

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2021
6:30 p.m.
Cherokee County Courthouse

Members present: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Jan Griggs, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Randy Phillips, member; and Gary Westmoreland, member.

Staff present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Also present: WKRC Radio, Local TV4 and Cherokee Scout.

Call to order and ethics statement by Chairman.

Invocation and Pledge

Agenda Adoption

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

Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to approve the meeting minutes of June 21, 2021 and June 28, 2021. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance and Budget

- Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision supplemental LINKS funding from NCDHHS. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips to approve a budget revision for Share the Warmth grant funds received from Duke Energy. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to approve a budget revision for use of sheriff's designated funds for K-9 acquisition and training. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget revisions are available for inspection in the office of the County Finance Officer.

New Business

- Cherokee County 4-H Director, Shannon Coleman, came before the Board to present a proclamation recognizing National 4-H week. Also attending were the following 4-H members, volunteer leaders, and parents: Eli Setless, Logan Keefer, Tommy Reed, Jayson

Weitz, Trinity Weitz, Greg Charles, Faith Ward, Kaelyn Hedden, Erika Hedden, Mary Ann Hoesch, Christen Weitz, Marni April, Kevin Weitz, Tammy Reed, and Brandie Webb. Commissioner Jan Griggs read the proclamation, and a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

- Motion made by Commissioner Griggs to approve a Volunteer Firefighter Day Proclamation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Phillips to approve the tax releases, tax refunds, and NCVTS report, as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to award the bid for lease of the county's pool and wellness center to Rodney Morris and Murphy Health and Fitness for a term of twenty (20) years. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve submitting an application to Dogwood Health Trust for an ARPA Advantage grant to perform an asset inventory analysis and capital improvement plan for the Town of Murphy and Town of Andrews water and sewer systems. Additionally, the plan would include a study of broadband and housing needs. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard Plan as required by NCOSHA, which includes a provision that employees do not have to use accrued sick or vacation time, if it is determined by Worker's Compensation that the COVID-19 exposure occurred in the workplace. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Items

Commissioner Westmoreland asked to add to the next agenda, consideration of providing an additional courtesy car to the airport. The county attorney weighed in on potential liability issues with providing vehicles to a private business. The chairman asked the attorney to research and report back at the next meeting.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to go into closed session, pursuant to 143-318.11 (3) to consult with an attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege, and 143-318.11 (6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, and conditions of appointment of an individual public officer or employee. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed unanimously.

During closed session, the Board reviewed applications for the vacant Tax Assessor position, and also received an update from legal counsel, Sean Perrin, concerning pending CVA cases.

Open Session

After returning to open session, a Motion was made by Commissioner Phillips to call a special

meeting for October 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting interviews for the Cherokee County Tax Assessor position. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griggs. The Board also directed the county manager to oversee the assessor's office, and for employees to report to the county manager in the interim. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board also discussed premium pay for seventeen (17) public health employees and premium pay for law enforcement employees.

Adjournment

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

THESE MINUTES WERE APROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JANUARY 3, 2022.