RESOLUTION NO. <u>15-2018</u>

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS, IN SUPPORT OF THE DESIGNATION OF HIGHWAY ROUTE 66 AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS:

WHEREAS, Route 66 was designated in the 1920s as America's Mother Road linking the heartland with the Pacific Ocean, bringing millions of travelers to the many communities along its route thereby creating a significant economic engine from Chicago to Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, upon the replacement of Route 66 by the Interstate Highway System, which led to decommissioning in 1985, the local businesses along the Route that had thrived on providing services to the Route 66 travelers experienced economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, Route 66 has become an iconic symbol of Americans' search for freedom, adventure and prosperity and annually brings travelers from around the world who use it to discover America; and

WHEREAS, Congress recognized the importance of the road by establishing the National Park Service's Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in the National Trails Office in1999 to foster preservation, economic development and marketing through matching grants, which have resulted in more than \$4 million in historic preservation investment; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program will sunset in 2019, which would result in the lack of a Federally designated organization to coordinate, fund and support mutually beneficial activities on Route 66; and

WHEREAS, the Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership, a collaborative not-for-profit organization, was established to create a national coordinating structure, support and promotion of the idea to designate Route 66 as a National Historic Trail as the best means for ensuring a Federal-level focus on Route 66.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, supports Congressional designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions, County policies or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as they conflict herewith.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee

County, Kansas, this 14^{+-} day of 12^{-} , 2018.

Cory Moates, Chairman Cherokee County Commissioner

Willita

Neal-Anderson Cherokee County Commissioner

Patrick Collins Cherokee County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rodney D. Edmondson, County Clerk

(Seal)