

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
February 5, 2018

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners held a regular scheduled meeting in the Commissioners Boardroom, also known as Multi-Purpose Room 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 5th day of February, 2018 at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Gary Westmoreland, Vice-Chair; C.B. McKinnon, member; Cal Stiles, member; and Roy Dickey, member. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board; and, R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney and Assistant Clerk.

Media present: Cherokee Scout, Local TV4, and WKRK. DVD copies of commission meetings may be purchased at Local TV4 or watched live or recorded via the Facebook page of WKRK.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Roy Dickey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

**Agenda Modification:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to move Litter Pickup Recognition as the first item of business after public forum. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to table Adverse Weather Pay. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Adoption:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

**Litter Pickup Recognition:**

Chairman Eichenbaum called all of those to be recognized up to the front of the room for a photo, and thanked them for their cleanup efforts. The board expressed appreciation for everyone's participation and dedication in the anti-litter campaign, and the county manager read the name of each participant; as submitted by Mr. Gary Chamberlain, spokesman for the North Carolina Litter-Free Coalition. The board also expressed appreciation to Mr. Chamberlain for all of his hard work on the anti-litter campaign.

## **Public Forum:**

Mr. Paul Wilson talked about litter pickup and his America the Beautiful school group, and thanked the board for their contribution to the anti-litter campaign flyers.

Mr. Gary Chamberlain came before the board to talk about the anti-litter campaign and to brag on students for their dedication and participation. He also presented a “thank you” poster to the board, which was created by Murphy Middle School students.

Mr. John Worden, a teacher, came before the board to thank Mr. Gary Chamberlain on the success of the anti-litter campaign, and to brag on the students. Mr. Worden also thanked board members for sponsoring the flyers.

Mr. Richard Parker came before the board to talk about the airport and to thank board members for allowing his name and plaque to be placed on the terminal building.

## **Minutes:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the minutes of December 18, 2017. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the minutes of January 2, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the minutes of January 18, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Finance and Budget:**

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for the airport tower settlement from the Leith/Chandler case. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision to move the Veterans Administration part-time position to a full-time position. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for use of Article 46 tax dollars for the purchase of district-wide Chromebooks for Cherokee County 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a budget revision for use of sales tax to repair a boiler at Hiwassee Dam School. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for use

of contingency to replace a blown engine in the Medic 4 ambulance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the health department fee schedule for Fetal Non-Stress Test and Uterine Ultrasound. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision to cover the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center deficit. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners McKinnon, Westmoreland, Dickey and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Stiles, who stated that he opposed this payment because he also opposed the lease of the facility to Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center, LLC. Motion passed. Additional information: The HVPWC cash balance was \$14,746.14, and the deferred revenue amount owed to HVPWC, LLC, per the recently approved lease agreement, was \$52,111.59, leaving a deficit of \$37,365.45. The Hiwassee Valley Recreation Foundation, which had been covering the past deficits, decided not cover the current deficit; leaving the county to cover the deficit from the general fund.

Budget revisions are available for public inspection, in the office of the Finance Director.

#### **New Business:**

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- Shelly Foreman of Vaya Health came before the board to give an update, pertaining to Medicaid reform.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to give detention officers a \$1 an hour raise. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table the update on the Peachtree Manor Project. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Commissioner Items:**

Commissioner Westmoreland commented that the county would be getting a traffic light at the Dickey property for the future EMS Station. He thanked the board for working on getting the traffic light.

Commissioner McKinnon asked about the status of the self-serve fuel pump installation at the airport. The county manager told him that it should be completed soon.

Commissioner Westmoreland asked about the status of the camera system being placed at the Caney Creek convenience site. The county manager said that it was to be completed today, and that once it was operational that the site would be open 24/7.

**Closed Session:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to go into closed session, pursuant to §143-318.11. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

After returning to open session, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to call in the Letter of Credit from First Citizens Bank, secured by John Glenn for the Peachtree Manor Project Grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Eichenbaum, McKinnon, Dickey, and Westmoreland. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed.

A Motion was made by Chairman Eichenbaum that the services of Scott Lindsay, county attorney, were no longer needed, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Eichenbaum, McKinnon, and Westmoreland. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Dickey and Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON MARCH 19, 2018.**