

**MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 30, 2017****BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS****CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS****CONVENE**

Chairman Pat Collins called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 30, 2017 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Pat Collins, Neal Anderson, Cory Moates, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt and Machel Smith

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2017 BOCC meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for an attorney client executive session for contract purposes with the Board, Counselor Wright, and Clerk Edmondson for a period of 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 6:04 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 6:19 p.m.

Raven Elmore, County Treasurer, appeared before the Board to gather signatures to change the signers on the Certificates of Deposit. She stated that she has reviewed the G/L Recap Report that shows all account balances. The report shows that there is \$6.8 million at the Commerce Bank, however the bank tells her that Cherokee County doesn't have any money there. She will continue to make calls trying to locate the money.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to allow Counselor Wright to enter a contract with Stewart & Neece Surveying to start the surveying work for the 5<sup>th</sup> St. Project in Baxter Springs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins reported that Attorney Gene Barrett is progressing through the court to set a date for the next tax sale. He stated that Attorney Robert Myers has been working on a second tax sale since February and is hopeful to have it filed by February of next year. Counselor Wright will check with Mr. Myers regarding his progress.

Carl Hayes, County Environmentalist, appeared before the board regarding the Environmental Department. Chairman Collins announced that Carl is retiring at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow. Carl presented a list of projects that are still ongoing with his job and offered suggestions moving forward. The Board thanked him for the job that he has done for the past 17 years.

The Board reviewed an application for an authorized emergency vehicle permit by Lt. Michael Hutchinson as approved by the Lola Township Fire Chief. The Board approved the permit.

Jason Pierce of 656 SE Greenlawn Rd. appeared before the Board regarding a dispute with a neighbor over a fence. He is needing to rebuild a ½ mile cattle fence that borders a neighbor. He stated that the

neighbor doesn't want the fence rebuilt. Counselor Wright stated that the Board has the authority to take up the matter as fence viewers. She will start the process and let him know what needs to be done.

Several citizens in attendance voiced their concern over the condition of the roads in and around the Highway 7 construction project. They stated that the condition of the roads is causing damage to their vehicles and needs to be maintained better. The Board stated that they are limited in being able to grade due to the application of magnesium chloride for dust control. The citizens were more concerned with the road than the dust. The Board assured them that they will get rock down on the road.

Dale Helwig, County Extension Agent, appeared before the Board to invite them to the annual meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they are moving toward more economic development as a group. They have scheduled a "Growing Your Agri-Business" seminar through K-State on November 16<sup>th</sup>. They are also planning a deer management class in the near future.

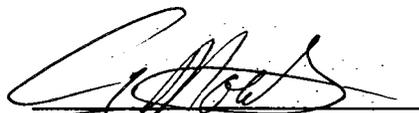
Commissioner Anderson provided an update on economic development in the county and the problem of lack of housing. He stated that the committee is meeting tomorrow to continue to develop ideas to stimulate the building of new homes in the County. Representative Mike Houser asked the Board if there is a way to lower the property tax on new construction as an incentive to build. He stated that businesses are wanting to hire more people, but there isn't adequate housing for new employees. Commissioner Anderson stated that they are looking at that option. Commissioner Collins stated that he would favor a stair step tax abatement for new homes. Anderson stated that they are gathering data from surrounding areas and trying to put them all together.

Commissioner Moates stated that with the retirement of Carl Hayes, they are looking to move his position into the Emergency Management Department, but nothing is final yet.

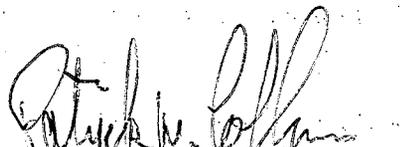
Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, November 6, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0 at 7:05 p.m.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner



**Cooperative Extension Service**  
K-State Research and Extension  
Cherokee County  
124 W. Country Road  
P.O. Box 148  
Columbus, KS 66725-0148  
620-429-3849  
Fax: 620-429-2720

October 25, 2017

County Commissioners & County Clerk

Greetings,

Cherokee County Research and Extension cordially invite you to our annual meeting Tuesday November 14th beginning at 6:00pm. Please feel free to bring your spouse/guest. Dinner will be provided with a short meeting following the meal. During the meeting we will award our 2017 Friend of Extension, look back at the accomplishments of 2017, and elect the 2018 executive board.

If you wish to attend the annual meeting please RSVP to our office as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you and visiting about Cherokee County Research and Extension. You may contact the office at 620-429-3849.

Sincerely,

Dale Helwig

CEA, AG

**Cherokee County  
Kansas State  
University Agricultural  
Experiment Station and  
Cooperative Extension  
Service**

K-State, County Extension  
Councils, Extension  
Districts, and U.S.  
Department of Agriculture  
Cooperating.

All educational programs  
and materials available  
without discrimination on  
the basis of race, color,  
religion, national origin,  
sex, age, or disability.

*"Knowledge  
for Life"*

## Loose Ends.....

- 1) Recycling program
  - ~ developed, implemented and managed program
  - ~ Johnny does extremely well transporting units
  - ~ request that Solid Waste Advisory Committee assume program oversight
  - ~ new recycling trailer lids....have contacted County Lot
- 2) E-waste collection
  - ~ implemented and managed 10 successful collection events (200,810 lbs)
  - ~ Jim Burton has co-managed since the beginning and will continue
  - ~ request that the County continue financial support
- 3) Solid Waste Advisory Committee
  - ~ need a "go to" person (ie. Commissioner) for issues, requests, etc.
  - ~ will continue involvement
- 4) Four States Clean Air Alliance
  - ~ will resign as current board member
  - ~ recommend continued participation
- 5) Spring River WRAPS
  - ~ have chaired since inception (2007)
  - ~ will remain involved
  - ~ encourage County participation
- 6) Grand Lake Watershed Council
  - ~ consists of all watershed groups and tribes in tri-state area
  - ~ overview of area activities
  - ~ encourage County participation (I will remain involved)
- 7) Lowell clean-up (KDHE illegal dump program...75/25%)
  - ~ SE 72<sup>nd</sup> Ter & Waxwing
  - ~ KDHE contacted – program manager conducted on-site inspection (approved)
  - ~ successfully used program for clean-up of two Oplotnik properties

# Board of County Commissioners, Cherokee County, Kansas

Public Attendance Log: October 30, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Printed Name	Phone Number	Address	Company or Organization
Jerry Messer	6741550		
Michele Hamilton	674-2135		
Gene Hamilton	674-2135		
Dale Helwig	429-3899		CK Co Ext.
Colton Moates	620-674-1263		
Amber Moates	620-674-1263		
Mike FLOBER	620-704-3817		
Kory Olson			
Jason Reed	918-645-7197		
Rhonda Zook	620-674-8848		
Laura Atkinson	620-429-0250		
Gary Gideon	620-719-0612		
Jason			
Meryl Gideon	202-2474		