

**MINUTES for March 6, 2023**  
**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 AM on Monday, March 6, 2023, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County clerk employee Tonia Altis opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, county clerk employee Tonia Altis, road and bridge supervisor Cody Zook, assistant county counselor Kurt Benecke and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the February 27, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL of PAYROLL**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL of PAYABLES**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 5-minute extension to the attorney client privilege executive session with the Board and county counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 12:13 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**ROAD and BRIDGE**

Cody Zook presented the Board of a new employee, Kody Vanderpool as the utility operator. Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the hiring of the new employee, Kody Vanderpool. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cody informed the Board of all the upcoming projects the county will be doing.

Cody notified the Board and provided a copy of a new, updated policy and rules packet that Zook has prepared for employees so that employees will know the expectations of their job with Co. Road and Bridge.

Cody informed the Board that the diesel mechanic is no longer there. Cody has a current employee that he is trying to get in that position. Cody also spoke about getting a county tool box, that will be locked, but can be used by county employees.

Commissioner Johnson mentioned a builder being held up in Skidmore. Johnson asked about road abatement so that the builder on stand still could move forward.

Commissioner Frazier asked the Board about Cornerstone. Commissioner Johnson stated that they are no longer answering the phone, nor will return a call.

Cody also brought forth an idea to the Board about coming up with a policy for those who want to work on the road, such as picking up trash, and if the person were to ruin the road, then there would be policies in place.

Commissioner Moates also asked Cody about Commons Rd and if the county will be able to get to it before it