

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Melinda Smith <tmponies@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 16, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** Chris Taggart  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Covid 19

Ravalli County Commissioners,

I have been following the Lincoln County Montana Covid updates where my mother who is 95 lives. Lincoln County is probably the poorest and one of the most remote counties in Montana. Nevertheless the Lincoln County Public Health Facebook page Covid statistics are updated daily and there are local Facebook postings to the Eureka community daily. There is regular communication about the status of Covid in the schools. Lincoln County has Republican Commissioners. By contrast, in Ravalli County, the dates on the Public Health Facebook posts are 2016, there is a link to the county webpage where you have to search to find any current information. Today the most current information is 6 days old, despite the fact that the state does daily reporting back to the counties. Marcus Daly emergency room physicians have warned the county of the impact of this disease on the health care system—"the impending disaster ". I can now read about Ravalli County's Covid Crisis on CNN and the Daily Beast, but I can't find any updated information through county sources. It almost seems like a purposeful way to mislead and deceive citizens about the seriousness of this disease.

Dr. Calderwood resigned in July. There was supposed to be a new public information person appointed. I also assume you have been attempting to fill Dr. Calderwood's position, however there is no update on either of these issues on the webpage.

Covid is now the 4th leading cause of death in Montana. The lack of current information in Ravalli County is appalling. Ravalli County Commissioners are negligent.

Melinda Smith

Sent from my iPhone

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