

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
July 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Gary Westmoreland, Jan Griggs, Randy Phillips, and Cal Stiles.

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Asst. County Manager/Clerk to Board; 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 – N/A

Agenda Adoption

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

Public Forum

Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce Director, Sherry Raines, asked the board for permission to move the Charters of Freedom from Murphy's downtown pocket park to the courthouse. Chairman Eichenbaum recommended that she contact the donor, Vance Patterson.

Jeff Tatham shared his concerns about land-use planning.

Budget and Finance

a) Budget Revision for Use of Contingency to Cover Additional Costs Associated with DSS Trailer Setup (\$2,500)

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Budget Revision for Covid Funds for Detention Center (\$89,488 - no county match)
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Budget Revision for Additional State Funds to Provide a School Clothing Allowance to Foster Children (\$6,500; \$500.00 per qualified child – no county match)
Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Budget Revision for Use of Sheriff's Designated Funds to Purchase Additional K-9 And Supporting Supplies and Equipment (\$25,380)
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

a) Jennifer West – Transit Pilot Program - The purpose of the pilot program is to test the impact of providing non-medical (e.g., trips to farmers markets, gyms, parks, etc.) intervention transportation services to high-need Medicaid members.
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners Eichenbaum and Phillips. Motion passed 3-2.

b) Sam Davis – Request that county pay for search and rescue team members workman's comp insurance, if not already covered by VFD insurance (\$800 annually)
Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Tax Refund Report and NCVTS Report
Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax refund report and the NCVTS report. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Rob Ward, Solid Waste Director – **1) Compactor** (TANA E380 - \$856,874, cost after CAT trade-in = \$606,874); and, **2) Recommended changes for Solid Waste Ordinance** (3 sections needing to be amended – 700.14 Packing materials prohibited; 900.09 Temporary Banning of Substances from Landfill; and, 1000.07 Commercial Hauler Penalties)
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the purchase of a TANA compactor. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the proposed amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve increasing the minimum landfill tipping fee from \$2.85 to \$10.00 and to increase the tonnage fee from \$57 per ton to \$80 per ton, effective immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Cherokee County Voting Delegate for NCACC Conference
Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to appoint Maria Hass as voting delegate for the upcoming NCACC Annual Conference and the NCACC Legislative Conference. Motion passed unanimously.

f) Archibald D. Murphey Chapter DAR request to place a 12" x 24" plaque in the Cherokee County Courthouse in remembrance of Archibald D. Murphey

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

County Manager Items

The county manager gave an update on what steps have been taken by the county, concerning the poor Verizon Wireless cellular service.

Chair/Commissioner Items

Commissioner Griggs thanked Hanging Dog VFD and Unaka VFD for reducing their fire rating from a 9 to a 6.

Commissioner Phillips thanked everyone for their prayers and asked for continued prayers as he continues to battle health issues.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland to return to open session. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

After returning to open session, no action was taken on matters discussed in closed session.

Adjourn

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

