

Tanner Smith Montana Property Tax Taking Meeting

Jack Notes - August 30, 2025

PART 1 - Tanner Meeting Agenda – Why we got where we are at.

- 1) While waiting for meeting to start Al spoke with HD Representative Steven C. Kelly standing near me who was one of a half dozen state and Kalispell officials called to the meeting who showed up.
- 2) Rep. Kelly expressed the sheer overwhelming nature of the experience in Helena , e.g. too many bills, too thick to read thoroughly and too little time to understand let alone effectively manage. This is his first term.
- 3) Spending is out of control caused mostly by the “chamber of commerce” Republicans. This is done via a rotating group of Republicans who exchange favors with the Dems, i.e. “Let’s make a deal”. Let’s call these so called Republicans shadow RHIOS. They are a rotating shadow group.
- 4) To make the point Montana State budget in 2007 was 6.5 billion and in 2025 it is 16 billion. This is a 146.2 % increase in 18 years or 8.1% increase per year or 5.1% per year. (Jack P.S note)
- 5) **The meeting high points were on a large white chart read as follows:**
- 6) **2021**
 - a. SB395 Tips on Taxes?
 - b. HB701 No Pot Regulation
 - c. Water Compact
 - d. **\$12.2 billion dollar budget**
- 7) **2023**
 - a. HB587 Property Tax
 - b. 95 mills 49/56 sued
 - c. **\$14.4 billion budget**
- 8) **2025**
 - a. HB231 shift
 - b. HB924 creates a \$900 million Trust of the surplus. (vs. not returning or better yet not over taxing the property owners or wage earners or pension seniors – Jack note.)
 - c. MEDICAID has no sideboards (as in no limits no control – Jack note)
 - d. Judicial Reform = 0.
 - e. Supreme Justice 50/50 (as in liberal vs. conservative – Jack note)
 - f. C1128 = 0.
 - g. **\$16.6 billion budget.**
 - h. **1/3 of 7 billion surplus returned to all tax payers. (However only a fraction actually receive the refund – Jack note)**

END OF MEETING HIGH POINTS FROM WHITE CHART ON LAKE LAWN

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- 9) The Montana legislator is spending/promising/committing our tax \$ **BEFORE** they receive the state Citizens wages, pensions & income. (They are committing the revenue before they receive it and forcing the budget on property owners.
- 10) HB231 only shifted the tax taking \$ and did not reduce it as claimed by the Montana legislators. This was done by the DEMS & the RHINOS.
- 11) The MEDICAID bill is a self perpetuating hospital escalating expense generator.
- 12) There is a +2 billion increase EVERY YEAR IN THE MONTANA STATE BUDGET.
- 13) There is so much spending because the Montana House representatives have PRE PROMISED TAXES ON YOUR WAGES, PROPERTY, PENSIONS AND BUSINESS REVENUE.
- 14) Taxies are promised thru grants to NGOs, Non Government Organizations. (Lobby groups are part of this promise, Jack Note).
- 15) [Matt Regier speaks next, Senate President.](#)
- 16) \$20 billion is the real current State budget.
- 17) Only 20 of the 100 House representatives are real conservatives.
- 18) Montana is at a crossroads.
- 19) A handful of Democrats and Republicans control ALL.
- 20) Mark Johnson, Kalispell Mayor speaks on property tax taking.
- 21) 4.2 million budget, I presume this is Kalispell.
- 22) The Montana Munis (cities and counties) by law are forced to limit their budget by ½ the rate of annual inflation however, Montana State has no limit.
- 23) Montana voters need to limit the state budget growth rate!
- 24) Property taxes are only shifted now to more for the 2nd home owners while many of these home owners. (Many of these property owners have cabins or wish to retire to their 2nd home after selling their primary home.
- 25) The Montana House did not solve the problem, they only shifted it around.
- 26) Many other states have played this same shell game , e.g. Connecticut, Rhode Island, etc. We are attacking who we think are the "wealthy".
- 27) Growing government is not the answer!
- 28) **Tanner Smith Speaks.**
- 29) The RHINOS + DEMS assume we will do nothing with this property tax increase.
- 30) What loophole do we have to use side step this increase on second homes, e.g. divorce and deed the 2nd home to the ex?
- 31) Second home owners are a minority and we are not rich people.
- 32) Mrs. Tanner Smith is a Hospice RN and Tanner is an excavator, they are not rich.
- 33) The Montana state Citizen voter is NOT receiving the Republican representative or senator support on the back end as they expect, i.e. their so called Republican is only a Republican In Name Only.

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- 34) Tanner will bring up a web site for each Montana property owner to cast our vote to not pay your property taxes until Governor calls a Special Session on the out of control property taxes and the State budget problem. The Montana State legislature process is so corrupt they they cannot/will not control their addiction problem.
- 35) Montana cannot jail you for not paying and only lien you which takes some 3 years to do. They can only charge you penalties.
- 36) Tanner's purpose is to force Governor Gianforte to call a special session to resolve this critical issue with a renewed importance.
- 37) Montana schools will not get funded without full property tax taking escalated yearly forever.
- 38) It takes 3 years of not paying property taxes to exercise a lien.
- 39) The penalty is - <https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/what-happens-if-i-dont-pay-property-taxes-montana.html>
- 40) Governor Gianforte is very responsive to public criticism.
- 41) **The Montana House and Senate pass bills before taxes are collected ASSUMING YOU ARE GOING TO PAY!**
- 42) We are not going to pay for Big corporations.
- 43) Tanner wants to go back to 2019 values and limit increase to 1 to 2% annually.
- 44) Take HB 924 off the map.
- 45) 50,000 voted for Tanner Smith for governor & he knows many of them will vote for not paying their property tax as a protest until a Special Session is called to resolve issue.
- 46) Many Montanans do not like Gianforte.
- 47) Montana is running a consistent surplus year to year but spending that.
- 48) There is a current \$522 million surplus which could have wiped out this problem.
- 49) On top of the above, there is a \$820 million trust that this surplus was transferred into shoved away by Lou Jones out of Conrad who has been in office for 20 years.
- 50) Long discussion on funding law enforcement in Lakeside, they need to incorporate to solve increasing crime problems.
- 51) Another Lakeside property owner complains about person security problems living next door to a frat and home rentals in a residential district and says they ought to pay much more for property taxes.
- 52) Bills are getting messed up.
- 53) Lakeside problem is a mess.
- 54) Lakeside council has not teeth.
- 55) In 2007 State budget was 6.5 million now in 2025 it is 15 billion.
- 56) We need to take out the RHINOS in the Senate.
- 57) Too many uniformed voters in the middle.
- 58) Only 22,000 took the \$400 rebate so far.

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- 59) A mere \$400 rebate is a joke!)(And if you have a irrevocable trust you are exclude from that rebate – Jack note)
- 60) There is a \$150 million surplus at the State.
- 61) Montana State took over all property tax collections.
- 62) Proposal to give back the state take to the city and county munis, e.g. property taxes, license fees, cigarette fees, more market oriented.
- 63) Oil pipelines in Montana need to be opened up to lower property taxes as they pay huge property taxes.
- 64) Give hotel taxes back to local munis to lower their property taxes.
- 65) Corporate property taxes.
- 66) Redirect revenue stream from State to Munis.
- 67) It takes 76 of the 100 House representatives to call a special session.
- 68) **Request to everyone to email 150 members of the House and Senate + post on social medial + local media your opinion to Governor Gianforte to move this problem to a special session. I have linked up a list of all the 154 Montana House and Senate members emails. Just open the PDF and copy the emails & paste into your email. You may want to parse your message out to smaller groups like 5 groups of 30 members to not flag your ISP as spam. [Link](#)**
- 69) Each of us MUST GET INVOLVED in the legislative process.
- 70) Suggestion to put out a key bill summary to alert folks on bills important to act on.
- 71) Important to remember only 26 majority in Senate & 51 majority in House is all your need.
- 72) The Primary is very important.
- 73) Republican candidates are being primaried OUT because they do not show.
- 74) 46% of Montanans not registering to vote!
- 75) Apathy of Montana voters is a very serious problem.
- 76) High \$ donors is influencing elections.
- 77) **A special session called by the Governor is critical to reverse this increase.**
- 78) **Montana legislature pre passes bills before the vote or budget as in they are promising and spending our direct taxes before they even receive them.**

PART 2 – Jack’s 20 Years of Property Rights Research Overview

Note: I am 82 and have been on this property rights saddle for over 20 years. You may be completely blindsided by this research and totally disagree. I understand. However, I have earned the credentials and networked long enough to summarize the facts below and this is only the tip of the iceberg. The rest is on my web site. For those who like the bottom line, The state and their Munis are filthy rich and they will likely deny it of course because that is how they get more taxes.

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A fellow by the name of Walter Burien, a commodity broker, discovered this long ago thru studying their own Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) and I picked up on it. This too is on my site. His bottom line is that all the states and most of the munis are capable of managing their funds as a portfolio with the goal of becoming totaling self sufficient not extorting Citizens for their labor, pensions and personal homes. This again confirms the founding fathers that direct taxing of the Citizens is not necessary it is just easier to steal vs. get in the saddle and round up more business.

- 1) Our founding fathers never intended a direct tax upon Americans because this is what we left England and Europe for however however, they did allow for a direct tax in the event of war and even that was debatable under extreme dire enemy on our shores circumstances. I have the meeting minutes summary on my web site. What ended up in the Constitution and what they intended are not the same, no surprise right.
- 2) The federal government was run on indirect taxes until 1913 when the banking cartel took over the money supply and ultimately deceived the people again by claiming the 16th Amendment had passed when it has been clearly proven beyond doubt that it failed to pass. Also SCOTUS latter ruled that nothing had changed, i.e. income taxes were voluntary and they still are however, we are forced to pay a voluntary tax. All the proof is here - <https://www.freedomforallseasons.org/FreedomFromALLTaxes.htm> in the section titled Bill Benson & Red Beckman about a third down on web page. You can also read the epic history in the book "The Creature from Jekyll Island by G. Edward Griffin.
- 3) Similarly states cannot direct tax labor, pensions, private property & IRA's because this goes against all the fundamental and founding laws and actions of our Republic. **We do not give Power of Attorney to those we elect to represent us to make laws against us.** This is only done thru deception. States cannot make laws to take our wages, pensions as this is called slavery and goes against the fundamental Christian belief system, e.g. "thou shall not steal" and [Natural Law and Natural Rights](#) of this Republic. We have been deceived that the state does not or cannot raise these funds indirectly. Just because a state or a municipal needs funding does not mean they can have your wages, pensions or home and take it by force especially when there are many other indirect tax sources. Scan this web page and especially check out the table near the top showing legitimate sources of revenue in a honest constitutional Republic vs. Illegitimate sources of revenue.
- 4) The tax taking process is upside down and backwards and unconstitutional and largely criminal upon the state Citizens. It does not need to be this way and there is sufficient indirect sources of revenue for a limited government operation. Our current direct taxing system is the very definition of the entrainment of a racketeering system across all 50 states, 3143 counties and most of the cities. In the 2nd link above you will see that corporations pay little to no taxes

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relative to individual state Citizens because Citizens cannot afford to lobby and corporations use this advantage to their advantage.

- 5) Furthermore, direct tax taking is not necessary as we have been indoctrinated to believe it. Like Tanner pointed out oil pipeline business should be brought into Montana to start shifting this direct extortion upon home owners indirect taxes.
- 6) The states and their municipals have enslaved us into thinking they are poor and the state Citizens can be indentured into direct tax slavery with Power of Attorney to pay their multi-million and multi-billion budgets. This is not only not true it is criminal.
- 7) There is a solution so do not despair as we have been conned big time for generations. Most counties and cities are municipal corporations.
- 8) The state and these municipals are required to file Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) where anyone with a green eye shade and some accounting or finance background can see where they are hiding their stashes of cash.
- 9) Montana has a growing net worth, i.e. they have an excess of assets over liability. While the state gets rich they force us into bankruptcy and extreme hardship just because they can get away with it and are too corrupt to go to work and get more big business into Montana.
 - a. [Link here to see this data on Montana.](#)
 - b. Montana is taking the majority of its revenue from individuals wages and property and very little from the corporate income tax.
 - c. This is criminal and a breach of the public trust and the public official fiduciary responsibilities. The tax base should be the other way around, i.e. the corporations carry the load because again they do not pay taxes, i.e. they transfer them to the customer and the customer pays voluntary. The current system is forcing the state Citizen to largely pay for the tax base plus pay the corporations when they purchase services or products.
 - d. Corporations only pay 13.7% vs. Individual income plus and property owners pay the rest as in 86.3%.
 - e. In these charts link above you will see all of this data laid out.
- 10) The state Citizen has boundaries but the state does not, this is extortion by intentional neglect.
- 11) The solution is that the state must establish tight growth limits while at the same time shift immediately from direct tax taking to indirect tax taking ONLY.**
- 12) The current type of public corporations and thinking are feudal systems of government that have long gone extinct starting with King George III. He was insane and monarchies are barbaric. Just ask your own representative or senator and they will describe Helena as out of control but not with those civil words. Helena is passing thousands of bills so thick no one can read them and then forcing votes on material no one knows thoroughly. Only a few in the

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House and Senate control the outcome before the bills are voted on, i.e. the bill is fixed before it goes further. This sounds like DeCeit Inc.

- 13) The municipalities and the state are intentionally being negligent and lazy making defacto laws of force in a voluntary free limited government Republic. Then lawfare is pressed on the very state Citizens they serve. These representatives, senators and staff should be out rustling up big business into the State to take on the growing tax load not literally driving wage earners and seniors and property owners into bankruptcy and hardship and forced selling to survive.
- 14) The so called representative system have become codependent and extremely dysfunctional. Tanner says they cannot fix the tax taking in Helena as it is so corrupt and the only way is to boycott the property tax payment to force a Special Session.
- 15) Addictive or delusional behavior creates codependence. Unrestrained behavior is contagious and respects no boundaries. This is what is going on in Helena. The governor has no balls and worse yet is blind as a bat as is all of his executive branch. And I voted and support them! Trying to fix the government the same way over and over again while it slowly drives itself and the whole state crazy is the very definition of insanity.
- 16) The governor needs to call an **emergency special session** and sober up and dry out this addicted State monster and make a hard plan to immediately start an aggressive process shifting away from a literal killer direct taxing system to indirect taxing and bringing in more big business into the State to carry the load of the municipal corporations and state.
- 17) In return everyone wins, we get honest jobs, and ultimately no direct tax taking on our homes, our pensions, our wages and our IRAs and the corporations make profit to pay their taxes. The corporations do not pay taxes they only transfer them to those who purchase their services and products. The state Citizen cannot do both support the state and municipalities and the corporations. If the corporations cannot pay they go bankrupt. The State Citizens should not go bankrupt because he or she cannot pay their direct taxes. Not in this free Republic!
- 18) The State must stop hoarding revenue and redirect all stashes of any labeled or unlabeled surplus funds and the state surplus and State New Worth back to the home owners via funding the schools directly. Prioritize the schools 1st from the State budget NOT the municipalities. Also the State and the munis should carry no surplus or close to zero net worth until the home owner pays no property taxes and sufficient big business is brought into the State to take over the direct tax load.
- 19) Bottom line we must reprioritize all state funding to take on the county school budgets to get the majority of the property tax load off the backs of the property owners NOW. Saddle up the Representatives and Senators and round up more big business to Montana. Tanner's example was perfect, e.g. we need more oil pipe line business in the State.

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Let's Ride!

Jack Venrick

Jack Venrick
Rollins, Montana
www.freedomforallseasons.org
jacksranch@freedomforallseasons.org
Pioneer Family of Montana - Early Settlers
Pioneer Family of Nebraska
Pioneer Family of Wisconsin
The Boeing Company
30 Years Service - Retired
Montana State University
B.S. Electrical Engineering
M.S. Applied Science -
M.S. Business Administration
M.S. Industrial Engineering

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You can use this table below to estimate the impact of this new property tax change on your home.
<https://www.freedomforallseasons.org/FreedomFromALLTaxes.htm>

	Property Type/Value	Tax Rate
2024	All land, dwelling: first \$1.5 million	1.35%
	Dwelling: > \$1.5 million	1.89%
2025	First \$400,000	0.76%
	>\$400,000 to \$1.5 million	1.10%
	>\$1.5 million	2.20%
	Rental multifamily dwelling >\$2 million	Maximum graduated rate: 1.89%
2026	<u>Principal residence or long-term rental:</u>	
	≤ to median	0.76%
	> median to < 2 times median	0.90%
	2 times median to < 4 times median	1.10%
	4 times median or greater	1.90%
	Rental multifamily dwelling unit with qualified long-term rentals	1.10%
	Non-principal residence or non-long-term rental	1.90%
	Residence on qualified agricultural property	1.35%



2
Megan Moore

Graph below shows Lake County Montana property Taxes vs. my Social Security over 17 years.

