

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Worksession
June 26, 2023

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

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Asst. County Manager/Clerk to Board; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and, Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

Call to Order

Invocation - Randy Wiggins

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of Ethics Statement

Modification of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to add the following: 1) Budget Revision for Cherokee County Schools request for use of sales tax; and 2) a General Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 96 and No. 87 resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to adopt the agenda, as modified. Motion passed unanimously.

Opioid Settlement Funds Discussion with Town Representatives

Mayor James Reid of Andrews and Murphy Mayor Tim Radford of Murphy met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss potential uses of the Opioid settlement funds.

Public Forum

Minutes – May 15, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the minutes of May 15th. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget and Finance

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the FY23 year-end budget revision. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adopt the FY24 Budget Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve a budget revision for use of Article 40/42 sales tax in the amount of \$23,715 for Cherokee County Schools repair projects. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve a resolution to establish materiality threshold for recognition of leases under GASB No. 87 and Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITAs) under GASB No. 96. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve the Bear Paw Service District Board of Directors 2023-2024, as requested by Bear Paw Property Owners Association. The 2023-24 Directors are as follows: Arthur Lecours; Mark Ackerman; John Stockard; Bod Cowdrick; Stan Wise; Terry Miller; and David Elliott. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to re-appoint Donna Ware to the Cherokee County Jury Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Phillips to re-appoint Mike Bradberry and Leslie Harris to the Board of Health. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to appoint Allison Ralph and Steve Dickey to the Economic Development Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to appoint Veleda Jackson to the Needs and Solutions Advisory (NASA) Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Tennessee Valley Authority representatives presented TVA's preferred location for the Appalachia Area Improvement Transmission Project.

Capt. David Williams of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department presented the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program Grant Resolution and asked the Board to support the grant application. Capt. Williams said, if awarded, the grant would be used toward overtime pay and traffic enforcement. Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Adams to approve an Emergency Services Tower Lease between Cherokee County and Christopher and Kimberly Travaglino. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Griggs said she has been working on a revised animal control ordinance for the last few months and is now presenting a draft to the other board members for review. She asked that all comments and/or recommendations be sent to her no later than July 6th, so the ordinance can go before the Board for a vote at the July 17th meeting.

County Manager Items

The county manager informed the Board that the following properties sold on GovDeals:

1. 1.09 acres, PIN 5526-00-26-5858-000. Property sold for \$14,600. Successful bidder: Benjamin Mallett
2. .23 acres. PIN 5597-00-68-3055-000. Property sold for \$5,150. Successful bidder: Benjamin Mallett
3. .36 acres, PIN 4592-06-39-7794-000. Property sold for \$4,050. Successful bidder: Antonella Barecante
4. Sold together is 1.28 acres, PIN 4542-00-61-8524-000 and .5 acres, PIN 4542-00-51-7228-000. Properties sold for \$10,400. Successful bidder: Helene Moudio
5. .11 acres, PIN 5597-00-58-6802-000. Property sold for 5,001. Successful bidder: John Longstreet
6. .95 acres, PIN 5534-00-22-5094-000. Property sold for \$4,400. Successful bidder: Martin Azugha.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to accept all bids. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Eichenbaum said the county also needed to sell the property behind Wolf Creek Community Center, since the property is not being used.

Chairman/Commissioner Items

- Commissioner Adams asked for an update on Station 1. The county manager said expected completion is Fall 2023.
- Commissioner Adams asked for an update on the Armory EOC project. The County manager said he is waiting on clarification of FEMA grant guidelines and bidding laws and hopes to have answers soon.
- Commissioner Adams announced that the Planning Committee will meet on August 7th following adjournment the Board of Commissioners meeting.
- Commissioner Eichenbaum shared concerns about the sink hole at the Mountain Folk Center Arena and the inability of the Saddle Club to hold its events. Motion made by Commissioner Adams and second by Commissioner Griggs to engage with engineers to design plans and specifications for bid documents. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Griggs asked for permission for Silas Shields, Grant Specialist, to serve on the Konahete Veteran's Park Stage Committee. Motion made by Commissioner Griggs and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to allow Mr. Shields to serve on the Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

- Commissioner Griggs read a brief statement refuting comments and statements made by Teresa Ricks at the June 5th commission meeting.

Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Phillips and seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum to go into closed session. Motion passed unanimously.

During closed session, the Board discussed hiring Darryl Brown as fulltime county attorney.

Open Session

Motion made by Commissioner Eichenbaum and seconded by Commissioner Griggs to hire Darryl Brown as the fulltime county attorney, effective July 1, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

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

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON OCTOBER 2, 2023.**