

SEELEY LAKE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Jack Greenwood, Vice Chair
Carol Evans, Secretary
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Swan Range in all its winter glory. Photo by Kris Gullikson

Highlights from Commissioner Landquist's State of the County Address

Editor's Note: Missoula County Commissioner Chair Jean Curtiss delivered the State of the County Address on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 in Missoula. The following are excerpts of Chair Curtiss' speech. Content had to be removed for space reasons, but to read the full speech, please see the Missoula County website at <http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/publicinfo/>.

We're in some lean times and lean times should inspire us to take an even harder look at our operations and customer service. Missoula County is in the midst of some exciting changes that will make our operations more efficient and enhance our customer service. We're focusing on accountability, sustainability and efficiency at Missoula County and I'm glad to have this chance to share our efforts with you.

As County Commissioners, we take this role very seriously. We want the community to participate in our budget discussions and help us prioritize critical services. Our budgeting process will begin this spring.



We'll send out press releases and post budget documents online as often as we can. We'd really like your input.

Our public works department is excited about some new technology, too. Fifteen of our 20 snowplow and patching trucks have been outfitted with GPS tracking hardware, with plans to expand to 20 trucks in the coming months. Public Works vehicles use about 100,000 gallons of fuel ever year, with the lion's share going to plowing operations. Gathering information from the GPS will allow managers to review plow routes for efficiency. Improved plow routes means being able to reduce the amount of time trucks are idle which in turn results in lower fuel costs, greater productivity, and fewer greenhouse emissions. Eventually, we hope to make this information available to the public as well. Which means, on a snowy day like yesterday, you'll be able to see which direction the plows are headed.

HIGHLIGHTS SHE MENTIONS:

Rural Initiatives

On a positive note, our Rural Initia-

tives office continues to work on behalf of our rural residents and built the framework for the Seeley Lake Regional Plan that the Commission adopted this winter. The public process and community survey about parks and trails in Missoula, city and county, confirmed that residents, young and old, love trails – paved trails, dirt trails, hiking trails, nature trails, and commuter trails.

Clerk & Recorder Treasurer

We're also excited to announce that our Clerk & Recorder/Motor Vehicle/Treasurer's office will begin providing some services to residents in the Seeley Swan area in March. Starting March 10th on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month local residents will be able to renew their motor vehicle registrations, license their dogs, pay their taxes, obtain moving permits and birth and death certificates. Unfortunately, folks needing new license plates or title work will still need to visit the Missoula office. We hope this is just the beginning of providing more services in the Seeley Office. ∞

Extracted from Rural Initiatives Feb. Newsletter



Seeley Lake 's Airport provides an arm of Economic Development during the winter: A plowed runway, blue skies AND... coming in June – a place to stay on site!

Photo by Kris Gullikson

**BRANDING DISCUSSION
CONTINUING IN MARCH**

Katy Peterson, MT office of Tourism has been confirmed to speak to the Economic Development Committee on March 10, 7 pm at SL Elementary. She will address the issues surrounding branding; what the state has done, how it was accomplished and where we can go from here.

Attendance is encouraged.

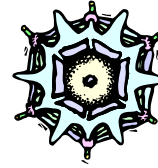
Summary of Seeley Lake Sewer Board Meeting

As often happens in small communities, townspeople like to know their opinions have been listened to by those making decisions on their behalf. This is what happened at the Community Hall on Feb. 17 with the County Commissioners (and others) in attendance.

The Commissioners listened to residents during the non-agenda item segment, and have now offered the Sewer Board additional help and guidance to make the Sewer District successful in its deliberations and work.

A copy of the letter sent by the BCC to the Sewer District Board received following that meeting will be read at the Council Meeting on March 7th in the interest of providing information to the community, as Council acts as a conduit between the Commissioners and the Community. ∞

Submitted by A. Marx



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Seeley Lake Community Council -1st Monday; March 7, 6 pm at the Barn (Hwy 83 south of town)
- Seeley Lake Cemetery District -1st Thurs., March 3, noon at DAR-LOA office
- Seeley Swan Hospital District- 2nd Monday; March 14, 5 pm at the Clinic Conference Room
- Seeley Lake Rural Fire District Third Tues., March 15, 6 pm, Seeley Lake Fire Station
- Seeley Swan Search & Rescue Third Tues., March 15, Fire Station #2, 6:30 pm
- Seeley Lake Sewer District– 3rd Thurs., March 17, 5:15 pm at the Barn
- Seeley Lake Refuse District– 4th Monday, March 28, 7 pm at new MC office building.
- Seeley Lake Water District– 4th Thurs., March 24, 5:30 pm, Water District Office
- Economic Dev. Comm.- 2nd Th., March 10, 7 pm at SLE, Guest Speaker Katy Peterson from MT Office of Tourism
- Rural Initiatives Newsletter LINK: <http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/ruralftp/Newsletter>

Seeley Lake Community Council Agenda

March 7, 2011 - 6 pm at the Barn

- CALL TO ORDER
- CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- TREASURER'S REPORT
- SECRETARY'S REPORT
- COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT REPORT
- PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 MIN. LIMIT)
- NEW BUSINESS:

- Seeley Lake Comm. Foundation; Grant support for Seeley Lake Communications Project
- Animal Control- Ed Francechina, MC
- Missoula Co. Public Schools: Building levy- Dr. Pecora
- Zoning - downtown
- Sandra Treadaway- UM student thesis work on Seeley Lake

- OLD BUSINESS:
- Economic Development
- Air Quality Update
- Recreation/ Trails– Elaine's Way



The "Big Fix" is coming to Missoula Animal Control

Through the entire month of March, Missoula Animal Control will be offering low cost spay/neuter clinics and rabies vaccinations. Missoula Animal Control will also offer "Mom's Last Litter Program." This program provides free spaying surgeries for any female cat or dog that is brought to the shelter with her litter. The animal is returned to her owner and the kittens or puppies will be placed for adoption. To make an appointment for this special program or for the low cost spay/neuter clinic, please call 406-541-7387.