

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORKSESSION
May 30, 2014

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners held a budget work session in the Commissioner's Boardroom 342, of the Cherokee County Courthouse, on the 30th day of May, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: David Wood, Chair; Lorraine Meltz, Vice-Chair; Cal Stiles, member; C.B. McKinnon, member; and Steve Jordan, member. Also present was: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager/Assistant Clerk; and Candy Roberts Anderson, County Finance Director.

Brandon Goforth of Culberson Volunteer Fire Department came before the board to present their projected 14-15 budget. Mr. Goforth said that the VFD is also asking for a fire tax increase of 1 cent. After discussion, questions, and concerns, the board thanked Mr. Goforth for coming.

Commissioner Wood left the worksession at noon.

Since Commissioner Jordan was not present at the previous worksession, the county manager and finance officer gave an overview of the budget requests from the previous departmental budget hearings, and the previous funding requests from the fire departments and other non-profits.

The board discussed and reviewed the following;

- Vehicle and equipment needs for Solid Waste/ Landfill.
- Patrol cars and transport van for Sheriff's Office and Detention Center; staff attorney; and food costs
- DSS miscellaneous requests
- Emergency Management request for furnishing Emergency Operation Center
- Vehicle needs at Health Department
- Veteran's Administration Office staffing
- Rescue Squad funding request-Murphy and Andrews
- Town of Andrews Multiple Projects Requests
- Valley River Humane Society funding request
- Logan's Run Rescue funding request
- Cherokee County Schools request and the shortfall in Small Schools funding
- Tri-County Community College funding requests
- Ambulances for EMS

After the budgetary overview, Mrs. Hass updated the board on the airport grants to be closed out by June 30th. She said that all grants had been submitted for closeout. She also shared with the board that there was one additional invoice from Michael Baker Engineering for preliminary planning for the wildlife safety fencing project. She explained that although the board chose not to accept grant dollars to install the fence, the preliminary work was done because it was approved in the most recent Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Plan. Mrs. Hass also explained that since we had come in under budget on grant 36237.41.11.3 for the Runway Safety Area, that part of the unused approved match could cover the invoice and still return about \$7,000.00 to the general fund.

Mrs. Hass also told the board that the NCDOT Division of Aviation (DOA) had requested a meeting with the board and Mr. Richard Parker to discuss the county's interest in a terminal. Mr. Basil Yap from DOA said that the DOT has been approached by Mr. Parker requesting monies to help fund a terminal building; however, since the push was not coming from county officials that they wanted to meet with the board, before looking for funding, to see if this is a project that is supported by the board of commissioners. Commissioners Jordan, McKinnon, Stiles and Meltz said that they are not interested in pursuing funding for a terminal at this time and therefore do not need to meet with DOT. Commissioner Jordan said that he would be leaving office in December and he did not want to commit to a project that another board would have to incur the expenses for. Commissioner Meltz agreed, as she will also be leaving office. Mrs. Hass will let Mr. Yap know that the board of commissioners is not interested at this time.

The worksession adjourned at 1:30 o'clock a.m.

Lorraine Meltz, Chairman



Maria Hass, Asst. Clerk to the Board