

cc

Ravalli County Attorney

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Bill Fulbright

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Daniel Browder
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Bill Lower
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October 29, 2015

Doyle & Associates, P.C.
P.O. Box 446
103 Tyler Way
Lolo, MT 59847
Attn: Tana J. Doyle

**Re: Disclosure of Current and Material Pending or Threatened Litigation –
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014**

Dear Ms. Doyle:

In connection with the audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the following is a description of any material pending or threatened litigation, claims or contingencies involving matters with respect to which this office has been engaged or to which this office has devoted substantive attention on behalf of Ravalli County. Matters are regarded as material if they individually or (if a series of similar claims or lawsuits) in the aggregate involve amounts in excess of \$10,000.

Litigation – Pending and Resolved:

1. **Case Name:** *Bitterrooters for Planning vs. Ravalli County Commissioners*
Court: Montana Twenty-First Judicial District Court, Ravalli County

Status: Declaratory Judgment action seeking to have the Board of County Commissioners' decision to approve Legacy Ranch Subdivision nullified. Court granted summary judgment to plaintiffs.

Potential Liability: Attorney fees sought exceed \$67,000.



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2. **Case Name:** *Bitterroot Star v. Ravalli County*
Court: Montana Twenty-First Judicial District Court, Ravalli County
Status: Plaintiff sued to set aside approval by the Board of County Commissioners of a settlement agreement.
Potential Liability: \$25,000 attorney fees.

3. **Case Name:** *Mather vs. Pease*
Court: U.S. District Court, District of Montana, Missoula Division
Status: Concluded after trial favorable to County.
Potential Liability: None.

4. **Case Name:** *Monroe vs. Ravalli County, et al.*
Court: U.S. District Court, District of Montana, Missoula Division
Status: Concluded favorable to County.
Potential Liability: None.

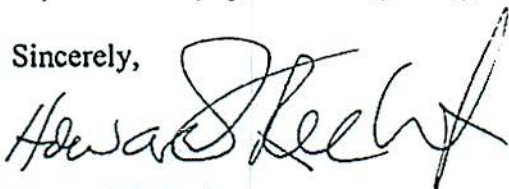
In addition to the foregoing, the county has been contacted by representatives of two former Detention Center inmates who may be considering filing claims. At this time, the type of claims that may be asserted and potential liability are unknown. There may be other matters handled entirely by our insurance carrier, such as automobile liability claims. While there may be deductible amounts for which Ravalli County could be liable, Ravalli County is unaware of any significant liability with regard to such claims. You may request further information regarding any such cases from Dennis Jupka regarding matters covered by our current policy with MACo-JPIA. Dennis Jupka may be reached at (406) 442-1178.

The foregoing list includes all civil litigation and claims which I have been able to identify, including those resolved during the fiscal year. This disclosure includes matters that existed as of June 30, 2014, and from that date to the date hereof. The County will supplement this information if additional information is obtained concerning suits or potential claims materially affecting the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

In the course of performing legal services, this office has not formed the professional conclusion that unasserted possible claims call for financial statement disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Howard F. Recht,
Deputy Attorney

cc: **Ravalli County Commissioners**
Klarryse L. Murphy, Chief Financial Officer
Dennis Jupka, MACo Claims Manager