

**MINUTES for November 17, 2025**  
**BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS**

**CONVENE CANVASS**

Chair Myra Carlisle Frazier opened the election canvass session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 8:30 AM on Monday November 17, 2025, in the Commission Room #109, of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple Street, Columbus, Kansas. Deputy County Clerk Michelle Mosler opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Myra Carlisle Frazier, Jack Garner, Cory Moates, Deputy County Clerk Michelle Mosler, County Counselor Kurt Benecke, and Assistant County Attorney Ethan Manke were present.

**CANVASS**

The Board was presented with 20 provisional ballots from the November 4, 2025, General Election. The Board accepted 15 ballots and rejected 5 ballots. Commissioner Frazier moved to accept fifteen ballots and reject five. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The provisional ballots were counted for votes by the Election Board of Canvass and added to the unofficial general results. The unofficial totals were presented, and Commissioner Frazier moved to certify the abstract of the election. Commissioner Moates seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**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, November 17, 2025, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Myra Carlisle Frazier, Jack Garner, Cory Moates, County Counselor Kurt Benecke, County Deputy Clerk Michelle Mosler, Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, Galena Sentinel Times Editor Machel Smith, Columbus News Report employee Shawn Churchill, Toni Speith, and Health Department Director Peyton Kessler were present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Moates moved to approve the minutes as presented from the November 10, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ROAD AND BRIDGE**

Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook provided an update on the recycle trailers that will be placed throughout the county today.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Commissioner Moates moved to increase Deanna Marshall's salary from \$14.75 to \$17.00 per hour, effective November 2025. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Moates moved to increase Gayla Woodcock's salary from \$14.49 to \$16.00 per hour, effective November 2025. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 10-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board, Health Department Director Peyton Kessler, and County Counselor Kurt Benecke present. The session was set to return at 9:18 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

**CMB LICENSE RENEWAL**

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the Malt Beverage License Renewal for The Pittsburg Truck Stop. Commissioner Moates seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**INSURANCE RENEWAL AGREEMENT**

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the Insurance Administrative Services Agreement as presented. Commissioner Moates seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Moates moved to enter into a 20-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board and County Counselor Kurt Benecke present. The session was set to return at 9:45 a.m. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

**NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Frazier moved to enter into a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the Board, County Counselor Kurt Benecke, and Emergency Management Director Matt Haviland present. The session was set to return at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Moates seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

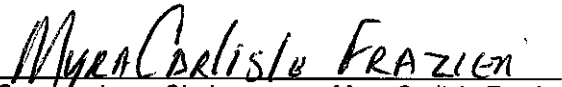
**FEMA LOT BIDS**

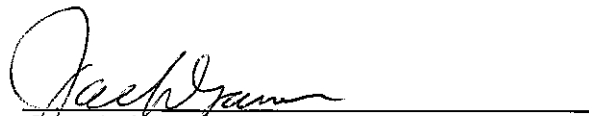
Emergency Management Director Matt Haviland reported that no bids were received. Commissioner Frazier moved to direct Matt Haviland to re-advertise and take sealed bids on FEMA Lot 7641 SE Watermelon, Galena, KS 66739. All bids must be received by 5:00 p.m. on December 5, 2025. Commissioners will open bids at 10:00 a.m. on December 8, 2025. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

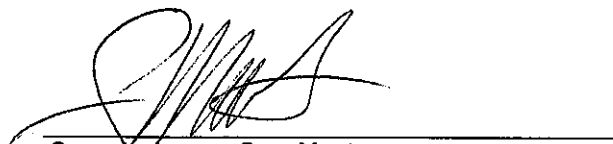
**ADJOURNMENT**

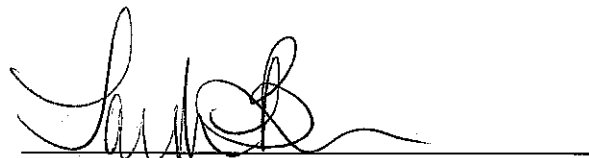
At 10:10 a.m., Commissioner Frazier moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ATTEST:** Resolved and ordered this 24 day of November 2025.

  
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Commissioner Chairwoman – Myra Carlisle Frazier

  
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Commissioner – Jack Garner

  
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Commissioner – Cory Moates

  
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County Clerk – Taylor Brown