A BETTER

LEE COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CERTIFICATE OF NEED EXTENSION REQUEST
FILED FOR LEE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER
Request is a 'necessary measure' to establish strong infrastructure,
continue progress to construct new hospital

LEESBURG, Ga. (Feb. 1, 2019) – Today, the Lee County Commissioners announced that a request to extend Lee County Medical Center's Certificate of Need (CON) has been submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Health (Department). Once granted, the extension would allow for 12 additional months to construct the 60-bed hospital on Grand Island Drive.

"Filing the extension is simply a result of weather and other unanticipated delays associated with preparing the site for construction of the hospital," said Billy Mathis, Lee County Commission Chairman. "Notwithstanding the unanticipated delays, we continue to make strong progress to develop the new hospital."

Since the 2017 CON approval, the County has been working with a dedicated team of experts, including architects, developers and an experienced hospital operator to establish the new hospital.

"Hospital projects take time. Before the hospital doors open, bonds and construction must be funded, and the site must have the proper infrastructure," said Eddie Alexander, President and CEO of LCMC OPCO, LLC, the company that will operate and manage Lee County Medical Center. "We appreciate the Department's thoughtful review, and we look forward to continuing to build the hospital."

"This application furthers our ability to expand high-quality, local healthcare services here in Lee County," said Rick Muggridge, Lee County Commissioner. "We continue to take positive steps to build Lee County Medical Center and will continue to keep our community updated as we move through this process."

Following the Department's review and if all goes according to plan, the County expects to break ground on the hospital later this year.

About Lee County

Lee County, one of Georgia's original 32 counties, is nestled in the heart of Southwest Georgia. A rapidly growing community, we offer a full range of services and amenities while maintaining a hometown atmosphere.

Lee County is a unique blend of residential, commercial and industrial development with a traditional rural flair. Interspersed with creeks, lakes, plantations, and historical sites, the community offers excellent recreational opportunities that take full advantage of the moderate climate and beautiful landscape.

Our warm, friendly population includes many young families attracted by Lee County's award-winning school system. Located within the Albany metro area, Lee County experienced a 12.51% increase in population between 2000 and 2010 and ranks 61st in population out of 159 Georgia counties.

Lee County is dedicated to encouraging a healthy mix of residential, commercial and industrial development while preserving the county's rural setting and heritage. Our community's commitment to quality, well-planned growth ensures Lee County will thrive for years to come.

For more information, please visit www.lee.ga.us.

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