

#### WHAT IS THE HARDEE COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH CARE BOARD?

It is a 5-member board that reviews and verifies the income and residency requirements of indigent people within our County that have applied to have their hospital bills paid by the board. Their funding comes from property taxes assessed within Hardee County.

#### WHY IS THERE A REFERENDUM TO DISSOLVE THE HARDEE COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH CARE BOARD?

The indigent health care board was created more than 30 years ago to support Walker Memorial Hospital, which changed to Hardee Memorial Hospital and now Advent Health. Its' bylaws were set by voter approval and cannot be changed without voter approval. The Board wishes to amend the administrative portions allowed and the services that this funding can provide. It was the advice of legal counsel that the board be dissolved and then re-established, at a later date, with updated rules.

#### WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO THE VOTER OF HARDEE COUNTY?

The Indigent Health Care Board currently has the authority to assess up to .2703 mills on County residential property taxes. If the voters are in favor of dissolving this authority, then there will no longer be a millage rate charged on your property taxes. If the voters are not in favor of dissolving the board, then property taxes will continue to be charged.