MINUTES OF THE MEETING LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 9, 1985

The twentieth meeting of the Local Government Committee was called to order at 12:20 p.m. on March 9, 1985 by Chairman Dave Fuller in Room 405 of the Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Senator Story, who was excused.

ACTION TAKEN ON SENATE BILL 293: Senator Eck moved to insert the number three in place of ten in amendment number seven. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent.

Senator Mohar moved the remaining amendments be adopted. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent.

Senator Crippen moved the Committee adopt an amendment to remove "or by a resolution of the governing body" on line three, Page 2 and to strike the word "either" on line two, Page 2. The motion passed with Senators Crippen, Eck, Harding, McCallum, and Mohar voting yes and Senators Hirsch, Pinsoneault, Regan, and Fuller voting no.

Senator Pinsoneault moved that SB 293 DO PASS as amended. The motion failed with Senators Crippen, Harding, Hirsch, McCallum, Mohar, and Story (absentee vote) voting no and Senators Eck, Pinsoneault, Regan, and Fuller voting yes.

Senator McCallum moved that SB 293 be TABLED. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 248: Representative Ted Schye, District #18, is the sponsor of this bill. The bill was introduced to require one hundred percent deposit security for local government deposits in institutions having a net worth to total assets ratio of less than six percent.

PROPONENTS

Gordon Morris, representing the Montana Association of Counties, stated his support of the bill.

Charles Gravely, representing the Montana County Treasurers' Association, stated his support of the bill.

OPPONENTS

There were no opponents to HB 248.

March 9, 1985

Chairman Fuller opened the hearing for questions. There were no questions from the Committee regarding HB 248.

The hearing was closed on HB 248.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 263: Representative Paul Pistoria, District #36, is the sponsor of this bill. The bill was introduced to require local governments and school districts to pay interest on overdue accounts. He passed out copies of a law passed in 1983 requiring local governments to pay bills within thirty days of billing. He also passed out copies of bills from Lewis Construction Company that took long periods of time to pay. The handouts are attached as Exhibit A to these minutes.

PROPONENTS

Representative Bob Bachini, District #14, spoke in favor of the bill. He distributed proposed amendments to the bill exempting third class school districts where the board of trustees does not meet monthly. The proposed amendments are attached as Exhibit B to these minutes.

Riley Johnson, representing the National Federation of Businesses, spoke in favor of the bill. He said the bill is merely an extension of the State agency "prompt payment" bill passed in 1983. He said it is difficult for school businesses to do business on a credit basis.

OPPONENTS

There were no opponents to HB 263.

Chairman Fuller opened the hearing for questions.

Senator Crippen asked if this bill would apply to Special Improvement District (SID) payments. Representative Pistoria said it would not.

The hearing was closed on HB 263.

ACTION TAKEN ON HOUSE BILL 263: Senator Eck moved the Committee adopt the proposed amendment to HB 263. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent.

Senator Harding moved that HB 263 BE CONCURRED IN as amended. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent. Senator Hirsch will carry the bill.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 277: Representative Rex Manuel, District #11, is the sponsor of this bill. The bill was introduced at the request of the Board of Crime Control. The purpose of the bill is to allow counties to establish and fill the position of jail administrator or to enter into agreements under which private parties will build, maintain, or operate jails, and provide for financing of jails.

PROPONENTS

Ed Hall, representing the Board of Crime Control, spoke in favor of the bill. He distributed a study done on jails by the Board of Crime Control. The study is attached as Exhibit C to these minutes.

Harold Hanser, Yellowstone County Attorney, spoke in favor of the bill. He said this is a way for local governments to cut costs to the taxpayers.

Mark Murphy, Assistant Attorney General, spoke in favor of the bill. He submitted a proposed amendment to the bill. It is attached as Exhibit D to these minutes.

Gordon Morris, representing the Montana Association of Counties, spoke in favor of the bill. He said the bill gives local elected officials the ability to control their own destiny.

OPPONENTS

Walter Hammermeister, Sheriff of Pondera County, spoke in opposition to the bill. He said the Montana Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Association has always opposed this bill. He feels the bill is poorly written and needs a major overhaul. He also feels the bill would protect counties from any liability.

Chairman Fuller opened the hearing for questions.

Senator Eck asked why there was a limit for the private entity to run the jail for only three years. Representative Manuel said conditions could get very poor if they were allowed to go beyond three year periods.

Senator Mohar asked if this would still be a voted bond issue. Mr. Murphy said it would be.

Senator McCallum said he did not think a county could relieve themselves of Liability even if they contract out the operation of the jail. Mr. Hanser said there would be a hold harmless clause for the county officials included in the contract. Senator Fuller expressed concern about the jails having to meet standards. Mr. Hall said standards would be spelled out in the contract.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 299: Representative Ralph Eudaily, District #60, is the sponsor of this bill. The bill was introduced to allow certain county printing contracts to be awarded to printing establishments not within the county if a responsible nonresident bid is more than five percent lower than resident bidders.

PROPONENTS

Mike Sehestedt, representing Missoula County, spoke in favor of the bill. He submitted written testimony from Missoula County regarding the bill. It is attached as Exhibit E to these minutes. He said the bill would give counties the option of saving large amounts of money.

Gordon Morris, representing the Montana Association of Counties, stated his support of the bill.

OPPONENTS

There were no opponents to HB 299.

Chairman Fuller opened the hearing for questions.

Senator Fuller said there were some concerns about newspapers that operate commercial printing plants. Mr. Sehestedt said these newspapers would be first in line to receive the bids.

The hearing was closed on HB 299.

ACTION TAKEN ON HOUSE BILL 299: Senator Mohar moved that HB 299 be concurred in. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent. Senator Mohar will carry the bill.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 328: Representative Tom Hannah, District #86, is the sponsor of this bill. The bill was introduced to eliminate the option of a single local financial institution to match the interest rate of bids for deposit of local government funds submitted by neighboring financial institutions, and requiring the local institution to submit a bid on the interest rate to be paid on time or savings deposits and repurchase agreements.

PROPONENTS

Charles Gravely, representing the Montana County Treasurers' Association, spoke in favor of the bill. His written testimony is attached as Exhibit F to these minutes.

OPPONENTS

There were no opponents to HB 328.

Chairman Fuller opened the hearing for questions. There were no questions from the Committee on HB 328.

ACTION TAKEN ON HOUSE BILL 328: Senator McCallum moved that HB 328 BE CONCURRED IN and that language be added to coordinate the bill with SB 416. The motion passed unanimously with Senator Story absent. Senator McCallum will carry the bill.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

senator Dave\Fuller, Chairman

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEE

49th

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MARKEN LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 3-9-85

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Senator Eck, Dorothy 415	/		
Senator Harding, Ethel	/		
Senator Hirsch, Les p o	/		
Senator McCallum, George	1		•
Senator Mohar, John (V.Chair)	/		
Senator Pinsoneault, Dick	/		
Senator Regan, Pat Po	/		
Senator Story, Pete	-		
Senator Fuller, Dave (Chair)	/		

Each day attach to minutes.

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVT

	VISITORS' REGISTER			
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Mike Sehesteut	Missoula County	HB299		
Ed Hall	MBCC	217	V	
Harrid Hann	yell county atty	377	V	
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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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Senator Dave Fuller

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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Senator Dave Fuller

Chairman.

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Great Falls MT 59401

Pock-Int. Jan. 19, 1985
LEWIS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

P. O. BOX 2669 GREAT FALLS, MT 59403 (406) 454-1373

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DATE: 1-14-85

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LEASE REPLY TO ▶

SIGNED: Linda Shumate, Accounts Receivable

and the date we received payment from the

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SIGNED:

DETACH YELLOW COPY — SEND WHITE AND PINK COPIES WITH CARBONS INTACT

AVAILABLE FROM BUSINESS ENVELOPE MANUFACTURERS, INC. ● DEER PARK, N.Y. ● ANAHEIM, CALIF.

THIS COPY FOR PERSON ADDRESSED

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

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City of GREAT FALLS Montana

TELEPHONE 406/727-5881 EXT. 341

CLAIM VOUCHER

SIGN CLAIM BELOW--ATTACH INVOICE-AND RETURN PROMPTLY FOR PAYMENT

TO:

RETURN TO:

City of Great Falls

FINANCE DEPT.

Civic Center

Great Falls, MT. 59401

LEWIS CONSTRUCTION P.O. Box 2669

GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

VENDOR NO. UNIT UNIT DESCRIPTION **AMOUNT** PRICE . 60LA 5100.00 THELMO ILASTIC 584.00 8045 730 546.00 LF 16.40,00 LF. CHANGE ORDER IF TO REPLACE HYURO CARBON THERMOGRASTIC WITH ALKYD THERMOPHASTIC 9870,00 987.00 LESS 100% 8883.00 SUB TOTAL 00.00 8883,00 88.83

NOTICE: Under RCM 1947, § 11-1301—Claims must be presented with all necessary and proper vouchers, within one (1) year from the date the same accrued; and any claim or demand not so presented within the time aforesaid is forever barred, and the city commission has no authority to allow any account or demand not so presented.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CLAIM IS CORRECT AND JUST IN ALL RESPECTS AND THAT PAYMENT OR CREDIT

HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED

ACCOUNT NO.

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DISBURSEMENT AND EXPENDITURE

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state once rejected by it or by the legislature unless such facts are presented to the board as in suits between individuals would furnish sufficient ground

(2) No member of the board may act on any claim in which he is interested or for expenditures incurred in his office or he present when the decision is made.

History: 4DEn. Sec. 241, Rev. C. 1907; re-en. Sec. 247, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 247, R.C.M. 1935; R.C.M. Sec. 82-1118, R.C.M. 1947; (2)En. Sec. 240, Rev. C. 1907; re-en. Sec. 246, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 246, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 10, Ch. 61, L. 1977; Sec. 82-1117, R.C.M. 1947; R.C.M. 1947, 82-1118.

Cross-References

for granting a new trial.

Ethical principles for public officers and employees, 2-2-105.

17-8-226. Appeals. Any person interested who is aggrieved by the disapproval of a claim by the board may appeal from the decision to the legislature by filing with the board a notice thereof, and upon the receipt of such notice the board must transmit the demand and all the papers accompanying the same, with a statement of the evidence taken before it, to the legislature.

History: En. Sec. 242, Res. C. 1907; re-en. Sec. 248, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 248, R.C.M. 1935; R.C.M. 1947, 82-1119.

17-8-227 through 17-8-230 reserved.

17-8-231. Liability for false claims. (1) A person who knowingly presents or causes to be presented a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim for allowance or payment to any state agency or its contractors forfeits the claim, including any portion that may be legitimate, and in addition is subject to a penalty of not to exceed \$2,000 plus double the damages sustained by the state as a result of the false claim, including all legal costs.

(2) The forfeiture and the penalty may be sued for in the same suit. History: Fn. Sec. 2, Ch. 151, L. 1981.

Cross-References

False claims to public agencies -- criminal offense, 45-7-210.

17-8-232 through 17-8-240 reserved.

17-8-241. Definitions relating to interest assessment. As used in 17-8-242 through 17-8-244, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Services" means the furnishing of labor, time, or effort, including construction services, purchased or contracted for by the state or any agency thereof.
- (2) "Supplies" means all personal property purchased, leased, or contracted for by the state or any agency thereof, including leases of equipment. The term also includes leases of buildings or other real property by the state or any agency thereof.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 484, L. 1983.

17-8-242. Interest assessed on amounts due. (1) Except as provided in 17-8-244, a state agency shall pay simple interest at the rate of

ss who appeared in be used before it. en. Sec. 234, R.C.M. 1935; R.C.M. 1947; (2)En. Sec. 935; Sec. 82-1107, R.C.M. sc. 237, R.C.M. 1935; Sec.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985 EXHIBIT A

0.05% each day on amounts due for supplies and services received if the agency fails to make timely payment.

(2) For purposes of this section, payment is timely if a warrant is mailed or is otherwise made available to the payee when due and for the amount specified in the applicable contract or agreement. If no date is specified in the applicable contract or agreement, payment is timely if paid within 30 days after receipt of a properly completed invoice, addressed to the payer agency, or receipt of the supplies or services by the agency, whichever is later

History: En. Sec. 2, Ch. 484, L. 1983.

17-8-243. Source for payment of interest. Any interest owing under 17-8-242 must be paid from funds designated for administrative costs of the agency receiving the supplies and services unless the delay was caused by a different agency, and then the interest must be paid from the administrative costs of that agency.

History: En. Sec. 4, Ch. 484, L. 1983.

- 17-8-244. Exemptions. Section 17-8-242 does not apply to the following:
 - (1) interagency or intergovernmental transactions;
 - (2) claims subject to a good faith dispute;
- (3) delinquencies due to natural disasters, disruptions in postal or delivery service, work stoppage due to labor disputes, power failures, or any other cause resulting from circumstances clearly beyond the control of the payer agency:
 - (4) contracts entered into before October 1, 1983;
- (5) wages due and payable to state employees or payments from any state retirement system created pursuant to Title 19; or
- (6) claims submitted to the state or to its fiscal intermediary by providers of supplies or services under the Montana medicaid or workers' compensation program if reasonable cause for nonpayment exists.

History: En. Sec. 3, Ch. 484, L. 1983.

Part 3

Warrants

Part Cross-References
Officers prohibited from dealing in warrants, 2-2-204.

Use of facsimile signature on warrants, 2-16-114.

Warrants to Fire Department Relief Association, 19-11-514.

17-8-301. State moneys — how expended by treasurer. Except as herein provided, no moneys received by the state treasurer shall be paid out by him except upon state warrant issued by the state auditor, and the state auditor shall not issue his warrant upon the state treasurer except upon a claim duly approved by the department of administration in accordance with the laws governing the expenditure of state moneys; however, interest and principal on the public debt may be paid by treasurer's check from the moneys pledged for such payment, and the provisions of this section shall not

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GREAT FALLS

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CITY MANAGER OF FINANCE DIRECTOR -

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THIS SLIP MUST ACCOMPANY
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City of GREAT FALLS Montana

TELEPHONE 406/727-5881 **EXT. 341**

CLAIM VOUCHER

SIGN CLAIM BELOW-ATTACH INVOICE—AND RETURN PROMPTLY FOR PAYMENT

10: Lewis Construction Co.
P.O. Box 2669
Great Falls, MT. 59403

RETURN TO: City of Great Falls

FINANCE DEPT.

Civic Center

Great Falls, MT, 59401

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NOTICE: Under RCM 1947, § 11-1301—Claims must be presented with all necessary and proper vouchers, within one (1) year from the date the same accrued; and any claim or demand not so presented within the time aforesaid is forever barred, and the city commission has no authority to allow any account or demand not so presented.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CLAIM IS CORRECT AND JUST IN ALL RESPECTS AND THAT PAYMENT OR CREDIT HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED

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THIS SLIP MUST ACCOMPANY
ALL CLAIMS AND RETURNED GOODS

TOTAL 5

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FOR:

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CITY OF GREAT FALLS

CIVIC CENTER

GREAT FALLS, MONTANA 59401

DATE > 4/11/E4

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LEWIS CONSTRUCTION CO

P 0 BGX 2669 ,

GREAT FALLS MT 59403

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PURCHASE ORDER NO. INVOICE PURCHASE ORDER NO. **PURCHASE** INVOICE AMOUNT AMOUNT **AMOUNT** 289 9,711.90

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FOR:				TOTAL	\$		
		THIS SLIP MUST A					

pd on Ex = ~

City of GREAT FALLS Montana

TELEPHONE 406/727-5881 **EXT. 341**

CLAIM VOUCHER

SIGN CLAIM BELOW—ATTACH INVOICE—AND RETURN PROMPTLY FOR PAYMENT

LCCO

RETURN TO: City of Great Falls

FINANCE DEPT.

Civic Center

Great Falls, MT. 59401

DATE	VENDOR NO.		 	
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*		ACCOUNT NO.	TOTAL	

NOTICE. Under RCM 1947, § 11-1301—Claims must be presented with all necessary and proper vouchers, within one (1) year from the date the same accrued; and any claim or demand not so presented within the time aforesaid is forever barred, and the city commission has no authority to allow any account or demand not so presented.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CLAIM IS CORRECT AND JUST IN ALL RESPECTS AND THAT PAYMENT OR CREDIT HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED

VENDOR SIGNATURE_

ALC	LEWIS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	INVOICE	1456	رئ <u>،،</u>	1 CONSTR
BOX 2669	PHONE 454-1373 1025 11TH AVENUE NORTH GREAT FALLS, MONTANA 59403	DATE _	8/27/84		A C
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THIS SLIP MUST ACCOMPANY ALL CLAIMS AND RETURNED GOODS

TOTAL \$__

FOR:

\$22,642.19

DATE ► 8/22/84

TO ORDER

LEWIS CONSTRUCTION CO
P O BOX 2669

GREAT FALLS MT 59403

SOO4BO \$ 2 } 2 *

WARRANT \$ 32947

		And the state of t					NUMBER	32941
VOICE NO.	PURCHASE ORDER NO.	AMOUNT	INVOICE NO.	PURCHASE ORDER NO.	AMOUNT	INVOICE NO.	PURCHASE ORDER NO.	AMOUNT
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TY OF GREAT FALLS

VENDOR-01464

CLAIM WARRANT TOTAL

\$22,642,19

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985 EXHIBIT B

Amend HB 263 as follows:

1. Page 3, line 23.
Following: Line 22
Insert: "(1) third class school districts where the board of trustees not meet monthly;"
Renumber; subsequent subsections.

adopted 3/9/15

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985 EXHIBIT C

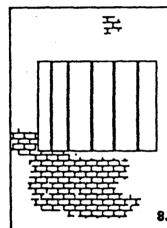
Submitted by Ed Hall, Board of Crime Control. *HB217



HB 277



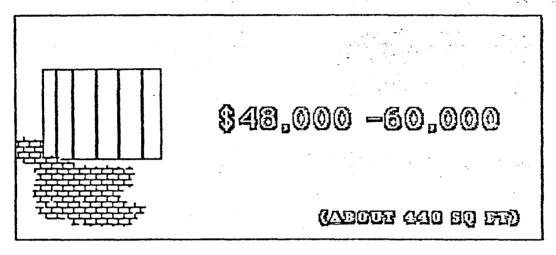
MONTANA JAIL FACTS



- 1. 45 JRILS AND 8 72 HOUR HOLDS
- 2. 1,071 JAIL CELLS AND 54 HOLDING CELLS
- 3. OLDEST OPERATING JAIL BUILT IN 1881
 - 4. RUERAGE STRY IN JAILS IS ABOUT 1 WEEK
- 5. STATEWIDE ON 1 DAY THERE WERE 432 INMATES
- 6. B6% ARE MALES
- 7. THE MEDIAN AGE IS ABOUT 27 YEARS OLD
- 8.68% ARE LOCAL (COUNTY) RESIDENTS

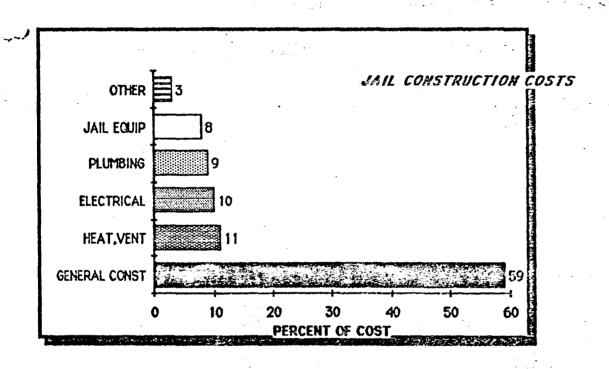
SOURCE: MONT ANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

JAIL CONSTRUCTION COSTS PER CELL



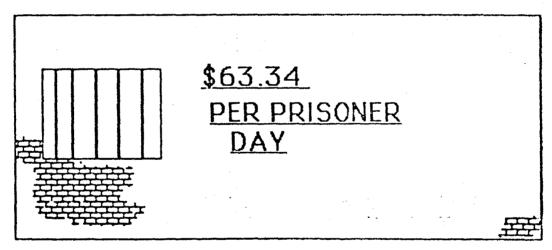
SOURCE: COST OF CONSTITUTIONAL JAILS 1982

THE COST OF JAIL CONSTRUCTION



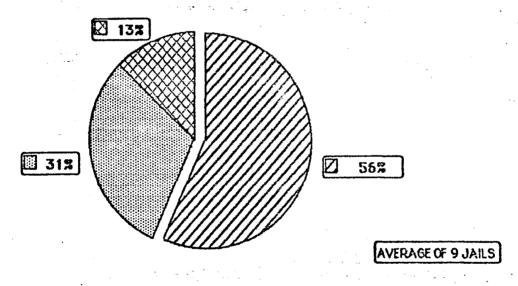
source: Cost Of Constitutional Jails-1982

DAILY JAIL OPERATIONS COSTS



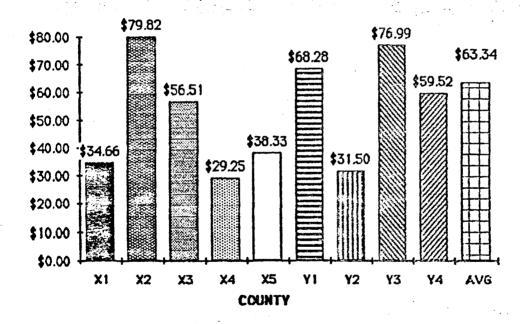
SOURCE: 9 MONTANA JAILS-1984: MBCC

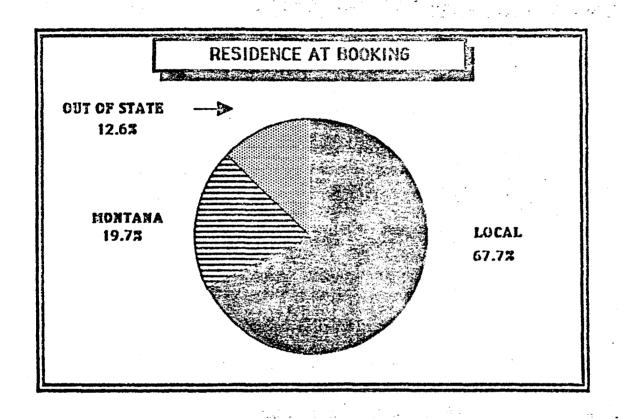
Jail Expenses

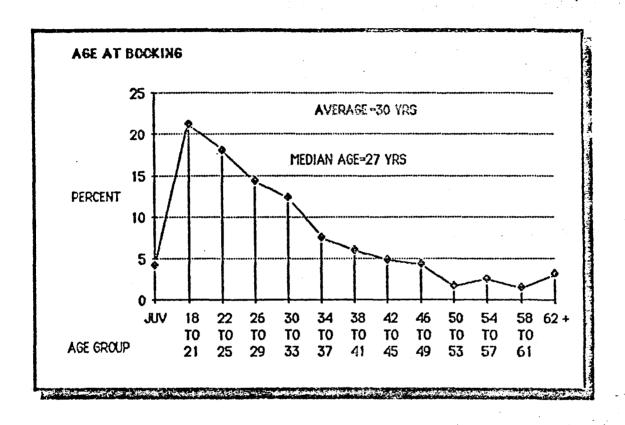


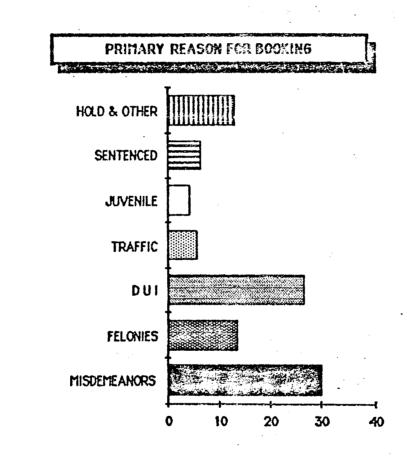
SEMI-VARIABLE E FIXED COST WARIABLE COST

COST PER DAY OTHER STUDIES



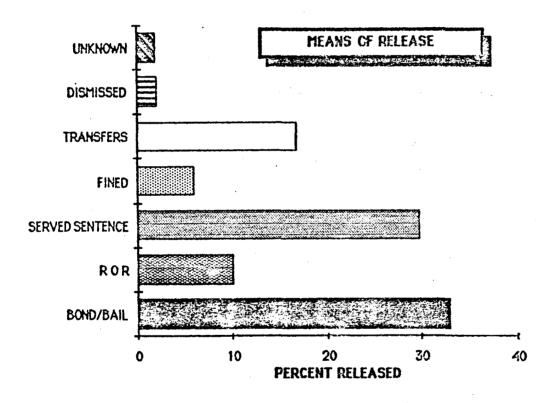


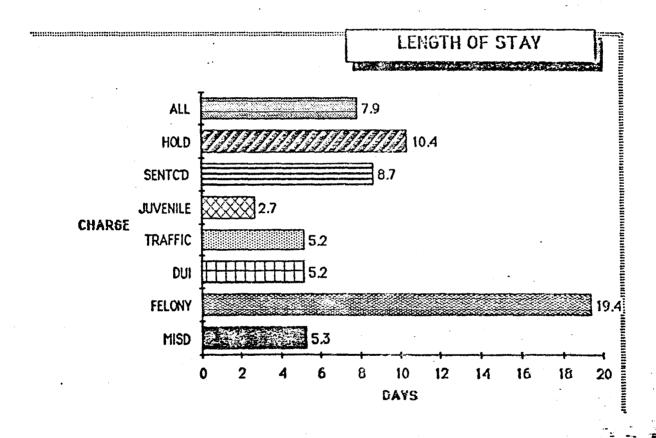




R E

A S O H





MARK MURPHY -

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985
EXHIBIT D

Amendments to House Bill 277

7-7-2201. Purposes for which general obligation bonds of a county may be issued. The board of county commissioners of every county of the state is hereby vested with the power and authority to issue, negotiate, and sell coupon bonds on the credit of the county, as more specifically provided in this part, for any of the following purposes:

(1) acquiring land for sites and grounds for a public building or buildings of any kind within the county and under its control, which the county has lawful authority to acquire or erect, control, and maintain; except if the bonds are sold to fund a multi-county jail facility, funds so raised may be used in the county in which the multi-county jail facility is located;

(2) acquiring land for any other public use or activity within the county, under its control and authorized by law;

(3) constructing, erecting, or acquiring by purchase necessary public buildings within the county, under its control and authorized by law; making additions to and repairing buildings; and furnishing and equipping the same; except if the bonds are sold to fund a multi-county jail facility, funds so raised may be used in the county in which the multi-county jail facility is located;

(4) building, purchasing, constructing, and maintaining devices intended to protect the safety of the public from open

ditches carrying irrigation or other water;

(5) enabling a county to liquidate its indebtedness to another county incident to the creation of a new county or the changing of any county boundary line;

(6) funding, paying, and retiring outstanding county warrants lawfully issued against the county general fund, road fund, bridge fund, or poor fund when:

(a) there is not sufficient money in the fund against which such warrants are drawn to pay and retire such warrants; and

(b) the levying of taxes sufficient to pay and retire such warrants within a period of 3 years would, in the judgment of the board, work a hardship and be an undue burden upon the taxpayers of the county.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985
EXHIBIT E

TESTIMONY - HB299 - SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
MARCH 9, 1985
Wendy Ross Cromwell, Missoula County Recording/Elections Manager

Existing Section 7-5-2411 M.C.A. requires county commissioners to contract with in-county printing establishments for all county printing jobs. In theory, this requirement should allow for competitive bidding between local businesses, and the costs to the county to be kept to a minimum. In practice, however, some printing jobs are so complex that there are no competitive bids, and one print shop in a county develops a monopoly by default. That still is not necessarily a problem to a county budget, until the printer who holds the monopoly decides to begin raising prices.

At that point, the state-appointed County Printing Board statutorily-adopted maximum prices for particular printing jobs should place a ceiling on costs to the county. Still no problem, unless the County Printing Board adopts, as a guide to pricing, a printer's pricing manual called the Franklin Offset Catalog. The Montana Board of County Printing did just that in 1983, with an effective date of July 1, 1984. It contains, in very fine print, hundreds of different schedules for pricing various types of jobs. There may be a dozen schedules, or methods of application of those schedules, applicable to a particular job. The reason for choosing one schedule over another might be very clear to a printer, but not to a layman trying to stay within a budget.

After the 1984 Presidential Primary Election, Missoula County was very surprised to receive a bill in the amount of \$38,330 for ballot printing from Missoula Arteraft, the only bidder on ballots for fiscal year 1984. This was an enormous increase over the \$8,900 paid for the 1980 Presidential Primary, and \$14,600 for the 1982 Primary. Missoula County's budget was based on an estimate of \$16,000, to allow for inflation. The Missoula County commissioners authorized payment for only a portion of the total, the amount calculated by the methods used for billing previous elections. Arteraft then refused to accept Missoula County's order for ballots for the 1984 General Election.

Two printers, Gateway in Missoula and the Mineral Independent in Superior, out of Missoula County, offered assistance in printing ballots so that Missoula County's voters could participate in the election. Even though their equipment was not the most efficient available for the special needs of ballot printing, the total cost to Missoula County was only \$8,600, 34% less than what Artcraft estimated for the cost of the 1984 General. (Artcraft's estimate was made at the request of the county commissioners during negotiations on possible payment of the Primary costs.)

Missoula County's commissioners believe in doing business locally whenever possible, but they also have an obligation to spend the taxpayers' dollars wisely. IB299 will allow first class counties, whose annual printing costs can add up to tens of thousands of dollars, to split printing contracts and obtain competitive bids for specialized work both in and out of the county. A 5% 'handicap' for in-county printing establishments seems a fair advantage. Passage of this bill will help prevent local printers from forcing counties to pay ransom for ballots and other printed materials essential to the operation of government.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 1985
EXHIBIT F

HANNAH 48 328

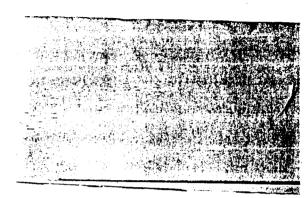
Skedd, Ashley, McCabe, Weingartner & Graveley, PC



222 Broadway • Helena, Montana 59601 Telephone (406) 442-3100/442-1700

LLOYD J. SKEDD J. MAYO ASHLEY MICHAEL T. McCABE J.C. WEINGARTNER CHARLES A. GRAVELEY

February 7, 1985



Representative Tom Hanna State Capitol Helena, Montana 59601

Re: HB-328

Dear Tom:

This bill has been introduced at the request of the Montana County Treasurers Association. The purpose in having the bill introduced is to require the single banks in counties to submit a bid if it wishes to participate in the investment of local funds. As law currently stands the local institution can sit back and not make any bid whatsoever. If, upon reivew of the other bids submitted by institutions lying outside the counties boundaries, all the local bank has to do is match the bid. It takes no work whatsoever on the part of the local institution.

The outside financial institutions are reluctant to submit bids in the counties with single banks in that they are fully aware that their work may be lost because the local bank can match the bid. We feel that this bill will be a benefit to the counties and will result in a higher interest rate being paid upon county funds that are invested II will be unable to attend the hearing on Saturday, but several treasurers from around the state, weather permitting, will be available to testify.

Very truly yours,

Charles A. Graveley

CAG/kvs