**From:** noreply@civicplus.com
**To:** City Clerk Inbound
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Application Form--Health Board
**Date:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021 3:23:34 PM

# Application Form--Health Board

## Information for Applicants

Thanks for your interest!

Applications are due November 5, 2021 by 5 p.m. Interviews will be conducted as a ZOOM webinar. The City Clerk Office will contact you to schedule an interview.

Please note: All applications are included in City Council packets and published on the City website.

## Position

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| Which position(s) are you applying for? | Member |

## Contact Information

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Ross Miller |
| Email: | ross.millerlawmontana@gmail.com |
| Daytime Phone: | 4065440651 |
| Alternate Contact Phone: | *Field not completed.* |
| Street Address: | 708 Lolo Street |
| City, State: | Missoula |
| Zip: | 59802 |
| Is your street address the same as your mailing address? | Yes |

## Background

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|---|---|
| Are you a city resident | Yes |
| How long have you been a city resident? | 35 years |
| In which ward do you | 1 |

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|---|---|
| reside? | |
| Are you a U.S. citizen? | Yes |
| Are you registered to vote? | Yes |
| Current Occupation: | Attorney |
| Current Employer: | Miller Law, PLLC |
| If you'd like, you can attach a resume or other document for the City Council to consider. | RDM-resume 10-20-2021.pdf |
| Briefly describe your educational background: | EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:<br>J.D. University of Montana School of Law, 2006. Specialized areas of study: environmental law, water law, property, business transactions.<br><br>M.Sc. Geology (hydrogeology emphasis), University of Montana, 1991<br><br>Post graduate work in groundwater mechanics, waste water analysis, and geo-engineering aspects of waste disposal systems, University of Minnesota and University of Wisconsin. 1985 to 1987<br><br>B.Sc. Geological Engineering, University of Minnesota. 1983 |
| List of community service experience: | List of Community Service Experience<br><br>Missoula Water Quality Advisory Council, 1988 to 1997 (approximately)<br>Member of the council, served as Vice Chair for some time. Main responsibility on the council was providing expertise in the areas of hydrogeology with specific knowledge of the Missoula Valley Aquifer, the Milltown Reservoir Superfund Site, and water quality issues associated with subdivisions and sewage treatment issues. Helped with the formation of the Water Quality District, conducting numerous presentations to various community groups to encourage voting for the district formation.<br><br>Missoula Nordic Ski Club, 1991 to 2001<br>Member of the Board of Directors. Non-profit organization that provides cross-country ski trail grooming and maintenance at the Pattee Canyon Picnic trails. Responsible for equipment maintenance and ski trail grooming. Also assisted with and coached youth ski program. |

Missoula Area Youth Hockey Association, 2001 to 2005
Member of the Board of Directors, served as Vice President. Non-profit organization that owns and operates the Glacier Ice Rink located at the Missoula County Fairgrounds. Primary focus of responsibilities was to identify a location to build a year-round indoor ice rink for the Missoula community, oversee preliminary design of the facility, estimate costs of the facility, bring options to a vote of the organization members, obtain financing, and launch construction. Negotiated a long-term lease with Missoula County and the Fair Board to improve the existing facilities at the fairgrounds to accommodate two ice sheets and year-round skating. The project was successfully launched in 2002, with primary construction completed in 2004.

Missoula Figure Skating Club, 2001 to 2005
Member of the Board of Directors, served as Treasurer. Non-profit organization that provides group and individual figure skating lessons, ice time, coaching, and competition opportunities to figure skaters of all ages with special emphasis on the community's youth. In addition to general financial responsibilities and club organization, served as the club's appointed member to the Missoula Area Youth Hockey Association which owns the ice rink where the Figure Skating Club operates.

Missoula City-County Board of Health, Jan. 1, 2007 to Dec. 31, 2021.
Member of the Missoula City-County Board of Health. Currently serve as Board Chair, previously served as Vice Chair. Member of the Board's Budget Committee, and Compliance Committee.

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## What is your interest in serving on this board, commission, or committee?

I am interested in promoting and helping to improve Missoula's environmental health and public health. When I moved here in 1987, the Milltown Superfund site had just recently been discovered, the giardia outbreak stemming from direct consumption of Rattlesnake Creek water had recently occurred, and the community had recently banned wood stoves from much of the valley in an effort to improve air quality. Since then, continued efforts have further improved Missoula's environmental health; EPA's record of decision on the Milltown site was issued which included dam removal, the sewage treatment plant has upgraded to tertiary treatment, most of the public water supply has added disinfection treatment via chlorination, many of the smoke stack industrial sites have undergone "brownfield" type redevelopment, and numerous other projects and measures have been implemented to improve environmental health.

More recently, the old Stone Container industrial paper mill has closed, with this site occupying approximately 3000 acres along the banks of the Clark Fork River. To properly remediate this site

and protect environmental health and public health, a large amount of oversight and involvement by local government will be required, including extensive involvement by the Missoula City-County Board of Health and Water Quality Board. I am very interested in advocating for our community's long term best interests in how this site is remediated, to make sure environmental and public health is protected to the greatest extent possible, and the site's Responsible Parties are held the highest investigation and clean-up standards possible. The Missoula City-County Board of Health and Water Quality Board should and will play a significant role in overseeing investigation and clean-up of this site, and I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to lead and assist these Boards in this effort.

In the past year, the state legislature has enacted laws that severely change and limit the authority and manner in which Health Departments, Health Directors, Health Officers, and Health Boards protect public health. In addition, for the first time in over 30 years Missoula has hired a new Health Director and Health Officer. I believe my long term experience in being part of the leadership team for our Health Department will assist Missoula during this time of change and transition.

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Do you have any special knowledge, interest, or experience that would qualify you for a position on this board, commission, or committee?

Special Knowledge, Interest and Experience

I have particular experience and knowledge regarding the Missoula Valley Aquifer and associated issues that I believe would be useful to the Board's mission. As a graduate student, I developed the first computer flow model of the aquifer, a model that is used in its updated form to this day to help manage Missoula's groundwater resources. As a practicing environmental engineer in the area, I have worked on numerous projects involved in protecting and managing our water resources. This work has included contract work on Missoula's Wastewater Treatment Plant Update Plan in the mid 1990s, development of the groundwater monitoring system for the Milltown Reservoir Superfund Site, modeling the hydraulic connection of the Milltown site to the Missoula Aquifer, wellhead protection modeling and planning work for Mountain Water Company, contract work for the Missoula City-County Health Department to develop a septic system carrying capacity model for the entire Missoula County area in the early 1990s, and numerous other projects spanning from the late 1980s to 2003. Through my past work on the Water Quality Advisory Council, I became knowledgeable and informed on a vast array of water quality issues which face the Missoula community.

In addition to my particular knowledge of the Missoula Aquifer and related issues, I have a broad technical background in public infrastructure that relates to environmental and public health. Through my past engineering practice, I have worked extensively

with wastewater treatment plant issues, public water systems, solid waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, subdivision issues, commercial development, and environmental aspects of transportation projects.

Since I left the practice of environmental engineering and hydrology, I have obtained a law degree and have been practicing environmental law and water resource law. I have become interested in the policy making and regulatory enforcement associated with our community's environmental health and public health in general. I look forward to the opportunity to combine my technical expertise in the area of environmental health with my background in the associated legal issues to help move our community forward in protecting and enhancing the public health and environmental health of our community.

I have also gained particularized experience beneficial to the Board of Health, having served as Board member for the past 15 years (since January, 2007), and serving as the Board's Chair since August, 2015. Prior to serving as Chair, I served as Vice Chair since December, 2010. I've served on the Board's Budget Committee since its inception in 2011, and on the Compliance Committee since its inception in 2015. Prior to serving on the Board of Health, I served on the Water Quality Advisory Council from 1988 to 1997.

More recently, I served on the Personnel Committee which led to the hire of our new Health Director and Health Officer, D'Shane Barnett. I have also been helping the Health Department and Health Board navigate the new laws that have changed and limited the authority and manner in which Health Departments can protect public health.

**References**

Please provide two references.

Reference 1

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|---|---|
| Name: | Karl Englund: ([redacted] |
| Phone: | ([redacted] |

Reference 2

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| Name: | Dr. William Woesner |
| Phone: | [redacted] |

(Section Break)

If you'd prefer, you can mail or deliver your completed application and attachments to:
City Clerk Office
435 Ryman St.
Missoula, MT 59802
*There is a drop box located at the Ryman Street entrance where you can place your materials.

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