

- ❖ Opened Meeting @ 6 pm at Study Commission Suite 112 in the Powell County Court House. John Stavlo, Craig O'Rourke, Rob Kersch, Sheila Finco present. 6 members of the public were also in attendance.
- ❖ Approved Minutes from previous meeting.
- ❖ Previous Business
 - Read the results of the discovery meeting with outgoing County Commissioner, Cele Pohle.
- ❖ Adopted Roberts Rules of Order
- ❖ Open for Public Comment
 - Concern over information in the outgoing County Commissioner discovery meeting indicating that the county owes the Federal Government approximately 3 million dollar for assessment and cleanup and how this will be paid.
 - Concern and expression of the need to attract green businesses.
- ❖ Time line for County review Discussion – Rob Kersch outlined the timeline that he established. Upon discovery that the City Study Commission was not doing a one year study as originally thought, timeline was revised to correspond more appropriately with a City Study Commission two year study.
 - Revised timeline was approved unanimously.
 - Sheila Finco will provide it to the Silver State Post for publishing.
- ❖ Draft Budget presented – Study Commission established budget for the two year study and approved it.
 - Sheila Finco will present the budget to the County Commissioners.
- ❖ Study Commission Handbook Discussion
 - The Study Commission was provided a handbook entitled "Montana's Local Government Review (Revised 2008)"
 - One thing that John Stavlo highlighted was "Thus, even though some 106 proposals to alter the form and powers of county government have been placed before the voters during four separate rounds of Voter Review..., Montana's voters have been remarkably reluctant to alter the old and familiar institution of grass roots government... referring to a County Commissioner form of government.
 - The study commission may recommend a new form of government and/or a new power of government and put those recommendations before the voters in the coming county election.
 - The study commission can also make recommendations to the County Commissioners to perform certain acts such as combining some departments, streamline processes, etc.
 - The Study Commission doesn't have any powers to force any type of change, they will perform discovery meetings with department heads/other personnel, receive input from the public, compile all the information and make a recommendation from the study.
- ❖ Previous City Study Commission information
 - Previous studies of both City and County Study Commissions are available and will be reviewed.
 - One of the earlier study requested that the voters combine County and City Law Enforcement, but records show that the voters voted against that.
- ❖ Survey Discussion
 - The Study Commission will conduct a survey to the residents of Powell County at some point in the study.
 - Commission members were tasked to find other surveys to be used as examples.
- ❖ Schedule next meeting date
 - Study Commission Meetings were approved unanimously to be held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month, providing a suitable venue would be available on those dates.
 - Due to conflicts in venue availability, after the meeting, the days were changed and approved unanimously to be held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.
 - Clarification was made that some meetings would specifically be work sessions and others would be regular meetings. The public is invited to attend both types of meetings.
- ❖ Open Discussion
- ❖ Web site information issues.
 - The County Study Commission web page address advertised in the newspaper was not correct. Correct web address for Powell County is <http://www.powellcountymt.gov>. Once there, click on the **Study Commission** link.

John Stavlo Chairman
Craig S. O'Rourke 2-10-15