

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
May 16, 2016

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 16th day of May, 2016 at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: C.B. McKinnon, Chairman; Dan Eichenbaum, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; Gary Westmoreland, member; and Roy Dickey, member. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board; Candy Anderson, County Finance Director; and, R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Assistant Clerk to the Board.

Media present were the Cherokee Scout and Local TV4. DVD copies of commission meetings may be purchased at Local TV4.

The Chairman read the boards adopted ethics statement.

The invocation was given by Sheriff Palmer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

**Agenda Modification:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to remove item "c" (Farmland Preservation Board) under New Business. Motion seconded by Westmoreland. Motion passed.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to add item "o" (TVA Resolution) under New Business; and, item "f" (School Sales Tax) and item "g" (CCHD Grant) under Finance and Budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.

**Agenda Adoption:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.

**Public Forum:**

There were no comments during public forum.

**Finance and Budget:**

- The finance director gave a report for the month ending April 30th for the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center. The Center had a positive cash flow of \$3,091.54.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve an audit contract with Turner, Hatchett & Turner for the audit ending June 30, 2016. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for the purchase of a mower and trailer with misdemeanor confinement revenues. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a Veteran's Service Office grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for insurance settlement proceeds to the sheriff's vehicle repair budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the use of school sales tax for ServPro services at Peachtree School. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a health department grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed.

Budget revisions are available for public inspection, in the office of the Finance Director.

#### **New Business:**

- Tri-County Early College High School Senior, Courtnie Guthrie, came before the board to present her senior exit project, titled, "Security on the Riverwalk". Miss Guthrie showed a PowerPoint presentation with the board, sharing her solution to make the river walk a safer place. The board thanked Miss Guthrie and commended her for her work on the project.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the firework permits for the Town of Murphy and the Town of Andrews. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a resolution requesting that the NCDOT add the ball field access road at Hiwassee Dam School to the State Maintained Road System, and name the road Line Drive; and to also approve the right of way agreements for the property. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve the Request for Tax Releases. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Tax Refund Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the NCVTS Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed.
- After discussion, and presentation by veteran Don Schott, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a Veteran's Suicide Awareness 22-Mile Walk resolution. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed. The walk will be May 28<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to select W.K. Dickson as the airport consultants for Western Carolina Regional Airport. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- The assistant county manager gave an update on the following airport issues: 1) The mobile home has been removed from the Martin property and it appears that the other homes on the property has been vacated; 2) Grass and mowing has been completed; and 3) Failure of Wright's Aviation to respond to the county's multiple requests for execution of a lease and payment of fair market rent, or to vacate the maintenance hangar. Commissioner McKinnon made a Motion to table any action against Wrights Aviation, and asked the county manager to give them a courtesy call before taking any action to evict. Commissioner McKinnon said that if the tenants did not comply, following the verbal notice, that the county would proceed with eviction. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to sale the real property at 39 Peachtree Street to Manuel Hernandez, the only bidder for the property. The purchase price is \$135,000.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed. The property will close in 60 days.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the amended fire contract with the Town of Murphy, for Murphy Rural Fire Department to include rescue services. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution that he drafted, opposing TVA's environmental review process concerning floating houses and non-navigable houseboats on TVA lakes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed. This resolution will be sent to Swain County and to TVA.

#### **Chairman/Commissioner Items:**

Commissioner McKinnon gave an update on the Hanging Dog campground, saying that it is now being utilized.

#### **Executive Session:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed.

While in executive session, the board met with Board of Health members, Curtis Brown and Chris Dickey to discuss applications for the health director position.

After returning to open session, there was no action taken.

#### **Adjourn:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 o'clock p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 6, 2016.