

Today's weather



HIGH: 89
LOW: 71

Sunrise: 6:17
Sunset: 8:50

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MEDINA COUNTY

Voters to see social services levy on ballot

Sara Crawford
The Gazette

MEDINA — Medina County voters will see a renewal social services levy on the November ballot after the Medina County commissioners unanimously approved a resolution Tuesday, moving the process forward.

Medina County Administrator Chris Jakab said at a previous meeting that the social services levy was first approved in November 2018, with its proceeds being shared among Medina County Job and Family Services, the Medina County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board and the Medina County Office for Older Adults.

On July 11, the Medina County commissioners unanimously passed a resolution, declaring the necessity of renewing the 1-mill levy and requesting the Medina County Auditor's Office to certify the total current tax valuation of the county and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the levy.

According to Tuesday's passed resolution, the auditor's office certified that the total current tax valuation of the county is \$7,602,236,260 and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated from the 1-mill levy would be \$5,446,000 a year during the levy's life.

See **BALLOT**, A2

BALLOT

From A1

If passed, the tax would be first levied in 2024 and collected starting in 2025.

"Don't forget how important this human services levy is to our community and the agencies that are providing essential services to seniors, those with addiction issues and mental health, as well as children's support services," Medina County Commissioner Steve Hambley said.

At a past meeting, the commissioners asked for the directors of the three county departments to discuss the levy and how the funds benefit their work.

MCOOA Director Laura Toth spoke

about her department's growth from many aspects including an increase in people using its services, the services it provides and the spaces used.

She stated that future funding would go to sustain the growth experienced over the past few years.

MCJFS Director Debbie Kiley said that the funding from the human services levy helps the department assist those in need, which has also grown over the past few years. Without having several sources of funding, like the human services levy, MCJFS would be unable to meet the need.

Medina County ADAMH Board Director Phillip Titterington said that the levy has allowed for his department to expand and reach additional needs of the

community.

Medina County Commissioner Colleen Swedyk said that when all three directors attend the commissioners' meetings, they share the large amount of assistance provided to the Medina County community.

"All three agencies are really vital to the health and welfare of our community," Swedyk said.

With the resolution passed, the Board of Commissioners' clerk has the authorization to deliver the two certified resolutions and the Medina County auditor's certificate to the Medina County Board of Elections and the auditor to have the levy placed on the Nov. 7 ballot.

Contact reporter Sara Crawford at (330) 721-4063 or scrawford@medina-gazette.com.