

FINAL REPORT
POWELL COUNTY COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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Powell County Commission

On Local Government

Powell County Courthouse
DEER LODGE, MT 59722

COMMISSION MEMBERS

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TO THE PEOPLE OF POWELL COUNTY

The Powell County Commission on Local Government elected by the voters on November 5, 1974 presents this tentative report to the people of this county.

The responsibility of the study commission as defined in state law is "to study the form and power of government and existing procedures for delivery of local government services and compare them with other forms available under the laws of the State of Montana." After completing these two phases of the study it is the responsibility of the study commission to submit an alternative form of government to the qualified electors.

The study commission worked to fulfill the requirement of the Constitution and the Legislature. Our group studied the present form of powers of the government unit. Each member studied the alternative forms made available to local government by the Constitution and the Legislature.

Our recommendations reflect the thoughts and opinions of those who participated in public hearings, those who attended our regular meetings, and those who responded to questionnaires, in addition to the independent efforts of this study commission.

In this tentative report we present our recommendations for an alternative form of government that we feel will provide the government services expected by the people of Powell County. Our concern has been to provide a form of government that will be responsive to local citizens and provide the opportunity for solutions to local problems.

We feel the following alternatives would be helpful in securing an orderly flow of government processes and maintaining a similar form of government at the county level:

- 1) Commission-Chairman form of government
- 2) Adoption of a County Charter
- 3) Acquisition of self-government powers
- 4) Transfer of law-enforcement services

The question for the adoption of this alternative form will be placed on the ballot November 2, 1976. We solicit your support for its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

POWELL COUNTY COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT:


DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON


EUGENE BAUMAN


EARL B. WAHL

/br

CHARTER OF POWELL COUNTY

PREAMBLE

We, the people of Powell County, State of Montana, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of freedom, in order to secure the advantages of local government powers, do, in accordance with Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Montana and under the Constitution of the United States, establish and ordain this Charter of Powell County, Montana.

ARTICLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1: Powell County shall have all self-government powers not prohibited by the Constitution of Montana, the laws of Montana or this charter.
- Section 2: The powers and authority of this self-government unit shall be liberally construed. Every reasonable doubt as to the existence of a county power or authority shall be resolved in favor of the existence of that power or authority.
- Section 3: As provided by Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Montana, provisions herein establishing executive, legislative and administrative structure and organization are superior to statutory provisions.
- Section 4: All powers of Powell County belong to the people of Powell County. The powers shall be exercised by their elected representatives on the Commission, except as assigned to other elected officials in this charter.
- Section 5: Any bond, debt, contract, obligation or cause of action already accrued or established by the Powell County government shall be unaffected by this Charter.
- Section 6: Before entering upon the duties of office all Powell County elected officials shall take and subscribe to the oath of office as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Montana and the Charter of Powell County that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity (so help me God)."

ARTICLE II
COUNTY COMMISSION

Composition, terms, election, qualifications, compensation, removal, filling of vacancies.

- Section 1: There shall be a Commission of Powell County composed of five (5) members and each Commissioner shall reside in a designated commission district. Commission districts shall be of as nearly equal population as possible and shall be reapportioned by the commission within six (6) months after each official United States census.
- Section 2: All legislative, executive and administrative powers of the county not specifically reserved by law, ordinance or this charter to other elected officials shall reside in the commission.
- Section 3: Candidates for each Commission district shall be elected at large in both the primary and general elections.
- Section 4: Commissioners shall be elected for overlapping terms of four (4) years, on a partisan basis.
- Section 5: All qualified electors of Powell County are eligible for election to the Commission.
- Section 6: The office of Commissioner shall become vacant upon the members:
- a) death
 - b) Resignation
 - c) loss of eligibility for election
 - d) violation of any express prohibition of this Charter
 - e) conviction of a felony by a court of competent jurisdiction
- Section 7: The commission shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its members and of the grounds of forfeiture of their office.
- Section 8: In the event of a vacancy the Commission shall, by a majority vote of the remaining members, appoint a qualified elector of that district to fill the vacancy until the next regular Commission election at which time the remainder of the term of office shall be filled by election as provided by law.
- Section 9: Commission members shall receive actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties of office, as approved by the Commission.

ARTICLE III
COMMISSION ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES

- Section 1: There shall be a chairman of the Commission elected by the members of the Commission from their own number to serve at the pleasure of the Commission. He shall be the presiding officer of the Commission, be recognized as the head of the local government unit and have the power to vote as other members of the Commission.
- Section 2: The Commission shall adopt by ordinance a set of written rules to govern its organization and procedures as consistent with state law.
- Section 3: The Commission shall provide for the keeping of a journal of its proceedings.
- Section 4: All meetings shall be open to the public except in such circumstances as are prescribed by state law.
- Section 5: All documents and records of the Commission shall be public records and shall be made available for examining and copying.
- Section 6: A majority vote of the entire Commission shall be required for all official actions of the Commission. A minimum of four (4) Commission members must be present when official actions are taken by the Commission.

ARTICLE IV
OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

Nomination, Election and Terms of all other elected county officials:

- Section 1: The following county officials shall be nominated and elected at large by the qualified electors of the county for partisan elections:
- a) County Attorney
 - b) Sheriff
 - c) Clerk and Recorder
 - d) Clerk of District Court
 - e) Treasurer
 - f) Superintendent of Schools
 - g) Assessor
- Section 2: Terms of office shall be for four years.
- Section 3: Elected officials shall be subject to all provisions in Montana law applicable to elected officials in counties with general government powers.

- Section 4: In the event of a vacancy or forfeiture, the commission shall, by a majority vote of all the members appoint a qualified elector to fill the vacancy until the next regular election at which time the remainder of the term of office shall be filled by election as provided by law.
- Section 5: The County Commissioners shall appoint all other officials in order to execute and enforce policies as are determined by the Commission and to carry out obligations imposed on the county by state law.
- Section 6: Elected officials shall retain the power of appointment of subordinates.
- Section 7: Salary of all elected officials shall be set by ordinance of the county commissioners.

ARTICLE V
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Section 1: The people of Powell County retain the right to amend provisions of this charter as prescribed by State law.
- Section 2: This Charter shall become effective on May 2, 1977.
- Section 3: If any provision of this Charter is held invalid, the other provisions of this Charter shall not be affected thereby. If the application of this Charter, or any part of its provisions, to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the application of this Charter and its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

ARTICLE VI
TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1: Transition to this Charter form of government shall be as prescribed by law. The Commission may provide for such transition by ordinance, rule or resolution not inconsistent with state law. The provisions of this transition article shall not be published as part of this Charter after July 1, 1978.
- Section 2: During the period of transition the Commission shall appoint an advisory committee of not less than five (5) members, one of which shall be a County Commissioner, one a member of the county study commission, and three qualified electors of the county.

- Section 3: Salaries of all elected county officials and employees shall continue at their present level until the discontinuance of such office or position in accordance with this Charter, or the change in salary or employment of such officials and employees by the Commissioners in accordance with the provisions of this Charter.
- Section 4: Provisions of this Charter in no way jeopardize the status of current county employees except as otherwise noted in this Charter.
- Section 5: Each rule, ordinance or resolution of the Powell County government shall remain in force until superseded by action of the Commission. The Commission shall revise, repeal or reaffirm all such rules, ordinances and resolutions by May 2, 1979.
- Section 6: The county commissioner elected on November 7, 1972, shall continue to hold office as a commissioner until his successor is elected in 1978 and qualified in 1979.
- Section 7: The Commission shall meet on May 2, 1977 to elect its chairman, establish regular meeting dates and set the agenda for the next meeting. At this first meeting at least two of the Commissioners shall draw lots for two (2) year terms and the remaining two commissioners shall serve four (4) year terms. The Commission shall also at its first meeting adopt ordinances and resolutions to effect the transition of government under this Charter and to maintain effective county government during the transition.

Section 8: Reapportionment:

District 1

Avon-Elliston C.C.D. (E.D.'s 4,5)
 Helmville C.C.D. (E.D. 3)
 Ovando C.C.D. (E.D.'s 1,2)
 Population 1533 Deviation + 15.4%

District 2

Cottonwood C.C.D. (E.D. 6)
 E.D. 7 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
 Population 1323 Deviation -.7%

District 3

E.D. 8 of Deer Lodge C.C.D

E.D. 9 of Deer Lodge C.C.D. except for the
area bound:

- 1) On the East and South by the Deer Lodge
city limits;
- 2) On the West by a line which bisects Wash-
ington Street from the city limits to
Texas Avenue;
- 3) On the North by a line which bisects Texas
Avenue from Washington Street to the city
limits.

Population 1255 Deviation -5.8%

District 4

E.D. 10, 11 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.

Population 1326 Deviation -.45%

District 5

E. D. 12 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.

That area of E.D. 9 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
which is bound:

- 1) On the East and South by the Deer Lodge
city limits;
- 2) On the West by a line which bisects
Washington Street from the city limits to
Texas Avenue;
- 3) On the North by a line which bisects
Texas Avenue from Washington Street to
the city limits.

Population 1218 Deviation -8.5%

CERTIFICATE
OF PROPOSED FORM OF
GOVERNMENT


We, the Powell County Commission on Local Government, do hereby certify that this is the alternative plan of government to be offered to voters on November 2, 1976, in accordance with Article XI, Section 5 of the Montana Constitution and described in Section 47A-3-208, provisions 1-18: Revised Codes of Montana 1947, authorizing Charter form of government.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Powell County Courthouse this 27th day of July, 1976.


DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON


EUGENE BAUMAN


EARL B. WAHL

(SEAL)

/br

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION AT
WHICH THE ALTERNATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT SHALL
BE PRESENTED TO THE ELECTORS OF POWELL COUNTY.

The alternative form of government and the transfer of law enforcement services proposed by the Powell County Commission on Local Government shall be submitted to the voters of Powell County at a special election to be held with the general election on November 2, 1976.

We, the Powell County Commission on Local Government, do hereby certify that this is the date of the special election approved by the study commissioners of the Powell County Commission on Local Government.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands

Done at Powell County Courthouse this 27th day
of July, 1976.

Dorothy Terry Mannix
DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON

Eugene L. Bauman
EUGENE BAUMAN

Earl B. Wahl
EARL B. WAHL

(SEAL)

ATTEST: *Bonnie J. Miller*
BONNIE J. MILLER
POWELL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT
FOR THE NOVEMBER 2, 1976 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which express your preference. The full text on the proposed form of government is available at your polling place.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
BALLOT ON ALTERNATIVE FORM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A majority of those voting on the question shall determine adoption or failure of the question.

Vote for one

For adoption of the commission-chairman form of government proposed in the report of the Powell County Commission on Local Government.

For the existing form of government.

We, the Powell County Commission on Local Government, do hereby certify that this is the official ballot approved by the study commissioners of the Powell County Commission on Local Government.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Powell County Courthouse this 27th day of July, 1976.

Dorothy Terry Mannix
DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON

(SEAL)

Eugene S. Bauman
EUGENE BAUMAN

Earl B. Wahl
EARL B. WAHL

ATTEST: Bonnie J. Miller
BONNIE J. MILLER
POWELL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT
FOR THE NOVEMBER 2, 1976 SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which express your preference. The full text on the proposed transfer of law enforcement services is available at your polling place.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
BALLOT ON THE TRANSFER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

A majority of those voting on the question shall determine adoption or failure of the question.

Vote for one

For adoption of the transfer of law enforcement services proposed in the report of the Powell County Commission on Local Government.

For the existing law enforcement services.

We, the Powell County Commission on Local Government, do hereby certify that this is the official ballot approved by the study commissioners of the Powell County Commission on Local Government.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Powell County Courthouse this 27th day of July, 1976.

Dorothy Terry Mannix
DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX CHAIRPERSON

(SEAL)

Eugene H. Bauman
EUGENE BAUMAN

Earl B. Wahl
EARL B. WAHL

ATTEST: Bonnie J. Miller
BONNIE J. MILLER
POWELL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

CERTIFICATE
ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT
FOR POWELL COUNTY

If retained by the voters the government of Powell County shall be organized under the following provisions of Section 47A-3-205:
 Revised codes of Montana 1947.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| (1) | (2) (g) | |
| (2) (a) (iii) | (3) (a) (i) | (3) (g) (i) |
| (2) (b) (i) | (3) (b) (i) | (3) (h) (i) |
| (2) (c) (i) | (3) (c) (i) | (3) (i) (i) |
| (2) (d) (ii) | (3) (d) (i) | (3) (j) (i) |
| (2) (e) (ii) | (3) (e) (i) | (3) (k) (i) |
| (2) (f) (ii) | (3) (f) (i) | |
| | | (4) |

The sections establish the following form of government which shall be called the COMMISSION form:

- (1) The commission form consists of an elected commission and other elected officers as provided in this section. All legislative, executive and administrative powers and duties of the local government not specifically reserved by law or ordinance to other elected officers shall reside in the commission. The commission shall appoint department heads and other employees other than those employees appointed by elected officials.
- 2) The plan of government shall also include the following:
 - (a) The commission shall be nominated by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population but elected at large.
 - (b) Local government elections shall be conducted on a partisan basis as provided in this title.
 - (c) The chairman of the commission shall be the presiding officer of the commission. All members of boards and committees shall be appointed by the chairman with the consent of the commission. The chairman shall be recognized as the head of the local government unit and may vote as other members of the commission. He shall be elected by the members of the commission from their own number for a term established by ordinance.
 - (d) The commission may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist them in the supervision and operation of the local government.
 - (e) Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.
 - (f) The size of the commission shall be three (3) members, and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.
 - (g) The term of office of the commissioners shall be six (6) years. Other elected officials shall serve four (4) year terms.
- (3) The plan of government shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including the following:

- (a) A legal officer (called the county attorney) shall be elected.
 - (b) A law enforcement officer (called the sheriff) shall be elected.
 - (c) A clerk and recorder shall be elected.
 - (d) A clerk of the district court shall be elected.
 - (e) A treasurer shall be elected.
 - (f) A surveyor shall be elected. (Does not apply to Powell County).
 - (g) A superintendent of schools shall be elected.
 - (h) An assessor shall be elected.
 - (i) A coroner shall be elected.
 - (j) A public administrator shall be elected.
 - (k) An auditor shall be elected. (Does not apply to Powell County).
- (4) The plan of government shall have general powers.

We, the Powell County Commission on Local Government, do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as authorized by Section 47A-3-205: Revised Codes of Montana 1947

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Powell County Courthouse this 27th day of July, 1976.

Dorothy Terry Mannix
DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON

Eugene S. Bauman
EUGENE BAUMAN

Earl B. Wahl
EARL B. WAHL

(SEAL)

ATTEST: *Bonnie J. Miller*
BONNIE J. MILLER
POWELL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

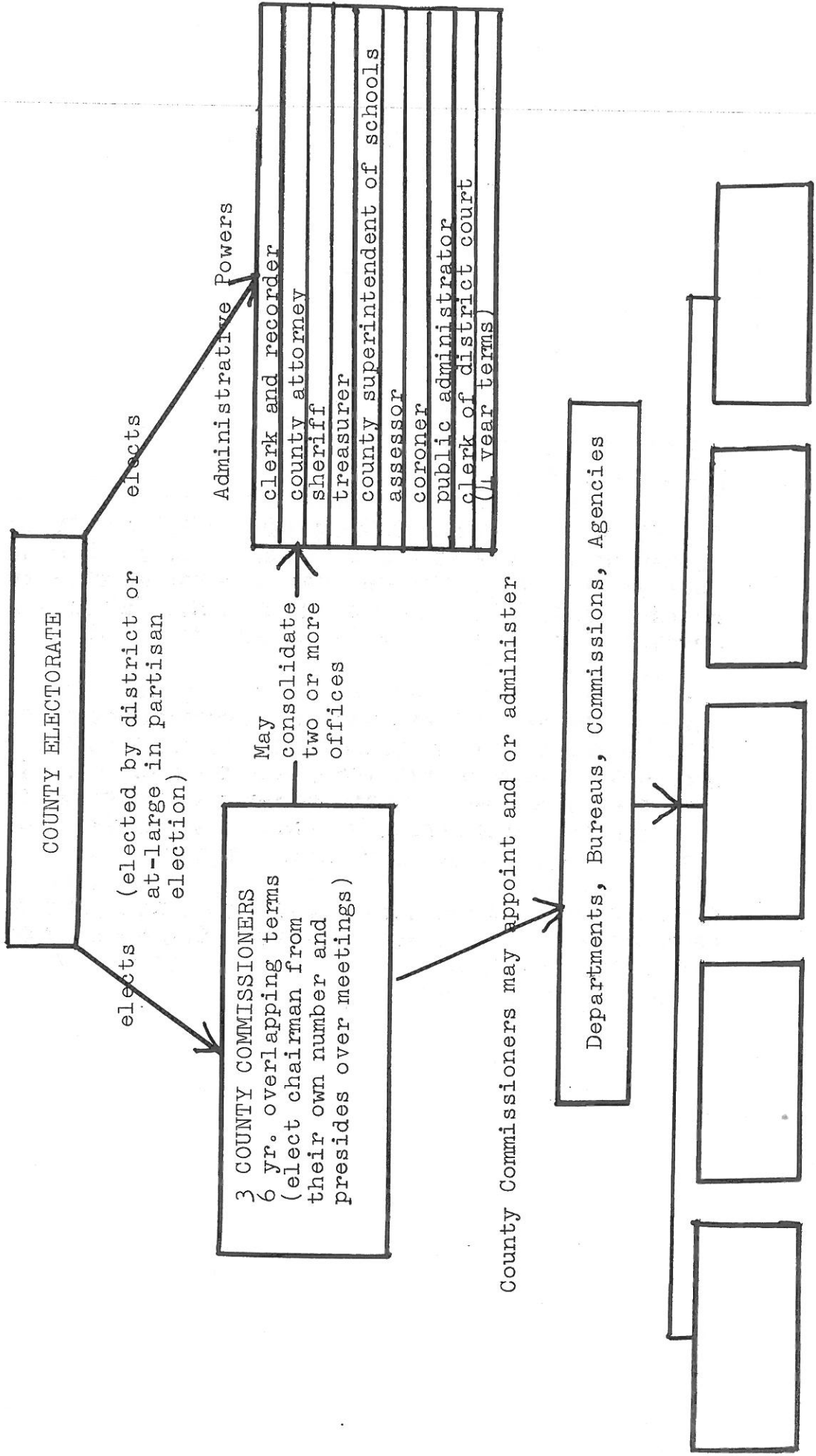
DEAR VOTER:

The following two charts show the existing form of county government and the proposed form. Please note there is very little difference in the election of county officials in the proposal, and the duties and performance of these offices would remain the same.

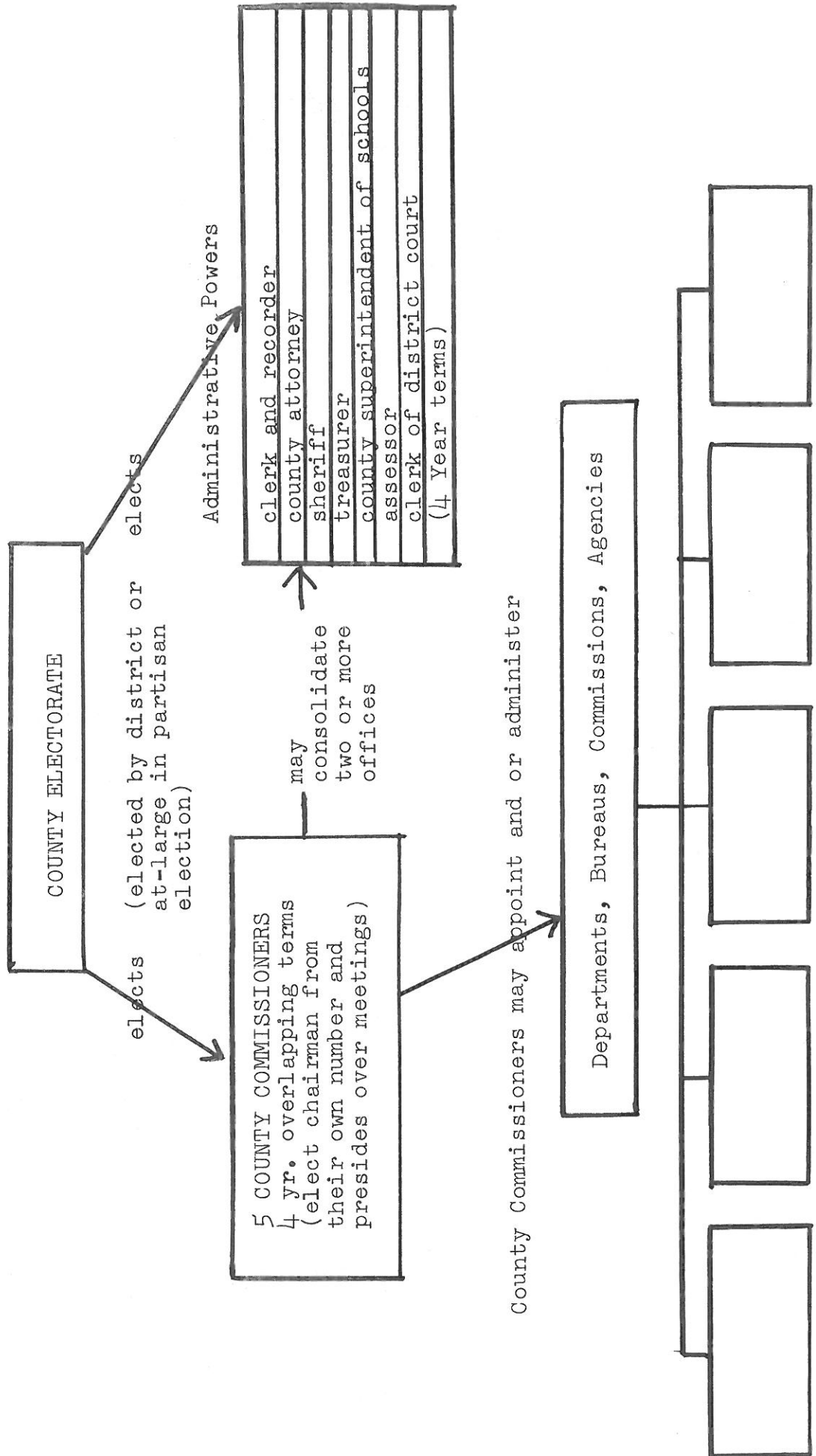
Your study commission has not recommended any radical change in local government as surveys in the area have shown change would not be acceptable to the voter. We have recommended an expansion to five county commissioners which is required by state law if we adopt self-government powers.

We do believe in the adoption of local self-government powers so the voters of Powell County may do for themselves what is necessary to control local issues at a local level.

EXISTING
ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIAL FORM



PROPOSED
ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIAL FORM



CERTIFICATE
FOR THE APPORTIONMENT
OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS DESCRIBED BY CENSUS DEVISION (C.C.D.), AND ENUMERATION DISTRICT (E.D.), WITH POPULATION AND DEVIATION FROM IDEAL SHOWN.

District 1

Avon-Elliston C.C.D. (E.D.'s 4, 5)
Helmville C.C.D. (E.D. 3)
Ovando C.C.D. (E.D.'s 1, 2)
Population 1533 Deviation +15.4%

District 2

Cottonwood C.C.D. (E.D. 6)
E.D. 7 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
Population 1323 Deviation -.7%

District 3

E.D. 8 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
E.D. 9 of Deer Lodge C.C.D. except for the area bound:
1) On the East and South by the Deer Lodge city limits;
2) On the West by a line which bisects Washington Street from the city limits to Texas Avenue;
3) On the North by a line which bisects Texas Avenue from Washington Street to the city limits.
Population 1255 Deviation -5.8%

District 4

E.D. 10, 11 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
Population 1326 Deviation -.45%

District 5

E.D. 12 of Deer Lodge C.C.D.
That area of E.D. 9 of Deer Lodge C.C.D. which is bound:
1) On the East and South by the Deer Lodge city limits;
2) On the West by a line which bisects Washington Street from the city limits to Texas Avenue;
3) On the North by a line which bisects Texas Avenue from Washington Street to the city limits.
Population 1218 Deviation -8.5%

We, the Study Commission of Powell County do hereby certify that this is the official apportionment plan for commissioner districts approved by the Study Commission of Powell County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Deer Lodge this ____ day
of July, 1976.

Dorothy Terry Mannix
DOROTHY TERRY MANNIX, CHAIRPERSON

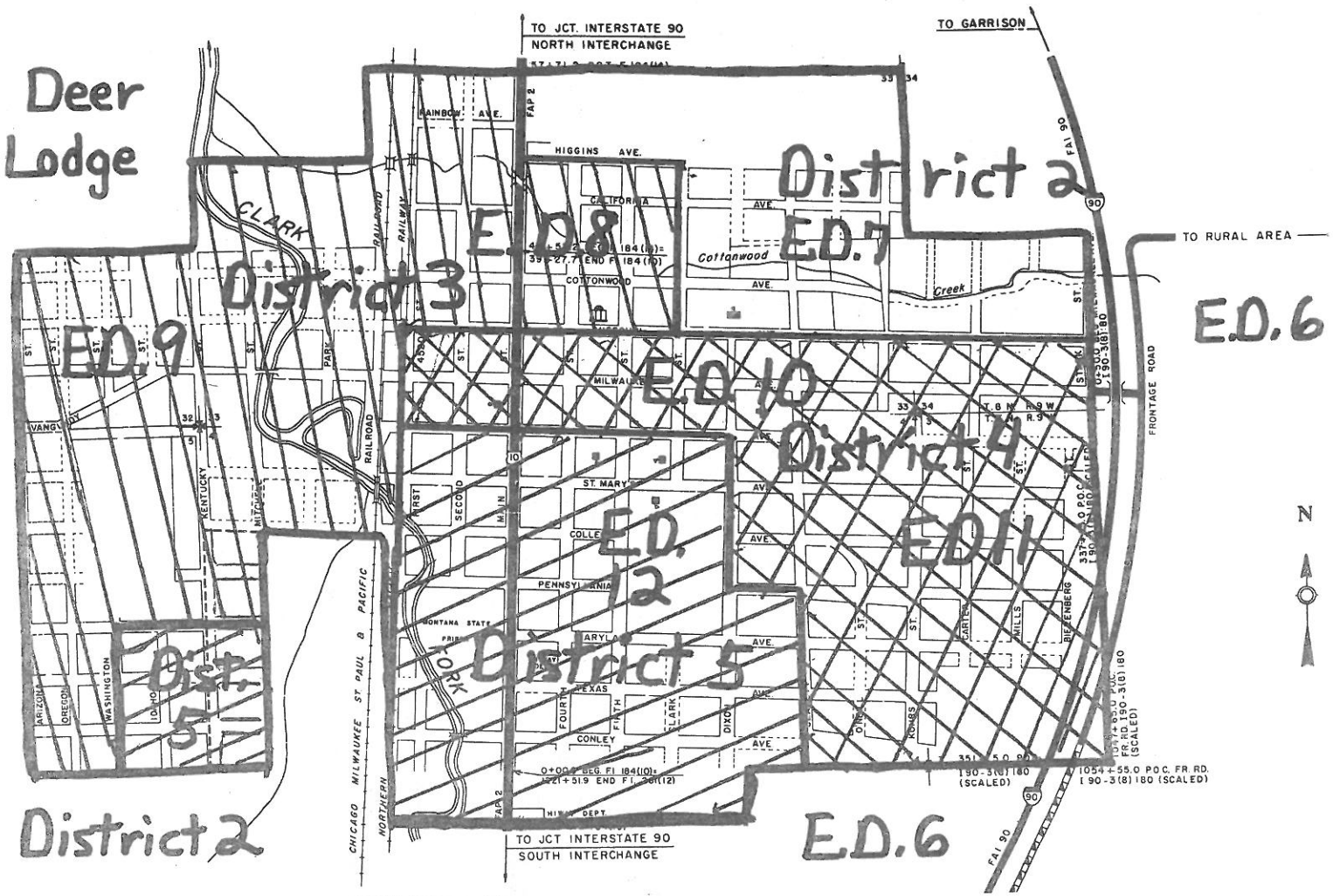
Eugene S. Bauman
EUGENE BAUMAN

Earl B. Wahl
EARL B. WAHL

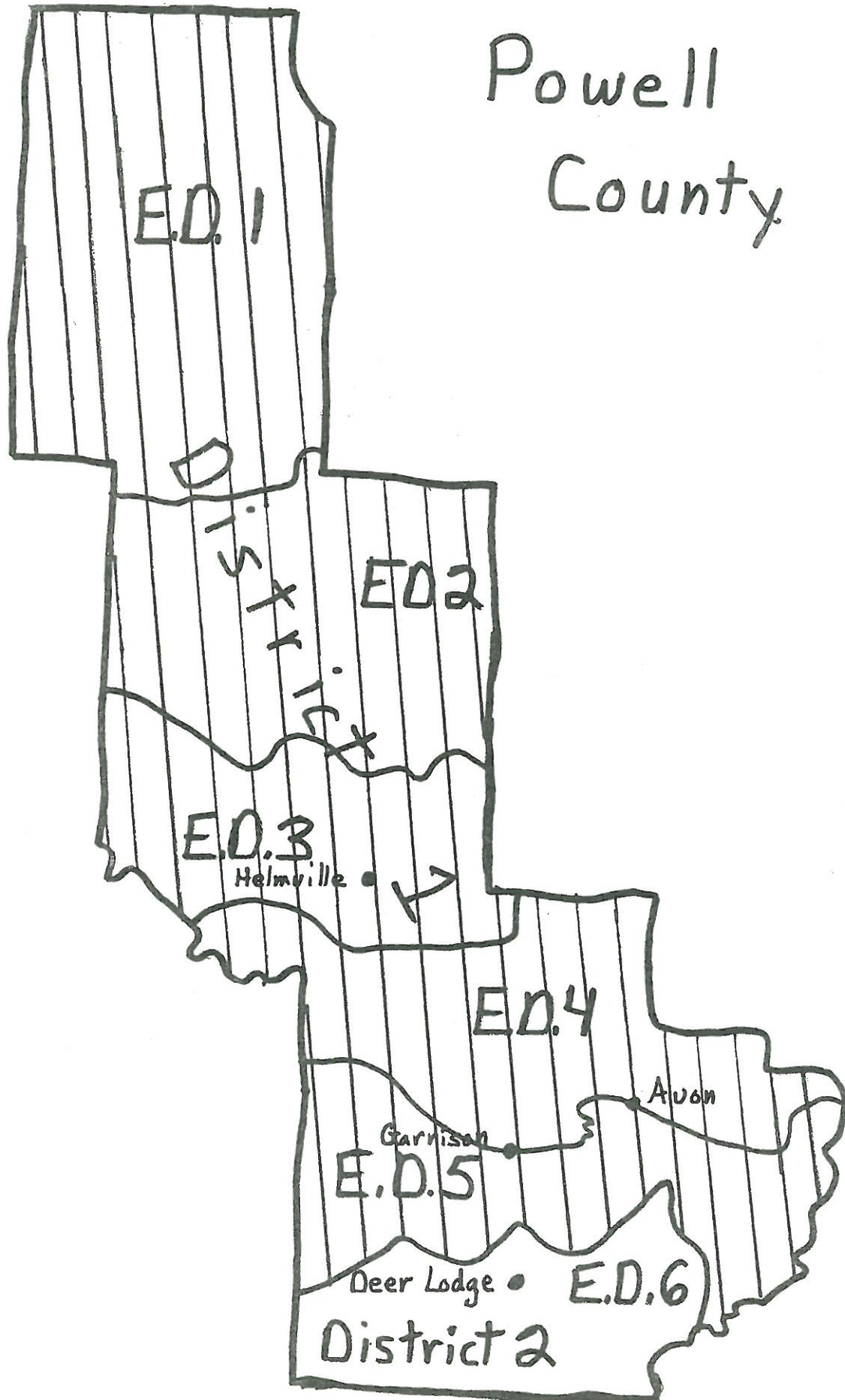
ATTEST: *Bonnie J. Miller*
Bonnie J. Miller
POWELL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

(SEAL)

REAPPORTIONMENT MAPS



Powell County



INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE TRANSFER

This is the joint report of the Deer Lodge City Study Commission and the Powell County Study Commission on the transfer of law enforcement from the City of Deer Lodge to Powell County.

The study commissions jointly recommend that the two law enforcement departments be combined into one law enforcement operation for the following reasons:

1. Support for the idea from city and county residents, as determined by the joint survey on city-county cooperation. Over 60% of the persons who answered this question were in favor. Among those who did not favor a total combination, at least 56% favored combining major parts of law enforcement. This survey was conducted throughout the city and the county. Support was also voiced at public hearings.
2. Current cooperation, which is a foundation for a combined operation. The two departments cooperate well now, partially because the limited facilities require cooperation. The city uses the county jail, and is dependent on the switchboard at the sheriff's office for radio communications.
3. City residents are, in effect, paying twice for some aspects of law enforcement. City residents support both departments financially, but do not receive the full benefits of county law enforcement. The transfer of law enforcement should eliminate the duplication of services while maintaining or bettering the present level of law enforcement. Revenues received from the state for the purpose of law enforcement maybe transferred from the city to the county for the purpose of offsetting costs of service within the Urban Law Enforcement District, thereby reducing by a corresponding amount the mill levy in the District.

CONCLUSION:

The joint study commissions believe a complete transfer of law enforcement from the city to the county, removing all responsibility from the city will be more effective than a series of partial agreements. With taxes paid on the rate of services delivered, a more equitable tax structure could be created. In the future citizens may expect better law enforcement services and possible cost-savings.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFER

As of May 2, 1977, Powell County is authorized to provide the City of Deer Lodge all law enforcement services provided by the City Police Department, except those identified below in this certificate. The city and the county shall exercise necessary authority to unify the operations of the City Police Department under authority of the County Sheriff's Office. There shall be a Law Enforcement Transition Commission, which shall assist the city and the county in executing the terms of this transfer. It shall be composed of the Sheriff, one representative of the city, one representative of the county, one member of the City Study Commission, and one member of the County Study Commission. The Law Enforcement Transition Commission shall exist in an advisory capacity from November 2, 1976 to November 1, 1977. The authority of the County Sheriff's Office shall become effective on July 1, 1977. County fiscal responsibility for county-wide law enforcement shall begin with fiscal year 1978.

Law enforcement services include but are not necessarily limited to the following: patrol, communications, detection services, detention services, training, records, and general administration. The city shall receive the same kind and quality of service as provided in the entire county, and the level of law enforcement protection shall be the same as that currently received in the city. The Sheriff shall enforce city ordinances, except parking and dog ordinances, and shall serve warrants of the Police Judge.

The County Commission shall establish a mill levy rate on property in the entire county for the purpose of maintaining county-wide law enforcement service. The County Commission may establish an Urban Law Enforcement Service District, and may assess an additional differential mill levy within that district, according to the provision that taxes paid shall be based on the level of service received. Supplemental taxes raised in the Urban Law Enforcement Service District shall be spent only in that district. Revenues received from the state for the purpose of law enforcement may be transferred from the city to the county for the purpose of offsetting costs of service within the Urban Law Enforcement Service District, thereby reducing by a corresponding amount the mill levy in the district. The Law Enforcement Transition Commission shall advise the County Commission regarding equitable rates of taxation in the county and in the Urban Law Enforcement Service District, based on a study of current costs of providing law enforcement in the city and in the county.

All employees of the City Police force as of January 1, 1977, shall be guaranteed initial employment in the County Sheriff's department. Transferred police force personnel shall retain all earned seniority, which seniority shall be considered in calculating seniority in the county Sheriff's Department. The Law Enforcement Transition Commission shall be the judge of seniority rights. All police personnel being transferred shall continue to have the rights, privileges, benefits, obligations, and status earned with respect to the pension or retirement system of the city.

All radio equipment, patrol cars, and any other equipment used by the City Police Department shall become the property of the county on July 1, 1977. This provision shall not apply to city parking meters. The existing city patrol car shall continue to be used for patrol within the present city boundaries. The city may not dispose of any such property prior to July 1, 1977. The county shall assume all debt obligations on the equipment transferred. The county may use, sell, or otherwise dispose of any equipment received from the city. The city may retain all real property, including office, shops, and other space previously used in the city law enforcement service.

The question of transfer of law enforcement service will appear on the ballot, November 2, 1976 in the following manner:

"Shall the plan for transfer of law enforcement services proposed in the reports of the Deer Lodge City and Powell County Study Commissions be adopted?"

YES

NO

The affirmative vote of a simple majority of those voting on the question shall be required for adoption of this plan for transfer of law enforcement services. In the event of approval, this plan may be amended or terminated only by a referendum approved by a majority of electors voting on the question.

We, the undersigned, propose this plan for the transfer of law enforcement services from the city of Deer Lodge to Powell County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Deer Lodge this 27th day of July, 1976.

Harold Ericson
For the Deer Lodge

David R. Landers
City Study

Kilma H. Sant
Commission

Dorothy Jerry Mannix
For the Powell

Eugene R. Bauman
County Study

Earl B. Wall
Commission

(SEAL)

ATTEST: Bonnie J. Miller
Clerk & Recorder of
Powell County

RECOMMENDATION ON COUNTY CONTRIBUTION TO LIBRARY

The Powell County and Deer Lodge City Study Commissions, on the basis of their studies and the support for the idea from the joint survey on city-county cooperation, recommend that Powell County contribute financially to the operation of a city-county library. County financial support could allow an expansion of services to provide more library services to residents of the county outside the city limits. The details of an agreement to effect this financial obligation should be discussed and agreed upon jointly by the city and county at the earliest possible date. This recommendation is made for the following reasons:

1. Currently residents of the county outside the Deer Lodge city limits are allowed to use the Kohrs Memorial Library, the only public library in the county. This is the current policy of the Library Board, but there is no county levy for the purpose of providing library services to persons outside the city. The only financial support received by the library is from the city of Deer Lodge, which is levying the maximum four and one-half mills allowed by law for this purpose in fiscal year 1976.
2. The joint study commission survey revealed that 72% of those who answered this question favored the county supporting the library financially.
3. A county-wide library levy could provide a reduction in the city library levy.

We, the undersigned, make this recommendation on Powell County contributing financially to a library operation.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Deer Lodge this 27th day
of July, 1976.

Harold Ericson
For the Deer Lodge

(SEAL)

Loris R. Landers
City Study

Kilma H. Gant
Commission

Dorothy Jerry Mannix
For the Powell

Eugene R. Berman
County Study

Ed S. Wall
Commission

ATTEST: Bonnie J. Miller
Clerk & Recorder
of Powell County

