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What is the County Study Commission?

1 Just exactly what is the Glacier County Study Commission and what are they doing with a \$42,500 budget?

At last November's election, three Glacier County residents were elected to serve on the County Study Commission, which was voted for in the June primary election. Mark Haemig and Becky Kimmet from Cut Bank and Carol Juneau from Browning were elected to serve a two-year term on the Study Commission.

Their basic duty is to review the present form of county government and to make recommendations for change in operations or make a recommendation of no change to the voters in the general election of 1986. The Study Commission is to receive by law one mill of the local government's budget for their use for each year in office. This is set up by the state legislature.

The Commission does set up expenses for supplies, travel to conferences, and temporary paid positions to assist the Study Commission with secretarial duties and writing of the tentative and final reports re-

quired by law. The money is also used to hire a professional recorder for the public hearings, of which at least two are required before recommendations are voted upon.

Glacier County Study Commission will hold hearings in Cut Bank Sept. 24 and in Browning Oct. 1 to try to reach the entire county.

There is no salary for the Study Commission members themselves but expenses are paid when necessary. Claims are submitted to the County Commissioners as with all other county offices. So far the Commission has met at least once a month and sometimes more. County-elected officials and other department heads have been interviewed.

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Courthouse, usually in the Commissioners office. Members of the Commission are Mark Haemig, chairman, Carol Juneau and Becky Kimmet, who share secretarial duties and Darrell Omsberg, the ex-officio member appointed by the County Commissioners.