

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Work Session Minutes
May 29, 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. Also present was Jeff Sherer of Architecture Unlimited.

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order by Chairman Phillips

Invocation

Pledge

Ethics Statement

Use of Rescue Funds for Mobile Repeater for Emergency Management

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a budget revision for use of rescue funds in the amount of \$3,831.99 to purchase a mobile repeater for Emergency Management. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Revision for Use of Article 40/42 Sales Tax for Multiple School Projects

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve items 3, 4, and 5 of the requests. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve item 2 of the request. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Adams, Eichenbaum, Griggs and Stiles. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed 4-1.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to table item 1 of the request until the June 24th meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Solid Waste Proposal

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Solid Waste Convenience Site Option 2 schedule. After discussion, Commissioner Griggs withdrew her Motion. Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the Solid Waste Convenience Site Option 3 schedule, and for the new schedule to take effect on July 8, 2024, following the 4th of July holiday. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Griggs, Adams, Eichenbaum, and Stiles. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Phillips. Motion passed 4-1.

Other Business

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Adams to cancel the June 3rd board meeting, since it is only 3 business days from now. Motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to go into closed session, pursuant to §143-318.11 (1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners met in closed session, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(1). While in closed session, the Board heard from Architect Jeff Sherer, of Architecture Unlimited, who presented information to the Board and County management regarding development projects. The presentation and discussion contained proprietary design work and work product that impact a competitive bid process. Likewise, it presented information that would impact the security of one or more public buildings now existing or that may exist in the future. The presentation involved a proposed building to house County facilities, including Cherokee County Senior Services and Cherokee County Veterans Assistance office on Hilton Street in Murphy at the site where the Cherokee County Health Department is currently situated. The Health Department will remain in operation at that location, until such time as funding is available for construction of a new health facility. Design choices and competitive bidding instructions were discussed. The Board gave direction to County Management to discontinue the renovation project at the National Guard Armory site and to execute the movement of Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, and 911 Addressing to 911 Andrews Road as soon as possible. Needed renovation work and the establishment of an Emergency Operations Center in that facility are to be taken from available grant funding only, at this time. Also discussed, was the impact the scope of the projects would have on other county services. After hearing information from the architect, the County Manager, and the County Finance Officer, the Board returned to open session and voted as follows:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to undesignate \$105,653.00 that had been designated for Armory renovation and add funds back to fund balance. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to proceed with construction of an addition to EMS Station 2 in Andrews and to engage Architecture Unlimited for design of the addition and renovation to the existing Station 2 facility. Motion passed unanimously. *Note: Addition and renovation was approved to cut the cost of the project, while providing for new living quarters for on-duty EMS personnel and use of the existing facility to house vehicles and storage.*
3. Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to instruct Architecture Unlimited and County Administration to prepare detailed plans and bidding processes for a Type 3, three-story structure to be located on Hilton Street in Murphy to house Senior Services, VA, Environmental Health, Cherokee County Transit and other county offices. Within the Motion, the Board instructed for a primary bidding for the first 2 floors to be finished

and for the 3rd floor to be unfinished to accommodate future growth. The alternate bid would be for finishing all 3 floors. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

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

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