

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2024

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

Others present: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; and Darryl Brown, County Attorney and acting Clerk.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Cherokee County Courthouse, Room 342.

This Special Work Session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was called for the stated purpose of discussing animal control issues in the county.

At 6:30 p.m. the meeting was called to Order by Chairman Randy Phillips.

The invocation was offered by County Manager Randy Wiggins.

The Chairman lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the Board of the Board ethics policy.

The Chairman offered opening remarks and requested that the County Attorney explain the respective roles of the Health Director, the Sheriff, the County and the Valley River Humane Society. Upon completion of the requested summary the County Attorney recommended to the Board that a contract for further services with Valley River Humane Society was a necessity as one had not been in place since 2011.

Captain David Williams of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department made a presentation to the Board calling for a comprehensive animal control ordinance and for the County to purchase from Caldwell County, two equipped animal control trucks for \$1.00 each.

Motion was made by Commissioner Griggs to purchase two trucks from Caldwell County, NC for \$1.00 each, on condition that the trucks be dedicated to animal control. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Don Reynolds and Cheyenne Spicola, of the Valley River Humane Society made a presentation to the Board and answered questions posed by Board members.

The VRHS presentation was interrupted by audience member Tom Hall. After a warning to cease disrupting the meeting by Chairman Phillips, Mr. Hall continued to interrupt the proceeding and was removed from the meeting by Sheriff Dustin Smith at the request of the Chairman.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to ask the County Attorney to develop a contract for services with the Valley River Humane Society. Commissioner Griggs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Chairman Phillips announced that further meetings on animal issues would be scheduled by the new Board that takes office in December.

Commissioner Stiles made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Adams and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.