8010 or email — mdavey@stillwater.mt.gov

Any golf prizes are appreciated



C. William 'Bill' Tande 1943-2010

SCOBEEY — C. William "Bill" Tande, age 66, of Scobey, died Aug. 21, 2010, in the Daniels Memorial Hospital following a long hard fought battle with cancer.

Bill was born Nov. 7, 1943, in Scobey to Ronald and Clover Tande. He was the eldest of three children. He received his education in Scobey, graduating in 1961. He later attended Montana State University and served in the Montana National Guard.

Bill was a hardworking farmer/rancher who was fortunate in that he was able to work alongside his grandfather, father, brother, nephew and great-nephews over the years.

Bill served on many local boards over the years, most notably as a Daniels County Commissioner, serving continuously for 31 years. Hospitalization didn't deter his input to the monthly meetings. He was called upon regularly for guidance. He was known to be ultra-conservative in county matters and infused his dry wit into many situations. He served the County like he lived his life: simple, straightforward and down to earth.

In his earlier years, Bill enjoyed horses, roping, and bossing his younger siblings. Later in life, he enjoyed reading, golfing, and helping with the annual S.I.T. His great-nieces and nephews brought countless hours of enjoyment.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister, CloAnn, and brother, Jim (Karen), all of Scobey; four nieces; two nephews; three great-nieces and five great-nephews.

At Bill's request, there will be no services. His ashes will be spread at the Tande Ranch, his life-long home. In lieu of flowers, vote Republican.



MACo News

Delegate Assembly Rules

2nd VP Candidate; Chilcott

Rule 1

Any resolution or bylaw change from a member district or county not submitted at the District meeting must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee no later than the Sunday before the Annual Convention in order to be presented to the Board of Directors for their approval.

Rule 2

Any resolution or bylaw change not submitted through Rule 1 will not be considered by the Delegate Assembly unless two-thirds of the delegates present and voting elect to suspend the rules to consider late proposals. Late proposals shall be accompanied by copies for all delegates and shall be available prior to the Introduction and Consideration of Bylaw Changes or Resolutions.

Voting Procedures

Rule 3

Each regular member has one vote. (Regular members shall be those counties which contribute annually to the financial support of the Association.) There shall be one county delegate and one alternate with the authority to vote. The delegate and the alternate must be elected county officials.

Rule 4

In speaking to a motion, a delegate will be limited to three minutes except wherein this rule has been suspended by a vote.

Rule 5

All voting shall be by show of hands or voice vote, subject to the call of the chair. A roll call vote will be conducted upon request by a delegate from the floor.

Rule 6

Debate is considered privileged and a "call for the question" cannot be used to limit debate. A vote to close debate requires a two-thirds vote of the delegates voting.

Suspension of Rules

Rule 7

Any of these rules may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

How long have you been a county commissioner?

I was elected in 2002

Please summarize your MACo participation:

- Urban Counties, Chair (since 2005)
- Executive Board/Board of Directors (since 2005)
- JPA Workers' Compensation Trustee (since 2005)
- Public Lands Committee, (current)
- Interoperability Committee, (current)
- Tax, Budget & Finance Committee, (current)
- Coalition of Forest Counties, (current)
- NACo Public Lands Steering Committee, (current)
- Justice & Public Safety Committee
- Community Economic Development
- Healthcare Trustee
- Conference Planning Committee, Chair

I have testified many times on behalf of MACo at the legislature.

Please summarize your community involvement:

I have served on the Board of Directors (currently vice-chair) of the Bitterroot RC&D since 2000; vice-chair of the Bitterroot Economic Development District and the Missoula/Ravalli relations committee; Resource Advisory Committee; and Local Emergency Planning Committee. Over the years I have served my community as a pre-hospital ALS provider; firefighter; S.A.R.; Civil Air Patrol Mission Pilot/Medical Officer; coach and school board member.

Please detail your special knowledge, skills, abilities and education.

I have a BS in Secondary Education from UM-Western. I have worked in the private sector as a General Manager of two companies/corporations, been a partner in several successful business ventures and enjoy working my small hobby-farm. I was honored to represent Montana at the County Leadership Institute at the NYU Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service in 2009. I have lobbied, with commissioners and educators from around the nation, for Secure Rural Schools funding in Washington D.C. I love my job as a county commissioner and its relationship to my neighbors. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in a number of capacities in the MACo organization and have found it a truly rewarding experience. I would appreciate the opportunity to utilize the experience of my past service by serving as MACo's 2nd Vice-President.





MACo News

New Resolutions

Twenty-one resolutions were introduced during the 2010 District Meetings. The MACo Resolutions Committee will meet on Thursday, Sept.9, to review the resolutions and forward their recommendations to the Board and Committees, and the membership at the Annual Conference for discussion, comment, and vote. The resolutions' language will be included in the Annual Conference registration packets.

- Movement of Bison Across County Lines
- Amending the Interagency Bison Mgmt Plan
- Public Health Accreditation
- County Tax Appeal Boards
- EMS/EMT Certification Timelines
- Extend Sunset on 9-1-1 Fund Distribution
- Historic Road Right of Way Extension
- Municipal Incorporation
- Remove TIF Funding from Permissive Med. Levy
- Rural School Kitchen Sanitation Standards
- Social Host Ordinance
- Workforce Development
- Technology Increment District
- Protect County Funding and Oppose Cost Shifting
- Authority to Limit Use of County Road/Right of Way
- Mail Ballot Option for Counties
- Mobile Home Disposal Resolution
- Veteran's Interment Allowance
- 20 Year Retirement for Public Safety Dispatchers
- Urban Renewal Districts
- Interim Zoning

Carryover Resolutions

The following resolutions are from prior years. These resolutions have been reviewed by their corresponding MACo Committees. Each committee voted on their resolutions and made recommendations for possible action. Possible actions include the following: Incorporation into Policy Statement, Do Not Pass, Pass, and/or Do Pass as Amended. The resolutions will be reviewed by the Resolutions Committee on Thursday, Sept. 9 to determine which resolutions will be carried forward to the Annual Conference. Resolutions carried forward to the Annual Conference will be voted on by the membership.

- 2000-25 Detention Costs for DOC Inmates
- 2004-15 Equitable PILT Distribution
- 2004-27 Delisting the Gray Wolf in Montana
- 2006-07 Exempt Threshold for Solid Waste Sites
- 2006-14 Summer Youth Employment
- 2006-37 Presumptive Eligibility
- 2007-01 FSA Office Closures
- 2007-02 Montana "Split State"
- 2008-04 Bison Management
- 2008-05 Buffer Zone
- 2008-06 Chemical Dependency Funding
- 2008-07 Clarify 76-3-511 MCA
- 2008-08 Clean Water Restoration Act
- 2008-11 Court Security Fund
- 2008-12 DEQ Permitting
- 2008-13 Drug Testing
- 2008-14 Election Funding
- 2008-18 Food Service Inspection Fee
- 2008-19 Impact Fees
- 2008-20 Inmate Medical
- 2008-23 Mail Ballot Elections
- 2008-34 State PILT
- 2008-35 Statewide Cost Allocation Plan
- 2008-37 Subsequent Hearing
- 2008-38 Technology Districts
- 2008-39 Wind Farm & Turbine Permitting
- 2008-40 Youth Detention Funding
- 2009-01 Grazing on the CMR
- 2009-02 Climate Change
- 2009-03 MERLIN



MACo News

Process for Late, Urgent or Extraordinary Resolutions

Late, urgent, or extraordinary resolutions may be considered at the Annual Conference if approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting prior to the Annual Conference for presentation on the floor at the general session of the Annual Conference. Such resolutions must be presented in writing, in easily readable and understandable form as well as in adequate numbers for general circulation. These resolutions may be mailed to MACo for submission to the Board of Directors prior to the Annual Conference. Any resolutions submitted to the Board will be considered, and comments and recommendations will be made for presentation to the general assembly. In addition, the Board may, at any meeting with a quorum present, adopt resolutions pertaining to the policy or position of the Association.

Policy Statements

At their February meetings, Committees evaluated carryover resolutions to determine if they should be drafted for legislation or added as a MACo policy statement. They will continue and finalize this work at their September meetings. The policy statements will be updated and provided in the Annual Conference registration packets for review by the membership. The membership will have the opportunity to discuss, comment, and vote on the amended policy statements. Carryover resolutions and policy statements are available on Legislation page of the MACo website: <http://www.maco.cog.mt.us/Legislature/Legislative.htm>

Committee Meetings

MACo Committees will meet at the Annual Conference on Tuesday, Sept. 28 from 8 a.m. to noon. Committees will be discussing resolutions and policy statements for presentation to the membership, as well as other Committee business. Non-committee members are invited to attend and participate in the discussions.

Just for Fun

Melts in Your Mouth . . .

Nearly everyone is familiar with their tagline, but very few people know the history behind M&M's candies.

Legend has it that the idea of M&M's was born in Europe during the 1930's when Forrest Mars, Sr. saw soldiers eating pellets of chocolate with a hard, sugary coating (to prevent them from melting). Mars felt inspired to create his own candy-coated chocolate and developed the recipe for "M&M's Plain Chocolate Candies."

M&M's were adopted as a staple ration for U.S. military forces and were distributed in cardboard tubes because they traveled well in any climate. They became widely available to the public in the late '40s. In 1948, the packaging changed from a tube to the characteristic brown paper pouch used today.

By 1960, M&M's took a leap and added a splash of color to their traditional brown candies by adding green, red, and even yellow . . . a far cry from the selection of colors available today.

Although there are currently many M&M's knockoffs on the market, you can always tell true M&M's by their insignia, the "m," which is printed on each candy by machine. Mars, Inc. uses a process similar to offset printing, where the stamper doesn't strike the sugar coating directly.

And for those still wondering what the "M&M" stands for . . . the answer is Mars and Murrie, the head honchos at M&M's Candies in the early 1940s.





MACo News

IT Committee Special Report

By, Sandy Broesder, Pondera County Commissioner

A special meeting of the IT Committee was held last April to discuss county use of “shared services” where business processes common to counties are cooperatively developed and/or hosted. A prime example of shared services and how they can work is the burn permit system developed by Lewis & Clark County and currently also being used by Gallatin County. Residents in these counties can go on line to purchase a burn permit or activate a burn permit as well as see burning activity.

The IT Committee is exploring opportunities to create and expand shared services statewide. As we all know, funding and governance would be two of the main issues that would have to be dealt with before any shared services would be feasible. At the meeting, Art Pembroke of Lewis & Clark/City of Helena IT made the observation that we should start with a project that represented the “low hanging fruit”, something relatively straight-forward and simple while we worked out the process. One possible funding source that was discussed was the Montana Land Information Advisory Council (MLIAC) grants for projects involving GIS and that would meet the objectives of the Land Information Plan. Dan Stahly of Stahly Engineering suggested a project that he is currently working on with Pondera County that links scanned documents with property parcel maps allowing the user to click on a parcel and see an index of the corresponding recorded documents. This is a project that could easily be expanded to include any number of counties and which would qualify for MLIAC funding while simultaneously giving us a pilot project to share.

At this point the committee is looking for counties that would be interested in participating in this project or looking for other projects that we can accomplish. Please share any thoughts, ideas or suggestions with Sandy Broesder, 271-4005 or pococo@3rivers.net or any other IT Committee member.



Paint the State

Thank you to all the county commissioners and/or their committees who helped judge Paint the State art entries. Parents, teens and the Montana Meth Project appreciate you taking valuable time and effort out of your busy summer schedules to recognize the youth in your county for their artwork and efforts in helping spread the word about the dangers of Meth. With new data released by the CDC showing teen Meth use in Montana has dropped below the national average for first time since 1991, your partnership has been invaluable in helping us educate teens about the dangers of Meth.

Sincerely,

Montana Meth Project

Sheriff Arnold Honored

The Montana Sheriff Peace Officers Association (MSPOA) honored Sheriff Arnold with the prestigious Distinguished Career Award at their annual meeting in June. Gene Arnold is the longest-serving Sheriff in Sanders County. Presenting the award was Undersheriff Rube Wrightsman, who submitted the nomination.

In a two page missive, Wrightsman wrote of Arnold’s dedication, leadership, support of his employees, and humor that helped the sheriff’s office work together as a team, and cooperate effectively with the county commissioners and other groups.

Arnold has served as sheriff for 16 years, longer than anyone in the history of Sanders County. Wrightsman wrote, “Only a sheriff with impeccable moral character, a strong work ethic, and friendly charisma could remain popular and sheriff for 16 years.”



MACo News

Montana Reaches 100% Enhanced 9-1-1

By Becky Berger, State of Montana 911 Program Manager

Recently, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County deployed Enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1), marking a major milestone for Montana. Now, 100% of the state's 9 1-1 centers are providing E9-1-1 service. With E9-1-1, local 9-1-1 centers have the equipment and database information that allows call-takers to view the caller's wire-line telephone number and address on a display. This functionality allows dispatchers to quickly dispatch emergency help, even if the caller is unable to communicate the nature of the emergency or his or her location.

Progress also is being made with the deployment of the Wireless E9-1-1 program. Currently, forty-one of fifty-three 9-1-1 Centers have the ability to receive critical location information on 9-1-1 calls made from wireless cell phones.

Landfill Fee Passed by Commissioners

By, Mark Eisenbeil, Silver State Post

Property owners in the Deer Lodge Rural Disposal District will see a slight increase in the landfill fee on their property tax bills this November. The county commissioners passed Resolution No. 2010-09 on July 27 after holding a public meeting on July 22 in the Powell County Community Center and allowing time for any written comments on the matter.

The disposal district is comprised of the City of Deer Lodge and some adjacent communities, from Beck Hill Road to Racetrack.

The fees will be in effect for the present fiscal year, from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 and will be on the affected property owners' tax bill this November. The landfill fee increase will raise approximately 20% from \$4 per unit per month to \$5 per unit per month.

The last increase in landfill rates occurred in 1993 and Powell County ranks among the lowest in the state for landfill fees, according to Powell County Commissioner Cele Pohle.



Building a Strong America

Our company reflects a multi-dimensional enterprise comprised of regulated and non-regulated businesses operating in different geographic locations and offering a broad spectrum of high-quality products and services.

MDU Resources' lines of business include:

- Construction Materials and Mining
- Construction Services
- Electric and Natural Gas Utilities
- Natural Gas Pipeline and Energy Services
- Natural Gas and Oil Production

Gary Forrester, Government Affairs
2527 Gardiner St., Billings, MT 59101
406/259-7243 gary.forrester@mduresources.com
www.mduresources.com

MACo Property and Casualty Insurance & Workers' Compensation Insurance

For Public Entities

Greg Jackson

JPIA/JPA Trust Administrator
Phone (406) 449-4370
gjackson@mtcounties.org



Helping communities identify, secure and administer grant funding to support these and other project areas:

- Economic Development
- Housing
- Social Services
- Hazard Mitigation
- Parks & Recreation
- Water & Wastewater

Visit us online at www.nittanygrantworks.com or call 406-222-7133.



MACo News



Order your 2010 MACo Directory of Montana Officials while they last!

Only \$17.50 each!

Go to www.maco.cog.mt.us to order & pay online

OR

Send order & payment to:
MACo, 2715 Skyway Dr.
Helena, MT 59602
Attn: Sharon



MACoHCT

A Cost Effective Alternative for Employee Benefits

406.443.8102 (Helena)
406.535.6893 (Lewistown)
lgoltry@mtcounties.org
www.macohct.com

Emelia's Safety Corner

Safety tip of the Month

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

Provide carts to cut manual handling tasks

Manual handling tasks are not found only in manufacturing work. Many industries from construction to food preparation require employees to transport materials from one location to another. Rather than exposing workers to lifting and carrying risks, provide them with utility carts and hand trucks whenever possible.

Provide transport devices with appropriate handles. These handles should be within the employee's power zone - close to the body, between mid-high and mid-chest height - when pushing. The handles should also be large enough to accommodate the person's entire hand. There should be no sharp edges or rough spots on the handles that could cut or pinch the employee's hands. In addition, use vertical handles instead of horizontal handles to allow employees of different heights to maintain neutral postures.

Always remind employees to push the carts, rather than pulling them. Pushing generally takes less effort than pulling because a person's body weight is used to assist the exertion. Also, pulling a load often causes carts to run into the shins or ankles.

MACo JPIA

Property and Casualty Insurance for Public Entities Personnel Services

Jack Holstrom

Attorney at Law
(800) 471- 6304

jholstrom@mtcounties.org
www.maco.cog.mt.us



MACo News

State of Montana

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Dore Schwinden, Director



Direct technical assistance, economic information, and training for Montana's entrepreneurs and businesses

Andy Poole, Deputy Director, Business Resources Division

phone (406) 841-2707 * e-mail apoole@mt.gov * website www.businessresources.mt.gov



Financing for homeownership and rental assistance

Bruce Brensdal, Executive Director, Board of Housing

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

Louise Welsh, Bond Program Officer, Board of Investments, Infrastructure Loan Program

phone (406) 444-0891 * e-mail lwelsh@mt.gov * website www.investmentmt.com/programs/intercap

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

“creating a climate for economic prosperity”



MACo News

Officials warn of ticks, West Nile virus

By, Jeff Schmerker, Ravalli Republic

County health officials are expecting to see cases of tick disease and West Nile virus this summer.

Normally the tick season would have come and gone by now but the cool spring delayed it. Meanwhile, a wet spring means plenty of breeding opportunities for West Nile.

"We are anticipating some cases of West Nile because we have had several months of wet weather, and when it starts to get hot there will be a quick hatch," said Judy Griffin, the county's director of public health.

West Nile virus is a mosquito-spread disease which causes various pains, aches, soreness and vomiting; symptoms last for up to six days. In more cases there can be confusion, unconsciousness and weakness.

Because people with West Nile can simply feel under the weather, Griffin said, cases often go undetected and untreated.

Tick fever is a viral infection caused by the bite of an infected tick. Symptoms usually show up within three to six days and last for about three days. Symptoms include fever, chills, headaches, muscle pain, nausea and rashes. Lab tests are used to confirm the infection.

Griffin said there have likely been unreported cases of tick fever in the county and to expect more as travelers chase the retreating snow-pack.

Because it has not been hot yet, ticks are still out there, so people need to be careful," Griffins said.

The key to staying healthy, Griffin said, is prevention: wear long pants and long shirts, use anti-tick sprays, and check your body and clothes thoroughly. Also, treat pets for the pest as well.

To remove ticks, use tweezers and gentle pressure. Try not to crush the bug's body and don't do removal with your bare hands. Don't use flames to remove the bug. As ticks can be small, check for spots which may resemble new freckles.



MACo Risk Management & Training

Emelia McEwen & Fred Hansen, PE
Sr. Loss Control Specialist Loss Control Specialist

Phone: (406) 449-4370
Fax: (406) 442-5238

Mae Nan Ellingson Dan Semmens
Jack Manning Jeremy Brown

125 Bank Street, Suite 600
Missoula, MT 59802-4407
(406) 721-6025
missoula@dorsey.com

www.dorsey.com  **DORSEY**
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Become a MACo Associate Member
A Partnership with Montana Counties

Please visit our website; www.maco.cog.mt.us for more information and to download the application.



MACo News



Green. Clean. Sustainable.

Finance your facility improvements through future energy savings.

Ameresco is a leading energy services company, providing energy savings through performance contracting solutions that are guaranteed to work.

We have captured billions in savings for our customers by turning inefficiencies into over \$5 billion in spendable dollars to benefit local communities.

Call your local representative **John O'Donnell** at **406.533.9194** to discuss ways to make your budget go further through smarter energy solutions.



www.ameresco.com

©2010 Ameresco. All rights reserved.



at&t

Adam Grzybicki, President
Idaho/Mont./Ore.
1600 SW 4th Ave., Ste. 200
Portland, OR 97201
(503) 306-6565

Aq1365@att.com
www.att.com

Wireless • Bundles • Internet • DSL • Local • Long Distance • Digital TV
Business • Wholesale • Government

Fraud Prevention

Continued from front page . . .

While nothing will ever prevent employee theft vigilance will reduce both opportunity for theft and the duration and amount of such theft. It is your duty to properly manage and care for the public money and property entrusted to your care and this vigilance is required to properly discharge that duty.

What should you do if you have reason to believe that there is a problem or a problem has been reported to you? If you have established a factual basis to believe that some further inquiry is warranted you should contact your county attorney and give him or her facts in your possession and request that they investigate further. Because the investigation of embezzlement is a field requiring specialized expertise you may wish to suggest that the County's auditors are or can be made available to assist in the investigation.

If theft is established you should be clear with your county attorney that the only limitation on criminal prosecution is the County Attorney's professional judgment on the possibility of a successful prosecution. You should also be clear in your personnel policies and your practice that theft from the County in any form is grounds for immediate termination.

If your county is interested in adopting additional policies to address employee embezzlement, MACo has a sample policy available to assist you in this process. You may obtain a copy of this policy from MACo by contacting Fred Hansen, MACo JPIA Loss Control Specialist at 406-449-4360 or by e-mail fhansen@mtcounties.org.



Prison Industries

*Producing Office Furniture, Seating,
Printing & Sign Services, Embroidery &
Garment Printing*

Jack Hinkle, Marketing & Sales (406) 846-1320 ext. 2270

Website: <http://mce.mt.gov>

Email: mce@mt.gov



MACo News



Gallagher

Public Entity & Scholastic Division

Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc.

Arthur J. Gallagher
7380 Sand Lake Road, Suite 390,
Orlando, FL 32819

(800) 524-0191, Ext. 3512

www.ajg.com

Wake Up and Smell the Threats: Two Recent Examples of Why Counties Need Cyber Insurance

by Richard Bortnick

Odd as it may seem to those of us who live and breathe cyber, tech and privacy insurance, I have heard anecdotally of municipal authorities who profess that their cities and towns do not need to incur the expense of buying these products. "Why do we need them? We don't operate on the internet," they reportedly have said.

Well, my response is "why don't you think you need them?" Do you maintain a bank account? Do you store personally identifiable information about private citizens, whether in your property records, police files, tax databases or otherwise? Are your employees able to access your county's computer systems remotely? Is it really possible that every single piece of information you maintain is recorded on paper and nothing is stored on a mainframe, whether located on- or off-site? Come on. Its 2010. That's virtually impossible, isn't it? Haven't you read my December 23, 2009 post "[No One is Immune. Even Government Entities Need Cyber/Tech Insurance?](#)"

Since that posting, additional counties have suffered cyber attacks and been the subject of cyber lawsuits. Most recently, hackers broke into a bank database and stole \$378,000 in funds from the Town of Poughkeepsie, New York. Shortly thereafter, leaders of the neighboring City of Poughkeepsie, New York (same name, but this one's a City) authorized the purchase of cyber insurance with a minimum policy limit of \$500,000. According to the City's mayor, it will be one of the first municipalities in its area (the Hudson Valley, north of New York City) to purchase such insurance. (I guess that officials in the other local towns and cities and their brokers don't read this blog. Shame on them). Needless to say, if I was a broker or underwriter, I'd descend on the region and market the need for cyber insurance till I dropped. To their credit, officials in the City of Poughkeepsie also announced that they were increasing the limits on their employee theft (fidelity) insurance from \$25,000 to \$100,000 per occurrence and their separate theft coverage from \$100,000 to \$500,000 per occurrence for certain City officers, at an added cost of a reasonable \$10,000 premium. Smart, prudent and forward thinking. (Now, about that name).

While this was going on, my own local municipality, Lower Merion Township, Pennsylvania, was involved in its own brouhaha. If you haven't heard (and, to be honest, who hasn't heard), the Lower Merion School District provides all of its approximately 2300 high school students with an Apple laptop. (No wonder my taxes are so high). What school officials didn't do was notify students and parents that the laptops had built-in cameras which school officials could turn on and off without warning. While officials say this system was used only approximately 43 times, and only when the computers were reportedly lost or stolen, the use of the system on one occasion has lead to the filing a federal court class action lawsuit, purportedly brought on behalf of all Lower Merion high school students. Many local students and parents with whom I have spoken are not necessarily in favor of this lawsuit (I've heard comments like: "all I'm doing is paying lawyers... at the expense of increased taxes..." and "I'll be taking money out of one pocket and putting it into the other..." and "the school district didn't mean any harm; they were just protecting their property..."); nonetheless, it has caused the Township to hire Big Firm lawyers to investigate the situation and deal with the fallout. To the point, even if the School District didn't do anything wrong, or simply made a mistake, the attorneys' fees alone likely will run into the six figures. (My tax dollars at work). Would cyber insurance cover such an incident? Perhaps, depending on the facts and the coverages purchased. It certainly wouldn't hurt.

In short, these latest incidents further highlight the need for underwriters and brokers to get out there and market cyber/tech/privacy insurance products to municipalities and other public institutions. How could the City of Poughkeepsie be one of the few communities in the Mohawk Valley to purchase such insurance? The Valley is an hour or so outside of New York City, as close to the insurance capital of the U.S. as one can be. And its communities are un- or underinsured? Seriously? Needless to say, there must be similar pockets of Americana which are similarly uninsured. In this age of computer crime and the ease with which insurance professionals can communicate with distant clients, it shouldn't be difficult to get the word and the products out. In other words, let's all get to work.

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. Please contact Richard Terlecki or Mary Albee at (800) 524-0191 for more information.



MACo News

MACo Employee Profile

Fran Monro



Fran Monro

Spouse's name and time together:
Bill—34years

Children's name and ages: Sabrina—30 and Jonathan—29

Occupation and years at current occupation: Customer Service Rep for MACo-JPIA for 14 years.

Profession before current occupation: Worked in Personnel Department for Federal Reserve Bank in Helena for 9 1/2 years.

Education: Went to Elyria District Catholic High School and then the College of DuPage, Illinois

Biggest challenge you've ever faced: Getting payroll and taxes done manually for the Federal Reserve Bank for 325 employees.

Two people, alive or not, you would like to have dinner with: My Father and Mother, and Bill's Mom who are deceased.

Surprising fact about you: It would not be a surprise if I told you.

Most adventurous thing you've ever done: Selling our home in Illinois and moving to Montana with a 2 and 3 year old.

Favorite TV show: "Mad Men"

A turning point in your life: Having my children

A book you've read twice (or more): "The Client"

The job you wanted at age 18: Travel Agent

Favorite movie: "Unsinkable Molly Brown" and "Grease"

Person(s) who had the biggest influence on you/your life, and why: My parents, because they showed me how to take people for their word and to make memories that count. Also, my husband Bill because he is always looking on the bright side of life and bringing laughter.

Commissioner Profile

Gary Macdonald, Roosevelt County



Gary Macdonald

Spouse's name and time together:
Diane - 47 years

Children's name and ages:
Kim - 46, John - 45 and Mark - 39

Occupation and years at current occupation: County Commissioner for 11 years.

Profession before current occupation: Self-employed and parts manager for John Deere

Education: Have a degree in Business Administration and still learning daily.

Biggest challenge you've ever faced: Raising a family

Two people, alive or not, you would like to have dinner with: My Grandfather Macdonald (whom I never met) and John F. Kennedy.

Surprising fact about you: I like beer and horses

Most adventurous thing you've ever done: Floated down the Poplar River on a large flat chunk of ice.

Favorite TV show: Pawn Stars

A turning point in your life: When I became a Commissioner

A book you've read twice (or more): I have read very few books once, never one twice.

The job you wanted at age 18: Rancher

Favorite movie: Any John Wayne

Person(s) who had the biggest influence on you/your life, and why: My Dad because, by example, he taught us kids honesty, ethics, fairness and gave us very strong work ethics. He also taught me everything I know about a horse.



MACo News

County Sharing Fingerprint info with ICE

By, Angela Brandt, Independent Record

Lewis and Clark County has been chosen as one of the first places in the state to share fingerprinting information with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, (ICE).

The Helena jail began sharing information that will help federal immigration officials identify inmates who are legal and illegal immigrants with previous criminal convictions.

Sheriff Leo Dutton said until now, detention center officers would check a nationwide database for outstanding warrants and criminal history information on new inmates, but the new sharing capability will allow them to cross reference with immigration records.

This is a benefit to local officials because it will help get potentially dangerous criminals off the streets, he said.

“That was what was appealing to me,” Dutton said. “Violent offenders do not belong on our streets, and this partnership will enhance our ability to identify and notify the proper authorities for action.”

If fingerprints match someone in the federal immigration records, ICE will be notified and will evaluate the situation to see if the person was convicted of a serious crime such as murder, major drug offenses and kidnapping. This includes immigrants who are in lawful status and those who are present illegally.

Missoula County is the second Montana area to be part of the sharing capability, which is part of Secured Communities, a comprehensive strategy to improve and modernize the identification and removal of criminal immigrants from the United States. The system is currently used in 481 jurisdictions in 27 states.

From our MACo President Scholarship Recipient

Thank you so much for awarding me the Montana Association of Counties Scholarship. I am very honored to have received this scholarship and truly appreciate your support. I will be pursuing a degree in Accounting at MSU Bozeman.

Thank you again for your assistance in furthering my education.

Sincerely,
Dillon Udelhoven

Providing resources in partnership with clients to achieve their goals since 1945

Engineers
Surveyors
Planners
Scientists

QUALITY Solutions
VALUED Service
EXCEPTIONAL Delivery

Municipal Services
Water Systems
Wastewater Systems
Transportation
Airports
Stormwater
Water Resources
Land Development
Structural
Mechanical
Electrical
Environmental
Project Management
Construction Engineering

MORRISON MAIERLE, INC.
An Employee Owned Company
mmi@m-m.net • www.m-m.net



Unlimited high speed data across Montana on our 3G network for only \$37.99 per month!

Kati Patterson
Business Solutions Representative/Gov't Accts.

2700 N. Montana Ave., Helena, MT 59601
888/660-1166 kati.patterson@alltel.com



600 Central Plaza, Suite 204, Great Falls, MT 59401
406-452-2526



MACo News

Heritage Act a Needed tool in Fight on Weeds

By, Derek Brown, Vice-Chair of the Lewis and Clark County Commission

Lewis and Clark County encompasses a significant part of the Rocky Mountain Front and includes some of the finest wild lands and productive agricultural lands in the State. As a county commissioner and a member of the Weed Board, I was interested in a recent report on the economic and ecological impacts of noxious weeds on the Rocky Mountain Front.

The findings that noxious weeds are an economic burden on taxpayers and a growing ecological disaster for our wildlife came as no surprise, but I was heartened to see an otherwise disheartening issue get so much attention.

In most cases, noxious weeds originate in other countries and they have no natural competitors or predators to keep them in check here in Montana. Because of that, they are unrelenting and they quickly push out and take over Montana's native plants. This means loss of critical winter range for our elk and deer populations, fewer nesting places for our upland bird species, and a general loss of habitat for our world-class wildlife populations.

Noxious weeds also cost Montana's agricultural industry millions of dollars each year in forage and crop losses. On the Front, where both agriculture and wildlife drive the local economy, the report points out that more resources, better cooperation, and a coherent strategy for fighting noxious weeds is needed.

First and foremost, the most effective, economical and ecologically viable method of managing weeds is to prevent invasion. Good proactive weed management strategies rely on prevention or early detection of new invasions, in addition to management of existing infestations.

A comprehensive, systematic approach for preventing introduction and spread of noxious weeds is essential. That's why it makes sense on the Front to invest adequate resources now so that we don't lose our wildlife habitat and agricultural heritage in the future.

While there is no silver bullet when it comes to fighting noxious weeds, folks on the Front are committed to collaborative conservation efforts and finding creative solutions.

Over the last several years I have seen this happen as ranchers and landowners have rolled up their sleeves to hash out the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act. The Act includes a section that responds directly to the concerns about noxious weeds and aims to deal with the problem through on-the-ground engagement of the Front's four counties.

The Heritage Act would require land managers at the Forest Service and BLM to prioritize noxious weed management on public lands and require them to develop a comprehensive strategy for fighting noxious weeds, including setting goals, identifying challenges, and working cooperatively with counties and private landowners. The Heritage Act would also provide the foundation for securing new federal funding to help counties fight noxious weeds and assist willing private landowners.

As always, politics are an essential part of the equation when it comes to addressing natural resource challenges. We won't know if the Heritage Act is a viable tool in our weed management toolbox unless it becomes law. Our delegation has strong ties to the agricultural community and cares about family farmers and ranchers. Now is the time for Senators Baucus and Tester and Congressman Rehberg to support the Heritage Act and help protect the Front's working landscape and wildlife heritage.

I urge all Montanans who care about the economic and habitat values of the Front to contact our delegation today about introducing this wise, balanced, and locally crafted piece of legislation.

CIVIL ENGINEERING | TRANSPORTATION | PLANNING | SURVEYING



ROBERT PECCIA & ASSOCIATES

For more than 30 years, Robert Peccia & Associates has offered clients throughout Montana and the United States quality and innovative engineering and related services.

- Water Supply
- Wastewater Management
- Drainage
- Site Development
- Traffic & Transportation
- Highways & Road Design
- Airport Design
- Environmental Studies
- Natural Resources
- Surveying/S.U.E
- Structures
- Graphic Design/Mapping
- G.I.S.

HELENA - (406) 447-5000
KALISPELL - (406) 752-5025
BUTTE - (406) 533-6770

www.rpa-hln.com

An Employee-Owned Company

These days, finding money to pack away for your future isn't easy. But it's not as hard when you know where to look. That's where Nationwide Retirement Solutions comes in. We've been helping public sector employees save smarter and better for over 30 years.

Food for thought
Simply pack your lunch a couple of times a week, and invest that savings toward retirement.

Lunch money saved per pay period	\$20
Pay periods per year	x 26
Total lunch money saved per year	\$520
Savings over 30 years with inflation	\$29,164*
Invested over 30 years	\$92,015**

Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

(*) Invested money does not include taxes.
(**) Investment earnings are not guaranteed. Returns are not guaranteed. Investment performance may vary. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Investment returns are not guaranteed.

Call 1-877-677-3678 to put a Retirement Specialist from Nationwide on your side or visit NRSFORU.com to learn more about how to invest for your future with deferred compensation.

©2010 Nationwide Retirement Solutions. All rights reserved. This advertisement is not intended to constitute an offer of insurance or any other financial product. For more information, please contact your insurance agent or Nationwide Retirement Solutions. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Investment returns are not guaranteed.






MACo News

East Helena Library Grand Opening

The new branch of Lewis and Clark County Library is ready for readers.

July 24th marked the grand opening of the new East Helena branch of the Lewis and Clark Library. The festivities, including a ribbon-cutting ceremony, drew a crowd that included several library board members and local politicians, including County Commissioner Mike Murray and East Helena Mayor Anthony Strainer. An hour into the celebration, library administrators estimated that about 60 people had already rotated through to see the new facility.

Paid for with funds coming from a library operating levy approved by voters in 2008, the new facility at 16 E Main Street has been open for visitors since the end of June. The East Helena branch had operated out of the East Valley Middle School for about 10 years, but there were limitations in its operation since it could only be used at times when school was not in session. The East Helena branch had seen an increase in visitors recently prompting the upgrade to the new building.

Accepting Applications!!

Wheatland County is accepting applications for a part-time Land Planner and Flood Plain Administrator

For more information, please contact the Clerk & Recorder at:
406-632-4891

Ravalli County's Junk Car Removal Program Funded

Ravalli County has \$58,734 in state money available this year to implement Montana's junk vehicle removal program.

County commissioners accepted a low bid offer from Kyle Marvin to remove junked vehicles under the program.

The statewide junked cars recycling program makes money available to counties to haul away junked vehicles which are sold as scrap metal; money from the sale of the metal is used for environmental health programs.

The program in Ravalli County is administered through the environmental health department. It's run partly for health reasons and partly for aesthetic reasons. Junked cars can detract from property values, and car fluids like oil and antifreeze can leak into and contaminate the groundwater. Under law, junked vehicles and vehicle parts must be screened from public view-and that does not mean covering them with a tarp.

The program does not cover abandoned vehicles, only owned junk vehicles; owners must sign a waiver before handing the vehicle over.

To learn more about the removal program contact the county environmental health department. Call 375-6565 or go to the website www.ravallcounty.gov to download the application.

IMPORTANT! Meeting in Malta!

Please plan on attending this very important meeting.
September 16th at 7:00 pm at the Malta High School Gym

Robert Abbey, Washington D.C.—based director of the Dept. of Interior's BLM will be the speaker to address the concerns Phillips and Valley County residents have about the possible designation of a national monument in the area.

Phillips County and Valley County Commissioners encourage everyone to attend this important meeting.



MACo News

Attention Elected County Officials

From: Carl Seilstad, MACo President

The Montana Association of Counties can only improve with your help. We appreciate your service to the Association, and we value your opinions. As we do every year, we've created an online survey for you to offer guidance and input on what MACo does for Montana county government.

**Please complete the survey
by September 17th**

so the results can be compiled and presented at the MACo Annual Conference in Billings, Sept. 26-30. We welcome any comments and/or suggestions you may have regarding the Association and its services.

Please check your emails for the link . If you did not receive the email, please let MACo know and we will send it to you.

Please feel free to contact either a member of the MACo Executive Committee or the MACo staff if you have any questions.

“Remembering Charlie”

Now in the
MACo Video Library

Charlie Morecraft was invited to the Spring 2010 WorkSafeMT SafetyFest in Helena to present as a keynote speaker on the importance of workplace safety. Charlie tells an amazing story about being a refinery worker in New Jersey who had become fully engulfed in flames through workplace safety errors. Fifty operations later, he is alive and still making a firsthand compelling case for workplace safety.

“Remembering Charlie” is a DVD of his presentation, and it is now available from the MACo video library. If you would like to view this DVD, please contact Fran Monro at MACo for your free rental. You may contact her via email fmonro@mtcounties.org or call (406) 449-4370.

Cascade County Receives NACo Grant

The Sun River Watershed Group has been selected to receive funding in the amount of \$23,700 under the Five Star Restoration Matching Grant Program. Cascade County's support of the Elk Creek Stream Restoration reflects the importance of community involvement, which is critical to the success of programs like this one. NACo recognizes the leadership that member counties have demonstrated in restoration efforts.

The Five Star Restoration Program funds projects involving a high degree of cooperation with local governmental agencies, elected officials, community groups, businesses, schools and environmental organizations. These groups work together to improve local water quality, reduce flood damage and restore important fish and wildlife habitats in our communities. This program is a partnership among NACo, the National Fish and Wildlife Federation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Wildlife Habitat Council, and corporate sponsors Southern Company, FedEx and Pacific Gas & Electric.





Around Our Counties

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

Scaffolding went up around the lantern house and construction crews have begun restoration of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County's historic courthouse.

"We're excited to see construction begin," said Connie Ternes-Daniels, the county's planning director. "The courthouse is a treasure that we don't want to lose."

Plexiglas will be installed throughout the lantern house to keep pigeons and water out of the century-old structure.

The lantern house will be dismantled and replaced in accordance with national historic preservation standards, which means the courthouse will remain on the Historic Register. It also means Anaconda will remain part of a National Historic Landmark District along with Butte for their mining and smelting histories, which could mean more grant money for the Copper City.

Additional funds could mean more work for the mason structure and its sandstone façade that is weathering away.

Big Horn County

Big Horn County held an open house for the retirement of Karen Kehler. Kehler has

worked for Big Horn County's Sheriff's department for 39 years. She was hired by former Sheriff Bob Brown in August of 1971. Kehler has served the department as Secretary, Dispatcher and Office Manager.

Blaine County

The Blaine County Museum is pleased to announce the opening of the traveling exhibit, "On Track: The railroad Photographs of Warren McGee."

The exhibit will be on display in the downstairs gallery from August through October. There is no admission fee to the museum and they invite you to stop in to view this outstanding photo collection.

Flathead County

A Columbia Falls nonprofit is closer to restoring a local landmark after receiving a \$500,000 commitment from the Flathead County Board of Commissioners.

All three members voted to allocate the funds over two years for improvements to the Red Bridge, a historic span over the Flathead River that was first closed to vehicle traffic, then closed to pedestrian traffic in 1992.

The First Best Place Task Force plans to begin the restoration project in 2011 at a cost of about \$950,000.

Gallatin County

After several years of planning, building, and raising money, the bridge for the Headwaters Trail System over the Madison River was finally placed.

It was moved into the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site on August 7th, and the crane arrived on August 11th for the placement over the river.

McCone County

Sylvan Walden is the winner of the McCone County Seal Contest. In her narrative, explaining the elements she chose to include in her drawing, she wrote, "The Seal of McCone County pays tribute to its history, its future, and its people. The colors are blue and gold, the official colors of the State of Montana. Agriculture founded and supported this county and continues to do so. The three main agricultural pursuits of McCone County are portrayed on its seal: the horse-drawn plow for the farmers, the sheep wagon for the sheepherders, and the coiled

lariat for the cattlemen. The hewn log cabin symbolizes the homes and hearts of McCone County's people. The people of McCone County are friendly, honest, and hardworking. They have great courage and integrity, making McCone County a great place to call home."

Missoula County

Missoula City-County Health Department Environmental Health Specialist, received the 2010 Missoula county employee of the year Award. McPherson has been a sanitarian at the Missoula City-County Health Department for three years. She graduated from Montana State University-Northern in 2006. She does licensed establishment inspections and is the program lead for swimming pools and Temporary Food Service.

Park County

Park County commissioners passed a resolution to restrict alcohol at the Park County Fairgrounds.

The restriction, in effect this year, forbids open containers of alcohol in parking lots, barns, livestock pens, bucking chutes, roping and stripping chutes, and other animal handling areas, according to the resolution.

Alcohol will continue



Around Our Counties

to be allowed in the arena area, the fairgrounds campground and RV areas.

Because the fairgrounds are county property, fair board members needed a resolution from the commissioners to set a no-alcohol policy in the affected fairground areas.

The resolution provides the Fair Board the ability to confiscate alcohol from those who have it in the affected areas or ask them to leave, Civil Deputy County Attorney Shannan Piccolo said. If offenders do not leave, they could be charged with trespassing, but not an open container violation.

Since a resolution is not a law, the Park County Sheriff's Office will not enforce an open container law in the affected areas of the fairgrounds, Piccolo said.

Powell County

The purchase of Spotted Dog Ranch by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks was endorsed by Powell County Commissioners.

The Commissioners, in a joint state, said they voted in favor of the acquisition because the property is a unique piece of real estate that will become a recreational legacy for the residents of Powell County and the state of Montana.

In their statement, the Commissioners said they hoped the management would insure the best management practices of grasses, timber, and watersheds, and that it would be maintained through the stewardship of FWP. They encouraged good neighbor practices in the size of the elk herd so as not to impact the grasslands of the working cattle ranches.

It was noted that it was appreciated that with the FWP management of the property there would be no decrease in tax revenue or taxable value for the county or the three school districts that would be impacted.

Ravalli County

The county is taking a look at access improvements to its two most important buildings—the courthouse and the administration building.

A commission-appointed safety committee recommended commissioners work on a few areas of the buildings in order to improve ease of entry.

Sanders County

Sheriff Gene Arnold has power at his fingertips. With the touch of the throttle, a gigantic Yamaha 239 horse-

power Wave Runner roars into action on the Clark Fork River, spouting a rooster tail and leaving a large wake. It's a lot of machine to handle and, Arnold wants his staff to practice controlling it, so if they ever need to use it, they aren't the ones being pulled out of the water.

Two of the personal watercrafts were donated to Sanders County Sheriff's Office by Penco, a Kalispell dealer, in a program that offers the PWCs to law enforcement and emergency services nationwide. Wave runners have been provided locally all but two of the past ten years. At the end of the boating season, they are returned to the dealer and sold at a discount, usually with very few hours on them.

These watercrafts have been used in the past for search and rescue, body recovery, surveying a train wreck, and searching for evidence of illegal activity, among other

things.

Keeping the machines at the Sheriff's office, instead of the search and rescue barn, facilitates quick response in case of an urgent call. All employees are trained to use them, and every sheriff's car has a trailer hitch.

Considering the typically stressful responsibilities of a sheriff or deputy, perhaps it's good that at least one of their tasks involves a little fun.

Valley County

A new website for Valley County has been launched. Valley County government's first official site, has just been made available and it lists everything imaginable about county government services. You might be surprised at the range of agencies, departments, boards and districts that form a network linking people and the infrastructure they need.

Go to www.valleycountymt.net to see what it's all about.



111 E. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 728-4611



MACo News

Montana Legislative Meetings

September

- 1 - 10:00 am - State-Tribal Relations Committee, Room 137
- 3 - 10:00 am - Economic Affairs Committee Room 102
- 8 - 9:30 am - Water Policy Committee Room 172
- 1:00 pm - LFC-Judicial Branch Law Enforcement & Justice Subcommittee, Room 152
- 1:30 pm - Legislative Consumer Committee Room 317
- 9 – 8:00 am - Water Policy Committee Room 172
- Law & Justice Committee Room 152
- Legislative Council Location TBA
- 10 – 8:00 am - Law & Justice Committee Room 152
- Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee Meeting Room 172
- 13– 8:00 am Environmental Quality Council Meeting, Room 172
- State Administration & Veteran's Affairs Committee, Room 137
- 14 - 8:00 am - Environmental Quality Council Meeting, Room 172
- 15 - 8:00 am - Revenue & Transportation Committee, Location TBA

September continued . . .

16 - 8:00 am - Revenue & Transportation Committee, Location TBA
Location TBA

28 - 8:00 am - Legislative Audit Committee, Location TBA

October

7 - 1:00 pm - Legislative Finance Committee Meeting, Room 102

8 - 8:00 am - Legislative Finance Committee Meeting, Room 102



U.S. Communities
Government Purchasers

SAVING YOU MONEY
Over 7,000 public entities purchase quality products with the most favorable government pricing.

YOU CAN TOO!

All contracts are competitively solicited, non-exclusive and require no charge to participants.

- Office and School Supplies
- Office Furniture
- Technology Products
- Carpet and Flooring
- Procurement Card
- Electrical and Communication Data Supplies
- School/Classroom Furniture
- Janitorial Supplies
- Tools and Materials Handling

Contact:
www.info@uscommunities.org
www.uscommunities.org





Calendar of Events

Events

September

- 8** MACo Interoperability Committee, MACo Office
- 9** MACo Resolutions Committee, MACo Office
- 15-17** **Governors Conference, Big Sky**
- 26-30** MACo 101st Annual Conference, Billings

October

- 12-14** NACo WIR Board retreat—Helena
- 18-20** **AGRIp Governance and Leadership Conference—Nashville, TN**

September 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		

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Carl Seilstad, Fergus County

1st Vice President
John Ostlund, Yellowstone County

2nd Vice President
Connie Eissinger, McCone County

Fiscal Officer
Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County

Urban Representative
Greg Chilcott, Ravalli County

Past President
Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County

DISTRICT CHAIRS

1. Richard Dunbar, Phillips County
2. Mark Rehbein, Richland County
3. Donald Reiger, Fallon County
4. Russ Tempel, Liberty County
5. Arnold Gettel, Teton County
6. Leslie Burroughs, Golden Valley Co.
7. Maureen Davey, Stillwater County
8. Andy Hunthausen, Lewis & Clark Co.
9. Steve White, Gallatin County
10. Tony Berget, Lincoln County
11. Jean Curtiss, Missoula County
12. Tom Rice, Beaverhead County

ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Leo Gallagher, Lewis & Clark Co. Attorney
Paula Robinson, Flathead Co. Clerk & Recorder
Marilyn Craft, Jefferson County District Court Clerk
Steve Immenschuh, Granite County Coroner
Gary Olsen, Broadwater County Justice of the Peace
Diane Inbody, Teton County School Supt.
Dave Rau, Lewis & Clark Co. Sheriff's Office
Kevin Larkin, Park County Treasurer

MACo STAFF

Harold Blattie, Executive Director
Sheryl Wood, Associate Director
Tom Swindle, Finance Officer
Karen Houston, Meeting Planner
Sara McGowan, Accounting Technician
Shantil Siaperas, Legislative Coordinator
Sharon Wilson, Admin. Assistant
Greg Jackson, JPIA/JPA Trust Admin.
Mike Sehestedt, Chief Legal Counsel
Maureen Lennon, Assoc. Legal Counsel
Greg Bonilla, Assoc. Legal Counsel
Carol Knight, Legal Secretary/Ad. Assist.
Emelia McEwen, Sr. Loss Control Specialist
Fred Hansen, Loss Control Specialist
Jack Holstrom, Personnel Svcs. Admin.
Fran Monro, Member Services Rep.
Keith Stapley, Claims Administrator
Wendy Sesselman, WC Claims Supervisor
Dennis Jupka, Senior Claims Adjuster
Bonnie Knopf, Data Specialist
Christine Holling, Claims Adjuster
Liz Krzan, Asst. Claims Adjuster
Kerissa Lyman, Claims Assistant
Alyce Bailey, Enrollment/Eligibility Specialist
Pam Walling, Marketing/Member Services Representative
Laurie Goltry, Admin./Enrollment Asst.
Tom Beneventi, Custodian/Maint.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Diamond Member
Arthur Gallagher Risk Mgmt. Services

Platinum Member
MT Dept. of Commerce

Silver Members
AT&T
Alltel

MDU Resources
Ameresco, Inc.

Bronze Members
Dorsey & Whitney
Nittany Grant Works
MT Correctional Enterprises
WGM Group, Inc.
Morrison Maierle Inc.

Copper Member
Gaelectric, LLC

AFFILIATE MEMBER
MT County Road Supervisors (MACRS)

Thank you!

For information on how to become an Associate

Member, visit our website at
www.maco.cog.mt.us
or call
(406)449-4360

2010 Directory of Montana County Officials

Order your copy today at
maco.cog.mt.us
Just \$17.50!

MACo NEWS

449-4360 Fax: 442-5238
maco@mtcounties.org