

MINUTES for March 28, 2022
BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 28, 2022, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Clerk Rebecca Brassart opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Cody Zook Road and Bridge Supervisor, David Jenkins with KDWP, Jason Deal with KDWP, County Counselor Nathan Coleman and Columbus News Report Reporter Jacob Spencer were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Frazier to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022, meeting as written. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

SKIDMORE SURVEY

Coming before The Board regarding the Skidmore area survey are David Jenkins and Jason Deal with KDWP, Cody Zook with the county Road and Bridge and Rod Zinn with Cornerstone Surveying per phone. An update was given regarding the issues that have risen with the surveying in the Skidmore area. It was decided that it would be best to have a mutual meeting with all interested parties to get signatures from all landowners to correct the issues that have arouse.

ROAD & BRIDGE

Cody Zook Road and Bridge Supervisor came before The Board to inform them that the pamphlets had been made regarding the dust control policy. He informed The Board that Deanna Fitz and Joni Hicks had both worked on the pamphlet. He asked that The Board review it for any errors. After a review of the pamphlet The Board commended them on a job well done. Cody stated that he would like to see them in various places throughout the courthouse.

Cody notified The Board that he will be attending the KCHA class and seminar in Dodge City Kansas and that the class is free to all new road supervisors. Zook stated that the cost for the class will be reimbursed back to the county.

Zook informed The Board that after Cory and himself had met last week that he will be getting quotes for graders.

Cody discussed with The Board the wage budget regarding the janitor and maintenance positions.

Due to the Skidmore survey meeting running long Cody ask for The Board to approve the pay raises he had submitted after he has left. The Board stated they would review them.

Later in the meeting Commissioner Moates read aloud the proposed notice of pay rate change for the 21 employees of the Road and Bridge Department. Commissioner Johnson ask what had warranted the pay changes and Commissioner Frazier stated that there had been employee evaluations presented to The Board. Frazier stated the evaluations were very well done. Commissioner Johnson also questioned when the last raises were given to the listed employees. Clerk Brassart stated she did not know but could find out. Those named aloud by Commissioner Moates for raises are as follows.

Tim Terry from \$14.50 to \$15.75

James Reeves from \$17.50 to \$19.00

Cloyd Ray from \$15.25 to \$16.00
 Mike Moore from \$15.00 to \$16.25
 Brier Martin from \$14.50 to \$15.50
 Thom LaTurner from \$16.75 to \$17.00
 Ross King from \$14.50 to \$17.00
 James Johnson from \$15.75 to \$16.00
 Sean Hutching from \$14.50 to \$15.00
 Zach Gregory from \$14.50 to \$15.75
 Jared Glover from \$19.00 to \$19.50
 Brian Blankenship from \$18.00 to \$18.50
 Drew Edmondson from \$14.50 to \$15.00
 Gary Gideon from \$15.00 to \$16.25
 Dennis Boyes from \$16.25 to \$17.00
 Mike Dainty from \$15.25 to 16.00
 Mark Clark from \$16.25 to \$17.00
 Joe Carlson from \$15.50 to \$16.25
 Scott Boyes from \$17.00 to \$17.25
 Craig Biancarelli from \$15.25 to \$16.00
 Bryan Williams from \$19.00 to \$19.50

Before Commissioner Moates made the motion Clerk Brassart asked Commissioner Johnson again if she would like to know the last date of raises due to her asking the question earlier, and she stated no. Commissioner Moates then made a motion to approve the 21 rates of pay changes for the previously read Road and Bridge employees. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

GRADUATION AD

Larry Hight with the news report came before The Board regarding the senior ad for the newspaper. He stated he would need to know how many graduates there would be before he could give The Board an accurate amount of what it would cost to place the ad. Commissioner Frazier stated she didn't feel it was a good use of taxpayer funds and Commissioner Johnson asked how many seniors we have. Clerk Brassart stated as of current she had received 4 names.

HAMLIN ENERGY

Mike Williams with Hamlin Energy came before The Board per telephone call to give a better explanation of the letter of exclusive representation. He stated to The Board that this letter allows himself to go out and find proposals on behalf of The Board. He looks at the terms of those proposals and then he will make a recommendation to The Board. He informed The Board that there would be no charge should The Board decide to not sign with a supplier that Hamlin Energy brings to them. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to sign the letter of exclusive representation with Hamlin Energy. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

INSURANCE PENALTY

Clerk Brassart informed The Board that she had been asked as to whether there would be a penalty if an employee did not choose to participate in the health and Wellness program that the county provides for their employees. The Board discussed the matter with Deana Randall head of HR, it was decided that there would be no penalty to anyone who chose not to participate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS RELATING TO SECURITY MATTERS

County Counselor Nathan Coleman requested a 10-minute executive session with The Board and Sheriff David Groves regarding matters relating to security measures. Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute executive session with the 3 Commissioners, Counselor Coleman, and Sheriff Groves to return at 10:56 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

The meeting reconvened at 10:56 a.m.

There was no action taken because of the Executive Session.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Sheriff David Groves came before The Board to inform them that he had completed the emergency operations plan required by KDEM for the Emergency Management department. He stated he has submitted it to KDEM for their further approval. The Board thanked him for getting this done in such a timely manner.

KDWP ANNUAL OPERATION and MAINTAINENANCE ASSURANCE STATEMENT

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the signing of the 2022 annual operation and maintenance assurance statement land and water conservation fund LWCF. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

In old business Nathan Coleman County Counselor informed to The Board that he had spoken to Patrick Hughes an attorney out of Wichita. Coleman suggested that The Board meet with Hughes in an executive session per zoom and that The Board should consider retaining Hughes as their attorney regarding wind turbines. He stated he would recommend a limited retainer with Patrick Hughes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Counselor Coleman ask The Board for a 10-minute attorney-client privilege executive session. Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute executive attorney-client privilege session with the three Commissioners and Counselor Coleman to return at 11:52 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

There was no action taken because of the executive Session.

The meeting reconvened at 11:52 a.m.

Counselor Coleman ask for a 5-minute attorney-client privilege executive session. Commissioner Moates made a motion for my 5-minute attorney-client privilege executive session with the three Commissioners and Coleman to return at 11:57 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

The meeting reconvened at 11:57 a.m.

There was no action taken because of the executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL

Commissioner Frazier made a motion for a 10-minute non-elected personnel executive session with the three Commissioners and Counselor Coleman to return at 12:03 p.m. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 to 0.

The meeting reconvened at 12:03 p.m.

There was no action taken because of the executive session.

SICK PAY/VACATION PAY

Commissioner Moates made a motion to pay the sick time and vacation time for Jason Allison Emergency Manager out of the employee benefits budget. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 to 0.


ADJOURN

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.


ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 4th day of April 2022

X 

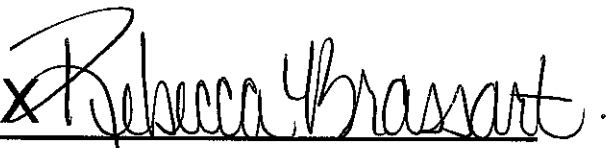
Cory Moates
Commissioner Chairman

X 

Lorie Johnson
Commissioner

X 

Myra Carlisle Frazier
Commissioner

X 

Rebecca S Brassart
County Clerk