

MINUTES FOR JULY 30, 2018
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 a.m. on Monday, July 30, 2018 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioner Cory Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Pat Collins, Neal Anderson, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2018 BOCC meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Leonard Vanatta, County Road Supervisor, appeared before the Board on county road business. He reported that they are doing some leveling on 70th St. today. They will begin laying asphalt tomorrow. Commissioner Collins asked him to get a measurement and price quote for a new crossroad pipe near 21st St. & Wood St. He will approach the City of Galena to see if they will split the cost of it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the payroll for the period ending July 20, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Mark Hixon, County Appraiser, appeared before the Board regarding the software proposal from C.I.C. He stated that the next step would be to get a contract from them to consider. He asked the Board for approval to replace his desk, which is falling apart. He stated that he has \$2,800 left in his budget that was allocated for office furniture, but would only need half of that. The Board approved.

Raven Elmore, County Treasurer, appeared before the Board regarding the safe deposit box at the Commerce Bank. She stated that the paperwork has been submitted and she should have access to the box now to see what is in it. The Board asked her to report back to them after she discovers what is inside the box.

The Board discussed possible replacements for Mr. Cure as a contract attorney to the District Court.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to appoint Joanna Derfelt to the open contract position to the District Court for the remainder of the year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to approve the accounts payable for the period ending July 26, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Gene Mense and Matt Mense of the Mense CPA Firm, LLC appeared before the Board to continue working on the 2019 Cherokee County budget. Commissioner Moates stated that he was well pleased with the projected budget that decreased the mill levy by 1.637. Mense explained how the tax lid law will work in future years' budget preparation and that the taxes levied are the key. He stated that so far the taxes levied for 2019 is about \$20,000 less than 2018. The Board discussed creating a fund for technology expenses that are expected in 2019. Gene stated that a second equipment reserve fund for technology could be created and funds could be transferred into that fund. Commissioner Moates proposed a line item for technology to be funded by $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill and also putting $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mill back into road & bridge. He stated that would still lower the 2019 mill levy by 0.637 and the technology fund would be evaluated next year and eliminated if it isn't needed in the future.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to place $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill in a line item for technology and place $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mill back into road & bridge. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

The Board approved the working draft of the 2019 proposed budget and set August 13th at 10:00 a.m. for the public hearing.

Gene stated that he would prepare a new draft and submit it to Clerk Edmondson for publishing of the notice of public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins for an executive session for the discipline of non-elected personnel with the Board, Counselor Wright, Clerk Edmondson, and Treasurer Elmore. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:33 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:48 a.m.

No action was taken during the executive session.

Gary Smith of rural Columbus appeared before the Board regarding water drainage. He has built a new home next to the veterinary office at Messer Rd. & 69 Highway. He stated that water isn't draining in the ditch the way it should and would like permission to fill in the low areas where the water stands. The Board stated that they would have Leonard get with him and work it out.

Art Mallory presented to the Board three properties that are covered under the abandoned structure resolution for Counselor Wright and the Board to review for condemnation action.

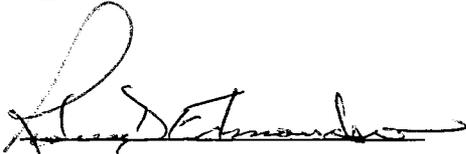
A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to proceed with condemnation action on properties located at SW 70th St. & HWY 166; 704 E Alternate 69 in Crestline; and 8793 SE 71st Ter. in Lowell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Moates suggested the Board consider a camera trailer for the sewer district with the cost being shared with the City of Baxter Springs. He stated that they have a demo unit with only 10 hours of use at a cost of \$90,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to share the cost of a camera trailer for the sewer district with the City of Baxter Springs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, August 6, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:16 a.m.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 6th day of August, 2018


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner