

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2025

Board members present: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Cal Stiles, Vice-Chairman; Ben Adams, member; Alan Bryant, member; and Mark Stiles, member.

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Chief Financial Officer; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to Board; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order by Chairman Eichenbaum

Invocation

Pledge

Ethics Statement

The Clerk to the Board read the Ethics statement.

Budget Discussion

The Board of Commissioners, by consensus vote, approved the following changes to be made to the County Managers recommended FY 26 budget:

- Two additional cardiac monitors - \$99,806
- Approve Culberson VFD request for fire tax increase from 5.4 cents to 9 cents
- Approve Hiwassee Dam VFD request for fire tax increase from 6.4 cents to 9.5 cents
- Reduce NC Forest Service Funding for FY 26 by 25%
- Reduce Valley River Humane Society funding to 6 months and re-evaluate progress in three (3) months - \$125,117
- Add the approved FY25 Article 46 sales tax in the amount of \$918,243 to Article 46 FY26 budget for Cherokee County Board of Education
- Give Schools of Innovation sales tax refund to Cherokee County Board of Education to cover operational increases for a minimum of two (2) years

The Board also approved by consensus vote the following two items:

- Use of \$17,000 of annex elevator funds to make repairs to the bank at the Texana Community Center, prior to the Juneteenth event.
- Use of rescue funds in the amount of \$47,190 for Hiwassee Dam VFD to purchase a boat with sonar.

Adjourn

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

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 16, 2025.**