

For Immediate Release
Contact: Steven Savage
(731) 326-0493

Voters Approve Hospital Tax and Courthouse Renovations

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, Ark (Feb. 13, 2019) – Mississippi County voters approved the extension and share of the hospital tax and granted the county permission to acquire a \$16 million bond to renovate the Blytheville and Osceola courthouses. Voters had to approve both measures in order to split the tax between the Mississippi County Hospital System and renovations at both courthouses.

Voters approved the extension of the ½ cent sales tax with the two measures each winning 71.79 percent of the vote. Ordinance 1 passed 980-385, while Ordinance 2 was approved 1,005-395. Early voting totals for Ordinance 1 were 524 for and 191 against, while early tallies for Ordinance 2 were 539 for and 192 against.

“I’m pleased that we were able to reach such a large number of voters and get them the information that they needed to know to cast their vote and receive a resounding wave of support about these issues,” Mississippi County Judge John Nelson said.

“Everywhere we went, it was obvious to me that people really wanted these historic buildings to stay in place, but they also were very adamant that they wanted our hospitals to stay in business, especially with the industry we keep throughout the county,” he said.

Voters voiced to elected officials where they wanted their hard-earned money spent. With the extension of the tax, it ensures the people have a stable healthcare system in both ends of the county and an avenue for repairing and renovating their historic courthouses. The Judge’s Office would like to thank the Election Commission and all of the staff for running a smooth special election.

###