



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Tourism Development Board Action

File #: 26-033

Commissioner Fraley - Tourism Development - To Authorize the Use of the Remaining Balance of the Previously Approved Fund Balance Transfer for Fraley Field Improvements (**\$60,513.38**)

STAFF CONTACT

Michael Applegate - Tourism Development - 704-813-0144

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact.

BACKGROUND

In September 2025, the Board approved an action authorizing the transfer of \$227,409 from the tourism fund balance for the planning, design, permitting, and construction of a shade structure over the bleachers at Fraley Field. To date, \$166,895.62 has been paid to the City of Cherryville for planning, design, permitting, and construction costs.

The original cost of construction of the shade structure came in at \$227,409. The remaining balance of \$60,513.38 would be used toward covering these additional items: \$40,000 bid fee for hosting the 2026 American Legion Baseball Super Regional tournament in Cherryville and \$20,000 for the construction of a covered 24'x10' seating area at Fraley Field, utilizing the remaining balance from the originally approved fund balance transfer. No additional funds are being requested beyond the amount authorized on September 23, 2025.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

American Legion Bid Letter

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE.

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows.

NO. DATE M1 M2 JBailey CBrown CCloninger AFraley BHovis ZKeigher SShehan Vote

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February 15, 2025

Dear Selection Committee,

The Cherryville American Legion Post 100 is honored to submit for your consideration a bid to host the 2026 Super Regional Tournament.

The Cherryville American Legion baseball committee consists of twenty plus members along with other legion member supporters. The Ladies Auxiliary is responsible for providing concessions, and the Cherryville Recreation Department provides field maintenance, along with numerous volunteers. These groups have hosted successful North Carolina State Championship Tournaments in 2019, 2021, 2024 and will also host the State Tournament in 2025.

Our bid includes the following:

1. A \$40,000 bid guarantee for the 2026 Super Regional tournament
2. Hotel accommodations will be reserved at numerous Hotels in Gastonia, NC. (Fairfield Inn, Comfort Suites, Courtyard or Hampton Inn on Remount Road)
3. A practice field will be available upon request for any teams
4. A tournament banquet will be provided for players, coaches and tournament officials.
5. A tournament headquarters will be provided at the Post 100 Legion building which is located across the street from Fraley Field. The facility is equipped with internet, fax, and phone for communication purposes.

6. One meal will be provided for each team that is participating in the Southeast Regional tournament in Cherryville, NC. Meals will not be provided for teams participating in the Regional hosted at Sims Legion Park until day 4. On day 4 games from both Regionals will be played in Cherryville, NC and a meal will be provided for each team.
7. All necessary manpower will be provided by paid staff and volunteers including security and medical services.
8. Transportation will be provided for all teams once they arrive. Vans will be provided for teams that need them. Cherryville Post 100 will also pick any teams up at the airport and transport them to the hotel/ballpark. We know Puerto Rico would fly in, and we will ensure they are transported from the airport to the hotel/ballfield to receive transportation while they are participating. Teams that are bused in will be provided two vans once they arrive.

Prior to the banquet The City of Cherryville would also be involved, a parade will be scheduled through downtown Cherryville, NC that would honor all teams participating in both regional tournaments. The teams would have a parade in their honor and directly after the parade ends the banquet would be scheduled. The banquet would be at First Baptist Church for players, coaches and members of the American Legion. The City of Cherryville would also provide entertainment on the Monday night before games begin. A band would perform with food vendors and beverages. Our goal is to make this an event that also caters to the fans as well as the teams.

We would like to thank you for considering our bid. We would welcome the opportunity to host this event. We have the experience, manpower, facilities, and community support to provide an experience second to none.

We are including necessary tournament and facility facts for Fraley Field in Cherryville, NC. Fraley Field will be the host of the Southeast regional. Fraley Field has recently received pivot turf that will enable us to manage any weather delays.

You will see from the pictures of Fraley field in Cherryville, NC that a commitment has been made to host events such as this. In the past year close to one million dollars has been invested in field upgrades (outfield wall, turf, scoreboard, double covered batting cage etc.). We are also currently working to secure a covered grandstand. Furthermore, Cherryville American Legion has the support of volunteers that is second to none to host a tournament of this magnitude.

We truly appreciate your consideration to host the Southeast Regional. We look forward to hosting these events and will settle for nothing less than an experience that all players, coaches, fans, and American Legion Officials will never forget.

Sincerely,



Bobby Reynolds

Bobby Reynolds

Coach Cherryville Post 100

Sincerely,



Ned Yates

Ned Yates

NC Area 4 Commissioner



INVOICE

#96

Date 14-01-2026

Due Date 13-02-2026

Drewery and Son Roofing

jc.drewery3@gmail.com

JC Drewery Jr

(704) 616-2997

Post 100 baseball

210 N Pink St Cherryville, NC 28021 United States

Item(s) Name	Rate (\$)	Quantity	Amount (\$)
Covered sitting area -24ft long by 10ft wide -minimum 6ft ground clearance -composite decking	20,000.00	1	20,000.00

Subtotal	\$20,000.00
Total	\$20,000.00

Balance Due

\$20,000.00