

Thomas & Donna Tabor

1470 Iron Cap Dr.
P.O. Box 754
Stevensville, Montana
59870

RECEIVED

JUN 02 2014

Ravalli County Commissioners

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|

May 28, 2014

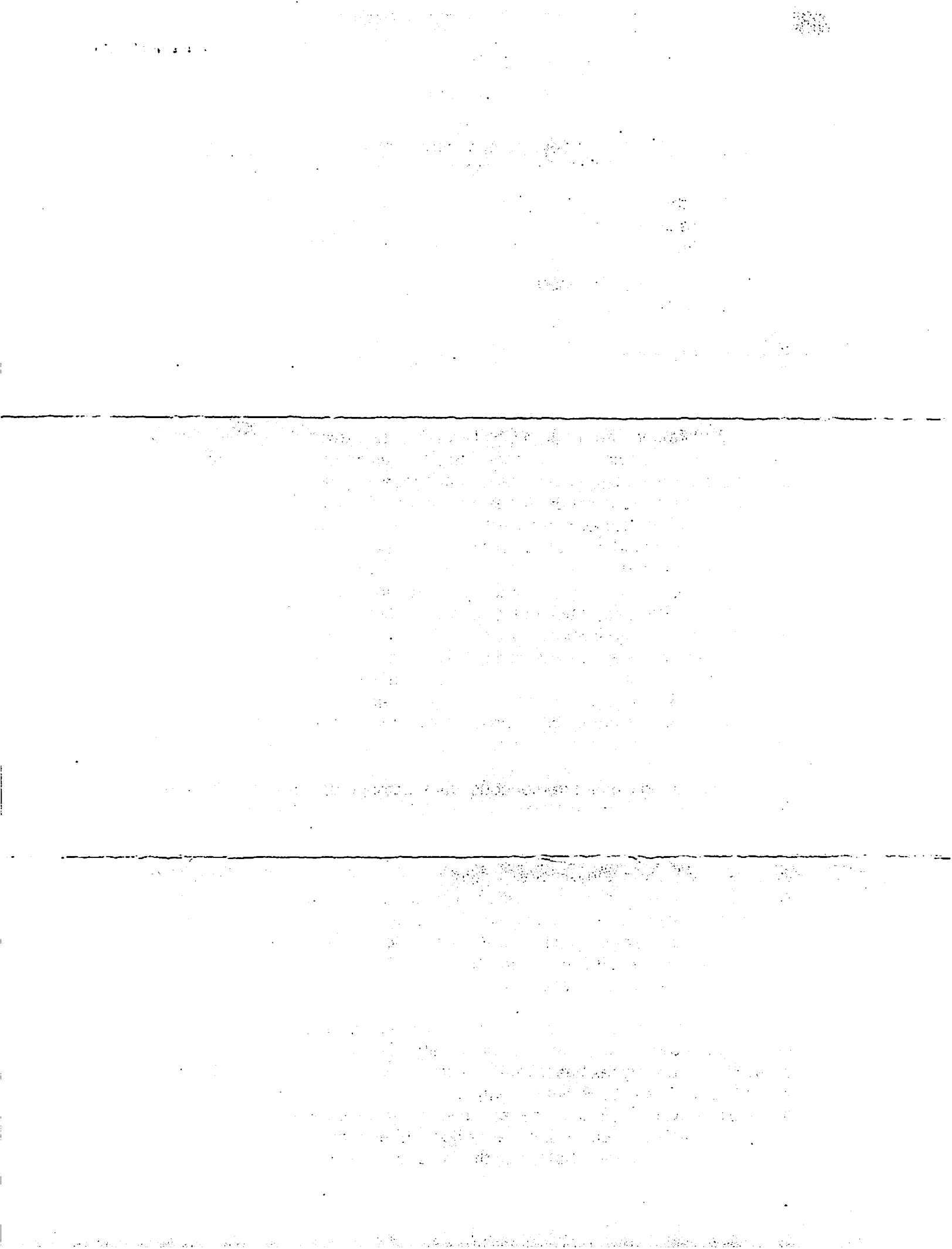
Ravalli County Commissioners
215 S. 4th Street
Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

To: All Ravalli County Commissioners:

My wife and I live on Iron Cap Drive east of Stevensville and within the Ravalli County jurisdiction. For many years the residents living on Iron Cap Drive have suffered because of the lack of attention that the commissioners and the road maintenance department have provided us. For decades the residents have registered complaints with Greg Chilcott and the other county commissioners pleading with them to live up to their responsibilities and provide us with road maintenance on Iron Cap Drive. Finally a few years back they agreed to provide service for the lower section (up to the mailboxes), but ignored the remaining portion of the road even though the entire road is deeded to the county. Ironically, we found it appalling that Mr. Chilcott was quoted recently in the press as saying that: 1) he didn't release there was a problem with the road and 2) that Iron Cap Drive was not actually a deeded county road. Both of these allegations were and are false. Mr. Chilcott was even advised a few years ago by an attorney hired by one of the residents confirming what we all knew, that Iron Cap Drive was in fact a county road.

This spring we had tremendous storm damage as a result of the snow melt and rainfall, which literally made the roadway inaccessible to emergency vehicles as well as many of its residents. As I hope you can imagine that was a worry to everyone living on the road. As in the past the neighbors got together and hired a contractor to repair the road, which wound up costing us several thousand dollars. We decided to go further this year than we ever have in the past and had the road brought up to county standards including widening of the road, providing a proper crown to the surface and ditches. Essentially what we did was do the county's work for them, something that you should have done decades ago.

Over the years many new homes have been built on Iron Cap Drive including our own house that was built in 1997. Those residents have added greatly to the county tax base, yet we seem to be ignored and treated like second rate citizens by Ravalli County. We all pay our taxes in order to obtain the public services, but for some reason we have never received the services owed to us as far as road maintenance goes. Even though there are regulations on the books that talk to the fair and equal treatment of all of the



county residents, I think I speak for all the Iron Cap Drive residents when I say that we are not receiving fair and equal treatment.

Now that Iron Cap Drive has been brought up to county standards I feel, as I'm sure all of the neighbors up here do, that it is time for Ravalli County to live up to their responsibilities and start maintaining the road from now on out. Clearly this would be considered reasonable in any other jurisdiction and it should be here in Ravalli County.

We all want to be proud of living in Ravalli County and of the job that our elected politicians are doing. Up until now however I am ashamed if the treatment that we are receiving from our elected politicians. I would very much like to be able to restore that feeling.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas C. Tabor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Thomas C. Tabor