

## Board Of Equalization Makes No Changes

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### **Board Of Equalization Makes No Changes**

#### **News**

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Grundy county's board of equalization will not be making any changes in the amount of taxes owed by J-B Wright Memorial Hospital's physicians' group.



A hearing was held this morning at the Courthouse attended by the five person board, a representative from an accounting firm for St. Luke's Health System, and the administrator of the Pleasant View R-6 school.

Commissioner Joe Brinser said the board of equalization, like last year, will defer any decision to the Missouri State Tax Commission. An appeal is expected to be submitted to the state on behalf of the doctor's offices.

Figures provided by County Clerk Betty Spickard show 2012 taxes of 69 thousand, 870 dollars. Of that amount, the Pleasant View school district would receive the largest share: 42-thousand, 170 dollars. The balance of those tax funds would be divided among 12 other tax-supported categories. In 2011, when the new hospital and physicians clinic was under construction, the taxes topped 56 thousand dollars; with approximately 34 thousand due to the Pleasant View school district.

That situation has been appealed to the state tax commission but as of last week, no hearing has been held. The tax money is paid into an escrow account held by the Grundy county treasurer until such time as the matter is resolved.

For many years, Wright Memorial Hospital operated from its old location with the doctor's office located across First Street. But that changed with the construction of the new hospital to incorporate the doctors' offices all in one building on Iowa Boulevard. The accountant for St. Luke's was quoted as saying the change to a single building, as well as doctors who are now employees of the hospital, are reasons for it to appeal having to pay taxes.

Board of Equalization members are Commissioners Rick Hull, Gene Wyant, and Joe Brinser. The two citizen members are Marlisa Klinginsmith and Debbie Carman. Pleasant View R-6 school was represented by Administrator Tiffany Otto.