

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners on 20
February 2026 at 5:30 pm in the Cherokee County Courthouse.**

This Special Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was called to address filling the Vacancy in the Office of Sheriff of Cherokee County.

Present were Chairman Alan Bryant, Vice Chair Cal Stiles, Commissioner Dan Eichenbaum, Commissioner Ben Adams, Commissioner Mark Stiles, County Manager Randy Wiggins, Chief Deputy Justin Jacobs, and County Attorney and acting clerk, Darryl Brown. A quorum was present. Randy Foster of the Cherokee Scout was present and recorded the proceedings. Ralph Robinson of Local TV4 also recorded the proceedings

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Alan Bryant at 5:30 pm

The Invocation was offered by County Manager Randy Wiggins, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Chairman asked the County Attorney to lead the proceedings.

A representative of the Cherokee County Republican Party Executive Committee conveyed the nomination of Chris Wood as Sheriff of Cherokee County.

The County Attorney informed the Board that the Sheriff nominee had provided sufficient bond and required certification from the NC Sheriff's Standards and Training Commission as required by statute.

Commissioner Dan Eichenbaum made a motion to accept the nomination and approve the installation of Chris Ellington Wood to the Office of Sheriff of Cherokee County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark Stiles and passed unanimously.

Chairman Alan Bryant made a motion to allow the hiring of Hunter Ellington Wood, the son of the Sheriff nominee, as a Deputy Sheriff. Commissioner Mark Stiles seconded the motion, and such was passed unanimously.

Chris Wood addressed the public and invited them to the administration of the oath of office to him and his deputies on Monday, February 23, 2026, at the Cherokee County Courthouse.

Chairman Bryant made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cal Stiles seconded the motion and passed unanimously at 5:41 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON MARCH 9, 2026.**