

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
November 5, 2012

*Preamble to Minutes read by Chairman Meltz: "Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict".*

A Regular Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was held in the Commissioners Boardroom, also known as Multi-Purpose Room 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 5th day of November, 2012 at 8:30 o'clock a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Lorraine Meltz, Chair; David Wood, Vice-Chairman; and Steve Jordan, Commissioner. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Assistant Clerk to the Board; Candy Roberts, County Finance Officer; and, R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board.

Present from the media was Dwight Otwell of the Cherokee Scout.

The invocation was given by Randy Wiggins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by R. Scott Lindsay.

The Chairman presided and the Clerk kept the Minutes.

**Add-On:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve an add-on to the agenda for appointing the Farmland Preservation Advisory Board. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meltz. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to appoint the following persons to the Farmland Advisory for the specified terms: Jamie Cook, one year; Bill Tipton, two years; John Reeves, two years; John Shields, Three years; and, Edgar Wood, three years. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

**Finance Items/Budget Revisions:**

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a Capital Project Ordinance for the courthouse which includes an additional \$631,209.00 to cover the waterproofing contract. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve a budget revision for Use of Sheriff's Designated Funds for additional monies toward two Dodge Chargers. Vehicle replacement had already been approved in the FY 2012 budget in the amount of \$19,500.00. The sheriff asked that the county move \$30,000 from the Sheriff's State Drug Funds to cover two Dodge Chargers. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a budget revision for the reimbursement of tree planting on the detention center property in the amount of \$4,700.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve a Prescription Drug Grant awarded through the Department of Public Safety for the Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$47,988.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Hearing:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to open the public hearing to receive comments concerning the financing of a new Bear Paw fire substation for the Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Chad McNabb, fire chief for the Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department told members of the public that the public hearing is a formality required by the financial institution since revenues are derived from fire service district taxes. There were no public comments. A Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

After returning to regular session, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to grant approval for the Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department to enter into a financing agreement with First Citizens Bank for construction of the Bear Paw substation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Meltz to approve the meeting minutes of October 15, 2012, contingent upon correction of a clerical error, whereupon a board member's name was omitted during "motion made" in the discussion of the Peachtree Fireman's Relief Fund Board. September 24, 2012. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **New Business:**

- Will Roberts, Tax Administrator, came before the board to present the tax releases and refunds. A Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **County Manager Items:**

- Update on the Hiwassee Dam Volunteer Fire Department (HDVFD) contract to provide rescue services. Mr. Wiggins said that the Cherokee County Rescue Squad and the HDVFD had worked out an agreement, so the department can move forward to sending their certification request to the State.
- Update on the Tipton Creek area ("No man's land"). Mr. Wiggins informed the board that a petition has been submitted by several property owners, requesting the creation of a fire service tax district. Mr. Wiggins said that a public hearing will be scheduled in the near future.
- Update on courthouse waterproofing project. Mr. Wiggins said that the project is about 70% complete. He also said that the project has come in under budget, and with the additional savings that we will be able to replace the eagle atop the courthouse. The original eagle had been shot full of holes and has been retired to the Cherokee County Historical Museum.
- Update on the Blue Ridge EMS (BREMS) agreement for patient transfers. Mr. Wiggins said that the county attorney is finalizing the agreement and as soon as BREMS provides proof of insurance that they can begin providing transfer services.

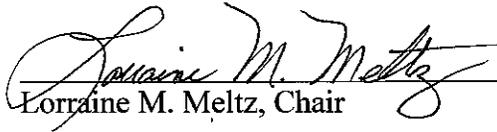
#### **Public Forum:**

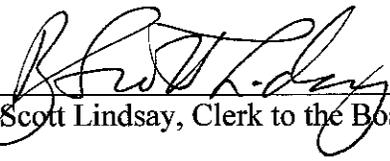
During public forum, there were comments concerning the tax release and refunds, and tax collection procedures. Commissioner Jordan told those present that he was glad for the go-kart business now located at Hillbilly Mall in Andrews. He said that it is bring in a lot of visitors. Commissioner Meltz commented on the Murphy Art Walk in downtown Murphy, which is held on Friday evenings. She said it is a wonderful event and that she is very supportive of it.

#### **Adjourn:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Wood to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

  
Lorraine M. Meltz, Chair

  
R. Scott Lindsay, Clerk to the Board