

**Big Sky, Montana – Community & Infrastructure
Documents Provided by BSOA from Jamison Law Files**

Date	Document	Subject	Conclusion	Comment
7/24/2001	Letter from Dick Wiggins to Mona Jamison	Issues and concerns regarding creation of a municipality in Big Sky.	Outlines the committee charter regarding governance for Big Sky.	Refers to the “village concept,” and raises the issue of “voting rights in local affairs for absentee property owners.”
9/24/2001	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	In creating legislation for a new class of municipality that might be used at Big Sky, is it legally permissible for a municipality to include areas from more than one county?	Montana State Code makes no specific prohibition, nor any specific provision for a municipality in two counties.	
11/6/2001	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	What are the sources of revenue for Montana cities and towns?	Numerous and varied. Tables of data for all cities and towns in Montana provided as exhibits.	This data is similar to data compiled routinely by the MSU Local Government Center.
1/16/2002	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	Under current law is a municipality obligated to provide water and sewer service to all properties within its corporate limits?	No.	
2/21/2002	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	What practical and legislative issues should be considered in crafting legislation to enfranchise non-resident property owners?	Extensive discussion of a variety of ways to deal with enfranchising non-resident property owners. Tables of data comparing Big Sky tax base and census data to other Montana cities and towns.	This data is similar to data available from the US Department of Census and Montana State websites.

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4/10/2002	Outline of Options for Legislation for a Municipality at Big Sky	Who shall be entitled to vote regarding the creation of municipality? ...to vote in regular elections? What should be the composition of the municipal legislative body? What services will the municipality provide?	Presently, Big Sky satisfies all of the criteria (set out in MCA 7-2-4103 and 7-2-4101) except density: "...must not exceed one square mile for each 500 inhabitants resident therein."	The quoted section of MCA 7-2-4101 omits the context that this refers to the <u>wards</u> of the city or town.
4/18/2002	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	What are the respective responsibilities of counties and municipalities for road building and maintenance when a new municipality is created?	Both have discretion whether to take over maintenance of existing roads and streets.	
		If some type of improvement district is created for roads in Big Sky, what would happen if the area is later incorporated into a municipality?	The new municipality is not required to take over this responsibility.	
8/28/2002	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	What are the implications of seeking to include Federal Land within the boundaries of a new proposed village of Big Sky?	Federal agencies would have to consent.	
		What are the implications of an already existing school districts within the boundaries of a new proposed village of Big Sky?	School Districts are wholly separate entities.	
		What would be the impacts upon existing subdivision covenants and HOA's if Big Sky is incorporated as a municipality?	They would remain intact and in force.	

Date	Document	Subject	Conclusion	Comment
12/12/2002	Memorandum from Jamison Law to BSOA	What impacts if any would municipal incorporation of Big Sky have on funding for the Gallatin Field Airport?	None.	
Undated	Memorandum from Jamison Law to Dee Rothschilder	"False assertions" regarding non-resident voting provisions in SB222.	Detailed rebuttals to several specific "false assertions."	