

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2026
5:30 P.M.

Board members present: Alan Bryant, Chairman; Ben Adams, Vice-Chairman; Mark Stiles, member; Dr. Jeana Conley, member; and Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford, member.

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Chief Financial Officer; and Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Clerk to Board.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Note: Meetings are live streamed by Local TV4 and posted on the Local TV 4 Facebook page. A DVD is also available for check-out in the Office of the Clerk to the Board, until such time meeting minutes are drafted and posted.

Call to Order by Chairman

Invocation

Pledge

Ethics Statement “Members of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners are reminded and advised of their duties under state law and the Cherokee County Code of Ethics Resolution, as such may pertain of their personal actions and actions of the board”.

Modification of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Ledford to modify the agenda as follows:

- Remove Item VII - NCACC Video discussion
- Add Closed Session to discuss personnel matter
- Move Public Hearing on Road Names to end of New Business or to 6:30 time mark
- Commissioner Conley – Discussion for EDC appointment and revision to bylaws

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to add “Strategic Planning and Proposed Rule for Resolutions”. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Conley to adopt the agenda as modified. Motion passed unanimously.

Teague Campbell Introductions

Attorney Julie Hooten gave brief introduction and said she was looking forward to working with the board.

Public Comment Period

Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2026, March 9, 2026, and March 11, 2026

Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the above minutes with an edit of the March 9th minutes to reflect the following language: “A personnel matter related to the employment of the county attorney. Detailed minutes of this discussion are withheld, until such time they no longer frustrate the purpose of the closed session.” Motion passed unanimously.

Budget and Finance

Motion made by Commissioner Conley and seconded by Commissioner Ledford to approve a Budget Revision in the amount of \$131,659 for use of Article 46 sales tax for various capital expenditures. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve a budget revision in the amount \$136,109 for use of fund balance for Change Orders to the Senior/VA building project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve an Amended Grant Capital Project Ordinance for Senior/VA Building Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve a Budget Revision in the amount of \$74,505 for use of fund balance for the EMS Station 2 renovation project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve an Amended Grant Capital Project Ordinance for EMS Station 2 renovation project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Bryant and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$36,319 for use of fund balance to purchase interior items for EMS Station 2. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Commissioner Adams strategic planning discussion

- Board members asked to submit requested data points to the County Manager
- Rules of Procedure change for resolutions to be added as topic for next regular meeting agenda.

Public Hearing on Road Names

- *Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Ledford to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.*
- *There were no public comments.*
- *Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.*

Adopt Road Names

Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the road names as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve a Facilities Use and Lease Agreement for Parenting and Pregnancy of Cherokee County. Commissioner Conley abstained, due to serving on the Parenting and Pregnancy Board. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Conley to approve a resolution proclaiming June 28-29 as Amateur Radio Operators Weekend in Cherokee County. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Conley to approve a request by Sam Davis, Emergency Management, to apply for a Next Generation Warning System Grant. There is no county match. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve the Sheriff's request to use county property in Marble on May 30th for the annual Kids Fishing Derby, pending legal review of the Certificate of Insurance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve a resolution retiring K-9 Ragnar and a Disposition Agreement conveying him to his handler. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve a Drone Use and Control Agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Bryant and seconded by Commissioner Ledford to appoint John Stockard to Bear Paw Service District Board of Directors, due to recent resignation of Anthony Emyard. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Conley and seconded by Commissioner Ledford to appoint Roy Dickey to the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve a resolution opposing state legislation that limits local property tax authority and threatens core public services. Voting in favor of the resolution was Commissioners Ledford, Stiles and Bryant. Voting against the resolution was Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Adams. Motion passed 3-2.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Tax Releases, Tax Refunds, and NCVTS Refund Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Traci Kuykendall came before the board to ask the Board to adopt a resolution to protect public lands.

Commissioner Items

Commissioner Conley – Discussion for EDC Appointment and Revision to Bylaws

- Motion made by Commissioner Conley and seconded by Commissioner Bryant to lay aside Rules of Procedure for the appointment of Tom O'Brien to the Cherokee County Economic Development Commission (EDC) for 4-year term.
- The Board instructed the Clerk to the Board to reach out to the (EDC) and request revision to EDC bylaws to include a County Commissioner as a voting, or non-voting, ex-officio member.

Discuss Board Meeting Calendar

The board made the following changes to meeting schedule:

Changed time on May 11th meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.; changed time on May 14th meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.; and rescheduled May 18th meeting for Public Hearing on the budget to May 26th at 5:30 p.m. The Clerk will readvertise the public hearing notice and publish meeting changes.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Bryant and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter and the employee's probationary status. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

After returning to open session, a motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to terminate the DSS Attorney who is in probationary status; and 2) to contract with Teague Campbell through June 30, 2026, for representation of DSS services.

Adjourn

Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Adams to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.