

Hospital Sales Tax Proposed Again

(KMZA)--Community Memorial Healthcare is again asking Marshall County Commissioners to let voters decide on a sales tax proposal to provide financial support for the hospital and its three clinics.

***The Marysville Advocate* reports CMH officials met with the Commission this week to request that a half-cent sales tax proposal be placed on the November general election ballot.**

A motion last year to place a half-cent sales tax on ballot for the hospital died due to the lack of second.

The Commission was told CMH is currently among only 13 rural hospitals in Kansas that does not receive local tax support. Financial difficulties, spurred by cuts in federal Medicare reimbursements and the state's resistance to expand Medicaid coverage of uninsured Kansans, have led CMH's board this past year to begin looking for new sources of revenue.

A half-cent sales tax is projected to generate about \$500,000 a year.

Commissioners asked for more documentation of the hospital's financial challenges and said they would think about the request and possibly have reply in May.

Many Signals Communications