STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT A POLICY TO REQUIRE THE USE OF MASKS OR FACE COVERINGS IN THE CHEROKEE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER BY RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYEES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic as of March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, Governor Brian Kemp declared that a public health emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the spread of COVID-19 within Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Georgia residents are at risk of serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is an infectious virus known to cause the respiratory disease that spreads from person to person whether the infected individual is exhibiting symptoms or not. COVID-19 can cause serious illness, permanent organ damage and death; and

WHEREAS, individuals age 65 or over or living with certain medical conditions identified by the CDC (members of Vulnerable Populations) and members of other populations identified by the CDC ("Other Populations at Risk") are at risk of severe and lasting harm to health or death from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has noted that COVID-19 spreads easily and sustainably when an infected person, who may have minor or no symptoms breathes, talks, sneezes, or coughs in close proximity with others; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has original and exclusive jurisdiction over the directing and controlling of all property of the county, including the Cherokee County Senior Center located at 1001 Univeter Road, Canton, Georgia 30115; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee County Senior Center has a vulnerable population that visits the facility and utilizes the services provided by said Center; and

WHEREAS, evidence indicates that the use of face coverings may be effective in reducing the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the CDC states that wearing a face covering over the nose and mouth is a recommended precaution designed to prevent symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals who have contracted COVID-19 from spreading it to other individuals; and

WHEREAS, to be an effective precaution, it is necessary to require all employees, vendors, and visitors of the Cherokee County Senior Center to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while in the Cherokee County Senior Center until such time as the risk is reduced; and

WHEREAS, the following action is necessary and appropriate to balance the public's interest in having access to the Cherokee County Senior Center and for other purposes with the compelling public interest of providing for the health, safety and welfare of the County's employees and individuals who visit the Cherokee County Senior Center; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that for the protection of members of the public and County employees, including members of Vulnerable Populations and members of Other Populations at Risk, employees, visitors, and/or vendors visiting the Cherokee County Senior Center located at 1001 Univeter Road, Canton, Georgia 30115 are required to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth, which face coverings are cloth face coverings as defined by the CDC or are face coverings designed to protect others from infection by the wearer until such time as this Resolution is lifted by the Board of Commissioners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County will communicate the types of acceptable face coverings required for entry into the Cherokee County Senior Center and instructions by the CDC about how to make such face coverings easily and inexpensively.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County will take reasonable steps to accommodate the needs of persons who affirm they cannot wear a face covering because they are physically unable to remove such a face covering without assistance, they have a bona fide medical reason for not wearing a face covering, or when the individual has a bona fide religious objection to wearing a face covering.

SO RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ___ day of _____, 2020.

By: _____
HARRY B. JOHNSTON, Chairman

Attest: _____
(SEAL) CHRISTY BLACK, County Clerk