

Ravalli County Attorney

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For Immediate release:

As the Ravalli County Attorney, I have engaged the auditing firm of Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co, PC, to conduct an independent audit of the Treasurer's Office. Anderson ZurMuehlen is the largest Montana based CPA firm in the State, with six offices statewide, and will employ a governmental specialty team of CPA auditing and Certified Fraud Examiner personnel from its Butte, Helena and Bozeman locations. James Woy, CPA, Business Director of Attest for Anderson ZurMuehlen, will oversee the independent examination. Mr Woy says:

The examination will focus on determining the current status of the treasurer's office including providing an opinion on reconciliation of all agency accounts and County bank accounts through the current date. Determining the completeness of these reconciliations will provide the necessary assurance that all receipts submitted to the treasurer's office have been properly accounted for, recorded and reported to the citizens of Ravalli County.

Mr Woy believes that a preliminary report of this independent audit can be delivered within the next two weeks.

I also can assure the public that for decades Ravalli County has gone through an annual countywide audit of all accounts, departments and offices, in compliance with Montana law and county policy. Those audits have always been available to the public for review, with the most recent years' audits available on the Ravalli County website at <http://rc.mt.gov/commissioners/Budgets.mcp>.

I urge all to refrain from perpetuating the accusations being tossed around without first checking facts, and to await the findings of the independent audit.

In coordination with Ravalli County Sheriff Chris Hoffman, I have requested the assistance of the Montana Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) to investigate the various allegations of criminal misconduct being made. DCI, a division of the Montana Department of Justice tasked with a wide variety of investigations throughout Montana, will coordinate their activities with the audit team. We express our appreciation to Attorney General Fox and the DCI agents, but cannot comment further on this independent investigation.

Bill Fulbright
Ravalli County Attorney

