## Missoula County Media Release

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## Commissioners Seek Applicants for Aging Services, Parks and Trails, Mosquito Control Boards

MISSOULA – Missoula County Commissioners are seeking community members to fill open positions on the Missoula Aging Services Governing Board, the Parks and Trails Advisory Board and the Lolo Mosquito Control District Board.

Applicants with experience in the business sector are sought to fill one three-year term through June 30, 2021, and the remainder of a three-year term through June 30, 2019, on the board for <u>Missoula Aging Services</u>, an area agency that promotes the independence, dignity and health of older adults and those who care for them.

MAS board members manage the business of the corporation, which includes assisting in seeking funding sources, responsible management of funds, evaluating the effectiveness of established programs and services, setting strategic priorities, approving the annual budget, and advocating for older adults and their caregivers. The board also is responsible for hiring, evaluating and, if necessary, terminating the employment of the chief executive officer. It is essential that the relationship between the board and the CEO be characterized by open communication, mutual respect and trust, thus facilitating operational decisions, problem-solving and planning. The board has no role in the daily operations of MAS.

Board members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and serve three-year terms, renewable for two consecutive three-year terms, for a total of nine years. All meetings of the Governing Board and Committees are open to the public as provided in Title 2, Part 23, section 203 of Montana Code Annotated.

One three-year term on the <u>Parks and Trails Advisory Board</u>, beginning July 1 and running through June 30, 2021, is open to new applicants.

The Missoula County Parks and Trails Advisory Board monitors and evaluates issues relating to County parks and trails and reports to the Board of County Commissioners with its recommendations. The board advises the commissioners on administering the County Parks and Trails Program; establishing park and trail policies, rules and public use requirements; reviewing and implementing plans, policies, programs, and regulatory and non-regulatory tools that support or impact parks and trails; and ensuring the most effective and efficient use of park funds.

The County Parks, Trails, and Open Lands program manages 91 parks and more than 40 miles of shared-use paths and trails. Its mission is to provide and maintain a sustainable system of parks and trails that protects a diversity of habitats and open space, where people of all ages may participate in activities blending passive and active outdoor recreation.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Community and Planning Services Conference Room. The board is comprised of one commissioner, six voting members and two non-voting alternate members.

The <u>Lolo Mosquito Control District Board</u> has one vacant term. The new member will fill the remainder of a three-year term running through Dec. 31, and will be eligible for reappointment to a new three-year term at that time.

Missoula County created the Lolo Mosquito Control District Board in 1978 as a Mosquito Abatement District. The district manages and controls mosquito pests and minimizes mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile and equine encephalitis. The board is comprised of five voting members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Applicants must be Lolo residents, have an interest in the science of mosquito management and have the time to participate in occasional events outside of regular meetings. Meetings are held as needed. For more board information and a schedule of upcoming meetings, call Jerry Marks at the Weed and Extension Office at 406-258-4204.

The deadline for all applications, which are available online at <a href="https://www.missoulacounty.us/community/volunteer">https://www.missoulacounty.us/community/volunteer</a>, is Thursday, May 31. For further information, contact the County Commissioners' Office at 406-258-4877. All board vacancies are listed at <a href="https://www.missoulacounty.us/community/current-vacancies">https://www.missoulacounty.us/community/current-vacancies</a>.

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