

**Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Work Session Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2026**

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 read by the Clerk

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Ledford and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to adopt the agenda, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Discussion

Cherokee County Schools – Stephanie Hass, CFO, Dr. Keevin Woody, Superintendent, and Steve Coleman, BOE board member, came before the board to present Cherokee County Schools local budget requests.

Ranger Fire Department – Chief Mike Taylor came before the board to request an increase in the fire district tax rate from 0.047 cents to 0.09, and to discuss the Ranger VFD and Bellview VFD merger.

Peachtree Fire Department – Brad Bailey and Jordan Messer came before the board to request an increase in the fire district tax rate from 0.090 to 0.129.

Valleytown Fire Department - came before the board to request an increase in the fire district tax rate from 0.047 cents to 0.09.

Other budget discussion

The county manager asked the board members if they wished to meet with Nantahala Regional

Library and Valley River Humane Society to discuss funding requests. Board members said the did not need a work session with these two entities.

Adjourn

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

DRAFT