



## *Proclamation*

### **DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS JACKSON COUNTY OPIOID AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the opioid epidemic, overdose deaths, and substance misuse pose a threat to the life, health, and well-being of Jackson County residents; and

**WHEREAS**, life expectancy in the United States has declined for three years in a row for the first time since World War I, fueled in large part by a record number of drug overdose deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, more people die from drug overdose deaths than car crashes; and

**WHEREAS**, seven (7) Jackson County residents lost their lives to opioid overdoses and 29 residents were rushed to the emergency room due to opioid overdoses in 2017 alone; and

**WHEREAS**, the opioid epidemic has contributed to a rise in serious and costly health consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, the opioid epidemic has contributed to a significant rise in the number and rate of hospitalizations associated with drug withdrawal in newborns and a rise in the number of children in foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, the opioid epidemic, overdose deaths, and substance misuse cause pain, suffering, and loss to individuals, families, and communities that can never be measured.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County that September is Jackson County Opioid Awareness Month.

**ADOPTED** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2019.

Attest:

By:

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Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

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Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman