

December 18, 2013

Ms. Patty Borsberry
Montana State Records Manager
Office of the Montana Secretary of State
Records and Information Management
1320 Bozeman Street
Helena, MT 59601

Subject: Request for Records Retention & Preservation

Dear Ms. Borsberry:

This letter is to notify you of the dissolution of the Flathead Joint Board of Control (FJBC), the joint representative of the Flathead, Mission Valley, and Jocko Irrigation Districts formed as local government entities pursuant to state law, as of December 12, 2013. The FJBC is the major signatory, along with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT), to the Cooperative Management Entity (CME), an entity formed as a State-Tribal agreement pursuant to the State-Tribal Cooperative Agreements Act, Title 18, Chapter 11, 101, et Seq., Mont. Code Ann. (2009). The CME was formed to jointly manage the Flathead Irrigation Project. Because of the dissolution of the FJBC, the CME is no longer a viable entity under State law.

The records of the FJBC and the CME are public records of significant historic and present relevance to the public, each of the individual irrigation districts, and the CSKT. This letter requests that your office take immediate steps to preserve and protect the records of the former FJBC and the CME while a final disposition of such is determined by the irrigation districts and the Tribes. Please find attached our similar notifications to the Department of the Interior and the Montana Attorney General.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Boone Cole,
Commissioner, Jocko Irrigation District
Chairman, former Flathead Joint Board of Control

Ross Middlemist
Member, Former Cooperative management entity(CME)

Jerry Laskody,
Commissioner, Mission Irrigation District
Commissioner, former Flathead Joint Board of Control

Cc: Tim Fox, Montana Attorney General
W. John Teitz, Attorney, Mission Valley and Jocko Irrigation Districts
John Metropoulos, Attorney, Flathead Irrigation District
Joe Durglo, Chairman, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Gordon Wind, Project Manager, (former) Cooperative Management Entity
Honorable Judge Jim Manning, 20th District Court
Mitch Young, Lake County Attorney