

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
February 19, 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 19th 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; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and, Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board.

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 Sheriff Palmer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Eichenbaum.

**Agenda Modification:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to add "RFP for Legal Services" as item "g" under New Business. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to add "Proposal for Legal Services to Sheriff" as item "h" under New Business. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to add "Acquire Emergency Legal Services" as item "i" under New Business. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Adoption:**

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

**Public Forum:**

During public forum, Aurelia Stone asked the county to consider a leash law for Konehete Park. Commissioner McKinnon told her that the park is within town limits and they have a leash law in

effect.

### **Minutes:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to amend the February 5, 2018 Minutes, as concerns the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center deficit, to say “Deferred Revenue”, instead of “Deficit”. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Finance and Budget:**

- The finance director presented a report of departmental budget transfers, in accordance with the 2017-18 budget ordinance. No action required.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision for grant revenues to purchase animal waste receptacles and supplies for the recreation park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to a prove a budget revision for use of schools half-cent sales tax for various school projects Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the sheriff’s request to use designated funds to purchase a new Chevy Tahoe to replace a patrol car. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

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

### **New Business:**

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the 2018 Senior Games Proclamation. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to allow Ralph Robinson to continue using the propane and electric under the County’s account until June 30, 2018. Commissioner Eichenbaum said that Mr. Robinson will reimburse the county for those costs until the accounts are changed over on, or before, June 30, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Carolina Cat proposal for \$323,392 for a new landfill dozer. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to move the courthouse lantern from the airport hangar to the well drilling property. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Westmoreland said that Tri-County Community College welding students will help make the needed repairs, and that he feels like it can be done for around \$50,000.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve publishing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for legal services for a county attorney. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve an annual contract for legal services for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$10,642. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously. The board advised Sheriff Palmer to contact the company and inquire about a partial contract, effective immediately through June 30, 2018.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to give the county manager and the sheriff approval to retain emergency legal counsel, if necessary, until such time that a county attorney can be appointed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Commissioner Items:**

During commissioner items, Commissioner Westmoreland said that regardless of what is being said about the convenience sites, that no one has lost their job with the addition of the cameras. Commissioner McKinnon said that he has heard nothing but positive responses about the sites. He also commented that there is now a fine structure for illegal dumping at the sites.

Commissioner McKinnon said the Hanging Dog Campground meeting went well, and discussions will continue.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 P.M.

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