

MINUTES for March 25, 2024
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE CANVASS

Chairman Cory Moates opened the election canvass session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order on Monday, March 25, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Deputy Clerk Jess Frasher, and the election board for canvass made up of Michelle Mosler and Sandy Qualls, were present. Commissioner Frazier was absent from the canvass.

CANVASSING

County Clerk Rebecca Brassart presented the board with 11 provisional ballots. The board rejected 7 accepted 4 to be counted in full. Commissioner Moates made a motion to accept 4 in full and reject the 7 ballots. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates closed the special session of the election canvass. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The provisional ballots were then counted for votes by the election board of canvass and added to the unofficial primary results. Once the unofficial totals were presented which included the provisional ballot count. Commissioner Moates made a motion later in the regular session of the Commissioner meeting to certify the abstract of the election. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Frazier abstaining.

CONVENE

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, March 25, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Economic Development Director Dale Helwig opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier (by phone), County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, County Road and Bridge Road Supervisor Cody Zook, County Counselor Jake Conard, and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from March 18, 2024, Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD and BRIDGE

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to inform them of his discussion he had regarding Emry Sapp and KDOT.

Cody discussed local road safety with the Board.

Zook discussed the local road grading, along with the future maintenance and projects that will be upcoming.

Cody notified the Board that he had received numerous quotes for the fuel trailer and that the best deal was from Circle E in Altamont, KS. Commissioner Moates asked Zook what size the fuel trailer was, of which he stated it was 550 gallons. Cody stated that is made the most sense as it would be easier on the trucks to haul and was \$1,000.00 cheaper.

CPI CREXENDO

Commissioner Moates asked County Clerk Rebecca Brassart if she had been able to find out if the county was in a contract with Parcom and Columbus Telephone. Brassart stated the county is not in a contract with Parcom, and she also stated that she had reached out to Columbus Telephone and had not received an answer back but that it should not matter as the county will still need to utilize Columbus Telephone. Brassart stated she would go call Columbus Telephone. The Board joined Ryan Hilton with CPI by telephone to discuss the quote that had been presented to the Board last week. After the discussion Brassart stated that Columbus Telephone had verified by phone that the county was not in a contract and that they would be sending over an email to verify that. Commissioner Moates made a motion to move the current telephone system from Parcom on an analog system to CPI Crexendo on a VOIP system. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STORM WARNING SIRENS

Sheriff David Groves, Undersheriff Terry Clugston and Emergency Manager Matt Haviland came before the Board to discuss the storm siren project. After discussing the issues, it was decided to go ahead and seek the license in the amount of \$500.00.

OFFICE HEADS**Emergency Manager**

Matt Haviland gave an update on the happenings with his office.

Appraiser

Interim Appraiser Daisy Mooney informed the Board that the change of value notices (cvn) were sent out on March 15th and that taxpayers have 30 days to appeal their value.

Register of Deed

Barb Bilke presented a list of items that have been paid to her office in the past three months.

Treasurer

Heather Sapp discussed the tax sale that was held on March 12th and notified the Board that one property was pulled off the sale due to an incorrect legal. The sale roughly brought in \$336,000.00, Sapp will have to get everything paid and figured to give a true amount that the sale brought to the county.

Clerk

Rebecca Brassart stated that her office completed the canvass this morning from the March 19th election. Brassart stated that the election had a 6.62% turnout.

Human Resources

Deana Randall stated she had nothing to report to the Board.

Attorney

Kurt Benecke informed the Board that in May his office will be gaining a new attorney. Addison Tucker will graduate in May and then will join the County Attorney's office.

Road and Bridge

Cody Zook stated he had already presented everything during his earlier session with the Board.

Health Department

Peyton Kessler stated that her office is continuing to work on grants and has already submitted numerous grants. Kessler stated that in July she will be having a public health student joining her office. Peyton informed the Board that senior vouchers for the farmers market are still available.

Sheriff

David Groves notified the Board that on January 8th he turned his forfeiture assets report in. Groves discussed the potential housing agreement with Indian affairs. He also informed the Board of the recent testimony he had given.

Maintenance

Mike Thomas notified the Board that he has been cleaning around the courthouse.

Noxious Weed

JC Parsons stated he has been selling some chemicals and is looking for sales to pick up.

EMAILS

Commissioner Moates and the Board notified all the office heads to watch the sharing of emails due to the uptick in cyber-attacks.

NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute non-elect executive session with the Board, Health Department Director Peyton Kessler, and County Counselor Jake Conard, to return at 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

ATTORNEY CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute attorney client privilege executive session with the Board, County Counselor Jake Conard, and Interim Appraiser Daisy Mooney to return at 11:10 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

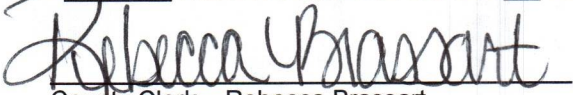
ELECTION RESULTS CERTIFICATION

County Clerk Rebecca Brassart presented the Board with the abstract certification of the election results from the March 19, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary. Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the abstract of election. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Frazier abstaining.

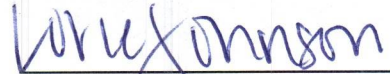
ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 1st day of April 2024.


County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart


Commissioner Chairman – Cory Moates


Commissioner – Lorie Johnson


Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier