

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
July 20, 2020  
6:30 P.M.  
Penland Senior Center

*Members present:* Roy Dickey, Chairman; C.B. McKinnon, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, member; and Gary Westmoreland, member.

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

*Modification of Agenda*

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to remove budget item "f"- (Use of Contingency to Purchase E-mail Encrypting Appliance for DSS). Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to add the Tax Refund Report to new business items. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

*Agenda Adoption*

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to adopt the agenda as modified. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

*Public Forum*-No public comments.

*Minutes*

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the minutes of May 4, 2020 and May 18, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

*Finance and Budget*

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision for use of contingency for ADA accommodation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision for use of federal forfeiture funds to purchase ten radios. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for use of sheriff's designated funds to renew DEA registration. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for acceptance of Dogwood Health Trust grant revenues to promote the 2020 Census. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision to establish a special revenue fund and budget for restricted Coronavirus Relief Funds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

#### *New Business*

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to transfer in fee-simple a portion of land at the armory, incorporated herein as "Attachment A", to Murphy Fire Department for construction of a new fire station. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Stiles, Westmoreland, Dickey and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner McKinnon. Commissioner McKinnon said he thought that the Board should make a decision on what it is going to do with the rest of the building before giving the property away. Motion passed 4-1.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to transfer, in fee-simple, a tract of property described at Deed Book 951, Page 617 of the Cherokee County Register of Deeds to Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., for the sole purpose of constructing a new fire and rescue station. Should the property cease to be used for fire and rescue purposes, it will revert back to Cherokee County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Westmoreland, Stiles, Dickey and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner McKinnon. Commissioner McKinnon stated that this option was not what was discussed and shared with the community during the fire departments community meeting, and therefore, he could not support it. Motion passed 4-1.

After discussion, a Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to reappoint Leslie Harris and Mike Bradberry to the Board of Health for another three-year term. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to accept Commissioner McKinnon's request to step down from the commissioner's position on the Board of Health and

to be appointed to a "Representative of General Public" position. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to appoint Commissioner Eichenbaum to the commissioner's position on the Board of Health. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Snyder, Sgt. Chapman and Sheriff Palmer of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department came before the Board to discuss issues with the current animal control ordinance and the difficulty in enforcing it. No action was taken.

#### *County Manager Items*

The county manager announced that Commissioner Stiles had been reappointed to the State Water Infrastructure Board by N.C. Speaker Tim Moore. Board members congratulated Commissioner Stiles on the reappointment.

#### *Commissioner Items*

Commissioner McKinnon gave an update on the efforts being made by a local group to get the Hanging Dog Campground reopened.

Commissioner Eichenbaum said he heard that the Panther Top shooting range had been closed and asked the county manager to look into it.

#### *Adjournment*

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON OCTOBER 19, 2020.