PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING BOONE COUNTY PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY

Whereas, we recognize that our organization is comprised of diverse community members having many perspectives, identities and lived experiences; and

Whereas, we recognize that, to create an inclusive and intellectually vibrant community, within our organization and throughout Boone County, we must commit to understanding and valuing both our individual differences and our common ground; and

Whereas, Boone County Principles of Community is an aspirational statement that embodies this commitment and reflects the ideals we seek to uphold; and

Whereas, we affirm the inherent dignity and value of every person and strive to maintain a climate for work and learning based on mutual respect and understanding; and

Whereas, we affirm the right of each person to express thoughts and opinions freely, and we encourage open expression within a climate of civility, sensitivity and mutual respect; and

Whereas, we affirm the value of human diversity because it enriches our lives, our organization and our County, and, as such, we acknowledge and respect our differences while affirming our common humanity; and

Whereas, we reject all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including but not limited to those based on age, color, diverse ability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation and veteran status; and

Whereas, we take individual and collective responsibility for helping to eliminate bias and discrimination and for increasing our own understanding of these issues through education, training and interaction with others;

Therefore, the Boone County Commission does hereby pledge our collective commitment to incorporate these principles into Boone County's mission.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this 10th day of October, 2017.

ATTE

Daniel K. Atwill, Presiding Commissioner

Fred J. Parr, District Commissioner

Janet M. Thompson, District II Commissioner