

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2023

Board members present: Cal Stiles, Chairman; Jan Griggs, Vice-Chair; Randy Phillips, member; and Ben Adams, member; and Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, member.

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

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order by Chairman

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Ethics Statement

Modification of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to add Board of Health fees to the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to adopt the agenda, as modified. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum

Minutes – April 4, 2023 and April 17, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the board meeting minutes of April 4th and April 17th. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget and Finance

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$19,000 to increase the Sheriff's professional services line. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution honoring Judge Kristina Earwood. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to table the proposed stormwater mitigation plan, until a future date. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the Tax Releases, Tax Refunds and NCVTS Report, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Items

Commissioner Griggs read a TVA public input notice.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to go into closed session, pursuant to §143-318.11 (3) to consult with county attorney to protect attorney-client privilege, and (6) to discuss personnel matter. Motion passed unanimously.

At 7:05 p.m., County Attorney Brown was excused from closed session.

Following Mr. Brown's exit, the Board discussed the following matter:

- The County's Insurance Pool Attorney, Sean Perrin joined the Board via ZOOM Video Conferencing to give the Board an update on a draft complaint filed by Jason Harley Kloepper, related to the December 2022 Bear Paw shooting. The video conference ended at 7:20 p.m.

At 7:22 p.m., County Attorney Brown re-entered closed session, and the Board discussed the following matters:

- Consideration of Health Director's prior years of service with Cherokee County for accrual purposes.
- Personnel hearing regarding a complaint against the Tax Assessor made by Joe and Jan Griggs. Commissioner Jan Griggs was excused from closed session at this time.

Open Session

After returning to open session, Tax Assessor, Teresa Ricks, spoke in her defense to the allegations made against her, and shared the struggles she said she has faced since taking office.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to return to closed session to further discuss the matter related to Mrs. Ricks. Motion passed 4-0.

Open Session

After returning to open session, Commissioner Griggs re-entered the meeting room. The Chairman read the following statement: "In the matter of Mrs. Ricks, no action is being taken by the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners."

Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON OCTOBER 2, 2023.