

MINUTES for July 31, 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, July 31, 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, Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, County Counselor Nathan Coleman, Taxpayer Jared Tanner, and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the July 24, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD & BRIDGE

Taxpayer Jared Tanner with T6 Farms came before the Board to request that the trees be trimmed back on SE 10th between Messer RD and Clem RD, SW 5th between Messer RD and Clem RD, SW 10th between Messer RD and Clem RD, and there is a tree on SW Messer RD between the SW 5th and the railroad tracks. Tanner stated he had called last year on June 17, 2022, requesting for the trees to be cut back, Tanner went on to state that he called again a year later and was told it would be put on the Board. Jared stated the trees are causing damage to his farming equipment and he would really like to see the issue resolved. R&B Superintendent Bryan Williams stated that the tree cutter had broken down and R&B Supervisor Cody Zook stated that is a less traveled road therefore it was not a priority. Commissioner Johnson stated she was tired of hearing about priorities and requested that the trees on the mentioned roads be taken care of before harvest. Johnson asks Williams if he could make that happen and he stated that he wasn't sure due to the trimmer needing a part. Johnson asked when the part came in if it was possible and Zook stated R&B will be needing to clear the right of way on Wyandotte first. Johnson stated that its been a year and that Tanner has already gone through two harvests while waiting for the trees to be cut back so that Tanner can get his equipment through.

County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook presented the Board with a new hire sheet for William Bauer as a utility 1 operator at a rate of \$16.00.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the new hire of William Bauer as a utility 1 operator at a rate of \$16.00. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE ROAD & BRIDGE

Cody stated he needed a non-elect executive session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 25-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 9:40 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AMBULANCE

Doug Mogle and Terry Clugston with the Cherokee County Ambulance Association came before the Board to discuss their funding needs for 2024. Mogle stated that the work comp premium took a large jump, and they will be needing to replace ambulances in the future.

COUNTY SHERIFF

County Sheriff David Groves, County Deputy Sheriff Terry Clugston and Chief Deputy Nate Jones came before the Board to discuss the 2024 budget. Groves presented the Board with a modified proposal for the 2024 budget.

Sheriff Groves presented the Board with a proposal for parole revocation in which the state would pay for when a parole revocation is being housed by the County.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for the County to be reimbursed by the State for the housing of parole revocations in the amount of \$95.17. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE ROAD & BRIDGE

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 20-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 10:35 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 a 24-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Road & Bridge Superintendent Bryan Williams, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:30 a.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE

Commissioner Johnson made a motion for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

RESIGNATION of COUNTY ATTORNEY/COUNTY COUNSELOR

County Attorney/County Counselor Nathan Coleman presented a letter of resignation to the Board effective September 1, 2023. Coleman addressed the Board expressing his gratitude to the law enforcement of Cherokee County for their service to the County. Coleman went on to say what a great honor it has been to serve the citizens of Cherokee County. Nathan stated he is very thankful for the Cherokee County Attorney's Office Team and their commitment to serving our county.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE COUNTY COUNSELOR

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and Assistant County Counselor Kurt Benecke to return at 12:37 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

2024 BUDGET REVIEW

The Board reviewed the presented budgets in an effort to cut cost down.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, to return at 1:17 p.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 a 5-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, to return at 1:22 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

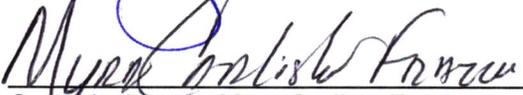
Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 7th day of August 2023.


County Clerk - Rebecca S Brassart


Commissioner Chair - Cory Moates


Commissioner - Lorie Johnson


Commissioner - Myra Carlisle Frazier