

MINUTES for December 22, 2025
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chair Myra Carlisle Frazier called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, December 22, 2025, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Myra Frazier opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Jack Garner, Cory Moates, Myra Frazier, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Deputy Clerk Michelle Mosler, Health Department Director Peyton Kessler, Katie Harrington, Brett Warstler, Sheila Price, Samantha Clevenger, KSN Reporter Jake Cooperman, Galena Sentinel Times Editor Machel Smith, Columbus News Report employee Shawn Churchill, and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

SPENDING AUTHORITY

Commissioner Frazier opened the Spending Authority Hearing. No public comment or communication was received. The hearing was closed.

RESOLUTION 25-2025

Commissioner Moates moved to approve Resolution 25-2025 authorizing expenditure of existing ½ cent sales tax funds for the Cherokee County Health Department building/renovations and renovations to Cherokee County Law Enforcement Center. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MINIMUM ROAD MAINTENANCE

Commissioner Frazier opened the Minimum Road Maintenance Hearing. No public comment or communication was received. The hearing was closed.

RESOLUTION 26-2025

Commissioner Garner moved to approve Resolution 26-2025 declaring a portion SW 110th Street bordering parcel numbers R155506, R15511, R15507 in Cherokee County, Kansas, as a minimum maintenance road. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Moates moved to approve the minutes as presented from December 15, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Commissioner Garner moved to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Moates seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Commissioner Moates moved to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SAM

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the Surveying and Mapping (SAM) contract in the amount of \$4,400 for one-year maintenance. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ZONING MORATORIUM

Brett Warstler, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, provided an update on recent commission meetings.

RESOLUTION 27-2025

Commissioner Garner moved to approve Resolution 27-2025 adopting a moratorium on the consideration of special requests to use Cherokee County roads, resources, and/or infrastructure for commercial renewable energy projects, cryptocurrency mining operations, data centers, battery energy storage systems, new and unpermitted landfills and transfer stations, quarries, and nuclear energy plants. Commissioner Moates seconded. Motion passed 2-1, with Commissioner Frazier voting against the motion.

LAND OWNER

Landowner Cory Bates discussed with the Board his displeasure regarding the requirement to move his fence. No action was taken.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 10-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, and Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook present. The session was set to return at 10:12 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

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ROAD AND BRIDGE

- Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook informed the Board of an accident involving the department's fuel trailer, in which the department was not at fault. He also requested that the Sheriff review the intersection of SW 40th and Clem Road to determine whether a yield sign should be installed.
- Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook presented proposed employee raises to the Board. The Board tabled until the January 5, 2026, meeting.

NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, and Appraiser Delinda White present. The session was set to return at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, and Appraiser Delinda White present. The session was set to return at 10:35 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

BODY AND CAR CAMERA CONTRACT

Sheriff Brian Henderson updated the Board on the contract with Axon for new body and in-car cameras. The contract term is 10 years. The first year cost will be \$63,000, with the remaining years locked in at \$90,000 per year.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 5-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, and Sheriff Brian Henderson present. The session was set to return at 10:50 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE

No action was taken.

TREASURER/APPAISER TAX STATEMENT

Commissioner Moates moved to pay the delinquent taxes on the Cherokee County Health Department parking lot in the amount of \$382.52. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL RAISES

Treasurer Heather Sapp and Register of Deeds Karen Johnston presented the Board with proposed employee raises. Commissioner Frazier moved to table the matter until the next meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board and Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke present. The session was set to return at 11:22 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 10-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board and Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke present. The session was set to return at 11:35 a.m. Commissioner Moates seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board and Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke present. The session was set to return at 11:43 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:44 a.m., Commissioner Frazier moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.


ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 22 day of December 2025.

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Commissioner Chairwoman – Myra Carlisle Frazier


Commissioner – Jack Garner

Commissioner – Cory Moates



County Clerk – Taylor Brown