

MINUTES for August 26, 2024
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chair Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, August 26, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Myra Carlisle-Frazier opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, County Road and Bridge Road Supervisor Cody Zook, County Counselor Jake Conard, Owner of the News Report Larry Hiatt, Economic Director Dale Helwig, clearway energy representative Will Dearing, taxpayers Dale and David Scott, were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from August 19, 2024. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD and BRIDGE

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to inform them of the work the county road and bridge has done over the past week. Cody stated they have still been hauling tree debris from the storm and rock to those places that needed it. He stated that they will try to get asphalt for NW 50th this week.

RESOLUTION 22-2024

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve resolution 22-2024. A resolution that allows for the revision of the functional classification system. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLAR ENERGY

Taxpayers, Dale and David Scott came before the Board to request that the solar project with clearway energy be allowed to take place in the county. Dale addressed the Board stating that they are for the solar project in the county. She went on to say that they are asking that the Board be in support of their decision to use their land to the best of its ability. Dale stated she was most concerned with the possible set back regulations that might be set by the county. She went on to inform the Board of some of her own research that she had done regarding solar farms.

NON-ELECT PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE

Commissioner Frazier motioned for a 5-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, maintenance coordinator Mike Thomas and county counselor Jake Conard to return at 10:20 a.m. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action.

REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING

Chairman Moates opened the RNR hearing and asked if there was taxpayer input. Discussion surrounded the hearing to exceed the RNR. Many taxpayers posed questions to the Board who replied with answers which satisfied the taxpayers. Commissioner Moates closed the RNR hearing and made a motion to not exceed the RNR. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was then taken, all commissioners voted no.

2025 CHEROKEE COUNTY BUDGET HEARING

Chairman Cory Moates opened the hearing for the 2025 budget of Cherokee County. Many taxpayers posed questions to the Board. The Board informed the taxpayers of how to protest taxes. Commissioner Moates closed the 2025 budget hearing. Commissioner Moates made a motion to change the published budget for the following:

Road and Bridge from 3,416,888 to 3,156,447

Extension Council from 372,220 to 253,169

Elderly Services from 25,742 to 41,000

Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the 2025 budget as changed. Commissioner Johnson seconded the

motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2024 SEWER DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING

Chairman Cory Moates opened the budget hearing for the 2025 Cherokee County sewer district #1. There was no discussion. Commissioner Moates closed the budget hearing.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the 2025 budget for the Cherokee County sewer district #1 as presented. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

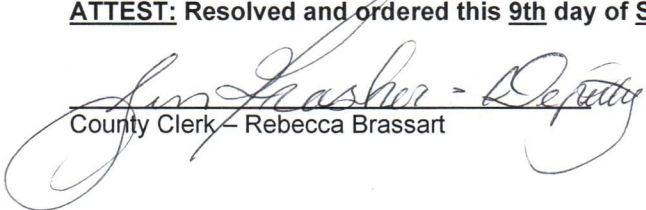
SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Deputy Sheriff Terry Clugston and Chief Deputy Nate Jones came before the Board to inform them that Steven Burton fire chief for Columbus is wanting to start a medical response unit that can be used to respond when an ambulance is out on another call. Terry stated the sheriff's office would like to donate the vehicle to the fire department to be used for this purpose. The commissioners stated that they are okay with it if it is allowable by law. County counselor Conard will investigate it for them.

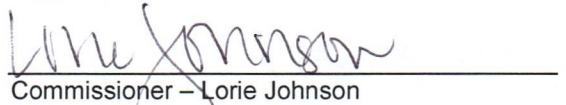
ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 9th day of September 2024.


County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart


Commissioner Chair – Cory Moates


Commissioner – Lorie Johnson


Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier