

**MINUTES for May 13, 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, May 13, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, County Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Counselor Jake Conard, and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from May 6, 2024, meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL of PAYROLL**

Commissioner Moates 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.

**ROAD and BRIDGE**

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to notify them of the work that the road and bridge employees did after the storm that blew through the county on Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>. Zook stated that there was a path of cleanup from SW 60<sup>th</sup> St., and SW Star Rd to NE Lawton Rd and NE 90<sup>th</sup> St.

Cody stated the trucks will be back to hauling rock for all the roads that washed out due to the excessive rainfall the county has received.

Commissioner Moates asked that Cody haul rock to the lower water bridge on SE Star Rd.

Cody stated that he believes they still need to address the issue on SE 104<sup>th</sup> and that they will be putting up a dead-end sign on SE 105<sup>th</sup> St.

Commissioner Johnson stated that she had been through the intersection of SW 60<sup>th</sup> St., and SW Quaker Rd and stated there is a tree on the right of way of the county that needs removed so that the intersection can be clearer.

Zook stated the wheeled excavator should be here within the next two weeks.

**ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE EXECUTIVE**

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 10-minute attorney client privilege executive session with the Board and County Counselor Jake Conard, to return at 9:30 am. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 15-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, Emergency Manager Matt Haviland, and County Counselor Jake Conard to return at 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action taken during the executive session. Commissioner Moates motioned to raise the rate of pay from \$38,000 to \$40,600 a year for Emergency Manager Matt Haviland. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Emergency Manager Mat Haviland gave a quick update on the damage dollar amount from the recent disaster. Haviland stated the county is already pushing between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in reported damage to roads.

Commissioner Moates asked Haviland if he has been down to SE Watermelon Lane recently. Haviland stated that he had not. Commissioner Moates stated that Shad Houses are being built down there and he wants to know if there are septic's being put in due to the area being in the flood zone. Haviland stated he was unsure about the septic's but stated the previous Emergency Manager had okayed the project for the houses to be built.

**RESOLUTION 13-2024 ENVIROMENTAL CODE FINES**

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve resolution 13-2024, a resolution establishing fines and penalties for certain violations of the county environmental code. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**COUNTY COUNSELOR**

County Counselor Jake Conard asked the Board to pay a fee of \$200 for the County Counselor Association dues. Commissioner Moates motioned to pay out of the courthouse \$200 for the dues for the County Counselor Association. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

County Counselor Conard stated that he needs to work on the right-a-way and road use policy. Conard stated that he could possibly have one of the policies ready by next Monday to discuss with the Board and Cody.

County Counselor Conard also stated that he will have resolution 14-2024 ready on Monday as well.

**ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE EXECUTIVE**

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 15-minute attorney client privilege executive session with the Board and County Counselor Jake Conard, to return at 10:30 am. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

**SKIDMORE**

Commissioner Johnson asked County Counselor Conard if he could draw up a letter for the landowners in Skidmore so that the Board could review the letter at the next Mondays meeting. She stated she would like to schedule a meeting with all landowners on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Johnson ask that he include in the letter that all landowners will need to provide all death certificates that are required and to notify them that the plat map will be at the meeting for their viewing and possible signing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 20th day of May 2024.**

  
County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart

  
Commissioner Chair – Cory Moates

  
Commissioner – Lorie Johnson

  
Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier