

MINUTES MAY 1, 2017**BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS****CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS****CONVENE**

Chairman 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 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 1, 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, Machel Smith, and Jordan Zabel

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 BOCC meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

Leonard Vanatta, County Road Supervisor, appeared before the Board on routine county road business. He reported on the impassable roads and washouts as a result of the heavy rains and flooding over the weekend. They will spend this week working on repairing the damage. He reported that he is working on the right of ways for the 5th Street project in Baxter Springs.

Jason Allison, County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, appeared to provide an update on area flooding. He reported that the Spring River crested last night at 27.6 feet, three feet below the 2015 level. He stated that the forecast calls for another two inches of rain tomorrow night. He stated that when the water recedes they will begin a damage assessment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for an executive session with the Board and Counselor Wright for attorney client privilege for the purpose of pending litigation for a period of 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:41 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:51 a.m.

No action was taken during the executive session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to pass Resolution 09-2017, a Proclamation of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Cherokee County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Department Heads - Monthly Reports

They met with the Board for their routine monthly meeting for the purpose of updating the Board on happenings within each department, with the following department heads present: Barbara Bilke, Register of Deeds; Betha Elliott, Health Department; Deana Randall, Human Resources; Jason Allison, Emergency Management; Juanita Hodgson, Treasurer; Mark Hixon, Appraiser; Jacob Conard, Attorney; Rodney Edmondson, Clerk/Election; Janet Miller, Economic Development; and Wayne Elliott, 911 Addressing & Mapping.

Barbara Bilke - She reported the filing of a \$23 million mortgage, which let the county collect \$23,000. They have done 83 passports this year compared to 100 for all of last year.

Betha Elliott - She announced that today is the community baby shower that is held twice a year. She has three nurses going to a workshop on Friday. She reported that the e-waste collection on Saturday was successful with two 53' trailers being filled. They also received \$322 in donations to help with the cost of the program. She appreciated the help from CERT members as well as city employees and volunteers that were there to help.

Deana Randall - She reported that the county employee health screening is set for May 23-26. It is mandatory for all employee on the health plan to be screened. Those that do not participate will see their insurance premiums increase.

Jacob Conard - He reported that they are assisting with a homicide investigation in Galena that happened last week. He stated that his office filed 30 cases last month and are on track for 400 filings this year.

Janet Miller - She stated that the transition is complete and she is now an employee of the Economic Development Corporation and not a county employee. She reported that the winner of the Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair competed in the state competition. She stated that he didn't make the finals, but received very positive feedback on his project.

Juanita Hodgson - She reported that the vehicle department is busy. They have been working Saturdays on title work and are now processing titles from February. She stated that the second half tax statements have been mailed and payment is due by May 10th.

Mark Hixon - He stated that he is winding down the informal hearings and should be finished this week. There were 285 total hearings this year. His office now has until May 20th to get the decisions mailed out to the taxpayers. The 2017 values will be certified to the County Clerk before the June 1st deadline.

Rodney Edmondson - He reported that all of the cities and school districts have notified him of the positions that will be on the November ballots for the election of their members. He stated that budget preparation dates need to be set soon. A June 15th completion date is now being recommended if it is anticipated that the county or a city is going to exceed the limits set by the tax lid legislation.

Wayne Elliott - He reported the sale of \$119 in maps, the issuance of three new addresses, and the registration of one storm shelter.

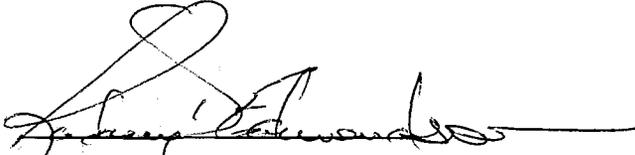
Commissioner Collin congratulated Richard Hilderbrand who is being sworn in today as the new Senator for the 13th District.

Mark Hixon, County Appraiser, appeared regarding the proposed tax to the townships for fire protection. He stated that he has early numbers for 2017 valuations and would be able to use those to make some projections. The Board accepted his offer.

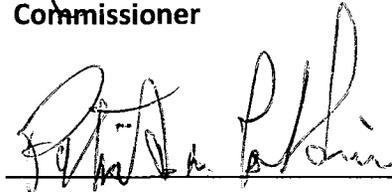
Larry Hiatt asked the Board to consider an advertisement to recognize the graduates of county employees. He stated that the Board has done so for the past several years. The Board agreed to do the ad.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, May 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:43 a.m.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 8th day of May, 2017


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner

09-2017

RESOLUTION # ___ AND PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Cherokee County, Kansas:

WHEREAS on the 29 day of April, 2017, the Board of Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas finds that certain conditions have caused, or eminently threaten to cause wide-spread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property in disaster property proportion in Cherokee County, Kansas.

WHEREAS, such conditions have created obstructions which endanger health, safety, and welfare of persons and property within the border of Cherokee County, Kansas.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas.

That the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, under and by virtue of the authority vested in it by K.S.A. 1976 Supp. 48-932, does hereby PROCLAIM that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that the area within the border of Cherokee County, Kansas covered by this proclamation/resolution is the entire area of Cherokee County, Kansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Board has all rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act of 1975.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that this resolution shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the governing body.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THIS 1st DAY OF May, 2017.



COUNTY COMMISSION



CHAIRMAN



MEMBER



COUNTY CLERK

Refaxed 5-1-17
9:00

