

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2018

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners held a regular scheduled meeting in the Commissioners Boardroom, also known as Multi-Purpose Room 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 4th day of June, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Gary Westmoreland, Vice-Chair; C.B. McKinnon, member; Cal Stiles, member; and Roy Dickey, member.

Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board; and Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Media present: Cherokee Scout, Local TV4, Fetch Your News, and WKRK. DVD copies of commission meetings may be purchased at Local TV4, or watched via the Facebook page of WKRK.

Invocation given by Sheriff Palmer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Modification

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to add “Discussion of Paving the Rock Gym Parking Lot” to the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on FY18-19 Budget

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mike Bessette came before the board to advocate for an increase in salaries of the county veteran service officers.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum

Mr. Gary Chamberlain came before the Board to present a revised anti-litter proclamation. No action was taken.

Meeting Minutes

After discussion and correction of a typo, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the meeting minutes of April 23, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance and Budget

- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision for the schools use of sales tax for multiple schools projects. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for the transfer of \$800 from fund balance to the Detention Center Trust Account for legal fees. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a capital project ordinance for Phase 5 of landfill development. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for an additional \$94.14, to assist with carpet replacement at Martin's Creek Community Center. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the following fees for the Cherokee County Health Department: 1) Tattoo Artist Annual Review, \$100; 2) Swimming Pool/Spa Review \$500; 3) Spa Only Review \$200; and 4) Mobile Food Unit \$175. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the Patient Private DNA Fee Schedule for the Cherokee County Health Department. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the Turner & Company CPAs, P.A. audit contract for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for parking lot paving and drainage at the Rock Gym. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget revisions are available for public inspection, in the office of the Finance Director.

New Business

- Greg Taylor, Clinical Base Manager for Life Force 6, came before the board to express his appreciation to the County during the recent move of Life Force 6 to Western Carolina Regional Airport. The Board thanked Mr. Taylor and shared their appreciation to Erlanger for bringing Life Force 6 to Cherokee County.
- Sarah Thompson, Executive Director of Southwestern Commission, came before the board to present the Commission's annual report and to explain the different programs/services that the Commission provides.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax refund report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the May 2018 NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve an EMS Fitness Plan for Station 1. The fitness plan allows EMS Station 1 (only) employees to work out at local facilities during their work shifts, as long as response time is not delayed, and as long as both employees on the ambulance agree; and, only until the new EMS Station 1 is completed. Once Station 1 is completed, the plan becomes invalid. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Westmoreland, Stiles, Dickey and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the Opportunity Zone Resolution for inclusion in the NC Opportunity Zone Program, as submitted by the economic development director. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve use of Heritage Park by Lewis and Clark Circus for the dates of September 22-23, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the 2018-19 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Certification. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to go into closed session pursuant to §143-318.11. (a) (3), to preserve attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the board. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

During closed session, the county attorney updated the board on the invalid DSS Custody and Visitation Agreements, and the pending lawsuit. The county attorney also discussed a multi-district opioid lawsuit; and, advised the board, concerning the recent alleged jail assault.

After returning to open session, there was no action taken on items discussed in closed session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 18, 2018.**