

A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
May 1, 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 1st day of May, 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 Assistant Clerk.

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

The Chairman presided, and Assistant Clerk kept the minutes.

The invocation was given by Randy Wiggins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all.

**Agenda Modification:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to add a resolution for the 2017 22-Mile Walk for Veterans Suicide Awareness. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Adoption:**

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

**Public Forum:**

There were no comments during public forum.

**Minutes:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Westmoreland to approve the meeting minutes of April 17, 2017, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Finance and Budget:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve a budget revision in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the replacement of the HVAC at the Courthouse Annex. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. 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 McKinnon to approve a resolution for the 2017 22-Mile Walk for Veterans Suicide Awareness, as presented by Gary Gobeo. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the tax releases, as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the Tax Refund Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stiles. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve the NCVTS Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- Nancy Chastain, of VAYA Health, came before the board requesting space at the Courthouse Annex to place a MindKare Kiosk. MindKare kiosks provide mental health screenings to the public, and provides information to available mental health resources. After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table the item, until a more suitable location can be determined. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- Preston Mashburn came before the board seeking approval of updated lease for use of the Cherokee County Fairgrounds, to include the use of concession stand bathrooms. He said that they would like to use the facility for the following activities: farmer's market, farm equipment sales, gun shows, singings, sorghum festivals, and rodeos. Commissioner McKinnon and Commissioner Eichenbaum said they would like to schedule a meeting with Mr. Mashburn and the Cherokee County Saddle Club, to work out details of how the two groups could work together at the facility. A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- The following Tourism Development Authority (TDA) applicants came before the board for introductions: Gayle Horton, Phylis Blackmon, Kevin Peacock, Mike Sheidy, Joshua Vaught, and Steve Coleman. Current TDA members present and speaking were: Aurelia Stone, Sandra Daley and Steve Dickey. Commissioner Stiles shared his concern about re-advertisement of the Tourism Development Board appointments, and asked the other board members if there is a problem with the current TDA board. He said that he thinks they have done a good job.
- Board of Health applicant for the veterinarian position, Dr. Grady Hester, came before the board for introduction.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to appoint James Jallah to the Social Services Board for a three-year term; effective July 1, 2017, and expiring June 30, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to approve the purchase and installation

of permanent scaffolding in the courthouse dome. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

- A Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to approve Phase 3-Architectural Engineering Fees for the courthouse lantern restoration. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.
- A Motion was made by Commissioner McKinnon to table bids for the courthouse dome evaluation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

### **County Manager Items:**

- The county manager presented his FY2017-18 recommended budget.
- Mr. Wiggins said that the board would need to schedule a couple of budget worksessions. The board agreed on the dates of May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Public Hearing for the budget will be advertised, and then held at the commissioner's regular board meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Wiggins said that Cherokee County Soil and Water has requested a new vehicle in the upcoming budget, and has also asked that the vehicle be covered under the county's insurance, to receive a reduced premium. The board will discuss this item in the upcoming budget worksessions.
- There was discussion about public access and use of USFS land. The USFS wants to hear from county residents about use of the public lands. The board will schedule a Saturday worksession for the purpose of receiving comments from the general public on access and use of USFS land.

**Commissioner Items:** None

### **Public Forum:**

- A member of the public complained that there is no electrical power access at the Hanging Dog campground.
- Aurelia Stone suggested the VAYA Health kiosk be placed at the local library.

### **Closed Session:**

At 7:42 p.m., a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

While in closed session the board consulted with the county attorney on a personnel matter.

At 8:10 p.m., a Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles to return to open session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Westmoreland. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Open Session:**

- 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 8:30 o'clock p.m.

**THESE MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 5, 2017.**