

### Holt County Commission Approves 2013 Levy Rates

(KTNC) - Property tax rates decreased slightly this year in Holt County Missouri. County Commissioners approved the tax rates following required public hearings earlier this month. County Clerk Kathy Kunkel says no one spoke in favor of, or against, the tax rates. (play audio :47 “in our communities.”)

The total 2013 tax levy rate of 84.62-cents is down from the 2012 rate of 85.28-cents.

Kunkel says they were able to lower the levy rates because the assessed valuation in the county increased by approximately nine million dollars. She says Holt County should be able to bring in a little more revenue, based on new construction that’s been added to the tax rolls. (play audio :25 “specialty funds.”)

Kunkel says Presiding Commissioner Mark Sitherwood is working with attorney Ivan Schraeder on potential tax abatements for the Golden Triangle Energy plant in Craig. Officials with the ethanol plant have requested incentives from the county that would allow the plant to expand. (play audio :45 “financing districts.”)

The TIF districts in Holt County are located in Mound City. Kunkel says tax increment financing may not be the best option for Golden Triangle, because it is not a retail business.

There will be a changing of the guard in the Holt County Assessor’s Office. LaDonna Jones will assume the office officially on Sunday. Outgoing Assessor Carla Markt is retiring after 12 years in office.

Jones was actually elected last November but due to a quirk in Missouri state law, the new Assessor’s term doesn’t officially begin until September 1.