

A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 17, 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 17th day of April, 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; Scott Lindsay, County Attorney and Assistant Clerk; and, Maria Hass, Assistant County Manager and Clerk to the Board.

Present from the media was the Cherokee Scout and Local TV4.

The Chairman presided, and Clerk kept the minutes.

The invocation was given by Sheriff Palmer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Eichenbaum.

Agenda Modification:

There were no modifications to the agenda.

Agenda Adoption:

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

Public Forum:

There were no comments during public forum.

Minutes:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the meeting minutes of March 1, 2017, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the meeting minutes of April 3, 2017, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance and Budget:

- The finance director shared a financial report ending March 31st, for the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center. The Center's cash balance at that time was \$26,068.21; however, the net balance after deferred memberships is a deficit of \$19,462.62. The finance

director said that the deficit would be covered by the Hiwassee Valley Recreation Foundation.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a request by Cherokee County Schools for use of sales tax in the amount of \$14,492.00, to purchase scoreboards for Hiwassee Dam High School and Andrews High School. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision for receipt of additional timber funds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$5,200.00, for the replacement of the HVAC at the airport. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve the revised JCPC Funding Plan, due to discretionary funds being awarded to Western Carolina Pacesetters. The \$4,000.00 award requires a match of \$800.00, which is being provided by Western Carolina Pacesetters. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$8,450.00, for architect services for the new EMS Station 4. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$2,228.00 for the operation of Hanging Dog Campground for another year. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.

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

New Business:

- 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 Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to approve a resolution in opposition of Senate Bill 363, an update to the N.C. Machinery Act. If passed, the bill would remove statutory authority of the property tax commission and county boards of Equalization and Review; and could create inequality among property values, and inequity among property owners. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a revised resolution for the Board of Equalization and Review. The revised resolution reflects the recent change in the Terms Policy for county boards, eliminating “consecutive term limits”. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKinnon. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve a revised resolution for the Tourism Development Authority. The revised resolution reflects the recent change in the Terms Policy for county boards, eliminating “consecutive term limits”. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a resolution exempting contract design services for EMS Station 4. An exemption is statutorily permissible because the contract for design services is less than \$50,000. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table the Pool and Wellness Center Board application. The only applicant was out of town for a family emergency. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to table the Board of Health application, until the applicant could attend. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a renewal of the Environmental Health Services Agreement between counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the 2017 National Day of Prayer Proclamation, proclaiming Thursday, May 4th as a Day of Prayer in Cherokee County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Items:

The county manager said he was awaiting an update from Donnie Love, concerning the courthouse dome project.

Commissioner Items: None

Public Forum: None

There were no comments during public forum.

Closed Session:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Dickey to enter into closed session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

During closed session attorney Sean Perrin gave the board an update on the Loren Leath vs. Cherokee County lawsuit. Also during closed session, the board discussed possible locations for an emergency operations center.

After returning to open session, there was no action taken on the matters discussed during closed session.

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 8:00 o'clock p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED ON MAY 1, 2017, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.