

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Ndjlaw@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 4:46 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** BILLBOARDS

I am writing on behalf of my wife and myself to strongly oppose the proposed modifications to the county's sign ordinance. It is impossible for us to understand how permitting large billboard signs along our highways could be said to improve our quality of life here. It shouldn't require stating that the beauty of the valley is its greatest asset, and that will most certainly be diminished by large billboards. Not only will our quality of life be diminished, but the appeal to tourism will be diminished as well.

Perhaps most troubling about this is trying to figure out why the issue is before the commission in the first place. Of all the problems we presently face, why this? The only rational conclusion is that this is a special interest matter—some person or entity has gotten a commissioner's attention to advance their own interests, and that of the commissioner, rather than the public interest.

If that is so, then it is a shameful display of what borders on corruption in government. If nothing else, this commission owes it to the citizens of this county to explicitly, and truthfully, explain how and why this matter is even before the commission. Statement's such as those by Commissioner Foss that "the current ordinance is too restrictive for the county" are wholly vague and unsatisfactory. Too restrictive for whom, and in what respect? And, who, specifically, makes that allegation?

Thank you. Norman and Carol James of Corvallis.

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Sara Briggs [sabriggs10@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 3:15 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** Signage

As a new resident to the valley, I am a little concerned about the sign ordinance now before the county commissioners. I want to know who are the "concerned" individuals who contacted you regarding increasing the size of the signs allowed on Highway 93 and other county roads. After reading the letters to the editor, the article on the proposed change and first reading, and the editorial, I cannot find anyone who is interested in wanting the size to change. Most places I've been to are trying to get rid of the signs on the highway as they interfere with driving and destroy the beauty of the scenic highways. As a registered voter in the area, I am totally against increasing the size of signs allowed in the Bitterroot Valley. I am all for protecting the Valley's beauty.

Sincerely,

Sara Ann Briggs  
419 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hamilton, MT 59840  
517-285-5973

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Roseanne Nolan [rnolan@cybernet1.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 2:32 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** ROADSIDE SIGNS

The set of commissioners seems to believe you were elected to change whatever was previously done. The most recent example is the presumed intent to allow monstrous signs along the road despite the fact that this was rejected in the past. 10 years has not made those signs more attractive. My frustration with the current commissioners is quite high as you seem to abrogate to yourselves the right to counter whatever was settled by citizens and past commissions. Maybe if we went back to 3 commissioners you would have less time to meddle and redo. We do NOT want huge signs destroying the natural beauty along our roads.

**Glenda Wiles**

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**From:** Bonnie Farrington [bcfarrington@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 1:52 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** Billboards

Ravalli County Commissioners:

I hope I am not too late with my comment. I lived in Florida for many years. Florida was plastered with huge, ugly billboards. To think that some commissioners want to clutter the fabulous Montana views with large billboards just makes me sick.

I will actively campaign against any commissioner who supports allowing these giant billboards in our valley.

Bonnie Farrington  
Darby  
406-821-1002

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Linda Pietarinen [alpineions@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 11:11 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** billboards

Dear Ravalli County Commissioners:

I've seen the latest news that you are proposing to increase the size of billboards allowed along Highway 93. Please DO NOT allow this to happen. We live in a beautiful valley and now have a paved bike/walk path along the highway that adds to the enjoyment all can have along the highway corridor. Putting up large billboards will block views of the mountains and detract from what brings tourists to the area (to say nothing about what makes it so appealing for me and others to live here). Nowadays people have smartphones and ipads to find out where the nearest amenities are while travelling (not that I'm condoning doing this while driving, but they can pull over and search). Highway 93 should not be treated like an interstate highway - let's keep the scenic values of this valley. In the long run it should increase business more than large billboards will.

One example of my personal dislike of billboards is one just south of Hamilton on the east side that was put up over 10 years ago and destroyed a beautiful patch of balsamroot flowers. I'd much rather see wildflowers than billboards and I think most people would agree with me.

Thanks for letting me comment,  
Linda Pietarinen  
Victor, MT

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Meghan [meymey2u@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 9:55 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** Keep it small

Please do not change the sign ordinance, do not change the Bitterroot, ruin the views and the first impressions. The proposed new sign size is ridiculous. Leave it alone.

Thank you,  
Meghan Maus  
Big Sky, Montana

**Glenda Wiles**

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**From:** christin rzasa [cprzasa@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2012 11:30 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** sign ordinance

To the Commissioners:

My husband and I are completely opposed to your and any proposed changes to the current sign ordinance. The ordinance in place was a cooperative creation of Ravalli County citizens and business people. These are the same people who had a hand in electing (most) of you, and we have been consistently amazed that some of you seem to forget that you were elected, not ordained. Please put down your crowns and scepters and quit trying to turn this county into your kingdom.

Sincerely,

Christin & Art Rzasa