A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 6, 2010

*Preamble to Minutes read by Chairman Dickey: "Members of the County Board of Commissioners are advised, hereby, of their duty under the Local Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of such conflict; and, further, are instructed to refrain from participating in any matter coming before this Board of County Commissioners with respect to which there is a conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict".*

A Regular Meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners was held in the First Floor Courtroom of the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy, North Carolina on the 6th day of December, 2010 at 8:30 o'clock a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for the meeting: Jonathan Dickey, Chairman; W. David Sumpter III, Vice-Chairman; and, Dana Jones, Commissioner. Also present were the following: David Badger, County Manager; R. Scott Lindsay, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board; and Maria Hass, Assistant to the County Manager and Assistant Clerk to the Board.

Present from the media was Dwight Otwell of the Cherokee Scout and Frank Bradley of the Cherokee Sentinel.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Dana Jones.

The Chairman presided and the Assistant Clerk kept the Minutes.

**Budget Revisions/Finance Items:**

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Jones to approve the following budget revisions: a) Wellness Center; b) Revenue from open grants; c) Additional State Funding for Client Heating Utilities; d) Haven grant; e) Andrews High School project; f) Administration; g) Emergency Management grant; and h) Increase in Water and Sewer grant. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sumpter. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Sumpter to approve Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2010 with suggested amendments. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Meeting Minutes are available for public inspection on the county website at www.cherokeecounty-nc.gov, or in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

**Special Business:**

Commissioner Sumpter presented a resolution honoring all veterans who have served in the United Sates Armed Forces. Commissioner Sumpter furthermore made a Motion and requested that this acclamation be inscribed on, or posted upon and adorn the Cherokee County, North Carolina Courthouse and Office Administration Addition of the Cherokee County, North Carolina Courthouse. Commissioner Jones seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Dickey, Commissioner Sumpter and Commissioner Jones took turns expressing their appreciation for the opportunity to work with county administration, staff, and the opportunity to serve the citizens of Cherokee County.

**New Business:**

- Cherokee County attorney and Clerk to the Board, R. Scott Lindsay swore in the newly elected commissioners. After taking the oath of office for the Board of County Commissioners, Lorraine Meltz, David Wood and Steve Jordan resumed the business of the regularly scheduled meeting.

- Commissioner Meltz made a Motion to nominate herself as Chair to the Board. Motion failed due to lack of second. Commissioner Jordan made a Motion to appoint Commissioner Wood as Chairman. Commissioner Wood seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

- A Motion was made by Chairman Wood to appoint Commissioner Meltz as Vice-Chair to the Board. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion carried.

- Chairman Wood announced that he and Commissioner Jordan had, after the November 6, 2010 General Election, discussed the county's need for an Economic Development Director. A Motion was made by Chairman Wood that Curtis Brown be hired as Economic Development Director for Cherokee County. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Voting in favor of the Motion were Chairman Wood and Commissioner Jordan. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Meltz.

- Chairman Wood then stated that he would like a list of all county employees and their salaries. The county attorney advised Chairman Wood that the list is public record and does not require a motion.

- Chairman Wood made a Motion to lease the Cherokee County Industrial Park on US Hwy 64 to the Southern Appalachian Family Farm, for one year and in the amount of $100.00 annually, to use as a community garden. Commissioner Jordan asked Commissioner Wood to table the item for further discussion. The item was tabled.

- After further advisement of legal and proper procedures from the county attorney, Chairman Wood proceeded with the formal meeting agenda.

- Chairman Wood made a Motion to approve the proposed 2011 Commissioners Meeting schedule saying that a couple of meetings may have to be changed in the future, due to his National Guard duties and conflicts of Commissioner Jordan. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion carried.

- Chairman Wood made a Motion to appoint Commissioner Meltz to serve on the Smoky Center Board. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion carried.

- Chairman Wood made a Motion to appoint Commissioner Meltz to the Hiwassee Valley Pool and Wellness Center Board. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion carried.

- Commissioner Meltz made a Motion to appoint Chairman Wood to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan. Motion carried.

- Commissioner Jordan stated that he would like to take the vacant seat on the Cherokee County Board of Health. A Motion was made by Commissioner Metz to appoint Commissioner Jordan to the Cherokee County Board of Health. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion carried.

- Commissioner Meltz made a Motion to appoint Commissioner Jordan to the Cherokee County Historical Museum Society. The Motion was seconded by Chairman Wood. Motion carried.

- Chairman Wood made a Motion to appoint himself to serve on the Cherokee County Tourism Board. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meltz. Motion carried.

**County Managers Items: None**

**Chairman's Items:**

Commissioner Jordan said that he appreciated everyone that elected him, and that he wants to work for the people. Chairman Wood said he appreciated the votes he received, and that his heart's in the right place. He said that he knows people and the problems of the county and is going to try his best to help the people. Commissioner Meltz said thank you to those who elected her. She said that she wants Cherokee County to be the best county in North Carolina. She also said that we all have to work together and have open minds and open views.

**Public Forum:**

During public forum there were questions and concerns over Chairman Wood's Motion to hire Curtis Brown as Economic Development Director, and questions about having to advertise the position, and also questions about the salary of the position. Chairman Wood stated that the salary for the Economic Development Director and other issues related to the appointment would be worked out. There was also a comment of concern that Chairman Wood and Commissioner Jordan had appointed Commissioner Meltz to most of the committees and boards and that the appointments were not being equally shared. Chairman Wood pointed out that each Commissioner had been appointed as members of two (2) boards.

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David Wood, Chairman

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R. Scott Lindsay, Clerk to the Board

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Maria Hass, Asst. Clerk to the Board

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