

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT

**Volunteer Fire Department Renewal Levy
May 14, 2024**

Regular election to authorize levies for the years beginning July 1, 2024, July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028, for the purpose of the General Current Expense Fund, according to the order of the County Commission of Monroe County, entered on December 6, 2023.

A. Direct services to the following Volunteer Fire Departments in Monroe County, West Virginia, including Ballard Volunteer Fire Department, Peterstown Volunteer Fire Department, Lindside Volunteer Fire Department, Union Volunteer Fire Department and Alderson Volunteer Fire Department. All departments, heretofore named, except the Alderson Volunteer Fire Department will receive approximately \$49,298.00 (Forty-nine thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars) annually in funding generated from this levy. The Alderson Volunteer Fire Department, which serves a smaller coverage area than the other departments in Monroe County, has agreed to accept \$10,000.00 annually from the levy funds.

B. This Fire Levy is a continuation and renewal of the existing fire levy passed by the voters of Monroe County on May 8, 2018, with no increase whatsoever. The fire departments will receive \$1,000.00 less than previously to allow Alderson Volunteer Fire Department to receive an additional \$4,000.00 in funding. A levy is valid for a period of five (5) years and must be renewed by the voters.

C. Due to an increase of taxable property in Monroe County since the original fire levy was approved by the voters on May 8, 2018, the County Commission was actually able to reduce the levy rates for this fire levy compared to the rates used in the original levy, resulting in a savings to the taxpayer.

1. To purchase and maintain firefighter's personal protection equipment - \$40,000.00.
2. To pay premiums for general liability insurance worker's compensation insurance for firefighters and department vehicles - \$49,000.00.
3. To pay for education and training for volunteer firefighters - \$10,000.00.
4. To purchase, maintain and repair the necessary fire and rescue equipment needed to respond to emergency calls - \$30,000.00.
5. To pay the department's utility bills and to maintain the department's facilities and grounds - \$20,000.00.
6. To purchase, repair and maintain apparatus - \$58,192.00.

That the approximate amount for said purpose, after making do allowance for delinquencies and exonerations is approximately \$207,192.00 (Two hundred seven thousand one hundred and ninety-two dollars) annually and the total approximate amount to be expended during the term by the levy is \$1,035,960.00 (One million thirty-five thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars).

That the proposed additional rate of levy in cents on each class of property shall be as follows:

- Class 1: 1.73
- Class 2: 3.46
- Class 3: 6.92
- Class 4: 6.92

Instructions to Voters: Those favoring the additional levies mark the square beside of "For the Levies", those against such levies mark the square beside of "Against the Levies".

For the Levies

Against the Levies

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL LEVY RENEWAL

Special election to authorize continuation of additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2029, for the purposes of maintaining and improving the instructional programs and the operation of school services in Monroe County, according to the Order of the Board of Education of the County of Monroe entered on the 8th day of January, 2024, including, but not limited to:

A. Direct Services to Students/Safety - Including, but not limited to, free textbooks and materials to all students or technology and devices to transition to online textbooks for age appropriate students, to provide \$150 per child in grades preschool through fourth and \$125 per child in grades five through twelve inclusive to the school in which the child is enrolled for direct services to children to include but not be limited to instructional materials, supplementary classroom materials or furniture, facility improvements to enhance the learning environment, educational field trips, materials for co-curricular or extracurricular activities and shall continue the elimination of any fundraising activities by the students grades preschool through fourth, to provide after school bus to take students to pick up points from the schools so students may remain after school for curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular functions, to provide safe transportation to extracurricular and co-curricular events, to fund participation of Monroe County students in state and national competitions, supplement for those working with yearbooks, provide uninterrupted services to students in service or professional absence, provide matching funds for the JROTC program, provide Resource/Security Officers stationed at schools (one at Peterstown, one at James Monroe, and one at Mountain View), and to provide cameras and communication systems on buses and schools.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$1,643,701

B. Student Related Community Services - To provide funding to the WVU Extension Office to supplement the cost of providing the 4-H program to Monroe County students; to provide funding for county libraries which serve all Monroe County students and an additional \$5,000 to match donations to those libraries, exclusive of grants or state or federal allocations (to be allocated among these in the Board's discretion).
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$115,000

C. Preventive Maintenance/Facility and Program Improvement - Including, but not limited to, HVAC, Filter Service, Custodial Equipment, Custodial and Maintenance Supplies, Preventive maintenance, ensure facilities are attractive and well-maintained, and allowance for individual schools to provide full day in-school suspension.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$492,025

D. Improve Guidance/Counseling Services/improve School Cleanliness - Including, but not limited to, hire personnel to continue to address custodial needs at Peterstown and Union (3 custodians), groundskeeper for all schools, to hire personnel in order to continue to provide additional guidance/counseling services to students, and to provide supplemental insurance for employees.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$390,388

TOTAL APPROXIMATE NET ANNUAL AMOUNT NEEDED AFTER DUE ALLOWANCES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES, DISCOUNTS, AND EXONERATIONS:
\$2,641,114

Should any item in the aforementioned purposes be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, affected funds will be distributed among remaining unaffected items.

The Board of Education of the County of Monroe may, if the Board deems it to be in its best interests, reduce these said rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year. The Board of Education of the County of Monroe is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above stated purposes, plus excess collections due to increased assessed valuations to enrich, supplement, and improve the educational services and/or facilities in the public schools of the County of Monroe. In the event that the amount collected is less than the amounts noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education expenditures may be reduced in any particular category or categories, as may be required.

In the event the Board of Education of the County of Monroe shall obtain additional money, by grant or otherwise, from the state or federal government or from any agency of either, or from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, such additional money may be used either in substitution for, or in addition to, the sums obtained from such additional levies as said Board of Education of the County of Monroe may from time to time determine.

The continuation approved on May 14, 2024, of an additional levy for each \$100.00 assessed valuation of property shall be 17.21 cents on Class I property; 34.42 cents on Class II property; 68.84 cents on Class III property; and 68.84 on Class IV property. These are the same rates used in the previous levy.

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Those favoring the renewal of the levy, mark the square beside of "FOR THE LEVY", those against such levy mark the square beside of "AGAINST THE LEVY".

FOR THE LEVY

AGAINST THE LEVY