

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners  
March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Board members present:** Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Gary Westmoreland, Jan Griggs, and Cal Stiles. Commissioner Phillips participated remotely via Zoom.

**Others present:** Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

**Time:** 6:30 P.M.

**Location:** Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

**Call to Order and Ethics Statement**

Members were advised of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act.

**Invocation**

Invocation given by Randy Wiggins.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by Chairman Eichenbaum.

**Modification of Agenda**

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to remove item “a” “Request to place a dog park at Konehete Park”. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Adoption**

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

**Public Forum**

Several persons spoke in public forum concerning planning and crypto mine issues.

**Meeting Minutes**

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the meeting minutes of October 18, 2021 and December 6, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

**Budget and Finance**

a) Grant Project Ordinance for DPS Enforcing the Law Grant

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

- b) Budget Revision to accept a donation made to the Veterans Services Office to purchase signature pads for new software program

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

- c) Budget Revision to receive additional funds for Adult Protective Services

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

- a) Ellen Stephens, of Cherokee County Saddle Club presented a proposal for a multipurpose arena and stabling at Mountain Folk Center

No action taken.

- b) Paul Worley, Economic Development Director, presented a revision to the previously approved Housing Needs Assessment Proposal

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the revised proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

- c) Tax Releases w/Refunds Report, Tax Refund Report, and NCVTS Report

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve all tax reports, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

- d) Request from Region A to appoint Peggy Graham to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to appoint Peggy Graham to the Region A Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

- e) EMS Station 1 Bids

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to award the EMS Station 1 bid to Wells & West, in the amount of \$2,583,365. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Eichenbaum, Westmoreland and Phillips. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners Griggs and Stiles. Motion passed 3-2. The State has appropriated \$1.2 million for the project.

### **Chair/Commissioner Items**

Commissioner Stiles asked for prayers for Commissioner Phillips, related to a health issue.

Commissioner Griggs asked the finance director for a printout of expended ARPA funds.

Commissioner Griggs questioned the enforceability of the current noise ordinance. The county attorney said the ordinance language is vague and can be interpreted many ways.

### **Closed Session**

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to go into

closed session to consult with the county attorney on a privileged matter and to discuss a personnel matter. Motion passed unanimously.

During closed session, the Board received legal counsel from the county attorney and Sean Perrin concerning DSS lawsuits. The Board also discussed Emergency Management personnel.

**Open Session**

After returning to open session, a Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to define full-time as 32 hours. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to increase the DSS personnel budget by \$100,000. Motion passed unanimously.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT