

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2019
6:30 P.M.
Cherokee County Courthouse

Members present: Gary Westmoreland, Chairman; Roy Dickey, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Member; and C.B. McKinnon, member.

Staff present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Finance Officer; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board; and Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Meetings can be viewed on the website of Local TV 4 and WKRK Radio's Facebook page.

I. Ethics Statement

The Chairman reminded the Board of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act".

II. Invocation

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Modification of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to remove item "f" (Highway to Hedges Ministry Request) under New Business, per the ministries request. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the agenda as modified. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Forum

Henry Ristorcelli asked the board why the county meeting was being held on President's Day and encouraged the Board to adopt a schedule that observes President's Day and honors our founding fathers. Mr. Ristorcelli also asked for an update on the Cherokee Well Drilling building for EMS station 1.

VII. Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the January 7, 2019 minutes and the January 22, 2019 minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Finance and Budget

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision for the health department for State Grant Funds for Lab Testing (no county match). Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for the health department for Funding for Child Health and Maternal Health Programs (no county match). Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision for the Carry Forward of Unexpended 17-18 Funds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision for the Actual Expense of Medicaid Agreed upon Procedures and Review of Retirement Data (per new State requirements). Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to table the budget revision for Architectural Plans for EMS Station 1 and for the plans to be discussed during a closed session of the next commission meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. New Business

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve the Saddle Club lease with an "out-clause" added. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Commissioner Stiles said that he would also like the county to complete the railing at the arena. The county attorney asked the board if they preferred the document to be a lease or a licensing agreement. Commissioner McKinnon made a Motion to table until the next meeting, so he could review the differences between the lease and a licensing agreement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Wally Avett came before the board to request funding for the historic Harshaw Chapel renovation project; more specifically funding for a new metal roof. Mr. Avett, a member of Friends of Harshaw Chapel, brought with him, the pastor of the First United Methodist Church, Barbara Hughes, and Wayne Watson. Mr. Avett shared historical facts about the chapel and the

mission of the Joshua Harshaw family who donated the land "for the cause of Christ and His kingdom". Commissioner McKinnon and Commissioner Eichenbaum opposed funding the project, but stated that they would both contribute individually. Commissioner Stiles asked how much the Town of Murphy was contributing. Mr. Avett said that he would be presenting the request at the next Town Council meeting. Commissioners Stiles said that he thinks the county should support it in some amount, and added that it is related to tourism in the county and is a historical building. Commissioner Westmoreland agreed. A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to table the item until after the next Murphy Town Council meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners McKinnon, Eichenbaum and Dickey. Motion failed.

X. County Manager Items

The county manager told the board that Graham County has been ordered by Judge Coward to move a murder trial to Cherokee County on March 11th, due to the condition of current courthouse. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to bill Graham County at \$13.78 per square foot for courthouse rooms utilized during the trial. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Chairman/Commissioner Items

The County Manager gave an update on the courthouse lantern repair and re-attachment.

Commissioner McKinnon gave an update on the board's request for acquisition of Hanging Dog Campground.

Commissioner Dickey invited Mr. Ristorcelli to the Cherokee Well Drilling property and said he would be glad to show him what is going on with the property.

XII. Adjournment

There being no other business to discuss, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON MARCH 4, 2019.**