

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 16, 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 Commissioners Boardroom, also known as Multi-Purpose Room 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 16th day of July, 2012 at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Lorraine Meltz, Chair; and Steve Jordan, Commissioner. David Wood, Vice-Chairman was absent. 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 Joseph Martin of the Andrews Journal and Dwight Otwell of the Cherokee Scout.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Steve Jordan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by R. Scott Lindsay.

The Chairman presided and the Clerk kept the Minutes.

Finance Items/Budget Revisions:

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the county's audit contract with Turner, Hatchett and Turner. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve carryover balances in the amount of \$359,668.00 not expended in the prior budget year. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$3,000.00 for the impound lot grading and gravel for the sheriff's department, from the Sheriff's Designated Fund Balance. The revision was approved contingent upon receiving three bids and for landfill equipment to be used for hauling the gravel. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve the receipt of USDA grant revenues in the amount of \$46,500.00 for additional rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes. The funds will supplement the Scattered Sites Housing Program. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz.

Public Hearing:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to open the public hearing to receive comments concerning a proposed "Smoking Prohibited Ordinance". Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. The proposed ordinance would prohibit smoking within 50 feet of County facilities and parks; and, allow for clearly marked designated smoking areas. Cindi Herr, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator for Cherokee County Schools was in attendance with several SADD but TRU students; also with her was Jenni Irwin, Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Schools Coordinator and Tracy Clark, Regional Coordinator. Ms. Herr, Ms. Irwin and Ms. Clark encouraged the

Board to move forward in adopting an ordinance to prohibit smoking within 50 feet of county facilities and parks. Ms. Herr and Ms. Clark shared statistics and polls and cited health issues related to, and resulting from, secondhand smoke. There were several people in attendance. The crowd seemed to be split evenly on both sides of the issue. C.B. McKinnon, commission candidate, suggested designating and placing signage for areas where “you can’t smoke”, instead of making “designated smoking” areas. There being no further comments, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

Approval of Minutes:

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the minutes of May 7; May 31; June 4; June 8; June 11; June 13; June 18; June 19; and, June 28. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

New Business:

- Roscoe Hall came before the Board on behalf of Texana Community Center to request additional funding for their newly installed HVAC system; and, to request funding for restoration of their conference room. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to fund the additional \$418.18 for the HVAC system, which would bring the total county funding for the system to \$6418.18. The Board had previously approved funding the HVAC project at 50 %. The total cost of the project was \$12,836.35. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. The funding request for the conference room restoration was denied.
- Eddie Wood was on the agenda to request that the Board hire a coordinator for the Southern Appalachian Family Farms (SAFF) program; however, Mr. Wood said that he would like to present his request when Commissioner Wood could also be in attendance. Mr. Wood will make an agenda request for a future meeting.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to appoint Dr. Larry Holder to the Cherokee County Board of Health to fill the medical doctor position recently vacated By Dr. Thomas Clayton. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Dr. Holder will serve the remainder of the three-year term. Dr. Holder’s term is effective July 16, 2012 and will expire April 21, 2014.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to appoint the following persons to the Cherokee County Recreation Advisory Board for a three-year term: John Coffey, Chad McNabb, and Linda Hurd. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Appointments are effective July 1, 2012 and will expire June 30, 2015.

Public Forum:

During public forum, the following items were discussed:

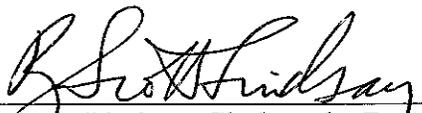
- A lady made complaints and allegations against the flea market on 64 West, across from Rib Country. She called it “tent city” and said that it was an eyesore. She also made allegations of illegal acts happening on the property. Chief Deputy Joe Wood was in attendance and said that his deputies visit all of the flea markets frequently, and go in plain clothes, specifically for the purpose of monitoring and making sure that if there are any laws being broken that appropriate action is taken. He encouraged the lady and all in attendance to call the sheriff’s office if they can be of any assistance.
- Chief Deputy Wood, referred back to the above approved budget revision, saying that drug forfeiture funds were being used for this project. He also added that the sheriff’s department is diligent in pursuing drug offenders and using the money from drug forfeitures to offset taxpayer dollars for departmental expenditures. Members of the public expressed their appreciation.
- Another person suggested that the county adopt a junk car ordinance.
- Someone asked about the status of a member of Southwestern Commission attending a

commissioners meeting. Commissioner Jordan asked the county manager to see if he could arrange for Bill Gibson to attend the August 20th board meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 o'clock p.m.


Lorraine M. Meltz, Chair


R. Scott Lindsay, Clerk to the Board