

**Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Work Session Minutes
May 7, 2024**

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

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Chief Financial Officer; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order by Chairman Phillips

Invocation

Pledge

Ethics Statement “Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act and should avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict as may be allowed by law”.

Comments:

Before beginning the work session, Commissioners Stiles shared an article from the Asheville Citizens times concerning Buncombe County’s budget challenges. He said he knows that other counties are also facing budget challenges and he knows that the Board may have pressure on it from some departments to do something, and he knows the county has many needs, but the Board has a proposed budget that holds the line on taxes and the Board can only do what the county can afford to do. He said he is not supportive of any tax increase. Commissioner Eichenbaum concurred, saying that he thinks the problem is that revenue is primarily derived from property taxes and he thinks it would be a good idea to look at various other ways to increase revenues, such as establishing usage-fees. Commissioner Phillips said he was opposed to raising taxes, as did Commissioner Griggs.

The following departments presented their budget requests:

- Emergency Management/Emergency Medical Services
- Department of Social Services
- Cherokee County Solid Waste – Budget requests and convenience site hours

Adjournment

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

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 24, 2024.