

**MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2016**  
**BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS**

**CONVENE**

Chairman Myers called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 AM on Monday, February 22, 2016 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Charles Napier, Pat Collins, Robert Myers, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Jordan Zabel, and Machel Smith

**Dale Helwig, Christina Holmes - Cherokee County Extension**

They appeared before the Board to provide an update on events surrounding Cherokee County Extension. They stated that they have been working with the Class LTD and Head Start programs, providing education to both. They informed the Board that they will be hosting a grant writing workshop on March 29, 2016.

A motion was made by Commission Myer to renew the lease with Jerry Martin on flood plain property located at 7730 SE Watermelon Lane. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Myers to approve the Engineering Agreement with GeoSource for the 5<sup>th</sup> St. Project in Baxter Springs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the purchase of a Ferris 61" cut mower from the Rental Store in Joplin in the amount of \$7,672.32. The cost will be split between the Highway Department and County General from proceeds collected from housing outside prisoners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Myers voting no.

A motion was made by Commissioner Napier to approve the Minutes of the BOCC meeting for February 8, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Myers to approve the Minutes of the BOCC meeting for February 10, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

Barbara Bilke, Juanita Hodgson, and Rodney Edmondson appeared before the Board regarding the Courthouse computer server. The server is four years old and the warranty will expire in March. Stronghold has provided quotes for a replacement server with a four year or a five year warranty. The cost of the five year warranty is only an additional \$200. There will be no labor charges due to the contract with Stronghold for managed services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the proposal from Stronghold Data for a new server with a five year warranty at a cost of \$17,514.08. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0. Treasurer Hodgson will check the balance of the Computer Fund to determine if additional funds will be needed for the purchase.

The Board considered the matter of delinquent taxes owed on property in Galena owned by Timothy Intessimone and his request to make monthly payments for the delinquent taxes and to remove it from the list of properties for the next tax sale. Counselor Wright stated she has explained the concerns of the Board to Mr. Intessimone and he understands his options and she left the decision to him. Commissioners Myers and Napier stated that they were not inclined to delay the payment of the taxes owed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Napier to recess until 10:00 AM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Myers. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:40 AM.

The meeting reconvened at 10:00 AM.

At 10:00 AM the Board conducted the public opening of sealed bids for the sale of two Galena properties that are owned by Cherokee County.

Only one sealed bid was received and it was opened and read by County Clerk Edmondson.

Shannon Richardson bid \$102 for Lot 27, Block 3 in the original plat to the City of Galena, Kansas.

Counselor Wright stated that the County has the property valued at \$280 with \$24.83 in taxes that are owed on the property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to accept the bid and to deed the property to Mr. Richardson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0. The Board signed a Quit Claim Deed for the property.

#### **Trish Carroll - President, Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation**

She appeared before the Board, along with members of the Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation as a follow-up to the recent meeting with the Board. She provided a review of the Corporation and how it began in Cherokee County. Along with Trish Carroll and Janet Miller, the Executive Director of the Corporation, the following individuals spoke in support of the Economic Development Corporation; Dale Oglesby, Bert Kellum, Cathy Bolek, Jean Pritchett, Renee Charles, and Brad Reams. Lori Johnson voiced concerns over the use of County funds for the program.

Commissioner Myers stated that the Board is not against economic development, stating that the Commission gave seed money to start the program, which has now exceeded one half million dollars. He also read emails from the planning stages of the program that stated the need for the group to become self-sufficient. He stated that the plan clearly states what the goals and the timeline are. The Board is just asking that they follow the plan that was put in place three years ago.

Director Miller stated that the Corporation has discussed becoming self-sufficient for quite some time and they have developed a draft for membership levels and benefits that can be marketed to businesses now.

Trish Carroll stated that the Executive Directors contract expires tomorrow, and they need to know what the Board's desire is for that contract.

Commissioner Myers stated that he has too many questions to make a decision on it today. Commissioner Napier stated that he was in favor of keeping the contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Napier to extend the contract for the Economic Development Director for one year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with stipulations to include exploring the relocation of the office, and to provide a progress report to the Board every 90 days that would include an update on the membership drive. The motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Myers voting no.

**Larry Sharp - KCAMP, Multi-Line Insurance Pool**

He appeared before the Board to provide an update on Cherokee County's property and liability insurance. They provide insurance to counties only and this is their 25<sup>th</sup> year of providing that service. There are currently 64 counties that are members of the pool. He reminded the Board that \$2,000 has been set aside for Cherokee County as a grant to be used for Risk Management. Public Works and Sheriffs are the usual users of the funds.

**Barbara Bilke - County Register of Deeds**

She appeared before the Board regarding corrections to deeds from the 2014 Sheriff's Sale. Counselor Wright stated that she has been working with the Register of Deeds and has determined that they will need to petition the District Court to get permission to correct the errors on the deeds since they were from a tax foreclosure sale.

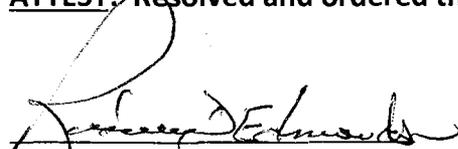
A motion was made by Commissioner Myers to enter an Executive Session with the Board and County Counsel Wright for the purpose of Non/Elected Personnel for a period of five minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0 at 12:18 PM.

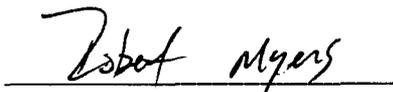
The meeting reconvened at 12:23 PM.

Commissioner Napier made a motion to adjourn until the special meeting set for Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 9:00 AM for the purpose of approving Payroll and Accounts Payable. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0 at 12:24 PM.

The Board will meet in regular session on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 9:00 AM.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 29<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

# Grant Writing Workshop

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Cherokee County Kansas State Research and Extension

Are you interested in taking the next step to secure funding for your project, program or initiative? Attend this free Grant Writing Workshop to develop confidence in your grant writing abilities.



*Trudy Rice*

Community Vitality State Program Leader  
Kansas State Research and Extension

**March 29, 2016**

**10:00 - 2:00**

Cherokee County Research and Extension Office  
124 W. Country Road Columbus, KS 66725

## **What will you learn?**

- Keys to a Successful Proposal
- Developing an Idea
- Preparing a Proposal
- Preparing an Application

To Register:

Please contact Christina Holmes at [ChristinaHolmes@ksu.edu](mailto:ChristinaHolmes@ksu.edu) or call the Cherokee County Research and Extension Office at 620-429-3849

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Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Cherokee County Extension Office, 620-429-3849.





Server Upgrade Quote 5-Year Warranty (02-12-2016)

Quote Number: 001304 v1

**Prepared For**  
 Cherokee County Courthouse  
 Juanita Hodgson  
 110 W Maple PO Box 2  
 Columbus, KS 66725

**This quote has not been approved. Please review the terms, and sign below.**

**Prepared By**  
 James Richards  
 CEO  
 Direct: (417) 627-9878  
 james.richards@strongholddata.com

I accept the above conditions !

Your Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your available options

Hardware				
	Qty	Description	Price	Ext. Price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	PowerEdge T430 Server (210-ADLR)	\$8,717.53	\$8,717.53
Subtotal				\$8,717.53

**VIEW YOUR QUOTE**

Click the button above to download a pdf that contains all the details for your options. You can sign and fax us this document if you are not comfortable submitting your confirmation over the internet.

Software				
	Qty	Description	Price	Ext. Price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R.2 Standard - License - 1 Server, 2 CPU - Government Use - Volume, Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$744.88	\$2,234.64
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	55	Microsoft Windows Server 2012 - License - 1 User CAL - Government Use - Volume, Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$32.66	\$1,796.30
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Microsoft Exchange Server 2016 Standard - License - 1 PC - Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$621.36	\$621.36
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	55	Microsoft Exchange 2016 Standard CAL - License - 1 User CAL - Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$75.35	\$4,144.25
Subtotal				\$8,796.55

Off-site Monthly Services					
	Qty	Description	Recurring	Price	Ext. Price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Monthly Black Box 300GB Fee for Offsite Storage	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Monthly AppAssure Replication 100GB Block Addition	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal			\$550.00		\$0.00

Services				
	Qty	Description	Price	Ext. Price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Flat Rate Installation for Computer Systems - Included at no charge as part of your Platinum Service Agreement	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal				\$0.00

Quote Summary		Recurring	One-Time

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hardware Subtotal	\$0.00	\$8,717.53
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Software Subtotal	\$0.00	\$8,796.55
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Off-site Monthly Services Subtotal	\$550.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Amount</b>		<b>\$550.00</b>	<b>\$17,514.08</b>

### Order Confirmation

Taxes, shipping, handling and other fees may apply. We reserve the right to cancel orders arising from pricing or other errors.

I accept the above conditions

#### E-Signature

Your Initials:



Your Email Address:



Purchase Order Number:

Sign Here:

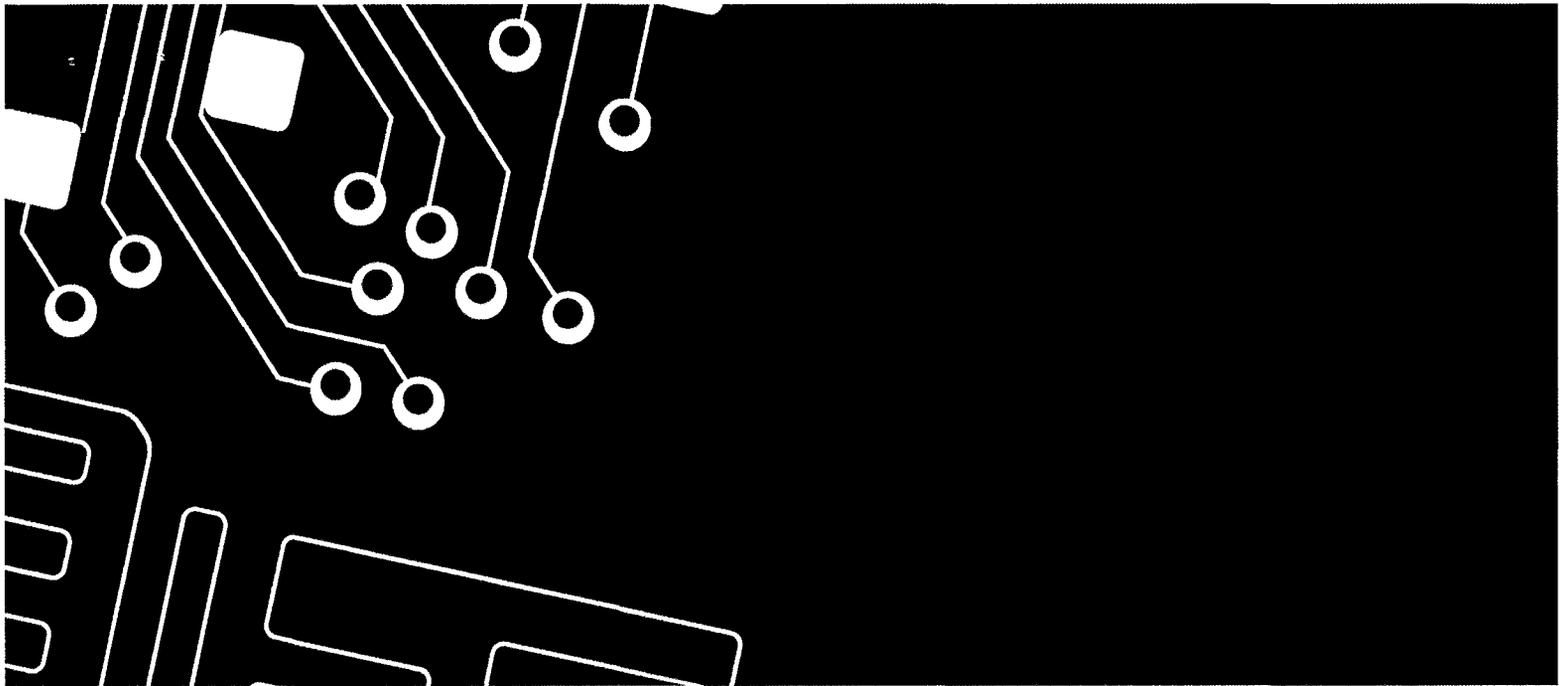
X

### Comments or Questions?

If you have any comments or questions about this quote, please feel free to enter it here. Your comment will be logged and emailed to james.richards@strongholddata.com.



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## Server Upgrade Quote 5-Year Warranty (02-12-2016)

Quote # 001304 | Version 1

Prepared for:  
Cherokee County Courthouse

Friday, February 12, 2016

Cherokee County Courthouse  
Juanita Hodgson  
110 W Maple PO Box 2  
Columbus, KS 66725  
cktreas@columbus-ks.com

Dear Juanita,

Thank you for contacting Stronghold Data about the latest in technologies to give your business the best advantages in a competitive marketplace. Stronghold Data has been providing quality products and services for over 24 years with customers all over the US, Canada and Puerto Rico.

The following proposal is for a Computer Technology solution. In addition to our Computer products and services we offer a complete line of Telephone Systems, Disaster Recovery Solutions, Managed Services, Virtualization and Cloud Services. We also facilitate Phone/Data Carrier offerings from providers such as AT&T, WindStream, CableOne and others.

Please review this quote and contact us with any questions you have. We will be happy to assist in explaining the items and helping to complete the quote process.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to present our products and services. We look forward to providing you with the best solution available for your business needs.



James Richards  
CEO  
Stronghold Data LLC

## Hardware

Description	Price	Qty	Ext. Price
<p><b>PowerEdge T430 Server (210-ADLR)</b>            PowerEdge T430 Motherboard (329-BCBO)            ProSupport: Next Business Day Onsite Service After Problem Diagnosis,5 Year            ProSupport: 7x24 HW / SW Tech Support and Assistance, 5 Year            Dell Hardware Limited Warranty Plus On Site Service            Thank you choosing Dell ProSupport. For tech support, visit <a href="http://www.dell.com/support">http://www.dell.com/support</a> or call 1-800- 945-3355            Dell Proactive Systems Management - Declined - <a href="http://www.dell.com/Proactive">www.dell.com/Proactive</a>            US Order            On-Site Installation Declined            PowerEdge T430 Shipping (340-AMPV)            On-Board LOM 1GBE (Dual Port for Towers, Quad Port for Racks and Blades ) (542-BBBP)            iDRAC Port Card (330-BBEH)            iDRAC8 Enterprise, integrated Dell Remote Access Controller, Enterprise (385-BBHO)            Chassis with up to 8, 3.5" Hot Plug Hard Drives, Tower Configuration (321-BBOS)            Security Bezel (325-BBLH)            Performance BIOS Settings (384-BBBL)            RAID 10 for H330/H730/H730P (4-32 HDDs or SSDs in pairs) (780-BBMW)            PERC H730 Controller, 1GB NV Cache (405-AAGJ)            Intel Xeon E5-2650 v3 2.3GHz,25M Cache,9.60GT/s QPI,Turbo,HT,10C/20T (105W) Max Mem 2133MHz (338-BFFF)            Upgrade to Two Intel Xeon E5-2650 v3 2.3GHz,25M Cache,9.60GT/s QPI,Turbo,HT,10C/20T (105W) (374-BBGM)            32GB RDIMM, 2133 MT/s, Dual Rank, x4 Data Width (370-ABVW)            2133MT/s RDIMMs (370-ABUF)            Performance Optimized (370-AAIP)            1TB 7.2K RPM NLSAS 6Gbps 3.5in Hot-plug Hard Drive,13G (400-AEFI)            Electronic System Documentation and OpenManage DVD Kit for T430 (343-BBDS)            DVD-ROM, SATA, Internal (429-AAPT)            No Rack Rails, No Cable Management Arm, No Casters (770-BBCR)            Dual, Hot-plug, Redundant Power Supply (1+1), 750W (450-AEHH)            NEMA 5-15P to C13 Wall Plug, 125 Volt, 15 AMP, 10 Feet (3m), Power Cord, North America (450-AALV)            No Operating System (619-ABVR)            No Media Required            Heatsink for PowerEdge T430 (412-AAFE)            Heatsink for PowerEdge T430 (412-AAFE)</p>	\$8,717.53	1	\$8,717.53
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$8,717.53</b>

## Software

Description	Price	Qty	Ext. Price
Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R.2 Standard - License - 1 Server, 2 CPU - Government Use - Volume, Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$744.88	3	\$2,234.64
Microsoft Windows Server 2012 - License - 1 User CAL - Government Use - Volume, Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$32.66	55	\$1,796.30
Microsoft Exchange Server 2016 Standard - License - 1 PC - Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$621.36	1	\$621.36
Microsoft Exchange 2016 Standard CAL - License - 1 User CAL - Local Government - MOLP: Open License for Government - PC - English	\$75.35	55	\$4,144.25
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$8,796.55</b>

## Off-site Monthly Services

Description	Recurring	Qty	Ext. Recurring
<b>Monthly Black Box 300GB Fee for Offsite Storage</b> Monthly Black Box 300GB Fee for Offsite Storage - Utilizing Customers existing server as the new AppAssure Core system at customer site. This would then replicate to Stronghold Data Secure Underground Facility.	\$250.00	1	\$250.00
<b>Monthly AppAssure Replication 100GB Block Addition</b> Monthly AppAssure Replication 100GB Block Addition	\$75.00	4	\$300.00
<b>Recurring Subtotal</b>			<b>\$550.00</b>

**Server Upgrade Quote 5-Year Warranty (02-12-2016)**

<b>Prepared For:</b> Cherokee County Courthouse 110 W Maple PO Box 2 Columbus, KS 66725 Juanita Hodgson cktreas@columbus-ks.com 6204292418	<b>Prepared By:</b>  James Richards (417) 627-9878 Fax (417) 623-7606 james.richards@strongholddata.com	<b>Details:</b> Quote #: 001304 Version: 1 Delivery Date: 02/12/2016 Expiration Date: 03/11/2016
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**Quote Summary**

Description	Amount
Hardware	\$8,717.53
Software	\$8,796.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,514.08</b>

**Recurring Expenses Summary**

Description	Amount
Off-site Monthly Services	\$550.00
<b>Recurring Total</b>	<b>\$550.00</b>

Taxes, shipping, handling and other fees may apply. We reserve the right to cancel orders arising from pricing or other errors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attn: Rod Edmondson  
 I am offering \$102.00 for  
 Lot 27 Block 3 in original plat to the City of Galena, K.  
 Thank you  
 Shannon Richardson  
 Shannon

**QUIT CLAIM DEED**

THIS INDENTURE, Made this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016, between the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, as party of the first part, and Shannon Richardson party of the second part,

WITNESSETH, that the party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, does by these presents

CONVEY AND QUITCLAIM unto said second party all the following-described REAL ESTATE situated in the City of Galena, County of Cherokee, and State of Kansas to wit:

Legal Description:

**Lot 27, in Block 3, in Original Plat to the City of Galena, according to the recorded plat thereof.**

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAME, with all the rights, immunities, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, unto the said party of the second part and unto its heirs and assigns forever; so that neither the said party of the first part nor their heirs nor any other person or persons, for them or in their names or behalf, shall or will hereinafter claim or demand any right or title to the aforesaid premises or any part thereof, but they and each of them shall, by these presents, be excluded and forever barred.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said party of the first part have hereunto set his/her hand the day and year above written.

Robert E. Myers  
Robert E. Myers, Chair  
Cherokee County Commissioner

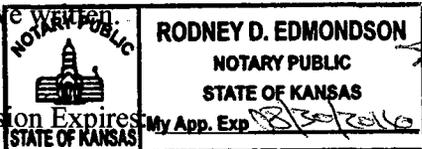
Pat Collins  
Pat Collins  
Cherokee County Commissioner

Charles Napier  
Charles Napier  
Cherokee County Commissioner

STATE OF KANSAS, CHEROKEE COUNTY, ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, came Robert E. Myers, Pat Collins and Charles Napier, personally known to me to be the same persons who executed the above deed and duly acknowledged the execution of the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal on the day and year last above written.



Rodney D. Edmondson  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires



February 16, 2015

Mr. Leonard Vanatta, Road Supervisor  
Cherokee County Road & Bridge Department  
110 W. Maple Street, Courthouse  
Columbus, Kansas 66725

**Subject: Proposal for Geotechnical Engineering Services  
W 5th Street Improvement Project  
ATEC Steel Facility to Youngman Road  
Baxter Springs, Kansas**

Dear Mr. Vanatta:

We are pleased to submit the following proposal to provide geotechnical engineering services for the proposed widening of West 5th Street, between the east entrance of the ATEC Steel Facility and Youngman Road in Baxter Springs, Kansas. The purpose of the exploration will be to obtain information on the subsurface conditions along the alignment of the planned improvements and, based on this information to provide recommendations related to the geotechnical aspects of the project's design and construction. Included in this proposal is a brief summary of our understanding of the project, the scope of services we can provide, and an estimate of our fees and schedule.

GeoSource is committed to providing quality geotechnical service, commensurate with our Client's needs, budget and desired level of risk. If our proposal does not meet your needs, GeoSource will consider appropriate modifications to our work scope, subject to the local standard of care which we must adhere to as professionals. Modifications of the work scope, schedule or contract terms and conditions may result in changes to the risks assumed by the Client, as well as changes to our fees.

**Project Description** – We understand that the proposed project will consist of increasing the width of West 5<sup>th</sup> Street by fourteen (14) feet on the north side of the existing street, adding a twelve (12) foot wide traffic lane and a two (2) foot wide shoulder. According to the Schwab-Eaton, the Project Engineer, the overall length of the planned improvements is about 2,200 lineal feet. The project will also include widening three (3) of the ATEC Steel Facility entrance roads to 100 feet. The existing ditch on the north side of W 5<sup>th</sup> Street will be backfilled and a new ditch will be constructed on the north side of the new shoulder area. Backfilling of the existing ditch will require placement of up to 4 feet of new fill to develop the final grades for the new street.

Traffic information for West 5th Street was provided to GeoSource by Schwab-Eaton as about 1,332 vehicles per day. The percentage of truck traffic and projected growth rate was not known at the time our proposal was prepared. We understand that ATEC manufactures tanks that are as much as 120 feet long, with loads of up to 140,000 pounds. The average tractor/truck combinations vary from about 68 to 75 feet according to Schwab-Eaton. The existing street was reported to have been originally constructed by a mining company and reportedly has only be overlaid with asphalt only

once during the lifetime of the road. No other specific details pertaining to the design and reconstruction of the new street were known at the time that our proposal was prepared.

**Scope of Services** - Based on the available information, we propose to drill a series of eleven (11) exploratory test borings for this project. Eight (8) of the test borings will be evenly spaced about 300 feet apart along the northern edge and/or on the north side of the existing ditch of the street. The depths of the test borings will depend on the actual subsurface conditions encountered. It is anticipated that borings drilled to depths of about ten (10) feet will provide the necessary design information. Three (3) additional borings will be drilled through the existing street to determine the thickness and the composition of the existing pavement section. It is anticipated that these borings will be drilled to depths of about five (5) feet.

The field work for this project will be performed under the direct supervision of a geotechnical engineer, who will determine the depths and sampling sequence for each boring. The borings will be performed with our own drilling rig and experienced drill crew.

Sampling will be obtained in accordance with our standard procedures wherein thin-walled tube samples (ASTM D-1587) are taken in cohesive soils and split-barrel samples (ASTM D-1586) are obtained in granular soil, miscellaneous fill and weathered bedrock or other hard materials. Samples will be obtained at two (2) to three (3) foot intervals for the entire depth of the borings. In addition, the drill crew will collect one (1) or two (2) representative bulk samples of the onsite soils for laboratory testing. All borings will be terminated at auger refusal, if limestone or other hard bedrock is encountered within the planned depths of the borings. Coring of any bedrock is not included in our current scope of services for this project.

Laboratory testing will be performed in accordance with our standard procedures wherein unconfined compressive tests, moisture content and density tests are routinely performed on representative portions of the thin-walled tube samples. Split-barrel samples are normally tested for moisture content and, where appropriate, the consistency of the soil is estimated with a calibrated hand penetrometer. The bulk sample(s) will be tested to evaluate the Atterberg Limits, Standard Proctor and CBR of the onsite soils to establish parameters for design of the pavements.

The results of the exploration, including the substantiating data and our recommendations, will be presented in a written report prepared by a registered professional engineer. The report will address:

1. Recommendations for site preparation and earthwork, including subgrade preparation for the new pavement section, as well as backfill and compaction, grading and excavations and any required stabilization of the exiting subgrade materials to reduce shrink/swell potential.
2. Generalized subsurface drainage recommendations for fill placement and pavements.
3. Pavement thickness recommendations for heavy duty pavement. In order to provide pavement thickness recommendations, GeoSource will need to know the number of trucks that will utilize

the existing street and the projected growth rate for the design period. Our proposal assumes that all traffic information will either be furnished by Schwab-Eaton or by the Cherokee County Road and Bridge Department.

**Estimated Fees** – GeoSource will perform the scope of service outlined above for a lump sum fee of \$5,500.00. If subsurface conditions differ significantly from those anticipated above, we may need to revise our scope and estimated fee in order to complete the project. Should this occur, we would contact you for authorization before proceeding with any additional work. Unless otherwise directed, our invoice will be submitted directly to Cherokee County Road & Bridge Department upon completion of our services.

**Conditions** – The Client will be required to provide right-of-entry to conduct the exploration. GeoSource will contact "DIGSAFE" and arrange for them to locate the underground utility lines that are in the vicinity of the planned boring locations. We can normally offset the borings to avoid either underground or overhead utilities that may conflict with the planned locations of the borings. All of the borings will be properly backfilled with soil cuttings and the existing pavement will be patched at the completion of our field work.

Our proposal is based on all borings being readily accessible to normal truck-mounted drilling equipment at the time the borings are performed. The lump sum price given above includes a cost for GeoSource personnel to provide approximate layout of the borings using a calibrated wheel or cloth tape to measure distances from available reference features. Right angles for locating the borings will be estimated. The surface elevations of the borings will be estimated from the plan and profile drawings. If a more accurate layout or USGS elevations are desired, it is assumed that the boring locations will be surveyed by Schwab-Eaton personnel.

Our proposal includes a cost for providing men working signs during the time the borings are being performed. We have not included any costs for flagmen in our proposal. If GeoSource is required to provide flagmen, there will be an additional charge of \$850.00 per day. GeoSource will contact Cherokee County at least three (3) days in advance of the planned drilling date, so that the public can be notified of the planned lane closure.

**Performance Schedule** - GeoSource will mobilize our drill crew and begin the field work within twenty (20) to thirty (30) days after we receive written notice to proceed. We expect that the field work will take about one (1) to two (2) days to complete. We will perform the remainder of our work and provide your office with three (3) copies of the finished report within fifteen (15) days after completion of the field work.

If our proposal is acceptable, please return a signed copy of the enclosed Notice-to-Proceed and Acceptance of Agreement to this office, as our formal authorization to proceed. Please note the attached General Conditions are an integral part of this proposal. Unless otherwise instructed, invoices will be submitted to the undersigned firm.

Proposal for Geotechnical Services  
W 5th Street Improvement Project  
February 16, 2016  
Page 4

GEOSOURCE

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this proposal. If you have questions regarding this proposal or require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

**GeoSource, LLC**



John J. Zey, P.E.  
Principal

Cc: Mr. David Beach, P.E. - Schwab-Eaton, PA

Enclosure: General Conditions

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTICE-TO-PROCEED AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT**

**PROJECT: W 5th Street Improvement Project**

**LOCATION: between ATEC Steel and Youngman Road, Baxter Springs, Kansas**

By signing this agreement, the undersigned will be responsible for all charges and are acting on behalf of Cherokee County. You also acknowledge receiving, reading and agreeing to the *General Conditions*, which are attached to this proposal/contract.

BY: Robert Myers  
(Print Name of Individual)

FOR: Cherokee County  
(Print Name of Firm)

BILLING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: [Signature]

DATE: Feb 22, 2016

Please fax Notice-to-Proceed to (785) 272-7203 as soon as possible and return a signed original for our records.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. **STANDARD OF CARE:** GeoSource, LLC, its officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, partners, consultants, sub-consultants, contractor, and sub-contractors (collectively "GeoSource, LLC") shall provide professional services to Client, its officers, directors, employees, agents, owners, members, shareholders, partners, consultants, sub-consultants, contractors, and sub-contractors, (collectively "Client") according to the agreed upon scope of services. GeoSource, LLC will perform the services with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by other consultants of the same profession under similar circumstances at the time the services are performed, and in the same locality.

2. **USE OF DOCUMENTS:** Drawings, specifications, reports, programs, manuals, cost estimates, or other documents, including documents on electronic media, prepared under this Agreement are instruments of service and as such are only applicable to the subject PROJECT. Use of these documents for any other purpose without written authorization and consent of GeoSource, LLC is prohibited. GeoSource, LLC shall retain ownership thereof. The Client may retain copies of drawings and specifications for information and reference in connection with the Client's use and occupancy of the project.

3. **INSURANCE:** GeoSource, LLC and the Client agree to each maintain statutory Worker's Compensation, Employer's Liability Insurance, General Liability Insurance, and Automobile Insurance coverage for the duration of this agreement. Additionally, GeoSource, LLC will maintain Professional Liability Insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 for GeoSource, LLC's negligent acts, errors, or omissions in providing services pursuant to this Agreement. If the Client is a design professional, then the Client agrees to maintain Professional Liability Insurance for its negligent acts, errors, or omissions in providing services pursuant to this Agreement. If a project is Design-Build, the Client and all subcontractors providing professional design or other services (e.g., architects, engineers, inspectors) shall maintain professional or similar liability insurance for claims arising from its negligent performance of said services. Proof of insurance shall be provided, upon request, prior to commencement of said services.

4. **NO GUARANTEE:** GeoSource, LLC does not provide a warranty or guarantee, express or implied, for any portion of the scope of services including drawings, specifications, reports, programs, manuals, cost estimates, or other documents of service. GeoSource, LLC does not warrant or guarantee any certification of the project, including any level of LEED certification. Items of beneficial use to the Owner, whether or not included in the contract documents, shall be paid for by the Owner. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply notwithstanding any statement or language contained in any other document or agreement that might be related to the project.

5. **INDEMNIFICATION/HOLD HARMLESS:** GeoSource, LLC agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to indemnify and hold harmless the Client and its employees from any liability, damages, or costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of defense) resulting from GeoSource, LLC's negligent acts, errors, or omissions through services provided pursuant to this Agreement by GeoSource, LLC or anyone for whom GeoSource, LLC is legally liable. The Client agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to indemnify and hold harmless GeoSource, LLC, its employees and subconsultants from any liability, damages, or costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of defense) resulting from the negligent acts, errors, or omissions by Client or those contractors, subcontractors, consultants, or anyone for whom Client is legally liable, and arising from the project(s) that is the subject of this agreement. GeoSource, LLC is not obligated to indemnify the Client in any manner whatsoever for the Client's own negligence. If any liability, damages, or costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of defense) result from the concurrent negligence of GeoSource, LLC and the Client, this indemnification shall only apply to the extent of each party's proportion of the responsibility. Client is not obligated to

indemnify GeoSource, LLC in any manner whatsoever for GeoSource, LLC's own negligence.

6. **DISPUTES:** Any action or claims arising out of or related to this Agreement or the project that is the subject of this Agreement shall be governed by Kansas law. Good faith negotiation and mediation are express conditions precedent to the filing of any legal action. Mediation shall be conducted in accordance with rules agreed to by the parties.

7. **ASSIGNMENT OR SUBLETTING OF CONTRACT:** Neither party shall assign, transfer, or sublet any rights, duties, or interests accruing from this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties, their successors and assigns.

8. **NON PAYMENT/TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT:** If the Client fails to make payment for services and expenses within 30 days following receipt of an invoice, GeoSource, LLC may, after giving seven days written notice to the Client, without liability for delay charges, suspend services under this Agreement until GeoSource, LLC has been paid in full for all amounts due. Each party to this Agreement reserves the right to terminate the Agreement at any time, without cause, upon 15 days written notice and subject to payment to GeoSource, LLC for the value of services rendered up to the time of termination.

9. **DIFFERING SITE CONDITIONS:** The conditions at the site are the property of the Client/Owner regardless of whether or not they could be identified by an investigation or exploration conducted according to the professional standard of care. A "Differing Site Condition" is a subsurface, hidden, latent, or physical condition at a project site/building not revealed by the site exploration, site investigation, or other information provided to the Client and which cannot be reasonably anticipated. Special risks occur whenever engineering is applied to identifying site/building conditions. Even a comprehensive investigation according to the professional standard of care may not detect all subsurface or site/building conditions. GeoSource, LLC shall not be liable for site/building conditions which could not be identified by such an investigation or exploration. Accordingly, the Owner/Client agrees to indemnify, including all costs and attorney fees, and hold GeoSource, LLC harmless from all claims for Differing Site Conditions, provided GeoSource, LLC performs the services specified in the Contract in a manner reasonably conforming to the terms of the Contract and to the Standard of Care.

10. **EXTRA WORK:** Services not specified in the Scope of Services set forth in this Agreement or due to regulatory changes shall be considered "extra work". No "extra work" will be performed without additional compensation per a supplemental agreement.

11. **FORCE MAJEURE:** The Client shall not hold GeoSource, LLC responsible for damages or for delays in performance caused by force majeure, acts of God, or other acts or circumstances beyond the control of GeoSource, LLC, or that could not have been reasonably foreseen and prevented including, but not limited to, fire, weather, floods, earthquakes, epidemics, war, riots, terrorism, strikes, and unanticipated site conditions.

12. **AGREEMENT SOLELY FOR PARTIES' BENEFIT:** This agreement is solely for the benefit of GeoSource, LLC and Client. Nothing herein is intended in any way to benefit any third party or otherwise create any duty or obligation on behalf of GeoSource, LLC or Client in favor of such third parties.

13. **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, GeoSource, LLC's total liability to Client is limited to our fee or \$25,000.00, whichever is less, for any and all damages or expenses arising out of this Agreement from any cause(s) or under any theory of liability



# **Cherokee County, Kansas**

Economic Development

*"the corner of opportunity"*

## **Activities & Accomplishments of the Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation**

**2013 - 2016**

# BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION

- Visited and completed a comprehensive business survey with 43 major employers in late 2014 & 2015 as part of a Business Retention & Expansion effort. The survey allowed us to learn more about all aspects of these businesses as well as the concerns, problems, or opportunities they are facing. Many of these initial visits led to follow-up requests for assistance (see two examples below). Visits to employers will be ongoing.
- Prepared & submitted an application for a KDOT Economic Development grant to widen 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Baxter Springs to benefit ATEC Steel and neighboring businesses. KDOT granted the county \$785,000 toward the \$1.1 million project. The guarantee of roadway improvements facilitated ATEC investing \$2 million in a 10,000 square foot office addition, new equipment, and other improvements. The company also expects to add up to 30 new jobs.



Groundbreaking for ATEC Steel Office Addition – June 26, 2015

- Responded to a request from Calibrated Forms for assistance in securing the Folder Express plant in Columbus. Provided data on the regional workforce, connected company representatives with the Kansas Department of Commerce and City of Columbus, and provided other information and assistance to facilitate Ennis' decision. The relocation of Folder Express to Columbus represents up to 85 new jobs and \$6.5 million in capital investment.

- Provided information & resources in response to other requests from local businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. These requests varied but included questions about exporting, property tax abatements, business licenses/tax identification numbers, writing a business plan, financing start-up/expansion, and marketing/branding.
- Actively participated in the county's Certified Work Ready Community initiative helping to recruit supporting employers, establish a WorkKeys testing site at Coffeyville Community College – Columbus Technical Campus, and otherwise achieve our certification goals. Cherokee County became the first ACT Certified Work Ready Community in Kansas in February 2016 and is one of only 99 counties certified nationwide. Work is already underway to maintain this certification.

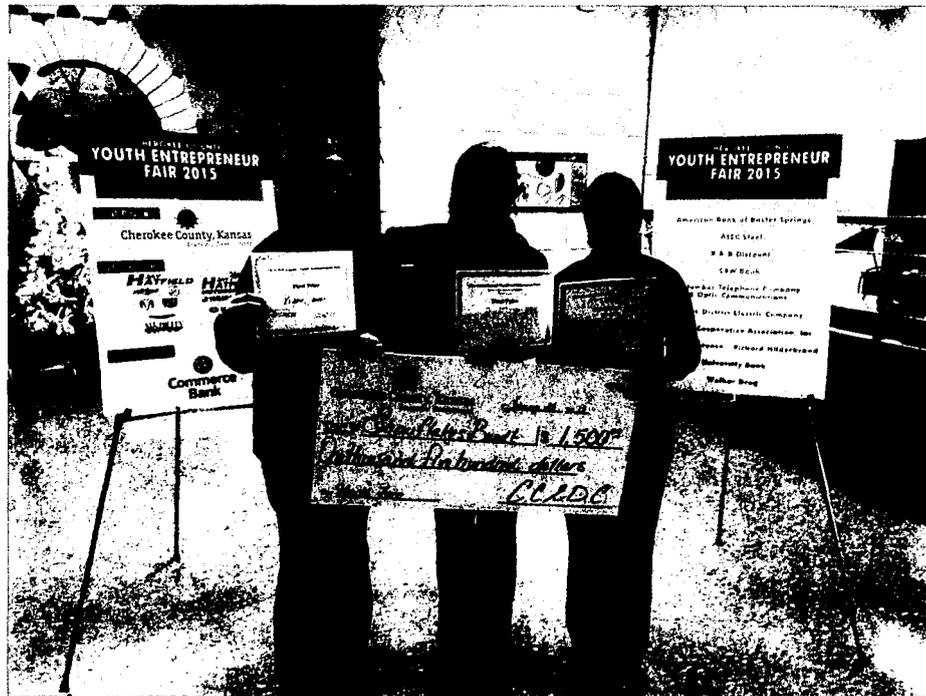


Certified Work Ready Kick-Off Event – September 16, 2014

- Facilitated meetings between Kansas Global Trade Services and three Cherokee County manufacturers interested in growing exports (January 2015).
- Launched a bi-weekly Job Blast in November 2015. The Job Blast is distributed via email and shared on social media (at times reaching 10,000+ views on Facebook). Twenty-one (21) employers have advertised openings to date and several have reported that they have received quality candidates from their posting in the Job Blast.

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Applied for and received Entrepreneurship Community (E-Community) designation from NetWork Kansas in 2014. Cherokee County is one of 55 E-Communities in the State of Kansas.
- Developed an E-Community revolving loan fund of \$74,000 by selling Entrepreneurship Tax Credits allocated to Cherokee County by NetWork Kansas. This loan fund is available to help new and expanding businesses in the county with that last amount of capital they need to start or grow.
- The sale of Entrepreneurship Tax Credits also generated \$9,200 to help promote entrepreneurship in the county. These funds will help cover the cost of the Ice House Entrepreneurship Program (see more on this below).
- Held the first-ever Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair on February 25, 2015 with 35 students from three districts participating (Baxter Springs, Columbus, & Southeast). Prizes totaling \$3,325 were awarded (\$2,350 from business sponsors). Our second annual event is scheduled for February 24, 2016. Thirty-four (34) students from four districts (Baxter Springs, Columbus, Riverton, & Southeast) will compete. Twelve businesses have contributed a total of \$4,500 for the event.



Sarah Clausen, Wyntr Jacobs, & Caitlin Low from Southeast High School  
First Prize Winners at the 2015 Youth Entrepreneur Fair

- Hosted the Southeast Kansas Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge on April 29, 2015. Five students from the Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair continued on to this regional competition.
- Invited by NetWork Kansas to share our Youth Entrepreneur Fair expertise with other E-Communities across the state via a conference call in November 2015.
- Offered the Ice House Entrepreneurship Program, an 8-week course to help participants learn to think more entrepreneurially. The course is scheduled to begin March 1, 2016 and 19 are currently registered with more expected by the start date. We sought sponsors to help cover the cost of the program and received \$1,500 courtesy of Crossland Construction and Walmart.
- Engaged in the E-Accelerator process in which we are developing and implementing strategies to assist local businesses. To date, we have put together a list of more than 650 businesses in Cherokee County, categorized these businesses, and identified “priority” categories. We are currently in the process of surveying the 50+ businesses in these “priority” categories to determine our strategy moving forward.

## **BUSINESS ATTRACTION**

- Engaged Brand Acceleration to conduct a target industry analysis. Industries identified are: Agriculture & Food, Distribution, Manufacturing, Tourism, and Healthcare. Our website features these target industries.
- Collected & maintained information on available buildings and properties in the county suitable for business development. Buildings and sites suitable for industrial and/or other larger projects are maintained on Location One, a website designed to help site selectors identify properties.
- Submitted Cherokee County buildings & properties in response to site selector inquiries. One or more buildings and/or properties in the county have been submitted for 12 projects. As a result, we have hosted a company considering relocating to Cherokee County from the Chicago area and expect them to visit the county again soon. This relocation would bring at least 30 jobs.
- Promoted Cherokee County to site selectors in the Chicago area and called on a prospect (see above) while attending the Private Label Manufacturers Show with the Joplin Regional Partnership (2014 & 2015).

# **TOURISM**

- Maintained listings for more than 75 county businesses & attractions on TravelKS.com. This is ongoing.
- Hosted Cherokee County Tourism Roundtables in June 2015, September 2015, and February 2016 with plans to continue meeting quarterly. The Roundtable was created to allow an opportunity for people from across the county to keep each other informed of activities and events that might be of interest to tourists and to discuss areas of common interest. Gatherings have been well attended (June – 17 participants, Sept. – 10, & Feb. – 12) and each has included representation from across the county.
- Secured a lobbyist to support amending the Kansas Expanded Lottery Act lowering the investment level required for the construction of a Southeast Kansas Casino and supported Castle Rock Casino Resort’s proposal for a Cherokee County casino.

# **ORGANIZATION**

- Engaged Smart Solutions Group to help develop a business plan for the organization (April 2013).
- Hired an Executive Director (November 2013).
- Formed an Economic Development Corporation and received 501(c)(6) designation from the IRS (February 2014).
- Established a Cherokee County Economic Development website ([www.cherokeecountykansas.com](http://www.cherokeecountykansas.com)) and social media presence (@CherokeeCoKS on Twitter and Cherokee County, Kansas on Facebook). (September 2014)
- Created a monthly email newsletter to keep the public better informed of our activities (February 2015).

# OTHER

- Researched grants utilizing eCivis in response to requests from cities & organizations. Provided economic data and wrote letters of support for cities and organizations submitting applications. This is ongoing.
- Participated in meetings and other activities of the: Baxter Springs Chamber of Commerce (board member), Baxter Springs Economic Development Committee, Columbus Chamber of Commerce (board member), Columbus Economic Development Corporation (board member), Historic Route 66 Byway Committee (committee member), Galena Economic Development Committee, SEK Inc., Joplin Regional Partnership, Highway 69 Association, and Project 17.
- Supported the legislature's expansion of the Rural Opportunity Zone Program in 2014 to include Cherokee County and, after passage, promoted the program to individuals and employers. Followed up with more than 30 individuals expressing interest in relocating to the county through the program website.
- Following the Baxter Springs tornado in April 2014, we advertised those Baxter Springs businesses that were unaffected by the storm and co-hosted an informational meeting for impacted businesses.
- Hosted a town hall meeting regarding the proposed landfill at Highway 69A & Lostine Road (July 2014).
- Successfully applied to the Kansas Department of Commerce for a website scholarship (\$225 value) on behalf of the City of Galena (September 2014).
- Handled arrangements for Governor Brownback's Small Business Roundtable in Baxter Springs (April 2015).
- Invited by Crawford County to share lessons learned establishing a countywide economic development effort (September 2015).
- Presented a 3-hour session on Economic Development to Columbus High School Juniors in the Chamber's Junior Leadership Class (2014, 2015, & 2016) & discussed entrepreneurship as a career option at Career Day at Baxter Springs High School (March 2015).



February 18, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Last year when ATEC was determining whether to expand our facility in Baxter Springs or relocate to an area with newer and expanded infrastructure, we were fortunate to be introduced to Ms. Janet Miller and the Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation. I say "fortunate" because the entire process, from meeting with the state, county and city officials to discuss our wants and needs, to drafting the proposal for state funding to expand 5<sup>th</sup> Street, were all very positive. She was always very responsive and helped out on many occasions when others were unsure of what needed to be done next, allowing ATEC to focus on running our business rather than attempting to secure support and funding for a much needed road expansion.

ATEC is very excited as we near completion of Phase 1 of our expansion projects, a 10,000 sf. new office. We are equally excited that the 5<sup>th</sup> street expansion project will kick off soon, all made possible by Ms. Miller.

If I can be of any further assistance, or provide you with further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

  
Jeff Heck  
General Manager  
ATEC Steel

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**ATEC STEEL LLC**  
1000 W. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
BAXTER SPRINGS, KS 66713  
877.457.5352 FAX: 620.856.5197

January 5, 2016

Cherokee County  
Work Ready Community

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the citizens of the Great State of Kansas, I am honored to congratulate Cherokee County on receiving the first-ever ACT Certified Work Ready Community designation in Kansas.

Your dedication to providing a workforce with the education and foundational skills to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to the state is greatly appreciated.

You are an inspiration to us all.

Once again, congratulations for providing such a wonderful example of dedication and excellence.

With warm regards,



Sam Brownback  
Governor of the State of Kansas

**MAPLE UNCOMMON HOTEL & GALLERY**

**120 E. MAPLE STREET**

**COLUMBUS, KS 66725**

Cherokee County Commissioners, Cherokee County Courthouse, Columbus, KS 66725

Dear Commissioners:

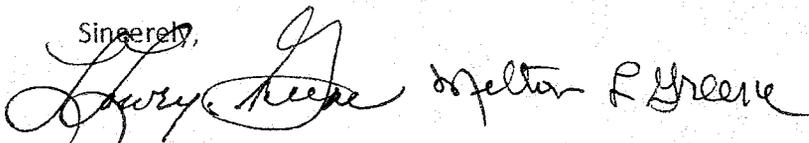
As business owners and tax payers in Cherokee County, we were astonished and appalled to hear that the Cherokee County Commissioners are seriously considering dismantling or severely undermining the work of our Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation.

This organization, under the professional leadership of Director Janet Miller and the Board, has made significant strides to identify, assess and address the need to retain existing businesses, seek new potential jobs and investment, but even more importantly, it is creating an environment in affected communities that will support those efforts. This is not an endeavor that comes easily or quickly, although a list of almost 30 accomplishments in a mere two years has been enumerated in a separate document. In reading that list, we were impressed with the consistency of emphasis on cooperation and the synergy that can only come when all interested parties are focused and engaged. We cannot meet goals for our economic stability and growth in separate communities without a county-wide program that is specifically designed, coordinated and directed by a trained, informed, experienced professional.

Who else can or will do it? Communities in our area rely on groups of volunteers who are business owners themselves, many with limited resources, time and expertise to take advantage of opportunities. Knowledge of business law, taxes, business plans, financing, incentives, marketing, projects through KDOT and other state departments, regional entities, emergency response, education and training are just a few of the pieces in the puzzle, and Cherokee County Development Corporation has already begun work and seen accomplishment in each and every one of those areas.

We understand budgets and the concern for money efficiently and productively spent, and we appreciate stewardship of our hard-earned money. What we do not understand is why this conversation is even taking place. The budget was approved. The time to question, be specific about objections, and present alternatives was BEFORE the budget was approved and plans for the future were already taking place. We respectfully request and encourage the end to this second-guessing. We NEED a Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation. We HAVE one. Please, let them do the job you helped establish and encourage them with your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura Lowry-Greene and Melton L. Greene". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Laura Lowry-Greene and Melton L. Greene

Janet,

You were the very first person in Columbus I spoke to regarding Folder Express. Now that we are full steam ahead I must take a moment + say Thank You! Your help + advice was beyond invaluable.

It's not forgotten.

Richard Miller

**Richard Miller**  
707-752-8988 Fax  
richard\_miller@ennis.com



calibratedforms.com

## Cathy Skaggs Bolek, SACS 66

1141 Military • Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: 620-856-5570 • Cell: 416-894-3685 • sacs66@gmail.com

Date: February 20, 2016

Cherokee County Commissioners  
110 W. Maple  
Columbus, KS 66725

Dear Cherokee County Commissioners:

I am writing in support of our Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation. As a business owner, past Baxter Economic Development Director, and active community member with many groups and organizations, I feel that the creation of a County Economic Development Corporation was one of the wisest business decisions our county could make.

My husband and I purchased a business and moved to Cherokee County during the summer of 2011. This was a new adventure and I quickly found myself very frustrated with the lack of support and help in this endeavor. Fortunately I do not give up easily and quickly inserted myself within many groups and organizations and quickly found myself in a leadership role. Unfortunately, in many ways my business suffered because of the time and energy this took.

As Baxter's Economic Development Director I spent many hours with research and hours meeting with my committee, which corresponded with the creation of our new County Economic Development position. Janet met with us and helped me along the way. I was thrilled to have the help and support. The plan was presented to to city council, but did not appear to have any real significance to them, nor did they seem to be appreciative of the time and effort put into this project.

I was giving up valuable time that needed to be spent with my small business and at the same time was facing some personal family issues, such as my fathers battle with Alzheimer's, my husband's stroke, and mother's failing health. At that time I had to fight for my family and new business, allowing city matters to take a back seat.

Knowing we had a County Economic Person working helped me feel as though there was promise in our future as a business and as a community.

Economic Development is best served by allowing it to be someone's job and not a community service. It is difficult to find people who have an invested interest in Economic Development and more difficult to find people that are willing to give up their time and energy to create programs, be consistent with working with the Kansas Department of Commerce, work on grants, assist with things like E-Community and ACT Certified Work Ready Community Initiative.

As a business owner and past economic development director, I appreciate the support that our county economic development person provides. I'm a firm believer that one face for Cherokee County Economic Development for both large and small businesses will provide a secure foundation for growth in our county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathy S. Bolek". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Cathy Skaggs Bolek



1004 Military Avenue  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Office: (620) 856-3131

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Cherokee County Commissioners  
Cherokee County Court House  
Columbus, KS 66725

Dear Sirs:

RE: COUNTY-LEVEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As the President of the Baxter Springs Chamber of Commerce, I work closely with many of the community businesses. I consider Janet Miller to be one of the most dedicated and responsible members of our organization.

Janet has donated countless hours of her time to the organization. She has not only worked with members of the community, she has also helped to implement plans and programs that will enrich the lives of those living in Cherokee County.

Janet's leadership and organizational skills have been invaluable to these programs, most of which have been started from the ground up. For example, the work involved in getting Fifth Street widened. This was not only a tremendous accomplishment for the businesses located in that area but also helps with the safety of the citizens traveling Fifth Street, especially in the winter months.

In my opinion, Janet's unwavering devotion to his community exemplifies strong moral fiber and character. She is a trustworthy individual and is a great addition to Cherokee County as the Economic Development Director.

Sincerely yours,

BAXTER SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERC3E

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlene L. Hunley".

Charlene L. Hunley  
President



# City of Galena

---



211 W. 7th • Galena, Kansas 66739  
Phone (620) 783-5265 • Fax (620) 783-5111  
***The Oldest Mining Town in Southeast Kansas***  
1877

February 18, 2016

Cherokee County Commissioners

Ref: County – Level Economic Development

The City of Galena has been encouraged by the progress that Janet Miller and the County Economic Development Board has made in connecting the cities in the county to work together for economic growth and development. Economic Development is imperative for our community but pulling together for growth in all the communities is a must have.

The County Economic Development Board has successfully applied for a KDOC website scholarship for the City of Galena, informed communities of ROZ Program, helped to make Cherokee County a Certified Work Ready Community, and received an E-Community designation from Network Kansas, just a few efforts that will build our county's economic development.

The City of Galena appreciate the efforts being made toward all communities in Cherokee County by Janet Miller and the County-Level Economic Development Board.

Sincerely,

Dale Oglesby  
Mayor, City of Galena



## **Kansas Historic Route 66 Association**

A wise man said:

*"Even if you're on the right track,  
you'll get run over if you just sit there."*

*- Will Rogers*

The County Economic Development Board is helping the communities in Cherokee County moved toward growth as a county, The Kansas Historic Route 66 Association appreciate the efforts brought forward by Janet Miller to promote tourism in the county. Hosting tourism round tables, occasionally attending an association meeting, writing letters of support for grants, and helping to maintain the listings on TravelKS.com, have helped to promote tourism in our area.

Ms. Miller and the Board is moving in the right direction in developing communication between communities by educating them of events and things to see in each other's areas, helping communities share pamphlets, fliers and event calendars for on line sites, tourism shows, tourist visiting the area and giving us the comfort that we are not in this tourism adventure alone.

Allowing the County Economic Development Board to help cities continue to communicate ideas and needs, is a step in the right direction to working together for economic growth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee Charles".

Renee Charles

President,

Kansas Historic Route 66 Association

Feb. 16, 2016

Cherokee County Commissioners  
Columbus, Ks.

Dear Sirs:

As the former Chair of the Ks. Route 66 Historic Byway Committee I approached Janet Miller, Ch. Co. Eco. Dev. Director to help us when she was hired for the position. Janet took over the website listings of the Cherokee County businesses for us on the Kansas Travel & Tourism website. Janet had access to what the businesses offered and has helped to promote them in this way. We receive information from time to time on how many "hits" have been received on their website for various businesses. Before Janet helped us I was trying to collect this information myself and wasn't getting the information on a timely basis.

This was a job that was huge for us and the businesses she has listed by collecting the correct information on products and services offered and sharing that information. Janet has also established a working relationship with our State Byway Team consisting of KDOT members and Ks. Dept. of Wildlife Parks and Tourism. We appreciate everything she has done due to the fact we are just a small group of volunteers trying to promote tourism and businesses on Route 66 and the Frontier Military Byway that crosses our county.

Thank you.

Marla Larison  
Board Member  
Ks. Rt. 66 Historic Byway Committee



February 18, 2016

Cherokee County Economic Development  
Attn: Janet Miller  
104 S. Kansas  
Columbus, KS 66725

Dear Janet:

I recently read that Cherokee County is the first county in Kansas to be designated ACT Work Ready. This is huge news as it relates to economic development, so I just wanted to congratulate you on this major accomplishment.

As a site selector representing businesses in expansion and relocation mode, our number one priority when evaluating communities for a new location is identifying those that have a skilled and ready workforce. For both the local and regional perspective, it is one thing to claim that you have adequate labor, but actually proving it is key when companies are looking at numerous communities to site their project. Your work in bringing Cherokee County up to this Work Ready Certification should be commended.

Of course, workers move around, often living in one community and commuting to work in another. The companies we work with recognize that their new employees will not come from just one community or one county. As such, they want to know about the workforce in the surrounding region. That is why it is so exciting to see the Joplin Regional Partnership area pursuing a Work Ready Certification. Cherokee County's efforts to improve its economic position for itself and as part of this dynamic region are NOT typical of most economic development groups and communities that we work with here at SLP.

Along that line, we continue, as I know you do, to stay in contact with Project Chew. The holiday season is the busiest time of the year for this company's manufacturing process, so the site search has been pushed back. I know that the owner and his family are committed to making a final decision on a new location in 2016, and Cherokee County is still under heavy consideration. I am so glad that you have been actively marketing the County and are involved with the Joplin Regional Partnership, otherwise, Project Chew would never have known about Cherokee County.

The Work Ready effort is another sign that Cherokee County is interested in its employers, and that helps encourage companies like Project Chew to keep you on the short list for their projects, job creation, and investment. Congrats again!

Sincerely,

Justin L. Thompson  
Chief Executive Officer  
Site Location Partnership (SLP)

## Cathy Skaggs Bolek, SACS 66

1141 Military • Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: 620-856-5570 • Cell: 416-894-3685 • sacs66@gmail.com

Date: February 20, 2016

Cherokee County Commissioners  
110 W. Maple  
Columbus, KS 66725

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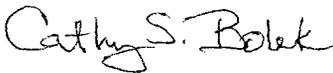
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Sincerely,

  
Cathy Skaggs Bolek



# Cherokee County, Kansas

## Economic Development

*"the corner of opportunity"*

### Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair to Take Place on February 24<sup>th</sup>

**Columbus, Kansas** – Cherokee County Economic Development and the Cherokee County E-Community will host the second annual Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at Columbus Unified High School, 124 S. High School Ave., Columbus, KS. At the event, high school students representing the Baxter Springs, Columbus, Riverton and Southeast School Districts will present their business concepts. The 15 entrants will be judged on their written business plan, a 1-2 minute elevator pitch to judges, and a tabletop display.

Students will be competing for \$4,000 in prize money. First Prize is \$1,500 sponsored by the Joplin Regional Partnership. Commerce Bank and the Jay Hatfield Companies jointly sponsored the \$1,000 Second Prize. Columbus Telephone Company/Optic Communications provided the \$500 Third Prize. Other sponsors are: American Bank of Baxter Springs, ATEC Steel, CBW Bank, Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Farmer's Cooperative Association, Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative, Mike Carpino Ford, and Shelter Insurance - Richard Hilderbrand.

"We are excited to have more entrants this year than last and more prize money up for grabs," says Economic Development Director Janet Miller. "Last year's entrants impressed us with their creativity and effort, and we expect these students to do the same."

The public is invited to view student displays in the CUHS cafeteria starting at 3:15 pm. They are also welcome to stay for the awards presentation which will take place in the CUHS auditorium at approximately 4:15 pm.

For more information on the Youth Entrepreneur Fair, contact Cherokee County Economic Development Director Janet Miller at 620-762-0717 or [ecodev@cherokeeconomy-ks.gov](mailto:ecodev@cherokeeconomy-ks.gov).

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**Cherokee County, Kansas**  
Economic Development  
*"the corner of opportunity"*

**Membership Levels & Benefits**

**All members receive the following benefits:**

- Receive the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Are invited to participate in ED Corporation events before registration opens to the general public
- Are invited to serve on ED Corporation committees

**Supporter Level - \$100**

- Business name listed in the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter and on the ED Corporation website
- May promote two (2) job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast

**Bronze Level - \$250**

- Business name listed in the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter and on the ED Corporation website
- May promote four (4) job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast

**Silver Level - \$500**

- Business name & logo included in the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Business name and company description listed on the ED Corporation website
- May promote six (6) job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast
- Receive one (1) complimentary ticket to the ED Corporation Annual Dinner
- Receive a 10% discount when registering for ED Corporation events

**Gold Level - \$1,000**

- Business name & logo included in ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Business name and company description listed on ED Corporation website
- May promote 12 job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast
- Receive two (2) complimentary tickets to the ED Corporation Annual Dinner
- Receive a 25% discount when registering for ED Corporation events
- Are invited to host ED Corporation events

### **Platinum Level - \$2,000**

- Business name & logo included in ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Featured in an issue of the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Business name, company description, logo, and link to website included on ED Corp. website
- May promote 20 job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast
- Receive four (4) complimentary tickets to the ED Corporation Annual Dinner
- Receive a 50% discount when registering for ED Corporation events
- Are invited to host ED Corporation events

### **Diamond Level - \$4,000 and up**

- Business name & logo included in ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Featured in an issue of the ED Corporation's monthly electronic newsletter
- Business name, company description, logo, and link to website included on the ED Corporation website
- May promote unlimited job openings annually at no cost in the ED Corporation's biweekly Job Blast
- Receive a complimentary table (8 seats) to the ED Corporation Annual Dinner
- Receive one (1) complimentary registration to ED Corporation events and a 50% discount for additional registrants
- Are invited to host ED Corporation events
- Receive special recognition at all ED Corporation events
- Are invited to serve in an advisory capacity to ED Corporation Board & Executive Director

# Cherokee County Board of County Commissioners

Public Attendance Log: February 22, 2016

Printed Name	Phone Number	Address	Company or Organization
Jerry Messer	674-1550		
<del>Jesse</del> Charles			
Cathy Bolek	856-5570		
Trish Carroll			CKC EDC
Jesse Ditchett			Columbus Chamber
Laura Luby Freese	620 429 3130		Maple Ln Common
Dale Odorby	620-202-0111		CK EDC
Brad Reams	620-429-2159		City of Columbus
Julie Reams	316-250-3788		Miss Columbus Org
Larry Sharp	620-663-1475		KCAMD
Cory Moates	620-674-1195		