

MINUTES FOR APRIL 9, 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, April 9, 2018 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Clerk Rodney Edmondson 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, Jordan Zabel

Jason Youngblood, representing the City of Galena, appeared before the Board. They are asking the Board to consider partial funding for a vacuum trailer for waste water. This unit would prevent the need to dig with a backhoe for sewer problems. The unit they are considering is a Vermeer, just like the one owned by the City of Baxter Springs. The total cost is \$61,684. The City of Galena would house and insure the machine and their crews would assist in Riverton when the unit is needed there. The Board took the offer under advisement.

Louis Schreiner, County Lot Supervisor, appeared before the Board regarding county road business. The Board asked him to put a cold patch in West Mineral where the concrete work was completed and also on Badger Rd. where the road goes to the Missouri state line. They also asked him to check the stop sign that was damaged at the intersection of Beasley Rd. & SE 50thSt. Louis stated that they are sending one of the road graders that has just less than 14,000 hours on it to Fabick on April 18th. The rebuild should take 3 months.

Barbara Wright reported that one of the properties that is on the list of county owned real estate to be auctioned in May was discovered to have been sold at an auction in 2014 but the deed was never filed by the new owner. The owner has now given the deed to the Register of Deeds Office and is waiting on the county to determine how much in back taxes are owed by them since the sale of the property in 2014.

Raven Elmore, County Treasurer, provided an update of funds from the Kansas Crossing Casino.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2018 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the payroll for the period ending March 30, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the accounts payable for the period ending April 4, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

The Board presented county employees with certificates for their years of service as recognized by the Kansas Association of Counties for the year of 2017. Those employees receiving recognition for eight years of service were Lori Gabrielson, Curtis Nida, Justin Noel, and Sandra Stanley. Employees with 16 years of service were James Boyes, Louis Schreiner, and John York. Employees with 24 years of service were Paul Adams, Michael Barnett, Brenda Clugston, and Linda Taylor. The Board thanked them for their service to Cherokee County.

Terry Clugston representing Cherokee Ambulance District 1 & 2 appeared before the Board. They are trying to finish the USDA grant application for the purchase of two power cots but there are questions regarding some of the forms that need to be completed. Counselor Wright has reviewed the documents and needs some more information from the ambulance district in order to complete the forms. The Board set April 23rd at 10:00 a.m. for a public hearing.

Will Blanco representing Cherokee County Ambulance District No. 3 out of Baxter Springs appeared before the Board regarding the remounting of an old ambulance. He stated that they are ready to use the USDA Grant to purchase a 2018 Ford chassis with a gas motor. The cost of the project is \$99,000 minus \$35,000 from the USDA Grant. The service has \$20,000 to use toward the purchase which would leave a balance of \$44,000. He is asking the Board to purchase the ambulance and to pay the balance due, then reduce their county subsidy for the next 18 months. The reduction would be approximately \$2,400 each month.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to allow Baxter Springs Ambulance to purchase the new ambulance at a cost of \$99,000 and to reduce their monthly subsidy by approximately \$2,400 for 18 months to repay the \$44,000 that the county will spend to purchase the unit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Kyler Spahn and Jacob Burns from the Southeast High School Technology Student Association appeared before the Board regarding funding for the upcoming national competition. Each year they have had someone qualify for the national competition and they have been state champions for the past five years. All seven students from Southeast have qualified for this year's national competition in Atlanta, Georgia. They are needing to raise \$7,000 and are asking the Commissioners for any assistance possible. Each commissioner agreed to donate \$500 from their recreation funds.

Dale Helwig and Megan Bevans from the County Extension Office appeared before the Board. Dale introduced Megan as a new program assistant with the Extension Office. Her focus will be on outdoor activities. They are expanding programs to include a hide tanning class on May 5th and a hunter safety certification course on May 22nd.

Jason Allison, Emergency Management Coordinator, appeared before the Board. He stated that 15 illegal dump sites have been reported to KDHE. He stated that the two storm sirens that were damaged by lightning have more damage than initially thought. He is working on finishing the grant application this week for the purchase of more storm sirens for Lawton and Mineral. He is going to write the grant to include putting solar panel backups on all of the storm sirens. The Board approved Chairman Moates to sign the grant application when completed.

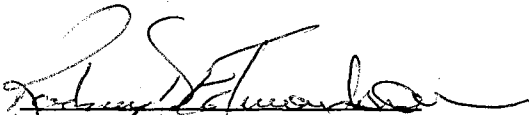
A motion was made by Commissioner Collins for an attorney client executive session for staffing with the Board, Counselor Wright, and Clerk Edmondson for a period of 20 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:11 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:31 a.m.

Commissioner Moates reported that they are anticipating the letting of bids for the Baxter Springs 5th Street Project in June. He stated that Teeters is preparing to pave West N 10th St. that was damaged during the E.P.A. cleanup.

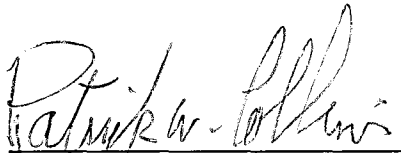
Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, April 16, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:34 a.m.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 16th day of April, 2018


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner