

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2018

6:30 P.M.

Cherokee County Courthouse

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

“Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act”.

II. Invocation

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Modification of Agenda

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to add “Schools Request for use of Sales Tax for Multiple Projects” as item “d” under Budget and Finance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Agenda Adoption

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

VI. Public Hearing

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to open the floor for a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public input for the FY2020 NCDOT Transit Grants. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Catuto, Cherokee County Transit Director explained the NCDOT grants and purpose of each grant. There were no public comments during the public hearing.

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

After returning to regular session, a motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland and seconded by Commissioner Dickey for the adoption of the following resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, Article 2B of Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Governor of North Carolina have designated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) as the agency responsible for administering federal and state public transportation funds; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will apply for a grant from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration and receives funds from the North Carolina General Assembly to provide assistance for rural public transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these transportation funds is to provide grant monies to local agencies for the provision of rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services consistent with the policy requirements of each funding source for planning, community and agency involvement, service design, service alternatives, training and conference participation, reporting and other requirements (drug and alcohol testing policy and program, disadvantaged business enterprise program, and fully allocated costs analysis); and

WHEREAS, the funds applied for may be Administrative, Operating, Planning, or Capital funds and will have different percentages of federal, state, and local funds.

WHEREAS, non-Community Transportation applicants may apply for funding for “purchase-of-service” projects under the Capital budget Section 5310 program.

WHEREAS, CHEROKEE COUNTY hereby assures and certifies that it will provide the required local matching funds; that its staff has the technical capacity to implement and manage the project(s), prepare required reports, obtain required training, attend meetings and conferences; and agrees to comply with the federal and state statutes, regulations, executive orders, Section 5333 (b) Warranty, and all administrative requirements related to the applications made to and grants received from the Federal Transit Administration, as well as the provisions of Section 1001 of Title 18, U. S. C.

WHEREAS, the applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the State of North Carolina required for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the COUNTY MANAGER of CHEROKEE COUNTY is hereby authorized to submit grant application (s) for federal and state funding in response to NCDOT’s calls for projects, make the necessary assurances and certifications and be empowered to enter into an agreement with the NCDOT to provide rural, small urban, and urban public transportation services.

VII. Finance and Budget Items

a) Budget Revision for Receipt of BCBS Grant Funds for Meals on Wheels

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve budget revision. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Detention Center Request for New Lieutenant Position

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

c) Budget Revision for Receipt of Additional Smart Start Grant Funds

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to move the sergeant position to a lieutenant position for the remainder of the budget year. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Schools Request to Use ½¢ Sales Tax for \$5 Million Grant Match

Motion made by Commissioner Westmoreland to commit the use of the ½¢ sales tax for the grant match. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Schools Request for Use of ¼¢ Sales Tax for Multiple Schools Projects

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

VIII. New Business

a) Michael Becketts-Department of Social Services Update

Mr. Becketts gave an update of the work that has been done and the progress made at DSS. He discussed the State's transition plan and exit strategy. Mr. Becketts praised the staff and thanked county leaders.

b) Tax Releases

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

c) Tax Refunds

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

d) NC Vehicle Tax System (NCVTS) Report

Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the NCVTS report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Valley River Humane Society Request for Increase in Annual Funding

No action taken.

f) Request by Wolf Creek VFD to Lease Wolf Creek Community Center

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to table until the November 8th meeting.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

g) Assignment of Airport Hangar Sub-Lease

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the sub-lease from Scott Thatcher (Assignor) to David Fonville (Assignee) for T-hangar Unit 4, Row 1. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

h) Licensing Agreement with Burke West for Hay Baling

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

i) Licensing Agreement with Rick Stiles for Cattle Grazing

Motion made by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey.
Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Chairman/Commissioner Items

Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to move the November 5th meeting to November 8th.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stiles said that he attended a broadband meeting last week and has attended several around the region. He said that there is \$10 million dollars available for private businesses of Tier 1 counties. He said he would like the board to consider appointing a broadband committee at their November 8th meeting to begin work in addressing the broadband needs in the county.

Commissioner Stiles suggested having the Social Services Board meeting separate from the commissioners meeting. The board will see how the next couple of meetings go before changing the meeting schedule.

Commissioner Stiles announced that he was appointed to the NCACC Legislative Goals Committee.

Commissioner Westmoreland thanked Cherokee County Schools for the donation of playground equipment from Marble School to Konehete Park.

The Social Services monthly board meeting will be placed at the beginning of the Commissioner's regular meeting agenda.

X. Closed Session-Motion made by Commissioner Stiles to go into closed session, pursuant to 143-318.11 to discuss a personnel matter, and to negotiate lease of county property. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

While in closed session the board met with a DSS employee, and also discussed proposed terms of lease of county property.

XI. Open Session

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

XII. Adjourn-Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON DECEMBER 3, 2018.**