

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2018

6:30 P.M.

Members present: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Chairman; Gary Westmoreland, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Roy Dickey, member; and C.B. McKinnon, member.

Staff present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board; Candy Anderson, Finance Officer; and Darryl Brown, County Attorney.

I. Call to order-Chairman

The Chairman read the Board's ethics statement.

II. Invocation

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Modification of Agenda

1) Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to remove item "b" under New Business (Request for Waiver of Landfill Fee) and add item "f" under Finance and Budget (New Baler for Landfill). Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Agenda Adoption

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the agenda as adopted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Public Forum

1) Chamber of Commerce Director, Sherry Raines, invited the Board to the Chamber's upcoming annual dinner at McGuire Farm.

2) James Jallah spoke against the Board of Commissioners becoming the DSS Board, saying that he didn't think it would be in the best interest of the people of Cherokee County, and that there would be no checks and balances.

VI. Finance and Budget Items

a) **Budget Revision for Schools Use of ½ Cent Sales Tax for Multiple Projects**

b) **Budget Revision for Schools Use of ¼ Cent Sales Tax for Multiple Projects**

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve items “a” and “b”. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

c) **Budget Revision for Schools Use of ½ Cent Sales Tax for Multiple Projects**

d) **Budget Revision for Schools Use of ¼ Cent Sales Tax for TCEC Wireless Network**

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve item “c” and “d”. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

e) **Budget Revision for Carry-Forward of FY17-18 Budgeted Funds**

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

f) **Baler Purchase for Landfill**

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to purchase a new baler for the landfill. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget revisions and finance items are available for inspection in the office of the Cherokee County Finance Director.

VII. New Business

a) **Shannon Coleman and Hannah Smith-4-H Youth Candidate for Youth Voice**

Shannon Coleman, 4-H Director, introduced Miss Hannah Smith, who will be serving at the Cherokee County youth voice at the upcoming NCACC annual meeting. Miss Smith spoke briefly to the board, and she is excited for the opportunity to represent Cherokee County.

b) **Eddie Allen-Tax Collection and SITUS Errors**

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the SITUS default to Cherokee County for the North Carolina Vehicle Tax System (NCVTS). Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

c) **Tax Releases**

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

d) **Tax Refund Report**

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax refunds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sties. Motion passed unanimously.

e) **NCVTS Report**

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

f) **Tri-County Community College Applications for Re-appointment (Al Lovingood and Hugh Williamson)**

1) Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to re-appoint Al Lovingood to the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

2) Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to re-appoint Hugh Williamson to the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

g) **2ND Annual Hayesville High School Aviation Science Pancake Fly-In**

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the Hayesville High School Pancake Fly-In for October 13th at the airport. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

h) **Mike Lindsay Hangar Lease Renewal**

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the hangar lease renewal for Mike Lindsay for hangar number "1 East" for a term of five (5) years; effective August 1, 2018. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

i) **Proposed Lease of the County's Airport**

Commissioner McKinnon proposed that the County enter into a twelve (12) month Fixed Base Operator (FBO) contract with Mr. Gayland Trull D/b/a Blue Ridge Mountain Flyers Aviation, LLC, until the LLC is approved. A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to enter into an FBO lease with Gayland Trull, individual, subject to FAA approval. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

j) Discussion on possible reorganization of Health and Human Services

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to move the Board's September 17th meeting to September 20th; and, to publish a thirty (30) day notice of intent for the Board of Commissioners to reorganize county health and human services. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. A public hearing will be held on the matter at the Board's September 20th meeting at 6:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

k) Cherokee County Schools – \$15 Million School Construction Grant Application and approval of use of Article 46 ¼ Cent Sales Tax to cover debt service on \$5 Million match

Following a lengthy discussion and debate, a Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the school's grant application request, as presented by Dr. Jeana Conley; and also to approve the use of Article 46 sales tax for the five (5) million dollar county match. The project is for construction of a high school campus adjacent to Tri-County Community College; to include, the Early College, the Alternative School, and a Career Academy. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioners Westmoreland, Dickey and Eichenbaum. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners Stiles and McKinnon. Motion passed 3-2.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to go into closed session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

While in closed session, the board consulted with the county attorney concerning lease of county property and an airport lease.

IX. Open Session

No action taken from matters discussed in closed session.

X. Adjournment-Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON NOVEMBER 19, 2018.**