

RESOLUTION NO. 2006- 081

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF GALLATIN, MONTANA, SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF GALLATIN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULAR ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 7, 2006, THE QUESTION OF AUTHORIZING THE GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSION TO MAKE A LEVY OF NINE (9) MILLS IN ADDITION TO THE MILL LEVY LIMIT IMPOSED BY LAW FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING GALLATIN COUNTY 911 OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES RELATED TO 911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCH AND 911 CRIMINAL JUSTICE RECORDS FUNCTIONS.

This Resolution was introduced by Ben Hess, Director 911 Communication Services, moved by Commissioner MURDOCK, and seconded by Commissioner SKINNER. The Resolution was adopted by a vote of 3:0.

WHEREAS, in December, 1995, Gallatin County (hereinafter County) and the City of Bozeman (hereinafter City) entered into an Interlocal Agreement to operate a 911 emergency dispatch center and associated records division (hereinafter 911); and

WHEREAS, 911 is currently governed by a Administrative Board (hereinafter Board), comprised of the Bozeman City Manager, Public Safety Director, Assistant Public Safety Director for Fire Operations, City Attorney, County Attorney, Sheriff, and a County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement provides the formula for Bozeman's and Gallatin County's contribution for funding the operations of 911: the County pays 55% and the City pays 45%; and

WHEREAS, this particular funding formula was intended to be a temporary means to pay for 911, and, at the time, this funding formula was to be supplanted by a permanent and stable funding source for 911; and

WHEREAS, currently, the City and County contributions are funded from the City and County general funds, and 911 therefore competes with all the other important Offices, Departments, and Projects which are funded from the City and County general funds; and

WHEREAS, in FY06, the City of Bozeman contributed \$601,000.00, and the County contributed \$786,500.00, toward the operation of 911; and

WHEREAS, the Board charges local governmental entities, such as Belgrade, Manhattan, Three Forks, and Fire Districts and Fire Service Areas, user fees in order to provide 911 service, and those fees totaled \$36,000.00 for FY06; and

WHEREAS, due to population growth, the need to increase available facility space for the 911 system, the rising costs of infrastructure improvements and the increasing costs of technological upgrades, the current funding mechanism is not adequate to ensure the public's health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the City and County determine that 911 should be funded through a mill levy; and

WHEREAS, the City and County wish to begin actions to dissolve the Board and the Interlocal Agreement and create a County administrative entity upon successful passage of the election; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain and take full advantage of the City's and County's investment in computer assisted dispatch and in order to stay up with technological advances in public emergency communications, 911 will face the following future capital funding needs: constructing, maintaining and operating a new facility for critical 911 operations, including call center/dispatch, housing of call-related computer systems, and general administration; upkeep and repair of the repeater sites, including the recently purchased Nixon and Timberline locations; continual upkeep, repair and purchase of computer and telephone software and hardware; implementation of mobile data technology for law enforcement and fire services; implementation of wireless E911 technology; and implementation of all GIS/GPS systems already purchased by 911; and

WHEREAS, 911 will face the following future operational funding needs: maintaining adequate dispatch staff to ensure the safety of the public and the public safety personnel who rely on 911; implementation of a 24 hour per day, seven days per week, 911 criminal justice records position(s); and expansion of 911's service area to include dispatching for other entities in the Gallatin County region; and

WHEREAS, to provide needed monies to fulfill the operational and capital funding needs for 911, Gallatin County desires to borrow up to but not exceeding \$999,999.99; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of the health and safety of the citizens of Gallatin County and all emergency responders, the County will use the above borrowed monies to pay for critical physical infrastructure and equipment including the construction of a new stand-alone building to house 911, upkeep and maintenance on critical technology such as microwave relays, transmission towers and other radio equipment, upgrade to Computer Aided Dispatch and software critical to receiving and processing 911 calls; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to direct all monies generated by this levy to fund operations and to retire debt related to monies borrowed by Gallatin County, and, upon retiring of said debt, to fund capital expenditures for Gallatin County 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions; and

WHEREAS, Gallatin County's Finance Director reports that in FY07, one mill imposed County-wide will raise \$181,081.00; and

WHEREAS, Gallatin County's Finance Director opines that the value of one mill will remain steady or increase slightly for FY08, and for the foreseeable future, depending upon the effect the Legislature may have on county property tax values; and

WHEREAS, 9 (nine) mills will raise, at the FY07 value, \$1,617,637.00; and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual tax increase for a \$100,000.00 home for 9 mills is \$18.25; and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual tax increase for a \$200,000.00 home for 9 mills is \$36.51; and

WHEREAS, \$1,617,637, or a similar amount imposed in future years, will provide for a substantial component of the capital and operational needs of 911, and will ensure that this vital service is provided to the public in a professional and competent manner; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. That the specific purpose for which the additional money is to be used is to fund operations and to retire debt related to monies borrowed by Gallatin County, and, upon retiring of said debt, to fund capital expenditures for Gallatin County 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions.
2. That the specific amount of money that is to be raised, based on Gallatin County Fiscal Year 2007 mill rate, is \$1,617,637.00.
3. That the approximate number of mills required are nine (9).
4. That the levy shall be in perpetuity, provided that, the Gallatin County Commission may determine in a specific future fiscal year that the number of mills required should be lowered.
5. That the Board of Commissioners of Gallatin County, Montana, does hereby call and direct to be held in the County of Gallatin on November 7, 2006, an election for the purpose of voting on the question of authorizing it to make a levy of nine (9) mills in addition to the mill levy limit imposed by law for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures for 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions. The election shall be held in conjunction with the regular election on said date.
6. That all qualified electors of the County of Gallatin, Montana, shall be entitled to vote at the regular election. The Election Administrator is hereby requested and authorized to proceed with the election in the form and manner prescribed by law.

7. That the Election Administrator is hereby requested and authorized to cause notice of the call and holding of the election to be published at least once a week for three consecutive weeks before the election in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle and any other newspaper of general circulation in the county (or by radio or television broadcast). The notice of election as published shall read substantially as follows:

NOTICE OF ELECTION

COUNTY OF GALLATIN, MONTANA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 7th day of November 2006, an election will be held in and for the County of Gallatin, Montana, on the question of authorizing the Board of Gallatin County Commissioners to make a levy of nine (9) mills in addition to the mill levy limit imposed by law for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures related to 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions as follows:

PROPOSITION

THAT THE BOARD OF GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE A LEVY OF NINE (9) MILLS IN ADDITION TO THE MILL LEVY LIMIT IMPOSED BY LAW FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING GALLATIN COUNTY 911 OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES RELATED TO 911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCH AND 911 CRIMINAL JUSTICE RECORDS FUNCTIONS.

The specific amount of money that is to be raised, based on Gallatin County Fiscal Year 2007 mill rate, is \$1,617,637.00. The levy shall be in perpetuity, provided that, the Gallatin County Commission may determine in a specific future fiscal year that the number of mills required should be lowered.

Example: Nine (9) additional mills would increase the annual property taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000.00 approximately \$18.25 and a home with a market value of \$200,000.00 approximately \$36.51.

___ **FOR** the additional levy of nine (9) mills for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures related to 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions.

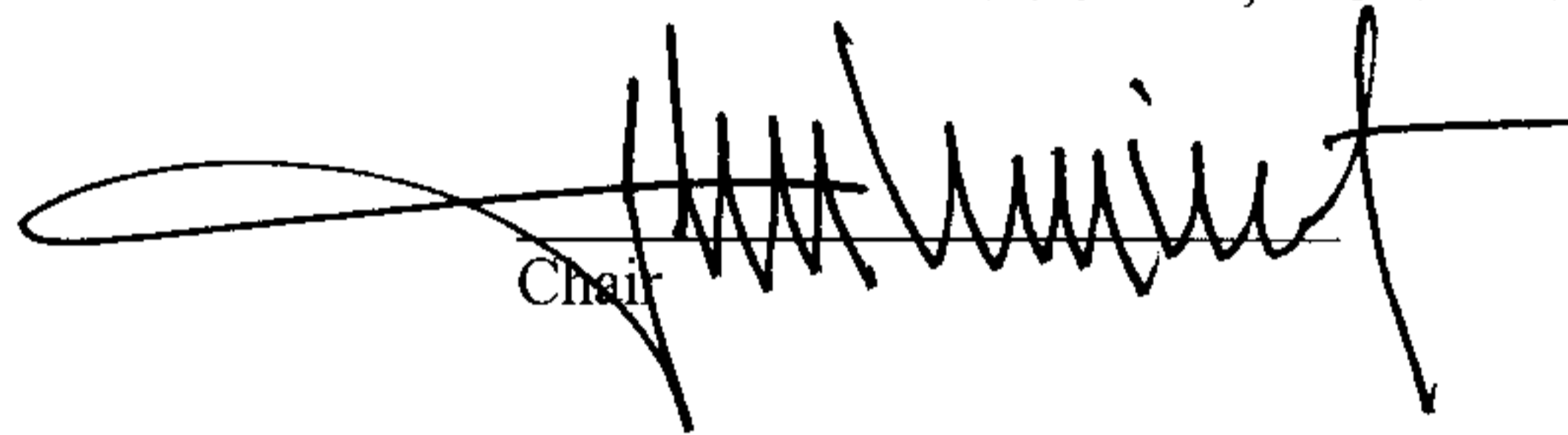
___ **AGAINST** the additional levy of nine (9) mills for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures related to 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions.

8. That the Election Administrator is hereby requested and authorized to prepare suitable ballots for use at the election together with the precinct registers and any other necessary and proper election supplies.

9. That a copy of this resolution will be provided to the Election Administrator no later than August 24, 2006 after its adoption and approval in order to inform the Administrator of the details of the election and the pertinent requests and authorizations as to the conduct of the election.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 23 day of AUGUST, 2006.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF GALLATIN COUNTY, MONTANA



Chair

ATTEST:



Shelley Vance
Clerk and Recorder

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___ **FOR** the additional levy of nine (9) mills for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures related to 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions.

___ **AGAINST** the additional levy of nine (9) mills for the purpose of funding Gallatin County 911 operations and capital expenditures related to 911 emergency communications dispatch and 911 criminal justice records functions.