

TO: ALL REGISTER VOTERS

WALSH HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Baca County, Colorado

NOTICE OF BALLOT ISSUE TO INCREASE MILL LEVY

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

ELECTION TIMES: 7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Sharon Dubois Clerk and Recorder and Coordinated Election Official
Baca County
741 Main Street, Suite #3
Springfield, CO 81073
Telephone: (719) 523-4372

District Contact Information:

Rita Hetrick, Administrator and Designated Election Official
P.O. Box 206
Walsh, CO 81090
Telephone: 719-324-5262 Ext. 131
Rita.hetrick@walshhealthcarecenter.com

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 6A:

SHALL THE MILL LEVY IMPOSED UPON THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE DISTRICT BE INCREASED BY 20 MILLS TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF APPROXIMATELY \$694,225 IN 2025 AND THEN ANNUALLY BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF THE ADDITIONAL 20 MILLS ON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE DISTRICT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND CONTINUING THEREAFTER; WITH THE NET PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX TO BE COLLECTED, RETAINED, AND SPENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE DISTRICT THROUGH ITS GENERAL FUND; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE PERMITTED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND ALL REVENUE DERIVED FROM SUCH TAX AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Actual, Historical and Current estimated Fiscal Year Spending Information

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2020 Actual	\$4,264,867
2021 Actual	\$4,498,059
2022 Actual	\$4,769,541
2023 Actual	\$5,197,136
2024 Estimate	\$5,322,406
Overall dollar change from 2020 to 2024	\$1,057,539
Overall percentage change from 2020 to 2024	1.25%
Proposed mill levy increase	20 MILLS
Estimated dollar amount of tax increase	\$ 694,225
District Estimate of 2025 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase	\$5,533,914

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 6A:

By voting “YES” for the ballot issue, it would enable the District to continue operating all four entities, which include the long-term care and assisted living facilities, ambulance service, and rural health clinic. The four entities service not only the District but a greater regional area.

A “YES” vote will prevent the loss of health care services, and the potential increased cost to the individual and their families who receive care within our district. Without these entities, individuals would have to travel to seek those services elsewhere.

It is important to vote “YES” for this proposal because of unfunded mandates including staffing and regulated wage increases. As the District's largest employer, approximately 54% of the District’s budget is payroll which circulates back into the community. State budgeting and governmental decrees have capped our resident revenue and put a non-sustainable strain on the District's ability to operate. The mill levy increase will assist in filling the revenue gap.

This measure will allow the District to continue to support the citizens and local businesses that are within our service area. Voting “YES” is an investment in the future of our community.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 6A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.