

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 16, 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 16th day of November, 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 and Clerk to the Board; Candy Roberts Anderson, County Finance Director; and, R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Assistant Clerk to the Board.

Media present were 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 county manager, Randy Wiggins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

Agenda Modification:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to remove Item (c), Tax Refund Report, under New Business, due to a delay of the report by the State. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.

Agenda Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed.

Public Forum:

During Public Forum, Tom O'Brien, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission (EDC), presented a resolution to the board in support of hiring a fulltime economic development director. Also speaking in favor of hiring a fulltime director was Margaret Deluna and Robert Hay. Mr. O'Brien, Mrs. Deluna and Mr. Hay all requested a worksession between the EDC and the board of commissioners to discuss the position.

Finance and Budget:

- The finance director gave a financial update on the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center through October 31st. The center is operating with a positive cash flow. No action required.

New Business:

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve tax refunds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- After discussion and presentation by Tax Assessor, Eddie Allen, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Residual Values of Personal Property Resolution. Motion failed.
- After discussion and presentation by Commissioner Eichenbaum, a Motion was made by

Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution opposing any inclusion of additional land in Cherokee County to the National Wilderness Preservation System. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to allow Senator Thom Tillis office space in the County Annex. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed. Commissioner Eichenbaum suggested extending the offer of space to Senator Burr and Congressman Meadows.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve hiring a part-time interim economic development director. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Westmoreland, Eichenbaum, McKinnon and Dickey. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Cal Stiles. Commissioner Stiles said that he felt like the position needed to be a fulltime position.

County Manager Items:

The county manager asked the board if they wanted to schedule a worksession with the EDC, as had been requested. Commissioner Stiles said he felt like the board should have a worksession with the EDC. Chairman McKinnon, Eichenbaum, Dickey and Westmoreland said they were not in favor of a worksession at this time.

The Chairman called a five minute recess.

Closed Session:

After returning from recess, a Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to go into closed session, pursuant to §143-318.11 (6) to discuss a personnel matter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed.

During closed session, the board talked to a current county employee about filling the interim position of economic development director.

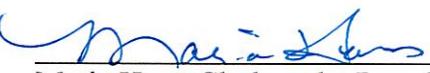
After returning to open session, no action was taken on matters discussed in closed session.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 o'clock p.m.



C.B. McKinnon, Chairman



Maria Hass, Clerk to the Board