

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN: Your County Finance Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there continues to be a serious crime problem in Berrien County despite the efforts of law enforcement agencies and community groups to eradicate this social problem; and

WHEREAS, since 1982, Berrien County voters have approved a special millage to provide funding to address this problem; and

WHEREAS, these millage funds have provided additional law enforcement and public safety resources to address the crime and public safety issues in Berrien County; and

WHEREAS, a millage of .35 hundredths of one mill is the amount necessary to continue law enforcement, education and treatment efforts, as well as, related criminal justice and public safety issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the following proposal be placed on the ballot for consideration by the voters of Berrien County at the election to be held on August 4, 2020 and that the form of the proposal shall be as follows:

RENEWAL OF COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY PROPOSAL

In support of law enforcement, criminal justice and public safety for the citizens of Berrien County, including the areas of drug enforcement, education and treatment, shall the limitation on the total amount of taxes which may be assessed against all taxable valuation of all property in Berrien County liable for taxation be set at thirty-five hundredths of one mill (\$.35 per each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation, as equalized). The above said millage represents a renewal of the millage rate of 35 hundredths of one mill (\$.3500 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation, as equalized). The authorization to levy said millage is for a period of four (4) years being 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. It is estimated that the amount to be generated from the total millage rate in the first year of the levy (2021) will be approximately \$2,888,518.00.

Yes _____

No _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said election shall be held and conducted and the result of said election shall be canvassed in accordance with the provisions of the state law pertaining to the submission of such questions to the electors entitled to vote thereon and that the County Clerk shall do and perform all acts required by law for the calling and conducting of such election, and that the County Clerk shall, upon completion of the official canvass, file with the County Treasurer of Berrien County a certified copy of the official declaration of results of said election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that the above proposal is approved by the voters, this Board of Commissioners will not levy any greater millage than is necessary, within the limits approved by the voters, to adequately provide funds for services and programs for law enforcement and related criminal justice and public safety issues in this county, and that all revenues generated by this millage will be used solely for said purposes.

**Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mamie L. Yarbrough, Chairperson

Robert P. Harrison

Robert P. Harrison, Vice-Chairman

Ezra A. Scott

Jon Hinkelman

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM
Administrator W Date 4/22/20
Comments Attached _____
Corporate Counsel JDA Date _____