

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2025
6:30 P.M.

Board members present: Alan Bryant, Chairman; Cal Stiles, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, member; Ben Adams, member; and Mark Stiles, member.

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Chief Financial Officer; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to Board; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order by Chairman

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner and seconded by Commissioner to adopt the agenda, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period

Budget and Finance

Action Item: Budget Revision for Use of Contingency to Purchase .10 Acres of Property at the New Senior Center/VA Facility Site (\$2,750 - \$1,200 is purchase price and remainder is legal and recording fees)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Budget Revision for Use of Contingency to Reimburse Unaka Community Club for 50% of the Purchase of a Camera System (\$1,255)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Cal Stiles to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Budget Revision to Accept a Grant from N.C. Department of Aging to Cover Delivering Additional Meals to Homebound Seniors (\$14,944 - No county match)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Cal Stiles to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Budget Revision to Accept a Grant from Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation to Help Purchase Food to be Distributed in Cherokee County (\$5,000 – No county match)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Budget Revision for Playground Equipment at Konehete Park (\$2,761)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Bryant and seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Approve Valley River Humane Society Agreement

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Cal Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Cal Stiles, Eichenbaum, Bryant and Mark Stiles. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Adams. Motion passed 4-1.

Action Item: Approve Airport Landing Fee Schedule

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Action Item: Board of Health Appointment – Licensed Physician (One applicant – Dr. Teresa Heavner. To fill the remainder of Dr. Jill Sonnenberg’s term, expiring 11/1/2027. Dr. Sonnenberg resigned due to moving out of state.)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Cal Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to appoint Dr. Teresa Heavner to the Board of Health to serve the remainder of Dr. Sonnenberg’s term. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Board of Health Appointment - Professional Engineer (Graham Raxter requesting to be reappointed for another three-year term)

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles to re-appoint Graham Raxter to the Board of Health for another three-year term. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Approve Cherokee County Saddle Club Licensing Agreement

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Adopt Resolution Conveying Real Property to Wolf Creek Fire Department

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Mark Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to adopt the resolution conveying real property to Wolf Creek Volunteer Fire Department. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Adopt Resolution Conveying Real Property to Culberson Fire Department

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Cal Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to adopt the resolution conveying real property to Culberson Volunteer Fire Department. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items: Approve the Tax Releases Report, Additional Tax Release Report, Tax Refund Report, and NCVTS Refund Report

Vote: Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles to approve all tax reports, as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Items

The county manager gave the board an update on the following projects: Cherokee County Public Health Facility Project; Cherokee County Head Start Facility Project; and the Dark Fiber Ring Project.

Chairman/Commissioner Items

There were no commissioner items.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles to go into closed session, pursuant to § 143-318.11 (6) to discuss two personnel matters. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Open Session

No action was taken after returning to open session.

Adjourn

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

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JANUARY 20, 2026.