



March 31, 2025

Creation of the County

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Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Creation of the County

Acts of 1845-46 Chapter 25

SECTION 1. That a new county be, and the same is hereby established, to be composed of fractions taken from the counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, to be known and designated by the name of Crockett county, in honor of, and to perpetuate the memory of David Crockett, one of Tennessee's distinguished sons.

SECTION 2. That the county of Crockett shall be bounded as follows, to wit: -- beginning at the mouth of the little North Fork of Forked Deer river, runs thence south 41 deg. west, crossing the road leading from Jackson to Dyersburg at 7 miles and 20 poles, and at a point ten and a half miles from said Dyersburg by way of said road, and crossing the road leading from said Dyersburg to Chestnut Bluff, at eleven miles and thirty poles, eleven and a half miles from Dyersburg, in all twelve miles to the South Fork of Forked Deer river, two and a half miles below the Chestnut Bluff turnpike bridge, by river measurement; thence up the South Fork of Forked Deer river, with the various courses thereof, fifty-one miles to a point one hundred and sixty poles above mile mark No. 22, and at a point twenty-one and a half miles below Jackson by the river measurement; thence north 41 degrees east, crossing the road leading from Jackson to Cherryville at the twelve mile post from Jackson, and crossing the Dyersburg road twenty poles west of the twelve mile post, in all ten and a half miles to the Middle Fork of Forked Deer river; thence down the same with the various courses thereof of to the beginning.

SECTION 3. That for the purpose of organizing the county of Crockett, Isaac M. Johnson, David Whitaker, Joel Nunn, Willis L. Rives, Kinchen Hathaway, Isaac H. Mason, Alfred T. Fielder and Noah Perry shall be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners on the part of the several fractions in which they reside, who shall, before entering on the discharge of their duties, take an oath before some justice of the peace, faithfully and impartially to discharge all the duties incumbent on them in this act, and in all cases of vacancies that may occur among said commissioners previous to the organization of the county court of said county of Crockett, the same shall be filled by the other commissioners, and all vacancies occurring after the organization of such courts, the vacancies so occurring shall be filled by said court of said county of Crockett. The said commissioners shall enter into bond with good security, to be approved by the county court of Crockett, and payable to the chairman thereof, in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties. A majority of said commissioners shall constitute a board competent to do all things herein enjoined on them--they shall keep a regular record of all their proceedings as commissioners, which shall be returned to the county court of Crockett, at its first session, and the same shall be recorded by the clerk thereof, on the records of said court; and they shall make such returns, after the organization of said court, as shall be directed thereby.

SECTION 4. That it shall be the duty of said commissioners, first giving ten days notice in one public place or more, of the time and places, to open and hold an election in one place or more, in each of the fractions proposed to be stricken off, from the counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, on the 15th day of March next, in order to ascertain whether a majority of the voters residing in said fractions are in favor of or opposed to the formation of the said county of Crockett, and all persons qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, residing in said fraction, shall be entitled to vote in said election, and each voter who is in favor of the formation of the new county shall have on his ticket "new county," and each voter opposed to the formation of said county of Crockett shall have on his ticket "old county:" and if, after counting the votes cast in said election, it shall appear that there are a majority of the legal voters in said fractions in favor of the new county, then, and in that case, the county of Crockett shall be, and is hereby declared a county with all the powers, privileges and advantages, and subject to all the liabilities and duties with other counties in the State.

SECTION 5. If, from any cause, said election should not be held in said fractions, as required in the foregoing section, on the day set apart for such election, or should there be any fraudulent influence used in said election, it shall be lawful, at the option of said commissioners, to give notice again and hold said election as intended on the previous day, and said commissioners shall have full power to make all necessary investigation, and prevent any improper influence in the second election.

SECTION 6. For the due administration of justice, the different courts to be holden for said county of Crockett shall be held at the house of Isaac M. Johnson, until the seat of justice of said county, shall be located. The county courts shall, in the intermediate time, have full power to adjourn the courts to such other place in said county as they may deem better suited for the holding of the same and for public convenience, and to adjourn to the seat of justice when in their judgments the necessary arrangements are made; and all writs and other process issuing from any of said courts, returnable to either place, shall

and may be returnable to the place where said courts may have been removed by the county courts aforesaid; and the courts for the county of Crockett shall be under the same rules, regulations and restrictions--shall have, hold, exercise, and possess the same powers and jurisdiction as prescribed by law for holding courts in other counties. Said county shall be attached to the tenth judicial circuit, and the circuit courts shall be held by the judge of said circuit, on the last Mondays of January, May and September, in each and every year, and the citizens of said county may file bills in chancery, in either of the chancery courts held at Trenton or Brownsville, at their option.

SECTION 7. That all officers, civil or military, now holding offices in said county, shall continue to hold their offices and exercise all the powers and functions thereof, until others are elected according to law, and the courts of Crockett shall, at their first regular session, elect their officers for the unexpired portion of the year 1846; and ever after that their elections shall be made on the same day and in the same manner as in other counties of the State: Provided, that nothing in this act contained shall deprive the counties from which the fractions have been taken, from having, exercising and holding jurisdiction over the county of Crockett and the citizens thereof, in as full and ample a manner as they now have, until the election of county officers takes place according to law: Provided, also, nothing herein contained shall prevent the above named counties from entering up judgments, or the sheriffs of said counties from selling under such judgments, any lands within the bounds of said county of Crockett, for taxes, costs and charges, until the county of Crockett is organized.

SECTION 8. That the commissioners appointed by this act, shall appoint such person as they may think proper to open and hold the election for county officers for the said county of Crockett, and such person so appointed shall have power to appoint deputies, clerks and judges, and by himself and deputies to administer all the necessary oaths, and do and perform all other duties now made the duty of sheriffs, or other officers holding similar elections; and it shall be the duty of such persons so appointed, together with his deputies to open and hold an election for county officers, on the first Saturday in April, 1846; which election shall be held in each civil district in said county, and the officers so elected shall hold their offices until the next regular election for county officers in other counties in the State.

SECTION 9. That the citizens of Crockett county, in all elections for Governor, members of the General Assembly, representatives in Congress, and electors for President and Vice President, shall vote with the counties from which they have been respectively stricken off until the next apportionment, agreeably to the provisions of the 5th section of the 11th article of the Constitution.

SECTION 10. That it shall be the duty of the above mentioned commissioners, as soon as convenient after the organization of said county of Crockett, to select and procure by purchase or otherwise, a suitable site for the seat of justice of said county of Crockett, having a due regard for the convenience and wishes of a majority of the legal voters of said county of Crockett; and the said commissioners, having caused a deed to be made to them and their successors in office with general warranty, for a sufficient quantity of land including the site so selected, shall cause a town to be laid off thereon, with such number of streets and allies, and of such width as they may deem necessary, reserving a sufficient quantity of land for a public square. Said commissioners shall select and reserve from sale one lot, on which to erect a public jail of said county of Crockett, and said town, so soon as laid off, shall receive such name as the above mentioned commissioners may give it: Provided, that said commissioners shall nominate not exceeding two sites for said seat of justice, which places, shall, in no event, be further from the centre of said county than three miles, which places shall be voted for by the legal voters of said county of Crockett, and the site receiving the greatest number of votes shall be, and is hereby declared, the seat of justice of said county.

SECTION 11. That the commissioners of said county shall sell the lots in said town on a credit of twelve months, first giving due notice thereof, in the public journals, and shall take bond with good and sufficient security from the purchaser or purchasers of said lots, payable to themselves and their successors in office, and shall make title in fee simple, as commissioners, to the respective purchasers of said lots when the same are paid for.

SECTION 12. That the proceeds of the sales of the lots in said town, shall be a fund in the hands of said commissioners, with which to defray the necessary expenses incurred in the purchase of said tract of land on which to erect said town; as well as the necessary expenses incurred in erecting the public buildings of said town, and should there be a surplus after defraying the above mentioned expenses, it shall be the duty of said commissioners to pay over the same to the Trustee of said county, to be accounted for by him as other funds in his hands. And it shall be the further duty of said commissioners to superintend the erection of such public buildings, as the county court of said county may direct to be built, and shall let the same out, and shall take bond from the undertakers with ample security, payable to them-selves and their successors, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or their contracts.

SECTION 13. That said commissioners shall have power, and it shall be their duty to appoint five

suitable and qualified individuals to divide said county into civil districts, and designate the places for holding elections in said districts, and perform all the duties relative thereunto which by the laws of the State such commissioners are required to do.

SECTION 14. That the county of Crockett shall form one regiment, which shall be known and designated as the 132d regiment, and shall be attached to the 19th brigade. The militia officer or officers highest in command, included in said county of Crockett, shall at such time and place as he or they may designate, call all the commissioned officers together, and such of them as shall attend are hereby authorized and empowered to lay off said county into battalions and companies, and provide for holding elections for the purpose of electing all officers in said regiment in the manner prescribed by law.

SECTION 15. That in case the boundary lines of Crockett county, as above described, approach nearer the county seat of any of the old counties than is provided for in the constitution, then and in that case, it shall be the duty of said commissioners to appoint some surveyor to re-run and re-mark said boundary line of said county of Crockett, so as not to violate the constitutional right of said old county, and said surveyor shall make a report to the county court of Crockett, which report shall be recorded by the clerk of said court, and such line so run shall be the established line of said county.

SECTION 16. That the commissioners of Crockett county be and they are hereby authorized to exercise all the powers conferred in this act, and such further powers as may be necessary, and proper to the complete organization of said county.

SECTION 17. That in case said county of Crockett, is re-surveyed in accordance with the 15th section of this act, it shall contain at least three hundred and fifty square miles.

SECTION 18. That an Academy is hereby established at the county seat of said new county of Crockett, with all the rights and emoluments of other county Academies of the State, and the county court shall appoint Trustees, as in other counties, and shall name the same.

SECTION 19. That this act shall not take effect before the 14th March, 1846.

Passed: December 20, 1845.

Acts of 1851-52 Chapter 195

SECTION 1. That a new county be, and the same is hereby established, to be composed of fractions taken from the counties of Dyer, Gibson, Madison, and Haywood, to be known and designated as the county of Crockett.

SECTION 2. That the bounds of Crockett county shall be as follows, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of the Little North Fork of the Forked Deer river; running thence south forty-one degrees west, so as not to run nearer than ten miles to the town of Dyersburg, in the county of Dyer, to the South Fork of the Forked Deer river; thence up said river with the various courses thereof to a point on said river, ten miles in a direct line from the town of Jackson, in Madison county; running thence in a northerly direction to the Middle Fork of the Forked Deer river, at the point where the line, established by the act of 1845, chapter 25, terminated on said river; thence down said Middle Fork, with the various courses thereof, to the beginning. Provided, That the commissioners, hereinafter named, shall have the power to re-run the eastern and western boundary lines of said county of Crockett, in such direction as they may deem necessary and proper. And provided further, That said lines shall not approach nearer than ten miles to the county seats of Madison or Dyer County.

SECTION 3. That Alfred T. Fielder, Isaac A. Nunn, William Smith, James Porter, John B. Boykin, Kinchen Hathaway, Henry G. Winburn, and P. M. Neall, be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners on the part of the several fractions in which they reside, who shall before entering on the discharge of their duties, take an oath before some justice of the peace, faithfully and impartially to discharge all the duties incumbent on them in this act; and in all cases of vacancies which may occur among said commissioners previous to the organization of the county of Crockett, the same shall be filled by the other commissioners; and all vacancies occurring after the organization of the county cou (sic) shall be filled by said county court of Crockett. The said commissioners shall enter into bond with good and sufficient security, to be approved by the county court of Crockett, in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned, for the faithful performance of their duties. A majority of said commissioners shall constitute a board competent to do all things herein enjoined on them; they shall keep a regular record of all their proceedings as commissioners, which shall be returned to the county court of Crockett at its first session, and the same shall be recorded by the clerk thereof on the records of said court; and they shall make such returns, after the organization of said court, as shall be directed thereby.

SECTION 4. That for the due administration of justice, the different courts, to be holden for said county

of Crockett, shall be held at Cageville until the seat of justice of said county shall be established, and when said seat of justice shall be established, and the necessary buildings erected for the accommodation of the courts, the said courts shall, forever thereafter, be holden at the said seat of justice. The courts for the county of Crockett shall be under the same rules, regulations and restrictions, and shall have, hold, exercise and possess the same powers and jurisdictions as prescribed by law for holding courts in other counties. Said county of Crockett shall be attached to the tenth judicial circuit, and the circuit courts shall be held by the judge of said circuit, on the last Mondays in January, May and September, in each and every year. And the citizens of said county may file bills in chancery in either of the chancery courts held at Trenton or Brownsville, at their option.

SECTION 5. That all officers, civil or military, now holding offices in said county, shall continue to hold their offices, and exercise all the powers and functions thereof, until others are elected according to law; and the courts of Crockett shall, at their first regular session, elect their officers, who shall hold their office until the next regular election of officers, to be made by existing laws.

SECTION 6. That the commissioners appointed by this act, shall appoint such person as they may think proper to open and hold the election for county officers for the said county of Crockett, and such person so appointed, shall have power to appoint deputies, clerks and judges, and by himself and deputies to administer all the necessary oaths, and do and perform all other duties, now made the duty of sheriffs or other officers holding similar elections; and it shall be the duty of such person, so appointed, together with his deputies, to open and hold an election in each civil district of said Crockett county, at such time as said person may appoint, within sixty days after this act shall be in force and take effect, for the purpose of electing the county officers of said county, and the officers so elected shall hold their offices until the next regular election for officers in the other counties of the State.

SECTION 7. That it shall be the duty of the above mentioned commissioners as soon as convenient, after the organization of said county of Crockett, to select and procure, by purchase or otherwise, a suitable site for the seat of justice of said county of Crockett, having a due regard for the convenience and wishes of a majority of the legal voters of said county of Crockett; and the said commissioners having caused a deed to be made to them and their successors in office, with general warranty, for a sufficient quantity of land, including the site so selected, shall cause a town to be laid off thereon, with such number of streets and alleys of such width as they may deem necessary, reserving a sufficient quantity of land for a public square. Said commissioners shall select and reserve from sale one lot on which to erect a public jail of said county of Crockett, and said town, so laid off, shall receive such name as the above mentioned commissioners may give it. Provided, That said commissioners shall nominate not exceeding two sites for said seat of justice, which places shall in no event be further than three miles from the centre of said county of Crockett, which places shall be voted for by the legal voters of said county of Crockett, and the site receiving the greatest number of votes shall be, and is hereby declared the seat of justice of said county.

SECTION 8. That the commissioners of said county shall sell the lots in said town on a credit of one and two years, first giving due notice thereof in one or more newspapers printed in the Western District, and take bonds with good and sufficient security from the purchaser or purchasers, payable to themselves and their successors in office, and shall make title in fee simple, as commissioners, to the respective purchasers of said lots, when the same shall be paid for.

SECTION 9. That the proceeds of the sale of the lots in said town, shall be a fund in the hands of the said commissioners, with which to defray the necessary expenses incurred in the purchase of said tract of land on which to erect said town, as well as the necessary expenses incurred in erecting the public buildings of said town; and should there be a surplus, after defraying the above mentioned expenses, it shall be the duty of said commissioners to pay over the same to the trustee of said county, to be accounted for by him as other funds in his hands. And it shall be the further duty of said commissioners to superintend the erection of such public buildings as the county court of said county may direct to be built, and shall let the same out, and shall take bond from the undertakers, with ample security, payable to them-selves and their successors, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or their contract.

SECTION 10. That it shall be the duty of said commissioners to appoint five suitable and qualified individuals to divide said county into civil districts, and designate the places for holding elections in said districts, and perform all the duties relative thereunto, which by the laws of this State such commissioners are required to do.

SECTION 11. That the county of Crockett shall form one regiment, which shall be known and designated as the 132nd regiment, and shall be attached to the 19th brigade. The militia officer or officers highest in command, included in said county of Crockett, shall, at such time and places as he or they may designate, call all the commissioned officers together, and such of them as shall attend, are hereby authorized and empowered to lay off said county into battalions and companies, and provide for holding elections for the

purpose of electing all officers in said regiment, in the manner prescribed by law.

SECTION 12. That the said commissioners of Crockett county, be, and they are hereby authorized to exercise all the powers conferred in this act, and such further powers as may be necessary and proper for the complete organization of said county.

SECTION 13. That an academy is hereby established at the county seat of said county of Crockett, with all the rights and emoluments of other county academies of the State, and the county court shall appoint trustees therefor, as in other counties, and shall name the same.

SECTION 14. That this act shall take effect and be in force so soon as the proposed amendments of the constitution for the establishment of new counties shall have been adopted.

COMPILER'S NOTE: Sections 15 and 16 of this Act do not concern Crockett County.

Passed: February 24, 1851.

Public Acts of 1865-66 (Ex. Sess.) Chapter 19

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section One concerned Wayne County.

SECTION 2. That a new county be, and the same is hereby, established, to be composed of fractions taken from the counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, to be known and designated by the name of "Crockett County," in honor of and to perpetuate the memory of David Crockett, one of Tennessee's distinguished sons.

SECTION 3. That the said county of Crockett shall be bounded as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at two walnut trees, a hickory and Spanish oak, on the edge of a bottom, and on the east side of the middle fork of Forked Deer River, bearing N.W. 18°, 32', 33", 12.01 miles from Jackson. Thence runs S.W. 73½° 7-10 of a mile, to a poplar and maple; thence S.W. 68 ¾°, 122 P. to the river; thence the same course S.W. 198 P., to a small maple; thence S.W. 64°, 320 P., to a black oak bush, near to and on the south side of William Daffee's fence; thence S.W. 59¼°, 320 P. to a hickory; thence S.W. 54½°, 320 P. to post oak and black oak; thence S.W. 49 ¾°, 98 P. to the road that leads from Dyersburg to Jackson; thence on S.W. 222 P. to a black oak; thence S.W. 45°, 320 P. to a hickory; thence S.W. 40½°, 320 P. to a black-gum; thence S.W. 35½°, 320 P. to a beech and gum; thence S.W. 30 ¾°, 320 P. to two poplars; thence S.W. 26°, 88 P. to the road leading from Cherryville to Jackson; thence on S.W. 232 P. to an ash and elm; thence S.W. 21¼°, 320 P. to a sassafras and small holly, near the bank of the south fork of Forked Deer River; thence on across said river S.W. 16½°, 216 P. to a small hickory, at the edge of the highlands, bearing N.W. 7°, 18', 27", from Jackson 12 miles, 1/3 of a pole; thence N.W. 73 ¾°, 2 miles and 48 poles to two black oaks, near Chipman's fence, bearing N.E. 60°, 22', 30", 12.01 miles from Brownsville. Thence N.W. 32°, 320 P. to an elm; thence N.W. 36 ¾°, 320 P. to a white oak, standing on the bank of the south fork of said river; thence N.W. 41½°, 320 P. to a stake in Thomasfield; thence N.W. 46¼°, 320 P. to a black oak; thence N.W. 51°, 320 P. to a forked poplar; thence N.W. 55 ¾°, 320 P. to two poplars, near E. J. Road's plantation; thence N.W. 60½°, 320 P. to two small hickories; thence N.W. 65¼°, 320 P. to a stake in Esq. Fife's field; thence N.W. 70°, 320 P. to a peach tree in Randle Johnson's field; thence N.W. 74 ¾°, 320 P. to a white oak; thence N.W. 79½°, 320 P. to a sassafras and pointers; thence N.W. 84¼°, 320 P. to a dogwood; thence N.W. 89°, 320 P. to an elm and gum near White's fence; thence S.W. 86¼°, 320 P. to a maple, beyond the river; thence S.W. 81½°, 320 P. to two Tupelo gums; thence S.W. 76 ¾°, to a small white oak; thence S.W. 72°, 320 P. to a maple; thence S.W. 67½°, 120 P. to a small poplar at the edge of the high grounds; thence along the edge of the highland N.W. 35½°, 340 P. to a small elm; thence N.E. 6°, 240 P. to a maple; thence N.W. 35°, 569 3-25 of a pole to a sweet-gum; thence N.W. 55°, 90 P. to an elm; thence N.E. 16°, 518 P. to an elm; thence N.E. 40°, 176 7-25 P. to a stake; thence N.E. 8¼°, 1201 1-5 poles to the south fork of said river; thence down said river with the meanderings of the same 21 miles, to a stake on the N.E. bank of said river; thence N.E. 41°, to a stake on south bank of the north fork of the Forked Deer River; thence up the said river, with the meanderings thereof, to the mouth of the Little North Fork of the Forked Deer River; thence N.E. 85¼°, 2 miles and 182 10- 25 P. to a point bearing 79° N.W., 12.01 miles from Trenton. Thence S.W. 8°, 320 P.; thence S.W. 3¼°, 320 P.; thence S.E. ½°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 6¼°, 320 P.; thence S.E. 11°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 15 ¾°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 20½°, 320 poles, thence S.E. 25¼°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 30°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 34 ¾°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 39½°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 44¼°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 49°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 53 ¾, 320 poles; thence S.E. 58½°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 63¼°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 68°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 72 ¾°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 77½°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 82¼°, 320 poles; thence S.E. 87°, 320 poles; thence N.E. 88¼°, 320 poles; thence N.E. 83½°, 320 poles, to a point bearing S.E. 8°, 52', 30", 12 miles from Trenton; thence S.E. 34°, 633 3-5 poles to the beginning, containing by estimation three hundred and fifty square miles.

SECTION 4. That for the purpose of organizing the county of "Crockett," William A. Johnson, John L. Poston, H. R. Hall, Alfred Connelly, William Emmerson, William J. McFarland, William Poston and William Scales shall be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners on the part of the several fractions in which they reside, who shall, before entering upon the duties herein specified, take an oath before some Justice of the Peace, faithfully to discharge all the duties incumbent on them in this Act; and in all cases of vacancies which may occur among said Commissioners previous to the organization of the county court of said county of "Crockett," the same shall be filled by other Commissioners, and all vacancies occurring after the organization of such court, the vacancies so occurring shall be filled by the said county court. A majority of said Commissioners shall constitute a Board competent to do all things herein enjoined on them. They shall keep a regular record of all their proceedings as Commissioners, which shall be returned to the county court of said county of "Crockett" at its first session and the same shall be recorded by the clerk thereof on the records of said court, and they shall make such returns after the organization of said court as shall be directed thereby.

SECTION 5. That the county site of said county of "Crockett" shall be established and located at such place as the Commissioners may select, where suitable lots upon which to erect public buildings shall have been donated for that purpose. In making such selection said Commissioners shall have a due regard to the convenience of a majority of the citizens of said county. The different courts for said county shall be held at such place in said town as said Commissioners may designate until a Court-house shall have been erected; and all writs and other process issuing from such courts shall be returnable to said place, and the courts for the said county of "Crockett" shall be under the same rules, regulations and restrictions, shall have, hold, exercise and possess the same powers and jurisdiction as prescribed by law for holding courts in other counties. Said county shall be attached to the 16th Judicial Circuit, and the circuit court shall be held by the Judge of said circuit on the second Mondays of January, May and September, in each and every year, and the said county shall be attached to the 6th Chancery District, and the chancery courts for said county shall be held twice in each year, on the first Monday of February and August.

SECTION 6. That all officers, civil and military, now holding office in said county, shall continue to hold their offices and exercise all powers and functions thereof until others are elected, as hereinafter provided. Provided, that nothing in this Act contained shall deprive the counties from which the fractions have been taken from having, exercising and holding jurisdiction over the county of "Crockett," and the citizens thereof in as full and as ample a manner as they now have, until the election of county officers takes place as hereinafter provided. Provided, further, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the above named counties from entering up judgments or the Sheriffs of said counties from selling under said judgments, any lands within the bounds of said county of "Crockett" for taxes, costs and charges until the county of "Crockett" is fully organized.

SECTION 7. That the Commissioners appointed by this Act shall appoint such persons as they may think proper to open and hold the election for county officers for the said county of "Crockett," and such persons so appointed, shall have power to appoint deputies, clerks and judges, and by himself and deputies to administer all the necessary oaths, and do and perform all other duties now made the duty of other sheriffs, or officers holding similar elections, and it shall be the duty of such person so appointed together with his deputies to open and hold an election for county officers at such time as may be designated by the Commissioners, which election shall be held in each civil district in said county; and the officers so elected shall hold their offices until the next regular election for county officers in the other counties of the State.

SECTION 8. That the citizens of "Crockett" county in all elections for Governor, Members of the General Assembly, Representatives in Congress and Electors for President and Vice President, shall vote with the counties from which they have been respectively stricken off until the next apportionment, agreeably to the provisions of the fifth section of the tenth Article of the Constitution.

SECTION 9. That said Commissioners shall have power, and it shall be their duty, to appoint five suitable and well qualified individuals to divide said county in civil districts and designate the places for holding elections in said districts, and perform all the duties relative thereunto, which by the laws of the State such Commissioners are required to do.

SECTION 10. That the Commissioners of "Crockett" county be, and they are hereby authorized to exercise all the powers conferred in this Act and such further powers as may be necessary and proper for the complete organization of said county.

SECTION 11. That an Academy is hereby established in the said town of Cageville, or at the county seat of the said county of "Crockett," with all the rights and emoluments of other county Academies of the State, and the county court shall appoint Trustees as in other counties, and shall name the same.

SECTION 12. That all laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Passed: January 25, 1866.

COMPILER'S NOTE: The remaining six (6) Sections of this Act did not concern Crockett County and are therefore omitted.

Public Acts of 1869-70 (Ex. Sess.) Chapter 89

SECTION 1. That a new county be, and the same is hereby established, to be composed of fractions taken from the counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, to be known, and designated, by the name of Crockett County, in honor of, and to perpetuate the memory of David Crockett, one of Tennessee distinguished sons.

SECTION 2. That the County of Crockett shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stake at the edge of low-water mark, in the middle fork of Forked-deer River, at a point eleven miles from Dyersburg, the county seat of Dyer county, above, and in an easterly direction of said Dyersburg; running thence in a southwest direction, so as not to approach said Dyersburg nearer than eleven miles, in the south fork of the Forkeddeer River; thence upon said river with its various courses, to a point in said river eleven miles from Brownsville, the county seat of Haywood; thence, leaving said river, running in a southeasterly direction on a line, so as not to approach said county seat of Haywood County nearer than eleven miles, till the same again strikes the said south fork of Forked-deer River, at a point eleven miles from Brownsville; thence up said river, with its various courses, to a point 160 poles above mile mark No. 22, and at a point twenty-one and one-half miles below Jackson--by river measurement; thence north, 41 degrees east, crossing the road leading from Jackson to Bell's Station, on the Memphis and Ohio Railroad, at the 12 mile post from Jackson, and crossing the Jackson and Dyersburg road 20 poles west of the 12 mile post, to a stake in the said middle fork of the Forked-deer river; thence down the same, with its various courses thereof, to a point in said river eleven miles from Trenton, the county seat or (sic) Gibson county; thence, leaving said river, in southwesterly direction in a line, so as not to approach nearer than eleven miles to the said county seat of Gibson County, till the same again strikes the said middle fork of Forked-deer River; thence down said river, with the various courses thereof, to the beginning.

SECTION 3. That for the purpose of organizing the County of Crockett, that A. B. Howlett, James Emerson, David Whitacre, A. T. Fielder, G. W. Bettes, John Lyon, J. C. Thorp, and T. F. Conly, shall be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners on the part of the several fractions in which they reside, who shall, before entering on the discharge of their duties, take an oath before some Justice of the Peace, faithfully and impartially to discharge all the duties incumbent on them in this Act, and in all cases of vacancies that may occur among said Commissioners, previous to the organization of the County Court of said County of Crockett, the same shall be filled by the other Commissioners, and all vacancies occurring after the organization of such Court, the vacancies so occurring shall be filled by said Court of the County of Crockett. The said Commissioners shall enter into such bond and security as may be required by the said County Court of Crockett, made payable to the Chairman thereof, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties, as required by this Act. A majority of said Commissioners shall constitute a board competent to do all things herein enjoined on them. They shall keep a regular record of all of their proceedings as Commissioners, which shall be returned to the County Court of Crockett, at its first session, and the same shall be recorded by the Clerk thereof, on the records of said Court, and they shall make such returns, after the organization of said Court, as shall be directed thereby.

SECTION 4. That it shall be the duty of said Commissioners, first giving ten days notice, in one public place or more, of the time and place to open and hold an election, in one place or more in each of the fractions proposed to be stricken off from the Counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, on the 16th day of July next, in order to ascertain whether two-thirds of the voters residing in each of the said fractions, are in favor of, or opposed to the formation of the said new county of Crockett, and all persons qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, residing in said fractions, shall be entitled to vote in said election, and each voter who is in favor of the formation of the new county, shall have on his ticket "new county;" and each voter opposed to the formation of said County of Crockett, shall have on his ticket "old county;" and if, after counting the votes cast in said election, it shall appear that there are two-thirds of the legal votes cast in each of said fractions in favor of the new county, then and in that case, the county of Crockett shall be, and is hereby declared a county, with all the powers, privileges, and advantages, and subject to all the liabilities and duties with other counties in the State

SECTION 5. That if from any cause said election should not be held in said fractions as required in the foregoing sections, on the day set apart for said election, or should there be any fraudulent influences used in said election, it shall be lawful, at the option of said Commissioners, to give notice again, and hold said election another time, or oftener, at their option, as intended on the first election day, and the said Commissioners shall have full power to make all necessary investigations, and prevent any improper

influences on any succeeding election.

SECTION 6. That for the due administration of justice, the different Courts to be holden for said County of Crockett, shall be held in the town of Cageville, until the seat of justice shall be located, and all writs and other process, issuing from any of said Courts, returnable to that place, shall be legal, and the Courts for the County of Crockett shall be under the same rules, regulations and restrictions; shall have, exercise and possess, the same powers and jurisdiction as prescribed by law for holding Courts in other counties. Said county shall be attached to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and the Circuit Courts shall be held by the Judge of said circuit, on the second Mondays of April, August and December, in each and every year, and shall be attached to the Eleventh Chancery District; and the Chancery Court shall be held on the fourth Mondays of May and November, in each and every year.

SECTION 7. That all officers, civil or military, now holding office in said county, shall continue to hold their offices and exercise all the powers and functions thereof until others are elected and qualified according to this Act; Provided, that nothing in this Act contained, shall deprive the counties from which the fractions have been taken, from having, exercising and holding jurisdiction over the County of Crockett, and the citizens thereof, in as full and ample a manner as they now have, until the election of county officers takes place, according to this Act; Provided, also, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the above named counties from entering up judgments, or the Sheriffs of said counties from selling, under such judgments, any lands within the bounds of said County of Crockett, for taxes, cost and charges, until the County of Crockett is organized. That the Commissioners, their successors or agents, shall be authorized and empowered to so change, alter or modify lines fixed in this Act, as not to infringe upon the constitutional limits of the counties of Madison, Gibson (sic) and Dyer; provided that this section shall not be construed to invalidate any past act or acts of the Commissioners in conformity with this act to establish the County of Crockett.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 26

SECTION 8. That said Commissioners shall have power, and it shall be their duty to appoint five suitable and qualified individuals, to divide said county into not less than twelve civil districts, designating the boundaries and places for holding elections in said districts, and perform all the duties relative thereto, which, by the laws of the State, such Commissioners are required to do. It shall be the further duty of said Commissioners to appoint some suitable surveyor, to survey and plainly mark the boundary lines of said County of Crockett, as described in this Act, and said surveyor shall make a report to the first County Court of Crockett County, which report shall be recorded by the Clerk of said court, and such lines, so run and marked, shall be the established lines of said county.

SECTION 9. That the Commissioners appointed by this Act, shall appoint such persons as they may think proper, to open and hold the elections for county officers, for the said county of Crockett, and such persons, so appointed, shall have power to appoint Deputies, Clerks and Judges, and by himself and deputies to administer all the necessary oaths and do and perform all other duties now made the duty of Commissioners of Registration, or Sheriffs or other officers holding similar elections, and it shall be the duty of such persons so appointed, together with his deputies, to open and hold an election for county officers on the first Thursday in August, 1870, which election shall be held in each civil district in said county, and the officers so elected, shall hold their offices until the next regular election for the different officers so elected, takes place in other counties in the State.

SECTION 10. That the citizens of Crockett County, in all elections for Governor, members of the General Assembly, Representatives in Congress, and Electors for President and Vice President, shall vote with the counties from which they have been respectively stricken off, until the next apportionment, agreeably to the provisions of the fifth section of the tenth article of the amended constitution.

SECTION 11. That it shall be the duty of the above named Commissioners, so soon as convenient, after the full and complete organization of the said County of Crockett, to select and establish a suitable location for the seat of justice of the said county of Crockett, having a due regard for health and and (sic) convenience of a majority of the citizens of said county, and the site so established shall be known and designated by the same (sic) of "Alamo," to perpetuate the name of the place where David Crockett fell, fighting for the liberties of Texas; Provided, however, the said Commissioners may, at their option, put in nomination three places, neither of which shall be more than three miles from the supposed or probable center of said County of Crockett, which places shall be voted for by the legal voters of said county, and the site nominated, receiving the largest number of votes, shall be, and is hereby declared to be the seat of justice of the said County of Crockett: Provided further, That if said Commissioners should think there was fraud, or any other unfair means used in said election, they may, at their option, set aside such election, and submit the question a second time to the qualified voters of said county, which election shall be final.

SECTION 12. That is shall be the further duty of said Commissioners to superintend the erection of such

public buildings as the County Court of said county may direct to be built; and shall let the same out, and take bonds, with ample security, payable to themselves and their successors in office, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or their contract; and the proceeds of the sales of all donations of lands, town-lots, or other gifts, that may be made in consideration of the location of the seat of justice, for said County of Crockett or otherwise, shall be a fund in their hands, to pay the necessary expenses in organizing said county, and paying for the erection of the public buildings ordered to be built by the County Court; and should any surplus remain in their hands, it shall be their duty to pay over the same to the Trustee of said county, to be accounted for by him as other funds in his hands.

SECTION 13. That the said Commissioners of Crockett County be, and they are hereby authorized to exercise all the powers conferred in this Act, and such other powers as may be necessary and proper to a complete organization of said County of Crockett. The fractions composing said County of Crockett, shall be liable for their pro rata of the debts contracted and owing by the counties from which they are taken, and shall also receive their proportion of any stocks or credits belonging to said counties.

SECTION 14. That this Act take effect, the public welfare requiring it, from and after its passage.

Passed: June 29, 1870.

Public Acts of 1871 (Ex. Sess.) Chapter 132

SECTION 1. That a new county be, and the same is hereby established, to be composed of fractions taken from the counties of Haywood, Madison, Gibson and Dyer, to be known and designated by the name of Crockett County, in honor of and to perpetuate the memory of David Crockett, one of Tennessee's distinguished sons.

SECTION 2. That the County of Crockett shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stake at the edge of low water mark of the middle fork of Forked Deer River, with three birch and three small cypress pointers marked C C L, which stake is situated south 82°, east eleven miles and one chain from Dyersburg, the county site of said Dyer County; running thence south 12°, west 55 chains; thence south 18°, west 80 chains; thence south 23°, west 80 chains; thence south 28°, west 80 chains; thence south 33½°, west 80 chains; thence south 38 ¾°, west 90 chains; thence south 44¼°, west 80 chains; thence south 49½°, west 80 chains; thence south 54 ¾°, west 80 chains; thence south 60°, west 80 chains; thence south 65¼°, west 80 chains; thence south 69½°, west 80 chains; thence south 74½°, west 67 chains to a stake in the south fork of Forked Deer River; thence up said river with the main channel thereof to a point in said river 11 miles and one chain from the town of Brownsville, the county site of Haywood county; thence leaving said river so as not to approach the said town of Brownsville nearer than 11 miles, as follows to wit: running north 89°, 50', east 54 chains; thence south 85°, 10', east 80 chains; thence south 80°, east 80 chains; thence south 74 ¾°, east 80 chains; thence south 69 1/3°, east 80 chains; thence south 64°, east 80 chains; thence south 58 ¾°, east 80 chains; thence south 53½°, east 80 chains; thence south 48¼°, east 80 chains; thence south 43°, 10', east 77 chains to a stake in said south fork of Forked Deer River 11 miles from the said town of Brownsville; thence up said river with the main channel thereof to a stake with a gum, poplar and beech pointers, the beech marked C C L, April 13, 1871; thence north 41°, east by a line known as the McLemore line 836 chains to a stake in the middle fork of the Forked Deer River, about 8 chains above the crossing of said river by the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; thence down said river with its main channel to a stake in said river 11 miles and one chain from Trenton, the county site of Gibson county, with sweet gum, maple and holly pointers, marked C C L; thence leaving said river so as not to approach the town of Trenton nearer than 11 miles, as follows, to wit: north 88 ¾°, west 8 chains; thence north 83½°, west 80 chains; thence north 78 1/3°, west 80 chains; thence north 72½°, west 80 chains; thence north 67½°, west 80 chains; thence north 62½°, west 80 chains; thence north 56 ¾°, west 22 chains to a stake in said middle fork of Forked Deer River; thence down said river with its main channel to a stake 11 miles and one chain from Trenton, the county site of said Gibson county; thence leaving said river so as not to approach nearer than 11 miles of Trenton, as follows, to wit: running north 23°, west 20 chains; thence north 18°, west 80 chains; thence north 12½°, west 80 chains; thence north 177°, west 80 chains; thence north 1½°, west 40 chains to a stake at low water mark in said river, with a forked water oak pointer, marked C C L, 11 miles and one chain from the said town of Trenton; thence down the main channel of said river to the beginning, as surveyed and marked by Gen. William Connor, of Lauderdale county, Tennessee.

SECTION 3. That for the purpose of organizing the County of Crockett, that William N. Beasley, John F. Sinclair, J. Frank Robertson, David James, Asa Dean, F. J. Wood, Dr. T. J. Hicks and J. E. Pearson shall be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners on the part of the several fractions in which they reside, who shall, before entering on the discharge of their duties, take an oath before some Justice of the Peace faithfully and impartially to discharge all the duties incumbent upon them in this act, and in all cases of

vacancies that may occur among said Commissioners previous to the organization of the County Court of said county of Crockett, the same shall be filled by the Commissioners, and all vacancies occurring after the organization of such Court, the vacancies so occurring shall be filled by said Court of the County of Crockett. The said Commissioners shall enter into such bond and security as may be required by the said County Court of Crockett, made payable to the chairman thereof, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duty as required by this Act. A majority of said Commissioners shall constitute a Board competent to do all things herein enjoined on them. They shall keep a regular record of all their proceedings as Commissioners, which shall be returned to the County Court of Crockett at its first session, and the same shall be recorded by the Clerk thereof on the records of said Court, and they shall make such returns after the organization of said Court as shall be directed thereby.

SECTION 4. That it shall be the duty of said commissioner, viz: William N. Beasley and John F. Sinclair, in the fraction of Dyer county; or Frank Robertson and David James, in the fraction of Gibson; Asa Dean and F. J. Wood in the fraction (sic) of Haywood, and T. J. Hicks and J. E. Pearson in the fraction of Madison county, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to canvass and take the census of the qualified voters residing in the fractions in which they reside, proposed to be stricken off in said new county of Crockett. After the enumeration shall be completed the Commissioners, after giving thirty days' notice, shall open and hold an election at all the voting places in the fractions proposed to be stricken off, and at such other places as they may designate in said fractions, at which election those favoring the new county, shall endorse on the ballots, "New County;" those opposing shall endorse on their ballots, "No New County;" and if after counting all the votes so taken as aforesaid, it shall appear that two-thirds of all the qualified voters residing in each of the said fractions have given their vote to the formation of said new county, then and in that case the county of Crockett shall be, and is hereby declared a County, with all the powers, privileges and advantages, and subject to all liabilities and duties with other counties in this State.

SECTION 5. That in order to expedite the census and vote provided for in section 4 of this Act, as well as to make certain its accuracy, each one of said Commissioners are hereby empowered to appoint a qualified assistant, who, after being sworn to act impartially in carrying out the provisions of the fourth section of this Act, shall be fully authorized to take said census and consent as aforesaid.

SECTION 6. That for the due administration of Justice, the different Courts to be holden for said county of Crockett shall be held in the town of Cageville, until the seat of justice shall be located, and all writs and other process issuing from any of said Courts returnable to that place, shall be legal, and the Courts for the county of Crockett shall be under the same rule, regulations and restrictions, shall have, exercise and possess the same power and jurisdiction as prescribed by law for holding Courts in other counties. Said county shall be attached to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and the Circuit Courts shall be held by the Judge of said Circuit, on the second Mondays of April, August and December in each and every year; and shall be attached to the Eleventh Chancery District, and the Chancery Courts shall be held on the fourth Mondays of May and November in each year.

SECTION 7. That all officers, civil or military, now holding office in said county shall continue to hold their offices, and exercise all the powers and functions thereof until others are elected and qualified, according to this Act: Provided, that nothing in this Act contained shall deprive the counties from which the fractions have been taken from having, exercising and holding jurisdiction over the county of Crockett and the citizens thereof, in as full and ample a manner as they now have, until the election of county officers takes place according to this Act: Provided, also, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the above named counties from entering up judgments, or the sheriffs of said counties from selling, under such judgments, any lands within the bounds of said county of Crockett for taxes, costs and charges, until the county of Crockett is organized.

SECTION 8. That said Commissioners shall have power, and it shall be their duty to appoint five suitable and qualified individuals to divide said county into not less than twelve Civil Districts, designating the boundaries and places for holding elections in said districts, and perform all the duties relative thereto, which by the laws of the State such Commissioners are required to do.

SECTION 9. That the Commissioners appointed by this Act shall appoint such person or persons as they may think proper, to open and hold the elections for county officers for said county of Crockett, and such person or persons so appointed shall have power to appoint deputies, clerks and judges, and by himself and deputies to administer all the necessary oaths, and do and perform all other duties now made the duties of sheriffs or other officers holding similar elections, and it shall be the duty of such persons so appointed, together with his deputies, after giving fifteen days' notice, to open the polls and hold an election in each civil district in said county for district and county officers, and the officers so elected shall hold their offices until the next regular election for the different officers so elected takes place in other counties in this State.

SECTION 10. That the citizens of Crockett county in all elections for Governor, members of the General Assembly, Representatives in Congress, and electors for President and Vice President, shall vote with the counties from which they have been respectively stricken off, until the next apportionment, agreeably to the provisions of the fifth Sections of the tenth Article of the amended Constitution.

SECTION 11. That it shall be the duty of the above named Commissioners, so soon as convenient after the full and complete organization of the said county of Crockett, to select and establish a suitable location for the seat of justice of the said county of Crockett, having a due regard for health and convenience of a majority of the citizens of said county, and the site so established shall be known and designated by the name of Alamo, to perpetuate the name of the place where David Crockett fell fighting for the liberties of Texas: Provided, however, the said Commissioners may at their option put in nomination three places, neither of which shall be more than three miles from the supposed or probable center of said county of Crockett, which places shall be voted for by the legal voters of said county, and the site nominated receiving the largest number of votes shall be, and is hereby declared to be the seat of justice of the said county of Crockett: Provided, further, that if said Commissioners should think there was fraud or any other unfair means used in said election, they may at their option set aside such election, and submit the question a second time to the qualified voters of said county, or themselves locate the county site as they may deem best.

SECTION 12. That it shall be the further duty of said Commissioners to superintend the erection of such public buildings as the County Court of said county may direct to be built, and shall let the same out and take bonds, with ample security, payable to themselves and their successors in office, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or their contract, and the proceeds of the sales of all donations of lands, town lots, or other gifts that may be made in consideration of the location of the seat of justice for said county of Crockett, or otherwise, shall be a fund in their hands to pay the necessary expenses in organizing said county and paying for the erection of the public buildings ordered to be built by the County Court, and should any surplus remain in their hands, it shall be their duty to pay over the same to the Trustee of said county, to be accounted for by him as other funds in his hands.

SECTION 13. That said Commissioners of Crockett county be, and they are hereby authorized to exercise all the powers and privileges conferred on them by this Act, and any and all other powers, not in violation of the Constitution of the State, that may be necessary and proper for the complete setting up and organization of said county of Crockett.

SECTION 14. That the fractions composing said county of Crockett shall be liable for their pro rata of the debts contracted and owing by the counties from which they were taken, and shall also receive their proportion of any stocks or credits belonging to said old counties.

SECTION 15. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: November 23, 1871.

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