

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 04, 2012

Preamble to Minutes read by Chairman Meltz: "Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict".

A Regular Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was held in the Meeting Room on the first floor of the Courthouse Annex Building in Murphy, North Carolina on the 4th day of June, 2012 at 8:30 o'clock a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Lorraine M. Meltz, Chair; David Wood, Vice-Chairman; and Steve Jordan, Commissioner. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Assistant Clerk to the Board; Candy Roberts, County Finance Officer; and, R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board.

Present from the media was Dwight Otwell of the Cherokee Scout.

The invocation was given by Randy Wiggins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Scott Lindsay.

The Chairman presided and the Clerk kept the Minutes.

Budget Revisions/Finance Items:

Finance Director, Candy Roberts, presented the audit ending FY June 30, 2011. She said that the county has a healthy fund balance, and that it has been a good year. Ms. Roberts did note a budget violation, due to an Emergency Management grant budget revision that came in late. Commissioner Wood praised Ms. Roberts, saying that she "did an awesome job with financial statements."

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$6,000.00 to match funds for an HVAC unit for the Texana Community Center. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously. Budget Revisions are available for public inspection in the office of the Cherokee County finance officer.

Public Hearing:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to open the floor for the purpose of a Public Hearing concerning the NCDOT FY 2013 Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) grant application. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion passed unanimously. Randy Cantor, Cherokee County Transit Director, presented the ROAP grant, along with Mike Catuto, also of the Cherokee County Transit Department. Mr. Cantor explained that these funds cover the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (EDTAP); Employment Transportation Assistance Program; and the Rural General Public Program. A member of the public asked if there were any ramifications of grant, in the event that there were unused funds.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously. Public Hearing closed at 8:47 a.m.

New Business:

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve the resolution for the ROAP grant as presented by Randy Cantor. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve a resolution and the 3-year update of the 10-year Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan, as presented by Wayne Sullivan of Municipal Engineering Services Co., Inc. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.
- Cindi Herr, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator for Cherokee County Schools, Jeana Hardin, Chief Information Officer for Cherokee County Schools and SADD but TRU students came before the Board to request the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners adopt a "Smoke-free Ordinance" for public places. After a presentation by the SADD but TRU students, the Board agreed to hold a public hearing at the June 18th regular board meeting to seek public input on the issue.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the 2012-2013 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion passed unanimously.
- Will Roberts came before the Board to present the tax release and refunds for April and May 2012. A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the 2013 holiday schedule for Cherokee County local government offices. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to appoint Tom Flinn to the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center Board for a three-year term. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Flinn's appointment is effective July 1, 2012, and will expire June 30, 2015.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve a lease between Cherokee County (Lessor) and the State of North Carolina (Lessee) for office space for the probation and parole offices, commencing on July 1, 2012, and terminating on June 30, 2015. Lessee shall pay to Lessor \$1 rental for term of lease. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.
- Jeff Sherer of Clarke Patterson Lee, and Chuck West of Wells and West came before the Board to discuss the courthouse waterproofing project. Mr. Sherer said that six contractors were evaluated; but only three were qualified to bid. He said that two bids were submitted and that bids were opened as advertised on May 2nd. He said a third bid came in after bid-opening, but could not be opened or considered. Mr. Sherer said that the bids were for two work packages; Work Package #1 being the most important and including the cornice over the public space, and Work Package #2 includes work package one, plus the tower, providing for completion of all work needed. A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve Work Package #2, and accept the most qualified bid for Work Package #2. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Commissioner Jordan voted no, saying that he would like to see the project re-bid to allow for local companies to bid. Mr. Wiggins told Mr. Jordan that the project was advertised and that no local bids were received.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve the State Airport Aid Grant Agreements for Western Carolina Regional Airport as presented by Jeff Kirby, of Michael Baker Engineering. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.
- The Cherokee County Airport Commission, along with airport consultant Jeff Kirby of Michael Baker Engineering, Inc. came before the Board to share the history of the airport and the need for airport improvements as it relates to the economic benefit and impact that the airport has on Cherokee County, as well as the western region. Larry Kernea and Chuck Grant spoke on behalf of the airport commission, and Jeff Kirby spoke on behalf of Michael Baker Engineering, Inc. The Board thanked those involved for coming and clarifying the needs and importance of the airport.

County Manager Items:

Mr. Wiggins reminded everyone that the public hearing for the FY2012-13 proposed budget

would be held at the regular meeting on June 18th. He also asked the Board to approve a special called meeting on June 28th for budget adoption. A Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to call a special meeting for June 28th at 5 o'clock p.m. for budget adoption. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wiggins told the Board that Dr. Dan Eichenbaum had contacted him, and said that he had spoke to Commissioner Jordan, and that Commissioner Jordan suggested that Dr. Eichenbaum request a special meeting with the Board. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the United Nation's Agenda 21, as the Cherokee County 9-12 Group believes it relates to Southwestern Commission. A Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to call a special meeting for Friday, June 8th at 5:00 o'clock p.m.; and to forego any special meeting pay. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wiggins presented a request by the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition (HRWC) for a lease agreement to provide office space to the HRWC in exchange for services. A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve proposed lease agreement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously. A copy of the lease agreement may be viewed in the office of the county manager.

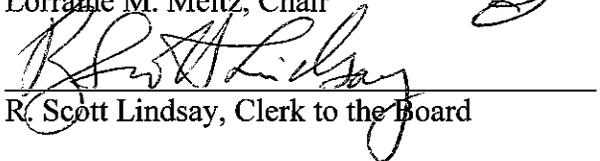
Public Forum:

- During public forum, the finance officer was asked to provide information concerning the counties debt.
- The Board praised Candy Roberts, finance director, for all of her hard work and diligence in saving the county money by refinancing county debts.
- Commissioner Jordan thanked Chuck West of Wells and West and Jeff Sherer of Clarke Patterson Lee for coming and explaining the waterproofing need.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 o'clock a.m.


Lorraine M. Meltz, Chair


R. Scott Lindsay, Clerk to the Board