

GLACIER COUNTY GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION FINAL REPORT

To the Citizens of Glacier County:

The Glacier County Study Commission elected by the voters on November 8, 1994, or thereafter appointed present this final report to the citizens of this county.

The purpose of the study commission, as defined in state law, is "to study the existing form and powers of our county government and procedures for delivery of local government services and compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state". If some change is deemed necessary, the study commission may submit such proposed change to the electors.

In the conduct of their review the study commission has sought advice and information from a number of people in the county. Opinions and recommendations were solicited from local government officials, community organizations and citizens. All meetings of the study commission were open to the public. Public hearings were held to determine citizen opinion.

As a result of discussions held with the people and groups mentioned the Glacier County Study Commission has concluded that there is general consensus that the existing county commission form of government has served this county well since its organization in 1889, and will continue to do so in the future. We therefore recommend no change in this form of government.

Respectfully submitted,

Glacier County Study Commissioners




Chair

Johnalee Arnoux

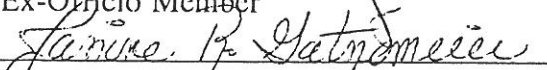
Vice Chair



Member



Ex-Officio Member



Secretary

TO THE ELECTED OFFICIALS

OF GLACIER COUNTY

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Glacier County Government Study Commission hereby submits the following list of recommendations to the elected officials of Glacier County. The following list has been separated into eight basic categories: Taxation, Transportation, Tourism, Health/Education/Welfare, Relationship: County/Reservation, Law Enforcement, County Officials, and City/County Relationship (Cut Bank/Browning).

TAXATION:

The County Commissioners should look at a way to restructure taxes in Glacier County to reflect more fair and equitable values within the county and within the state.

TRANSPORTATION:

There is a need for the County to have valid right of ways for all county roads.

TOURISM:

The County Commissioners should be encouraged to look at transportation within the County to enhance tourism.

HEALTH/EDUCATION/WELFARE: No recommendation.

RELATIONSHIP: COUNTY/RESERVATION: No recommendation.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

The Study Commission recommends the need of a regional jail and supports the idea of same.

COUNTY OFFICES:

The County Attorney should be a full time position, not part time.

Elected officials and department heads should continue to hold monthly meetings.

County elections on a non-partisan basis are recommended.

CITY/COUNTY RELATIONSHIP:

The CEO's of the cities of Browning, Cut Bank, and Glacier County should hold at least yearly meetings to coordinate their administrative problems they may have. The Blackfeet Tribe should also be included in these meetings. The Tribal Council would be the Tribe's representative.

Economic diversity should be promoted by the cities of Browning, Cut Bank, Blackfeet Tribe, and Glacier County together as partners.