
LMC question lingers

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BENTON HARBOR — Lake Michigan College's 10-year, 0.48-mill capital millage ballot proposal result ended up in a real cliffhanger — just like Tuesday's presidential race.

Results for LMC's ballot proposal were too close to call, at press time — with 25,327 voting “yes,” and 25,237 voting “no,” with 61 out of 70 precincts reporting, according to the Berrien County Clerk's Office.

The capital millage request marked the first one that LMC had sought in its history. LMC currently levies an operating millage of 1.78 mills.

The approximate impact

of the capital millage, if it passes, amounts to \$2 more per month — or an additional \$24 per year — in property taxes for a homeowner with a home valued at \$100,000, according to the college.

Approval of the millage would allow LMC to raise about \$40.3 million for improvements and energy efficiencies, modernized classrooms, safety and security improvements, and Student Support Services area improvements, on all of its campuses.

The college also expected to use \$7.5 million that it's collected from a community-wide capital campaign, and \$8.5 million in state grants, and other investments, to help complete the projects.