

Commissioners

From: sharon renfro <sammcfro@wildblue.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 12:00 PM
To: Commissioners
Subject: moving/joining Environmental Health into/with Planning Department

Dear Commissioners:

Over the years, we have dealt with both the Environmental Health Department and the Planning Department in both private, and business related matters. We see the need for both departments to do their work independently, as there is a definite need for checks and balances that the two separate departments can provide the County.

So combining the two, and/or putting the Environmental Health under the Planning Department's control is a very, very bad idea!!!!
PLEASE, PLEASE do not allow this to happen.

We like the fact that the Environmental Health Department has to go by certain rules and regulations, when granting applications for wells and septic, and feel it is a line of defense for our neighbors as well as for our environment. And we have not seen any corruption, nor any hint of "politicking" in that department.

Whereas the Planning Department has shown a tendency to skirt the rules and to side with developers, in allowing certain "iffy" subdivisions to sail through with the Department's assistance.

There is also some politicking going on in that department, and we do not feel it should be involved in politics whatsoever.

(And why is a treasurer appointed/elected w/r/t her political party? Does political party have anything to do with her being able to do reports and deposits? Yikes, what a mess!)
But I digress.....

Should the two be combined, we see there could be a tendency for the Planning Department's staff to put undue pressure on the Environmental Health Department's staff to either look the other way, or to pass certain things they would not otherwise approve.

It is just a BAD,BAD idea and if we had more time to think about it, we are sure we could be more explicit in this letter.

Please, please, do not join the two in any way.

And if you really had to join the two, Hey, what about putting the Planning Department's staff under the control of the Environmental Health Department? That could work? We are sure you would hear a lot of screams from one of them!!!!

Sincerely,

Sharon Renfro
Stevensville, Mt.