

# BOND & LEVY CAMPAIGNS

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STORIES FROM THE TRENCHES

25th Annual Rural  
Hospital Summer  
Workshop 2001

# Featuring...



- Mike Madden, Superintendent & CEO, Skyline Hospital
- Scott Rhine, Administrator & CEO, Whidbey General Hospital
- Doug Williams, Administrator, Cascade Medical Center
- Taya Briley, Director, Legal Services, AWP/PHD

# Scenario #1 Raising the Levy Lid



- “Levy lid” is established by “limit factors.”
- PHD wants to raise its regular property tax levy above the levy lid.
- The lid may be raised if a simple majority of the voters approve an increase.

# Scenario # 2 One Year Special Levy



- One year levy, in excess of regular levy.
- Revenue may be used for any purpose.
- May be for any amount the voters approve.
- Supermajority and validation requirements must be met.
- Can take to voters at a general or special election.

# Supermajority & Validation Example



- In last election 100,000 votes were cast.
- **Scenario A:** 30,000 VOTES CAST: To validate you need 60% of 40% of 100,000. 24,000 yes votes required.
- **Scenario B:** 50,000 VOTES CAST: To validate you need 60% of 50,000. 30,000 yes votes required.

# Scenario #3 Special Levy for UTGO Bonds



- Needed if the levy to pay debt service on bonds will exceed the district's regular levy.
- Supermajority and validation requirement.
- Amount levied is whatever is necessary to pay debt service on the bonds.
- Bonds can be issued only for capital purposes.

# Scenario #4 Emergency Medical Services Levy



- PHD is authorized to run EMS levy if there are no other EMS levies covering all or part of the district.
- May impose a regular levy of up to \$0.50 per \$1000 assessed value for 6 yrs, 10 yrs or permanently, based on voter approval.
- Supermajority and validation requirement.

# PHD Involvement in Ballot Measures -- Limits



- RCW 42.17.130
- No use of public property or resources to work for or against a ballot proposition.
- Includes employee time, use of facilities, use of supplies or equipment.
- "Neutral forum" exception.
- Penalties... RCW 42.17.390

# PHD Involvement in Ballot Measures -- Opportunities



- Elected legislative body may vote to support or oppose if CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS are met.
- ELECTED official may make a statement supporting or opposing at an open press conference.
- Distribution of one FACT sheet in normal and regular manner.