

## Postal Regulatory Commission

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

### NOTICE OF FILING UNDER 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)

TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:

Please take notice that the Commission received three petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Cardwell post office in Cardwell, Montana. The first petition for review received December 22, 2011, was filed by Afton Fell. The second petition for review received December 22, 2011, was filed by Misty Hammerbacker. The third petition for review received December 22, 2011, was filed by the Clays in Calico. The earliest postmark date is December 10, 2011.

This notice is advisory only and is being furnished so that the Postal Service may begin assembling the administrative record in advance of any formal appeal proceedings held upon the alleged (closing/consolidation) for transmittal pursuant to 39 CFR § 3001.113(a) (requiring the filing of the record within 15 days of the filing with the Commission of a petition for review).



Shoshana M. Grove  
Secretary

Date: January 3, 2012

Attachment

Dec. 17, 2011  
54 Hwy 359  
Cardwell, Mt  
59721

A2012-101

RECEIVED

Received

Postal Regulatory Commission  
DEC 22 10:01

DEC 21 2011

Office of PAGR

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am writing in response to your formal determination to close the Cardwell, Mt. Post Office

No. 1 You have not corrected the mileage from Cardwell, P.O. to the Whitehall P.O. Freeway 7.8 miles - Frontage Road 7.6 miles

No. 2 Our mail is being sent to Great Falls to be sorted - how ridiculous!!!

No. 3. Lack of care about the elderly medical needs - inconvenient to the general public.

No. 4. How about the P.O. General taking a cut in pay - dollar for dollar for each P.O. closed. Don't you think his wages are totally out of control?

No. 5 Your O.I.C. doesn't get any of your benefits - so where is the money going.

I just read P.O. future in the Mt. Standard and it looks like the U.S. P.S. dug a large hole and fell in. The little people are getting kicked in the teeth - Please keep our P.O.

Sincerely

Opton Zell  
54 Hwy 359  
Cardwell, Mt 59721

12 December 2011

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue Northwest, Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

A 2012-101

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 22 A 10: 01

Re: Closure of the Cardwell, Montana Post Office

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

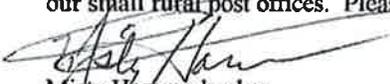
Noticed an article in the Montana Standard today, 12 December 2011, that stated they had to pay for their health insurance in advance. I don't know of any other company or agency that has to pay in advance for the health coverage. The lady who is running the Post Office in Cardwell does not receive health insurance coverage, nor does she get fringe benefits or Holiday pay. If such is the case at many other small Post Offices – the ones you are trying to get rid off – perhaps the amount you state you are going to save is inflated.

It is also noted that the Postmaster General makes a salary in excess of \$800,000 per year. No one needs that much to live on per year and it is outrageous that he makes that much. Why that is much more than even the President makes. It reeks of Enron! What's next – he gives himself and a few others a golden parachute and then bails out leaving the Postal Service and the rest with nothing?!

It appears the Post Office didn't read or understand the devastating blow the closure would do to the business community or to the people who utilize the Post Office. It is not convenient for us to use the out of the way Whitehall Post Office, which is located almost 10 miles away and not the seven [7] the Post Office stated in their documents. They evidently did not conduct a thorough and accurate research. This was also evidenced when they didn't know we had two schools, several businesses, and a church in this community. They conducted a survey of usage of the post office in February – the slowest retail month of the year for any business. I think they did that, and so do many others, in order to justify only what they wanted to show and to close down the post offices in a rural state that counts on these post offices for service. We have many who depend on them for medications and for paying bills. It is also ridiculous to send our mail out of state so that it takes much longer to get mail where it is going, like right in town or to Whitehall.

They also did not read and understand the many letters of protest from the folks here who use the post office and the services there. We, as a community, do not want the ugly cluster boxes. They stated the cut in service would not affect people on a rural delivery route. However it already has and they weren't even notified until it was a done deal. Now they have to drive 10 miles one way to get their mail at a cluster box. Their responses to our original letters concerning closure were answered in a trite and say nothing way. They really didn't address the issues. It was as if they'd already made up their minds prior to notifying us and the notification was an afterthought.

They can't even get addresses correct. For example my address is 4 First Street, Jefferson Island, Montana. Jefferson Island is located in Madison County. Cardwell is in Jefferson County. I use the Cardwell zip code because my town doesn't have a post office. However the Post Office, despite repeated requests from me, cannot even spell. They've abbreviated my address to 4 1<sup>st</sup> Street. That is not my address and I don't want it abbreviated. The town's street names are First and Second Streets, in addition to other streets we have in Jefferson Island. Cardwell does not have a First or Second Street. Cardwell has McKeown Lane and Highway 359 only. Why is it so difficult for them to do it correctly? Because they don't want to, just like they don't want to keep our post offices open. We are a rural community and count on the post office being here. Our small businesses count on it and use it daily – sometimes several times a day. Why don't you cut some of the post offices in bigger cities back East and save even more than you would by cutting our small rural post offices. Please don't close our Post Office. Save American jobs! Keep it open.

  
Misty Hammerbacker  
4 First Street  
Jefferson Island, Montana 59721

Received

DEC 20 2011

Office of PAGR

12 December 2011

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue Northwest, Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

A2012-101

RECEIVED

2011 DEC 22 A 10: 01

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

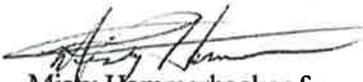
Re: Closure of the Cardwell, Montana Post Office

It is evident that the Post Office Authorities did not do thorough and accurate research in regards to closure of the Post Office in Cardwell, Montana. They stated it is only seven [7] miles from Cardwell to Whitehall. This is inaccurate. The correct mileage is 9.6 miles on the interstate and 9.8 miles on the old road from the Cardwell Post Office to the Whitehall Post Office.

There are many small businesses, such as Clays In Calico, who depend on the nearness of the Post Office to conduct business each day throughout the year. It takes a good 15 minutes to get into town when the roads are good, when the weather is inclement it takes longer. Clays In Calico only has one person there to conduct business, mail out packages containing orders, and take care of the customers. If we have to close the shop for a half an hour to take packages in to Whitehall to be weighed and the postage figured and then back in order to complete the order process and then close it again to run the packages back to Whitehall in order to be sent, it takes away the productiveness of the shop, besides being terribly inconvenient. As it stands at this time, we can leave the shop open and run across the street – a couple of minutes and then back to the shop – complete the order and run it back across the street to complete the mailing process. Just minutes versus hours. If we have a customer we just run back across the street. We don't lose customers or business, unlike having to completely shut down in order to go to Whitehall. In addition, the Post Office in Whitehall is out of the way.

Our small businesses rely on the Cardwell Post Office to be our retail outlet. Clays In Calico does not have a computer in the shop. Clay dust and computers do not a match make. Therefore we are unable to use the services offered by the Post Office online. Perhaps if the Post Office did less business online, and continued utilizing it's own services it would do better. Almost seems like they are shooting themselves in the foot.

It appears that you are trying to put small businesses out of business by closing down the Post Offices in rural states such as Montana.

  
Misty Hammerbacker for

Clays In Calico  
P.O. Box 112  
Cardwell, Montana 59721

Received

DEC 20 2011

Office of PAGR