

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 20, 2015

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 20th day of January, 2015 at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: C.B. McKinnon, Chairman; Cal Stiles, Vice-Chairman; Dan Eichenbaum, member; Gary Westmoreland, member; and Roy Dickey, member. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board; R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Assistant Clerk to the Board; and Candy Roberts Anderson, County Finance Director.

Present from the media was Matthew Osborne of the Cherokee Scout; and Local TV4. DVD copies of commission meetings may be purchased at Local TV4.

Chairman McKinnon read the boards adopted ethics statement.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Roy Dickey.

The county attorney read "Commentary on the Pledge of Allegiance" by Red Skeleton. He then stated that there is no pause between "one nation" and "under God". It is "one nation under God".

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

Modification of Agenda:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to modify the agenda to add as Item (a), under new business, a resolution for a rural economic infrastructure grant for an assisted living facility to be built in Peachtree. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to remove Item (e), under new business, from the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to add an executive session to the end of the agenda to discuss a personnel matter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to adopt the modified agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum: There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 5, 2015. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance and Budget Items:

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve waiving the January, February and March rental payment for Smoky Mountain Urgent Care, in lieu of sewer repairs on the county-owned property. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision to use contingency funds to purchase an amplifier for EMS. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- Josh Carpenter, EDC director, came before the board to discuss an assisted living facility project, to be constructed in the Peachtree Community. Present for the discussion was John Glenn, project partner and Mike Stevenson, CEO of Murphy Medical Center. Mr. Carpenter explained that Mr. Glenn has asked the county to assist him in applying for an infrastructure grant to construct water lines to the property, so it can connect to the Town of Murphy public water service. Mr. Stevenson came to share his support of the project, as it will provide an Alzheimer's unit. Before applying for the grant, Mr. Carpenter would need a resolution from the board of commissioners authorizing him permission to begin the pre-application process. Mr. Carpenter said that the grant does require a county match of \$4700.00. The board asked Mr. Carpenter to provide them a list of grant assurances and the grant agreement before they will consider the request. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to table the resolution request, until the board has been provided the requested information. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the tax releases and refunds as presented by Delenna Stiles. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve Phase 1 of the DSS office re-location project, as presented by Director Donna Crawford. The cost of

Phase 1 will be \$4281.00. Mrs. Crawford said that she would be asking for Phase 2 in the upcoming fiscal year budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to grant the Cherokee County Tax Assessor the authority to approve property tax extensions. This will eliminate the need for each request to come before the board. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution request by Arthur Hays to name bridge #140 in Murphy in honor and memory of Mr. Roscoe Hall. The resolution requests that the NCDOT name Bridge #140 after Mr. Hall. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the revised six-mile fire insurance district map for Culberson Fire Department. The revision is a result of the recently constructed fire station located on Hwy 64, next to Ranger School. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Items:

Reminder of board's worksession on January 27th at 6:30 p.m. in the commissioner boardroom.

Chairman/Commissioner Items:

Chairman McKinnon gave a brief update on the recent NCACC Legislatives Goals conference that he and Commissioner Westmoreland attended in Pinehurst, NC. He said that the board's submitted goals did not initially make the NCACC list, but that he was able to re-introduce the board's submitted goals. He said that he was successful in getting one of the three submitted goals added to the NCACC list; and that being, the "tax and title" goal. This goal would tie titles to taxes, and require that taxes be paid before a title can be transferred. Commissioner McKinnon said that there were 300 goals introduced by North Carolina counties, and then narrowed down by the appropriate NCACC steering committees. The NCACC will now begin lobbying the legislature for the passing of these goals. Commissioner McKinnon said that he was glad that he was able to attend, and that he enjoyed serving as the Cherokee County voting delegate. Commissioner Westmoreland said that the conference was good.

Executive Session:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to go into executive session, pursuant to §143-318.11 to discuss a personnel issue. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to return to open session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session:

After returning to open session, there was no action taking on matters discussed in executive session.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 o'clock p.m.

These minutes were approved on February 2, 2015.