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Sales Tax Proposal Outlined to Fund Ambulance Service

(KNZA)--Voters in Buchanan County, Missouri in November will decide the fate of a sales tax proposal to fund a county-run ambulance service.

KQ2 News reports the language for a quarter-cent sales tax was turned over to the Buchanan County Clerk's office Tuesday.

Presiding county commissioner RT Turner says the tax, which includes a 10-year sunset clause, would generate between \$2.7 million and \$2.8 million annually

The county would take over the service currently provided by Heartland Regional Medical Center. The hospital has announced plans to discontinue the service as of July 1, 2014.

Turner said the goal is to maintain the current personnel and quality of service.

He said it costs about \$2.2 million to operate the ambulance service yearly, but the county would likely have other costs in the first year of taking the service over.

If the measure does not pass, Turner said they will likely try again in April.

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