

**MINUTES for June 5, 2023**  
**BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS**

**CONVENE**

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, June 5, 2023, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County commissioner Lorie Johnson opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, county clerk Rebecca Brassart, county counselor Nathan Coleman, Road and bridge supervisor Cody Zook, area agency on aging representative Kathy Brennon and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the May 26, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed with Lorie Johnson abstaining due to being absent from the May 26, 2023, meeting.

**ROAD and BRIDGE**

Road and Bridge supervisor Cody Zook presented the Board with a new hire sheet for Thomas Hollingsworth as a part-time utility employee to run the tree cutter machine. Commissioner Moates made a motion to hire Thomas Hollingsworth as a part-time utility employee at the rate of \$17.00. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cody notified the Board of closing roads down off highway 166 due to through traffic not taking the detour route.

Zook presented the Board with a bill from O'Brien Ready Mix in the amount of 1983.50 for curbing at the health department. Commissioner Moates, along with the rest of the Board agreed to pay the amount out of ARPA.

Cody notified the Board that SE 72<sup>nd</sup> is closed June 5, 2023, due to a bridge inspection. Zook also informed the Board that he has closed SE 90<sup>th</sup> and SE Five Mile to through traffic due to the road closure on highway 166 traffic has not been obeying the detour and is using alternate routes which is only to be used for local traffic.

Presented to the Board for signing was the HRRR (High Risk Rural Roads) project programming request. Cody stated this is for all major collectors west of K-7 in Cherokee County. The scope of the project consists of installing regulatory and warning permanent signage.

Cody discussed the falcon asphalt reclaimer and the gave an update on the rock crusher to the Board.

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING**

Area Agency on Aging executive director Kathy Brennon came before the Board to present the 2024 budget request of \$40,000. Kathy stated the AAA provided the county with 31,000 meals and has provided over 250,000 direct services in Cherokee county.

**CEREAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE**

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the on-premises license for Downstream Casino. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE 911 MAPPING**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, county 911 Coordinator Dustin Groves and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 9:55 a.m.

Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session, however as result of the executive session the Board accepted the resignation of Dustin Groves as the 911 coordinator effective June 16, 2023.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 20-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, county health department interim director Brenda Clugston and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT APPLICATION REVIEW**

The Board along with Brenda Clugston selected applicants to interview. The Board will reach out to the selected candidates to interview on June 19, 2023.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, county appraiser David Thornton and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:05 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**RAISE APPROVAL APPRAISER OFFICE**

County appraiser David Thornton presented the Board with a raise sheet for employee Robbi Shilts. Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the raise for Robbi Shilts from \$14.00 to a rate of \$16.31. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 20-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:30 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for an additional 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**FY2024 APPROVAL**

The Board agreed to sign off on FY2024, which was presented to the Board at an earlier meeting.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion for a 20-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and to return at 12:25 p.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion for an additional 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board to return at 11:40 a.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**911 MAPPING DUTIES**

Due to the resignation of 911 coordinator Dustin Groves the Board has decided to dissolve the office and assign the duties to various offices within the county. Commissioner Moates made a motion to assign the 911 mapping and addressing as follows.

911 fund portion will go to the sheriff office.

GIS will go to the appraiser office.

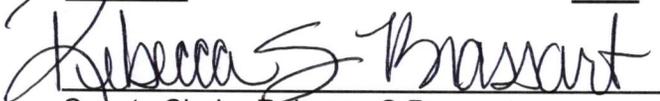
Construction permits will go to the county clerk's office.

Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and to move into the work session with county clerk Rebecca Brassart regarding ARPA fund balance. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 12th day of June 2023.**

  
County Clerk - Rebecca S Brassart

  
Commissioner Chair - Cory Moates

  
Commissioner - Lorie Johnson

  
Commissioner - Myra Carlisle Frazier