

## RESOLUTION 6-2010

### CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO CONTINUE THE MILL LEVY ALLOCATION TO PROVIDE FOR NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL

**WHEREAS**, 15-10-425 MCA permits the governing body of a county to raise money by taxation for the support of county government services in excess of the levy or levies allowed by law, and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County has insufficient funds to adequately control the spread of noxious weed as a result of legislation, and

**WHEREAS**, the acres of noxious weeds in Madison County is spreading faster that the current noxious weed control program can handle, which makes it immediately necessary to obtain funds to continue implementing an aggressive effort to control the noxious weeds in Madison County, and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County residents and landowners have expressed an interest in continuing to implement an aggressive effort to control noxious weeds in Madison County, and

**WHEREAS**, success from the previous three (3) mill levy is apparent and will continue to become more apparent in controlling the spread of noxious weeds throughout Madison County, and

**WHEREAS**, the 2006 through 2010 levy for the Weed Fund (2140) was at the rate of 2 mills with 3 additional mills as approved by the voters of Madison County, and

**WHEREAS**, the Madison County Weed Board has requested the governing body of Madison County to continue the Special Weed District Mill on the June 8, 2010, primary election ballot to maintain the mill levy, once again, of three (3) mills in addition to the regular 2 mills for a total of five (5) mills, and

**WHEREAS**, funds available from year to year under existing tax levies are not adequate to manage the noxious weed problem. If an adequate effort to control the noxious weeds in Madison County is continued the tax revenues for the Weed Fund (2140) will have a shortfall of approximately \$203,566.29. in fiscal year 2010 and following years, and

**WHEREAS**, the applicable fund balance is or, by the end of the calendar year, will be depleted, and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County takes full advantage of the State Weed Control Program Grants and there are no alternative sources of sufficient revenue under the existing tax levies otherwise allowed by law or by obtaining grants or donations, and

**WHEREAS**, additional revenue is necessary or the noxious weed problem will continue to spread faster than the current noxious weed control program can handle, which will cause financial burdens on landowners in Madison County by reducing adequate grazing land that will be taken over by noxious weeds. The tourism and recreation industries will suffer with the loss of the pristine scenery in Madison County that will be infested with noxious weeds, and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County presently has a taxable valuation of approximately \$67,855.430, therefore each mill raises approximately \$67,855.43 in tax revenue, and

**WHEREAS**, 15-10-425 (4) MCA states if a majority voting are in favor of the additional levy, the governing body is authorized to impose the levy in the amount specified in the resolution or charter amendment , and

**WHEREAS**, 7-22-2142 (2) (b) states that the commissioners may provide sufficient money in the noxious weed fund for the board to perform its duties subject to 15-10-420 and at any time fixed by law for levy and assessment of taxes, levying a tax not less than 1.6 mills on the taxable value of all taxable property in the county or by contributing an equivalent amount from another source of not less than the amount received from all county sources in fiscal year 2000, and

**WHEREAS**, the additional revenues are needed to continue implementing a more coordinated, aggressive noxious weed control program. The additional revenues will be used to continue and increase the herbicide cost share program, upgrade facilities and equipment for more efficiency, improve the biological control program through increased monitoring and distribution, increase public awareness through workshops and community days, and focus on special management areas county-wide.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Madison County Commissioners will place a Special Weed District Mill Levy request on the June 8, 2010 primary election ballot as follows:

Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Madison County be authorized to maintain the levy of three (3) mills in addition to the regular levy of two (2) mills for a total of five (5) mills for the purpose of continuing to implement a more coordinated, aggressive Noxious Weed Control Program in Madison County? If this levy passes, a home valued at \$100,000 would increase the property taxes by \$5.00 and a home valued at \$200,000 would increase the property taxes by \$10.00 per year.

- FOR the continued mill levy of the greater of, three (3) mills, or the current taxable value of \$203,566.29, for the coordinated implementation of a more aggressive noxious weed management effort in Madison County.
- AGAINST the continued mill levy of the greater of three (3) mills, or the current taxable value of \$203,566.29, for the coordinated implementation of a more aggressive noxious weed management effort in Madison County.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 26th DAY OF JANUARY, 2010.

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JAMES P. HART, CHAIRMAN

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MARILYN ROSS

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DAVID SCHULZ

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Kaatz  
Clerk and Recorder