

MINUTES for August 5, 2024
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chair Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, August 5, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Counselor Jake Conard opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Counciler Jake Conard, Deputy County Clerk Jess Frasher, Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, and Columbus News Report Owner Larry Hiatt were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from July 29, 2024. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with commissioner Moates abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from July 31, 2024. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Commissioner Moates abstaining.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 20-2024

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve resolution 20-2024, a resolution by the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners regulating county right-of-way usage. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board with an update. Zook stated that he had a zoom call with a representative from KDOT regarding the classification of roads as major and minor collectors and reviewed areas to be redesignated. Zook reviewed ditching work that is being done. Commissioner Johnson informed Zook of calls that she had received regarding road conditions. Zook stated that the SE Wyandotte bridge has a walkthrough scheduled for either Thursday or Friday, and that should be open after it has been completed. Zook reviewed the amount used for each of the commission district asphalt budgets.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 10-minute executive session, with the Board, County Counselor Conard, and Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, to discuss secrets of a corporation, partnership, trust, or individual proprietor regarding an entity doing business with Cherokee County. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action.

SHERIFF OFFICE UPDATE

Sheriff David Groves came before the Board to provide an update. Commissioner Frazier stated that when the Board was reviewing budgets in April, Groves stated that he would expect an adjustment in Salary due to his accepting of a new job. Sheriff Groves stated that he did not know how many hours he would be working at the Sheriffs office when making that statement. Commissioner Frazier asked if Groves considers himself a full-time sheriff now. Groves stated that he does. Commissioner Frazier stated that Groves was not present when the Board was reviewing the budget and noted that he was in previous years. Commissioner Johnson noted that county resident Toni Speith has previously addressed the Board regarding the Sheriff's Office, and asked if Speith has tried to contact him. Groves stated that he has not been contacted and noted that Speith has his phone number and email address. Commissioner Johnson stated that Speith had previously told the Board that Groves was not in attendance at recent Local Emergency

Planning Commission meetings. Groves noted that while he himself was not present, the sheriff's office has been represented at the meetings.

PROPERTY ISSUE

County Resident Roger Thompson came before the Board with a complaint regarding a neighboring property. Thompson stated that the property has been overgrown and neglected for years and described the issues affecting his residence. Commissioner Moates noted that there is no zoning in the county and stated that the County has limited options to resolve such an issue. Commissioner Johnson stated they the Board will discuss the issue with Emergency Manager Matt Haviland to see what can be done.

NRP SPECIAL CHECK APPROVAL

County Treasurer Heather Sapp came before the Board requesting approval to cut a special check for NRP participant Lisa Klaver. Sapp explained that a NRP rebate check was not cut for Klaver due to an error with her NRP and is requesting that the check be paid from miscellaneous funds. Sapp explained that the amount would be replaced during the September distribution. Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the check to be paid out of miscellaneous funds. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

POSTALOCITY RNR WIRE APPROVAL

County Treasurer Heather Sapp presented to the Board a request to wire the amount of 11901.20 to Postalocity for the mailing of RNR notices. Commissioner Johnson asked if it was budgeted to pay for the mailing. Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the wire amount of 11901.20 from the Clerk's Office to Postalocity for the mailing on RNR notices. Commissioner Jonson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPRAISER CREDIT CARD LIMIT

County Appraiser Delinda White came before the Board to request an increase in limits for the Appraiser's Office credit cards. White stated that one is currently at \$1,000.00 and the other is at \$1,500.00. Commissioner Moates asked what she felt would be an appropriate limit. White stated that she believes \$4,000.00 for the one she carries, and \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 for the office card would be appropriate. White cited conferences and training as factors that would warrant an increase in the limit. Commissioner Johnson stated that she is hesitant to approve a raise in the limit and stated that the current limit has been sufficient in the past. Commissioner Frazier stated that an increase to \$2,000.00 seemed reasonable. Commissioner Moates motioned to increase the limit to the County Appraiser's credit card and the Appraiser's Office credit card both to \$2,000.00. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Counselor Jake Conard, and County Appraiser Delinda White, to return at 10:35 am. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion.

No action was taken.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Counselor Jake Conard, and County Appraiser Delinda White, to return at 10:45 am. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion.

No action was taken.

NOTICE OF NEW EMPLOYEE

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the hire of Megan Reed as Field Appraiser and Office Assistant effective August 1st at a rate of \$20 an hour. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTORNEY CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 10-minute attorney client privilege executive session, with the Board and County Counselor Conard, to return at 11:17 am. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action.

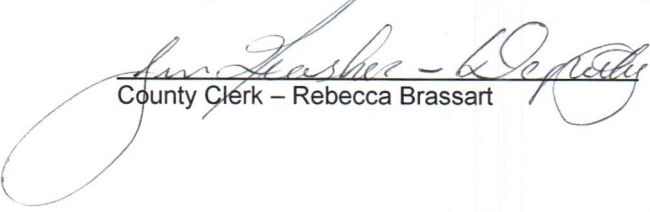
BUDGET WORKSHOP

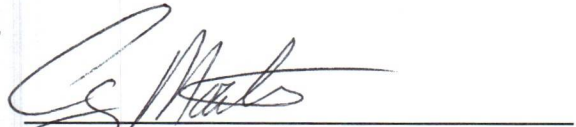
The commissioners examined and discussed the submitted departmental budgets.

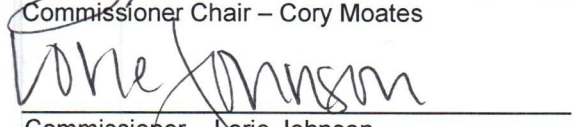
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Frazier motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 12th day of August 2024.


County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart


Commissioner Chair – Cory Moates


Commissioner – Lorie Johnson


Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier