Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2023
6:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order by Chairman Cal Stiles

II. Invocation

III. Pledge

IV. Ethics Statement

"Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act and should avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict as may be allowed by law".

V. Agenda Modifications

- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to add a resolution recognizing Ron Hill. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to add discussion of options for repair or replace stormwater infrastructure at Mountain Folk Center. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Adams to remove Closed Session form the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to remove the 2022 amended audit contract from the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to add two funding requests from the Town of Andrews. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adoption of Agenda

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

VII. Public Hearing for NCDOT Public Transportation Program Grant Funding for Transit

a) Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.
b) There were no public comments.
c) Motion made by Commissioner Philips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adopt NCDOT Public Transportation Program Grant Resolution and Local Share Certification

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the grant resolution and local share certification, as presented by Transit Director Jennifer West. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Public Hearing for Road Names

a) Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.
b) Two persons spoke during the public comment period.
c) Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Adopt Road Names

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve all road names, except Debty Road and Artemis Crossing Hill, which were removed from the list. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Public Hearing on Proposed Moratorium Regarding High-Impact Industries/Facilities

a) Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.
b) Several persons spoke in support of the proposed moratorium. Core Scientific had submitted comments of concern prior to the public hearing.
c) Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. Adopt Moratorium Regarding High-Impact Industries/Facilities

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the Moratorium Regarding High-Impact Industries/Facilities, with the following amendments. Amend "Prisons" to read "Private Prisons" and to exclude generators that are being use for short-term/temporary emergency power. Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Public Forum

XIV. Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the minutes of June 5, 2023, June 21, 2023, June 26, 2023 and July 17, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

XV. Budget and Finance

a) Chad McNabb - Hiwassee Dam VFD Request for Use of Rescue Funds to Replace Faulty and Outdated Equipment ($7,050)
– Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve the request. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Unaka Community Club - Request for Funding to Assist with Recent HVAC Repairs ($981.73)
– Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve $481.00, 50% of the finding request. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Budget Revision for CCS Request for Use of Article 40/42 Sales Tax (Chiller replacement, HVAC replacement and Boiler Line Change Order) ($220,085)
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve. Motion passed unanimously. Note: Dr. Woody was in attendance and said that he hopes to be able to use ESSR funds for $191,600 of the request. If ESSR funds are used, the County would provide the remaining $28,485.

d) After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to reinstate a funding allotment in the amount of $50,000 for Cherokee County Schools to take care of facility maintenance items that cannot wait until a commissioner board meeting for approval. Cherokee County Schools will provide receipts to the Cherokee County Finance Officer, who will then reimburse up to the $50,000 allotment. Once the allotted $50,000 is used, the fund will be replenished. Cherokee County Schools must come to the next available board meeting to discuss the projects funded with allotted dollars. Motion passed unanimously.

e) The Town of Andrews submitted the following funding requests: 1) Request matching funds to complete four pickleball courts, to be installed over an existing tennis court; and 2) Request matching funds to complete new parking area at Ferebee Park.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve funding in the amount of $12,000 for construction of four pickleball courts. The Town of Andrews will need to submit receipts to Cherokee County upon completion of the project and the funds will then be disbursed to the Town.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to table the request for funding for the Ferebee Park project. Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to deny funding. Motion passed 4-1. Voting against the Motion to deny was Commissioner Phillips.

f) 2023 Audit Contract
- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the 2023 audit contract with Turner and Ennis. Motion passed unanimously.

g) Mountain Folk Center Stormwater Infrastructure Options
-No action taken. This item will be moved to a facilities worksession.

XVI. New Business

a) Needs and Solutions Assessment Committee (Applicant Introductions – Stan Carter and David Lance)
- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to appoint David Lance to the NASA Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the Tax Releases, Tax Refunds and NCVTS Report. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Accept GovDeals Bid for .11 acres land _ Campbell Terrace
The County Manger informed the Board that the .11 acres on Campbell Terrace in Andrews, PIN 5597-00-58-6802-000, sold on GovDeals for $4,125. The successful bidder was John Bohannon.
After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to accept the bid. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to schedule a Facilities Planning Worksession for October 12th at 6:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution in honor of a former county manager, Ronald "Ron" Hill. Motion passed unanimously.

XVII. County Manager Items - None

XVIII. Chairman/Commissioner Items
- Commissioner Adams reminded those in attendance that NCDOT would be holding a public meeting concerning the proposed local roundabouts on October 10th at 5 p.m. at Tri-County Community College.
- Commissioner Griggs asked folks to reach out to her if they had comments that they would like her to share with NCDOT representatives at the October 10th meeting.
- Commissioner Eichenbaum reminded those in attendance of the Cherokee County Fair happening on October 13th, 14th, and 15th in Andrews.

XIX. Adjournment
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JANUARY 8, 2024.