

MINUTES FOR MAY 4, 2015
BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Commissioner Hilderbrand 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 AM on Monday, May 4, 2015 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Richard Hilderbrand, Charles Napier, Pat Collins, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Machel Smith, Jordan Zabel

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the Minutes of the BOCC Meeting for April 27, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

Larry Hiatt presented a graduation advertisement recognizing relatives of county employees for consideration by the Board. The cost is \$450.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to purchase the graduation advertisement in the Columbus News Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to enter an Executive Session with the Board for a period of 30 minutes for the purpose of Non/Elected Personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:24 AM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:54 AM.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

Department Heads - Monthly Reports

They met with the Board for their routine monthly meeting with the following Department Heads present: Barbara Bilke, Register of Deeds; David Groves, Sheriff; Deana Randall, Human Resources; Jason Allison, Emergency Preparedness; Mark Hixon, Assistant Appraiser; Rodney Edmondson, Clerk; Wayne Elliott, 911 Addressing & Mapping.

Barbara Bilke - Presented a written report.

David Groves - He reported that two deputies recently graduated KLETC and are in field training now. His office has had three reports of IRS scams when individuals went to file their income tax returns.

Deana Randall - She reported that 41 employees are signed up for the health screening this week. She reported that KPERS is now going to offer optional life insurance for children up to the age of 26. It's optional for the county to participate.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to proceed with the optional life insurance for children. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

Jason Allison - He reported that his office is working on a table top exercise for the explosives plant. The Board discussed the storm shelter situation and specifically the use of the courthouse as a shelter. They will look into the possibility of having a shelter at the Health Department or the Law Enforcement Center.

Mark Hixon - He reported that the informal hearing have concluded with 457 appeals, 321 values were reduced as a result of the hearings.

Rodney Edmondson - He reported that the election contest hearing is today at 1:30 PM.

Wayne Elliott - He reported the sale of \$114.50 in maps last month, and the issuance of two new addresses for new houses. He stated that his office has finished updating property ownership maps for parcels that are located within city limit boundaries.

Nathan Coleman - County Counselor

He appeared before the Board regarding legal matters concerning Cherokee County.

He reported that he had been contacted by the Neosho Township Treasurer Debbie Fox. It appears that there is gridlock between the two members of the township board. There is a vacancy in the township clerk's position. He advised her that they need to hire their own counsel, as they are their own government body. He told her that the commissioners have the authority to fill the vacancy if names are submitted and if gridlock continues then there is the ability to dissolve the township.

Commissioners Hilderbrand and Napier both stated that they have had similar conversations with Debbie Fox and Vernon Hill.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to enter an Executive Session with the Board and Mr. Coleman for the purpose of Attorney/Client Privilege for a period of 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hilderbrand. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:16 AM.

The meeting reconvened at 11:31 AM.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

Road Supervisor Leonard Vanatta presented a Request for Construction Project Application with KDOT for a bridge located .5 miles south and .8 miles east of Columbus that intersects brush creek.

The Board signed the application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to enter an Executive Session with the Board and Mr. Coleman for the purpose of Attorney/Client Privilege for a period of 10 minutes to review a potential contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:36 AM.

The meeting reconvened at 11:46 AM.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

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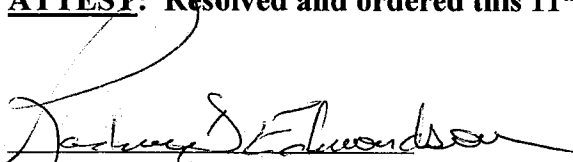
Commissioner Hilderbrand opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy for the Indigent Defense Attorney contract position.

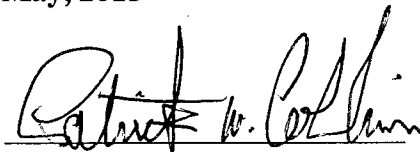
A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to appoint Doug Steele as the Contract Attorney for Indigent Defense. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

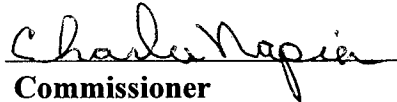
Mr. Coleman will draft a letter of appreciation to all candidates.

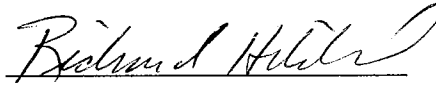
Commissioner Hilderbrand made a motion to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting set for May 11, 2015 at 9:00 AM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0 with all voting yes at 11:50 AM.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 11th day of May, 2015


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner

