

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2021
6:30 p.m.
Penland Senior Center

Members present: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Jan Griggs, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Randy Phillips, member; and Gary Westmoreland, member.

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

Also present: WKRK Radio, Local TV4 and Cherokee Scout.

Call to order and ethics statement by Chairman.

Invocation and Pledge

Chairman Eichenbaum, as the new Chairman, shared his plan for agenda discussions and order of meetings.

Modification of Agenda

- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to table Cherokee County Schools DPI report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips to cancel the January 19th board meeting and schedule a worksession with the Board of Education to discuss the DPI report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to add to the agenda, discussion of courthouse rotunda leaks, as item "k" under New Business. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

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

Public Hearing for the following proposed road names: Field Stone Trail; East Refuge Lane; Refuge Ridge Road; and Penland Cove Drive.

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips to open the floor for public comments. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to adopt the road names, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum-There were no public comments.

Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the meeting minutes of November 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Finance and Budget**

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips to approve a budget revision for a comprehensive classification and pay study. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve revisions to the county's pay plan for salary grade 57 maximum and salary grade 63 maximum. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the Cherokee County Employee Pandemic Pay and Benefits Plan, due to the expiration of the Families First Coronavirus Act. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- The Cherokee County Health Director, David Badger, came before the Board to give an update, and explain in greater detail, the department's current and future action plan for the Coronavirus vaccinations.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to re-appoint Commissioner Westmoreland to the VAYA Health County Commissioner Advisory Board. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, no action was taken on the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees appointment.
- Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to re-appoint C.B. McKinnon to the Board of Health. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners Phillips, Griggs and Stiles, who felt that the vacancy should be advertised per the commissioner's Rules of Procedures. Motion failed 2-3.
- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to follow policy and advertise for the Board of Health vacancy. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

- Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to table the armory facility discussion, so that worksessions can be held to determine the best use of the facility. Commissioner Griggs said she agreed and would like to include department heads in the discussion. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Phillips to move forward with the Backup 911 PSAP at Mark's Drive. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the following revision to the board's Rules of Procedure, Section V, Rule 9 (a):

The clerk to the board, in cooperation with the county manager, shall compile all requests for items to be placed on the agenda for each regular, special and emergency meeting into a draft agenda. A request to have an item of business placed on the agenda for a regular meeting by members of the public must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week before any regularly scheduled meeting. Board members may add an item until publication of the draft agenda by the clerk. The proposed agenda, as such may be modified, shall be adopted by majority vote of the Board and become the official agenda for the meeting.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to solicit bids for repairing leaks in the courthouse rotunda. Commissioner Stiles asked that the bids come to the board for review and award. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Items

The county manager gave an update on the Wilderness Lake Estates property, saying that no bids had been received. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs to hold off on re-advertising and discuss at next month's meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

The county manager gave an update on the EMS Station 1 project.

The Assistant County Manager informed the Board that the next two appointments to the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees should be Clay County nominees, due to the recently approved joint agreement for funding and trustee appointments.

Commissioner Items-There were no commissioner items.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON FEBRUARY 15, 2021.