

DAWSON COUNTY STUDY COMMISSION

8 Glen Court, Glendive, MT 59330

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

In addition to the final report and regardless of the outcome of the election, the Dawson County Study Commission recommends the following items for your consideration and response as provided in 7-3-190 MCA:

- ◆ The County Commissioners should develop a plan to have at least one commissioner present in the office during working hours to improve communication with the public and the county employees.
- ◆ The County Commissioners should hold at least one meeting a month at night and publish the agenda in advance to improve communication with the public.
- ◆ The County Commissioners should consider requiring departments to submit zero-based budget requests. This would give them comprehensive information on which to prioritize allocation of available funds.
- ◆ We believe that the county has made great progress in the fair treatment of the county employees with the development of job descriptions and policy manuals. Placing employees on a salary schedule has also been good for those concerned. Future consideration of salary adjustments should apply to both employees and officials and be conducted in an open and equitable manner.
- ◆ The question of whether local government elections should be conducted on a partisan or nonpartisan basis is included as a sub-option on the ballot this November. If the recommended change in the form of government fails to pass, this sub-option vote is void. In this event, we suggest the County Commissioners use the vote on the sub-option as a guide to determine the public's wish on this issue and take appropriate action.
- ◆ We recommend that the County Commissioners review staffing and determine whether there is actually a need for more than one deputy in any county office.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Michael Dwyden

Delores Copping

Marvin D. Sweet

Dawson County Study Commission