

MEETING MINUTES
Community & Infrastructure Solution Group
September 15, 2005
7:15 a.m.

In attendance: Kate Wilson (Chairperson), Steve Johnson, Kay Reeves, Dave Leverett, and Mary Jane McGarity

Kate Wilson called the meeting to order and asked for comment on her decision to pursue an opinion from Marty Lambert regarding non-resident voting.

The principal concern cited is that it will bring unnecessary attention to a divisive issue. Montana law clearly outlines the residency requirements for voting. Residents of Big Sky, who think the issue is closed, will object to raising it again. Non-resident property owners might use it to seek action again. Steve pointed out he received no questions on the subject at the recent BSOA annual meeting even after David O'Connor outlined our group's activities to the attendees. On the other side of the coin, we do need to be able to answer the question, "why can't non-resident property owners vote?", in particular because they are already voting in Water & Sewer District elections. Having a solid understanding of the legal issues will help avoid further long debates on the subject. After further discussion, it was agreed to wait and see what Marty Lambert's response is. Possible follow-up questions to him include, "What action is necessary in the state of Montana for a local municipality to permit non-residents to vote?" and "Is the state likely to permit such action?"

Steve provided an update on DTM's data mapping progress. The thorniest problem is mapping the physical address of Madison and Gallatin county voters as much of the data is incomplete or incorrect.

Kate asked for a summary of progress on the HOA assignments. It appears that almost all of the necessary information was collected over the phone by group members. Steve will compile it for the next meeting so that any gaps can be identified. Mary Jane indicated that she is obtaining needed RID information from Gallatin County's contractor.

It was agreed to hold off scheduling our next meeting until initial results are available from DTM. If it is available by Thursday, September 29, we will meet again at 7:15 am.

Kate adjourned the meeting at 8:20 am.