

**For Release 9/6/11**

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## **Vote Absentee by Mail & Get Postage Paid**

Kootenai County Clerk Cliff Hayes announced today that voters who choose to mail their absentee ballots for the November 8 elections will get the postage paid on their returned ballots. “This is really cost-effective for voters. They will save gasoline and they will save time,” said Hayes.

It’s also cost-effective for the County. Satellite voting at each of the taxing districts holding elections this fall could cost over \$30,000 for two poll workers at each city hall & fire district office for two weeks. By contrast, envelopes & anticipated return postage costs for up to 10,000 voters could be about \$5,500.

“Since this is the first year the County Elections department has run every city and fire district election, we’re unable to predict absentee voter turnout”, said Hayes. “What we do know is that a home mailbox is a very convenient place for voters to cast their ballots.”

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