



# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

November 14, 2011

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONTACT: Vickie Zeier**

**Clerk & Recorder**

**Missoula County**

**258-3234**

**vzeier@co.missoula.mt.us**

## **MISSOULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON THE REDRAWING OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS**

Missoula County Commissioners will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in room 201 of the Missoula County Courthouse Annex related to newly proposed commissioner district boundaries. The Missoula County Commissioner districts were examined and redrawn based on the results of the 2010 Census. In accordance with Montana Code Annotated 7-4-2102, "following each federal decennial census, the board of county commissioners shall divide their respective counties into as many commissioner districts as there are county commissioners and ensure that the districts are as compact and equal in population and area as possible." The examination and redrawing of district boundaries was led by the County Clerk & Recorder in consultation with mapping staff from the Office of Planning and Grants.

Commissioners are elected at large, which means they are elected by all county voters, but they must each reside in distinct districts in the county. "Changes to the districts won't affect who voters can elect to be a county commissioner," says Clerk and Recorder Vickie Zeier. "The changes will only affect who can file to run in each district." The proposed districts will be submitted to the four District Court Judges serving Missoula County for their review and approval after the public meeting this week.

"This isn't a change that requires a public meeting, but we wanted to make sure voters had a chance to review these changes and understand them," says Commissioner Bill Carey. The Clerk & Recorder and staff from OPG will attend the public meeting and be available to answer questions. To view maps of the proposed districts and read more about how the district boundaries were proportioned, please visit [public information page](#) of the Missoula County website.

###