

GREEN COUNTY 2018 BUDGET REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The proposed budget for 2018 as presented here requires a preliminary tax levy of \$19,655,447 which represents actual operating costs for Green County. It is the intent of the Finance Committee to utilize 2016 sales tax collections in the amount of \$2,597,162 as well as \$1,268,787 from the undesignated general fund to reduce the net levy to \$15,789,498.

The State budget limits the amount municipalities can levy for property taxes to the amount of the previous year's levy plus the amount of net new construction, with allowances for some items not subject to levy limits. The amount of the 2018 tax levy is equal to the amount allowed under the State's levy limits. In comparison to the 2017 levy, the 2018 tax levy provides for an increase of \$439,435. Property values for 2017 increased by 3.05% over the 2016 values. The levy rate for 2018 will be \$5.520 per thousand of equalized value, slightly less than last year's rate of \$5.53.

2018 is the fourth year of the new voter approved referendum allowing up to \$790,000 per year to offset the costs of operating the Pleasant View Nursing Home. The tax levy also includes other amounts that are excluded from the levy limit -- Debt Service payments of \$1,444,135, Bridge & Culvert Repairs of \$82,976 and Library payments of \$453,482.

Revenues do not change dramatically, but departments must still contend with losses of grant funding or increased expenses such as payroll and fringe benefits, utilities, supplies, and fuel. We want to thank the department heads, their staff, and their committees for their consistent hard work to collaborate with the Finance Committee to develop a workable budget that only increases the tax levy by 2.86%. The 2018 budget contains \$305,042 of expenditures that are considered one-time expenditures funded by a decrease in the undesignated general fund. We have decreased the undesignated general fund in 2016, 2017 and 2018, a trend that we cannot sustain over an extended time period and all departments will need to consider in future budget considerations.

We urge you to study this document carefully and review the supplementary schedules that are included. Additional information on individual budgets may be found in the optional department narratives. Questions regarding this budget may be directed to any of the department heads that provided the basic data contained in the budget, the Finance Committee, or the Accounting office. We submit this 2018 Green County Budget for your consideration and approval.

Finance & Accounting Committee

Dennis Everson

Dennis Everson, Chairman