

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Budget Worksession
June 5, 2019
5:00 P.M.
Cherokee County Courthouse

Members present: Roy Dickey, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Member; and C.B. McKinnon, member. Chairman Gary Westmoreland was not present, due to his mother's passing.

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

The Vice-Chairman reminded the Board of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act and expressed the Board's condolences to the Westmorland family.

Invocation given by Commissioner McKinnon.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Cherokee County School Superintendent Jeana Conley and Finance Officer, Stephanie Hass came before the board to explain in greater detail the portion of the schools budget requesting an increase in salary and benefits for locally funded positions. Mrs. Hass explained that the request is for three years compilation of state approved raises and benefits. Mrs. Hass said that CCS had been using fund balance to cover the cost of the raises and benefits, but they can no longer afford to do so. Commissioner McKinnon said that he wants CCS to come back before the Board as soon as they know what their needs are, and to ask for budget revisions at the time needs are determined, instead of waiting three years.

The county manager handed out draft vote sheets with items not included in the county manager's recommended budget, but that were requested by departments or individual board members. The board discussed items that they would like to see added or revised, and will formally vote on them at their June 19 worksession, to be included in the final budget adoption at their meeting on June 24th.

The board also discussed Ranger Volunteer Fire Department's request for an increase in their fire district tax. Board members again agreed that all organizations receiving tax revenue should be submitting an annual audit to the county.

The board discussed landfill needs, including a track hoe and garbage truck. A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to remove the Skid Steer from the budget and go ahead and purchase a frontload garbage truck for \$260,200. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

After all budget discussion was complete, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JULY 15, 2019.