

Chris Taggart

From: Archie Thomas <archie5463@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I don't like repeating the obvious

I sent this to Chris April 3, 2020. Take the lead and implement all present public health guidelines with enforcement as appropriate. We have speed limits but when a speeding motorist is stopped we don't suggest the motorist use common sense and exercise their individual rights because speed limits restrict their individual rights.

Since April the COVID time frame has been extended from 1 to 3 years, how long do you wish to wait to face the reality before us? The whole country and county need a consistent strong, ongoing message and at the present the commission is not part of it. Regardless of what you think you have said or done the public are not hearing the correct message from you.

I was in business for 42 years and survived 3 economic caused recessions. This is a disease caused recession. We recovered from those economic recessions when the economic causes were corrected. We will recover from this recession when the causal disease is controlled. The short term economic losses will be greater than 2008. The 2-5 year 2008 real estate inventory and related loan disposal will not be necessary. The main factor increasing economic losses and recovery will be the time needed to control the virus. The construction industry continues as it should. If not implemented county and state efforts should be made to education within the industry best Covid prevention practices. Are they being targeted at the local level by awareness campaigns? This will insure it can continue to function and contribute to the local economy.

Regarding Montana's 250 influenzas with 9 related deaths. This morning's Covid cases are 241 with 5 related deaths. I fail to understand how these closely aligned Montana case numbers are caused or effected by the national news cycle or a people driven crisis. Current covid projections predict covid deaths will exceed influenzas deaths.

Merry, myself and our family as has you and your family been effected by this and will be for the majority of this year. In summary Ravalli county has a unique geographic location and population base to contain this virus at current levels if every possible proactive local and state resource is implemented now not at some future date. Action now will also insure the quickest economic recovery.

Best Regards
Archie Thomas

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