

**Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2023**

Board members present: Cal Stiles, Chairman; Jan Griggs, Vice-Chair; Randy Phillips, member; Ben Adams, member; and, Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, member.

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Asst. County Manager/Clerk to Board; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order

Invocation

Invocation given by Randy Wiggins.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Ethics Statement by Clerk to the Board

Modifications of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to add a budget revision for the CRAVE and WAVE court system project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to add a discussion period prior to the Needs and Solutions Advisory Committee introduction. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to add discussion of placing a barn quilt at Konahete Veterans Park. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adopt the agenda as modified. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period for Draft Noise Ordinance

The following persons spoke in public forum concerning the draft ordinance: Donni Simonds, Doc Wacholz, Scott Peterson, John Worden, Max Norton, Dori Mitchen, and Jeff Tatham.

Board Discussion and Consideration of Draft Noise Ordinance

After hearing from members of the public and lengthy discussion between all board members, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to take no action on the

proposed ordinance. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Stiles, Adams, Eichenbaum and Phillips. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Griggs. Motion passed 4-1.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to continue working on a noise ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

a) Resolution Opposing the Creation of a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team in Cherokee County
Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded Eichenbaum to take no action on the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget and Finance

a) Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$800 to accept a private donation for Cooperative Extension. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$18,208 for use of insurance proceeds to replace wrecked vehicle at Detention Center. Motion passed unanimously,

c) Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$24,873 to purchase a vehicle for DSS. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for use of fund balance in the amount of \$100,000 for the rural transformation grant property acquisition. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Adams, Stiles, Griggs, and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed 4-1.

e) Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a Dogwood Health Trust Grant to complete an upgrade to the Administrative Office of the Courts wired and wireless technology in the courthouse to make the court system more efficient. There is no match required. Motion passed unanimously.

Tax Releases, Tax Refunds and NCVTS Report

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the tax releases, tax refunds and NCVTS report. Motion passed unanimously.

Cherokee County Transit Updated Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the updated policy. Motion passed unanimously.

Community Care Advisory Committee Appointment

After discussion, and upon recommendation of the Region A Long-Term Care Ombudsman, a Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to appoint Randy Martins to the Community Care Advisory Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Needs and Solutions Advisory Committee

Commissioner Eichenbaum shared his thoughts on what the makeup and design of the committee should be, suggesting specific areas of expertise and skill sets. He said he would like the board to consider the specific makeup at the next meeting. Commissioner Griggs said she would like to appoint the initial nine (9) members from the pool of applicants received. Chairman Stiles agreed with Commissioner Griggs. After further discussion, no action was taken.

Needs and Solutions Advisory Committee Introductions

The following applicants came before the board for a brief introduction: Heidi Holton, Kevin Carter, Margaret Ackiss, Sue Lynn Ledford, Jack Simons, Ben Wilson, Keith Wood, Chasity Ledford, Phoebe Donahue, Anne Rose, Phil St. John, Callie Radford, Jeanie Setser Teague, Mark Stiles and Mark Kephart.

Resolution Opposing Two Proposed Roundabouts in Murphy

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Request to Display Barn Quilt at Konahete Veterans Park

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to display a barn quilt at Konahete Veterans Park. Commissioner Griggs said the barn quilt was made by a Hiwassee Dam Senior Center member to honor veterans. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt FY23-24 Departmental Budget Meeting Schedule

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to schedule the following dates for departmental budget meetings: March 3; March 7; March 10; March 15; and April 4. Motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Items - None

Chairman/Commissioner Items

- Commissioner Griggs read an email from TVA concerning the proposed transmission line project and TVA's reason for not agreeing to attend a board meeting. Becky Mauney, a Cherokee County resident who is also affected by the proposed transmission lines shared her concerns, as well.
- Commissioner Adams made a Motion to approve funding up to \$6,000 to construct dugouts at the t-ball fields at Konahete Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Adams shared a letter with the board concerning a request to develop a dog park at Konahete Park.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (3) attorney-client privilege. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

After returning to open session, no action was taken on matter discussed in closed session.

Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED APRIL 3, 2023