

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 20, 2017

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 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017 at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Dr. Dan Eichenbaum Chairman; Gary Westmoreland, Vice-Chairman; Cal Stiles, member; C.B. McKinnon, member; and Roy Dickey, member. Also present were the following: Randy Wiggins, County Manager; Candy Anderson, Finance Director; and Scott Lindsay, County Attorney and As4120sistant Clerk. Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board, was absent.

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

The Chairman opened the meeting and read the Board's adopted ethic's statement.

The County Manager kept the minutes of the meeting.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Roy Dickey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

**Agenda Modification:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to add a resolution for Tri-County Community College to the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table item a) under New Business – Robin Caldwell – Code Red Vendor Change. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Adoption:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Forum:** There were no public comments.

## **Minutes:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the meeting minutes of February 20, 2017. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Finance and Budget:**

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a budget revision for a Homeland Security Grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision a Nourishing NC grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for the Senior Center SHIP grant. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision for Cherokee County School's request for use of sales tax for multiple school projects. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a budget revision for Cherokee County School's request for use of Article 46 sales tax for teacher salaries and benefits. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

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

## **New Business:**

- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to appoint the Local Child Fatality Prevention/Community Child Protection Team, as recommended by the health director and social services director. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to share a letter of recognition and appreciation naming various individuals and groups who have participated in community litter efforts. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously. The county manager read the approved letter.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve an insurance claim, in the amount of \$56,858.97, for courthouse lantern project expenses. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Eichenbaum to approve a resolution requesting an amendment to G.S. 14-269; to allow county commissioners and elected public officials, who hold concealed permits, to carry concealed weapons in all government buildings and offices, with the exception of courtrooms. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Voting in favor of the Motion was Commissioner Eichenbaum, McKinnon, Dickey, and Westmoreland. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the tax releases. Motion seconded

by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the Tax Refund Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion and presentation by Tax Assessor, Eddie Allen, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to revise the current Board of Equalization and Review resolution as follows:
  - 1) The initial approval will appoint two members to three year terms, two members to two year terms and two members to one year terms.
  - 2) Thereafter new members and reappointed members will be appointed for three year terms.
  - 3) Eliminate term limits for board members.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve an airport hangar lease agreement for Mr. Richard Davis, with an effective date of April 1, 2017. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve an airport hangar lease agreement for Mr. Joshua Hembree. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a quote from Barnett Construction for constructing bathrooms at the playground at Konehete Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve upgrades to the playground at Konehete Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to award the Snap-On Grant Waterline Project bid to Stilwell Enterprises, Inc., as low bidder. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a plaque in the amount of \$915 and signage in the amount of \$1,080.00 for the Richard Parker Airport Terminal. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion retracted for the purpose of considering the two projects separately.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a plaque in the amount of \$915.00 for Richard Parker, to be placed at Western Carolina Regional Airport terminal. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Voting against the Motion was Commissioners Eichenbaum, Stiles and McKinnon. Motion failed.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a bid from Curtis Sign Shop for aluminum signage on the Richard Parker airport terminal. The approved cost is \$80 for a 12" H x 60" W sign for the front of terminal, and \$165 for a 12" H x 16' W sign for side of the terminal. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eichenbaum. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a resolution requesting special legislation allowing Tri-County Community College (TCCC) to

charge in-state tuition rates to students from out-of-state counties that border the TCCC service area. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

### **County Manager Items:**

The county manager informed the Board that the consideration of the speed limit change from 55 to 60, on 64 West from NC 60 to the Tennessee line has been approved, and new signs will be installed in April. Commissioner McKinnon recognized Commissioner Westmoreland, saying that he was instrumental in the process.

The county manager asked the Board to consider May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup> for departmental budget hearings. A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to schedule the budget hearings for May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board chose not to have the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Listening Session recorded by Local TV4.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to move the June 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting to June 26<sup>th</sup>, for adoption of the FY17-18 budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Commissioner Items:**

Commissioner Stiles said that he would like the Board to respond to questions from members of the public at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Listening Session. There was no action taken on the request.

Commissioner McKinnon said that he would like for NCDOT to look at adding a turning lane at the intersection of Hwy 64 and Hwy 294. All Board members were in agreement. The county manager will share the request with NCDOT.

### **Public Forum:**

Henry Ristorcelli suggested that the speed limit change begin at the intersection of Hwy 19/129, instead of Hwy 60. He also asked for clarification on the bathroom and playground projects for Konehete Park.

### **Adjourn:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON APRIL 3, 2017.**

