

## **ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY -- MAY 2, 2017**

There are two County-wide funding proposals on the May 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot.

### **I. Consolidated Dispatch Proposition for 9-1-1 System Funding**

*“Shall the County of Kalamazoo, Michigan, be authorized to assess a surcharge on all devices capable of accessing the 9-1-1 system located in Kalamazoo County of up to \$2.30 per month for a period of five (5) years, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022, both inclusive, to be used exclusively for the funding of 9-1-1 emergency telephone call answering and dispatch services within Kalamazoo County, including facilities, equipment and maintenance, and operating costs?”*

If passed, this proposal will raise the telephone surcharge for 9-1-1 from 42¢ to \$2.30 replacing the current method for funding 9-1-1 service that uses property taxes. Funds will be used to for a new building that will bring the 5 current dispatch systems together in one place and will support upgrades to the equipment to meet FCC requirements.

Although law enforcement agencies in the County support this measure, there is organized opposition from the Kalamazoo Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) which objects to the large increase in the surcharge.

LWVKA has NO POSITION on this proposal

### **II. Regional Enhancement Millage Renewal Proposal**

*“Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency, Michigan, be increased by 1.5 mills (\$1.50 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 3 years, 2017, 2018 and 2019, to provide operating funds to enhance other state and local funding for local school district operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2017 is approximately \$11,061,859, which funds will be disbursed as required by statute to the following school districts: Climax-Scotts Community Schools, Comstock Public Schools, Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools, Gull Lake Community Schools, Kalamazoo Public schools, Parchment School District, Portage Public Schools, Schoolcraft Community Schools and Vicksburg Community Schools (this is a renewal of millage which expired with the 2016 tax levy).”*

This proposal will allow the intermediate school district (KRESA) to continue to levy regional enhancement millage that expired with the 2016 levy. The revenue raised by the millage will be collected by the intermediate school district and disbursed to local public school districts based on pupil membership count.

There is no organized opposition to this proposal.

LWVKA supported the original millage and past renewals.