

MINUTES FOR February 7, 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, February 7, 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 of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Counselor Nathan Coleman, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, and Columbus News Report Reporter Jacob Spencer were present.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2022 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve Payroll, Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve Accounts Payable except for mileage submitted by Mack Young for the dates 12-1-2021 and 1-31-2022, Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Cody Zook, County Road Supervisor, appeared before the Board regarding county road business. Cody notified the Board that he has been in contact with 6.J-4 regarding a preconstruction meeting.

Cody informed the Board that he had picked up the new ram trucks for the county lot.

Cody apprised the Board that he and JC Parsons with noxious weed would be meeting with the district noxious weed director on February 8, 2022 and that he would then decide whether JC or himself would be attending a noxious weed class on February 10, 2022.

Cody gave the Board a report on the recent snow and ice event that began on February 2, 2022. He stated during the night hours that LED lights would be a great upgrade to all the machines to help with visibility.

Cody then requested a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Frazier made a motion for a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the 3 commissioners, County Counselor Nathan Coleman and Cody Zook with Road and Bridge. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 9:26 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Cody and Chris Johnson met with the Board, where Chris presented the Board with a booklet containing a maintenance report of the county buildings in which he had examined. The discussion was held as how to handle the current temporary position of Chris Johnson in maintenance. It was determined that Chris will stay under the supervision of Cody, Nathan Davis will stay under Chris, and they would also like to add an additional helper. Commissioner Frazier requested a job description for the position that will be held by Chris Johnson. Cody stated he would have a description for Commissioner Frazier at the next regular meeting. Commissioner Moates felt that the new position for Chris should be called County Maintenance Coordinator.

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute executive session over non-elected personnel with the 3 commissioners, County Counselor Nathan, Cody and Chris with road and bridge present. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson. The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 10:02 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

The Board will be looking into the salaries for the position of maintenance helper and janitor at the next regular scheduled meeting of the Board.

Chris let the Board know that the relay for the boiler will be here by the end of the week.

Cody asked the Board if they would be okay with him getting grill guards for the new trucks. The Board agreed it would be a good idea to do so.

Janice Sandberg the current parttime janitor came before the Board to give them her notice that her last day would be on February 18, 2022. The Board accepted her resignation.

County Appraiser David Thornton asked for a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with the 3 commissioners, County Counselor Coleman and David being present. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 10:23 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to move Daisy Mooney to the position of Real Estate Property Supervisor in the Appraisers Office and to increase her pay to 20.33 from her current 16.80 an hour pay. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

County Emergency Manager Jason Allison updated the Board regarding the recent snow and ice event, he let the Board know the event had been declared a local emergency declaration

He then apprised them of the issue with the new generator. He stated it would not stay running, the company came and determined that it was due to a bad fuse in which they replaced.

Jason let the Board know of the recent semi wreck where the fuel tank was ripped off the truck.

Allison gave an update on the septic permits for the year of 2021 and let the Board know he had sent out the 2022 contractor license renewals and had received 4 back so far.

Sheriff David Groves came before the Board to let them know that in the month of January that the inmate housing generated 38,430.

Sheriff Groves informed the Board that the inmates will be working on a project to build a blessing box in Galena, KS. The First Baptist Church in Galena will be reimbursing the cost of materials for the project.

Sheriff Groves informed the Board that like many other agencies he has openings.

The Sheriff let the Board know that the Asset Forfeiture Report is required by Kansas Law to be reported annually. The County Sheriff's Office did not seize money or assets during 2021.

Sheriff Groves informed the Board that he has a deputy who will be attending the academy next month and will complete it in the early summer. He intends for this to be the new deputy which will be assigned to the courts.

Sheriff Groves stated there will be an annual inspection by the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority which will occur later this month. In addition, the inspector will come to the courthouse.

In closing Sheriff Groves gave the Board an update on Crime Trends.

Health Department Director Betha Elliott thanked all of those who helped to clear the side walks and parking at the Health Department during the recent snow event.

Director Elliott gave an update on Covid-19.

County Clerk Brassart informed the Board that there were two applicants for the Indigent Representation opening. Attorney Melanie Bingham and Attorney Keith Pennick.

County Counselor Coleman asked the commissioners for a 15-minute attorney client executive session. Commissioner Moates made a motion to have a 15-minute Attorney Client executive session with the 3 commissioners and Nathan. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to hire Attorney Keith Pennick for the Indigent Representation opening. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

In old business Counselor Coleman stated he would be speaking to Susan Touchton with Touchton Alarms regarding the contract. He also stated he still needed to get in contact with Gene Mense regarding the Mercy repayment.

County Clerk Brassart spoke to Board about moving forward with the auto attendant for the phone system. Commissioner Moates asked the question of how the system could handle a large amount of calls at once. Brassart stated she would ask Paul with Parcom. The Board stated they would be agreeance to move forward. Clerk Brassart asked County Attorney Nathan Coleman if he would be willing to continue working with her on this project, in which he stated he would.

Commissioner Johnson asked for a 5-minute break to return at 11:35 a.m. The Board agreed to a short break.

The meeting reconvened at 11:35 a.m.

In other old business David Thornton came before the board to discuss the NRP once again. He stated that in his office they are finding that there is numerous paperwork missing from applications and with just taking over the Appraisers position he has no way to know what was previously done. Raven Elmore spoke as well on the NRP issues and he frustration with this situation. Commissioner Moates and Johnson both gave suggestions as to what they felt should be done. Counselor Coleman stated he would like to see the actual filed NRP agreement with the attachment. After much discussion on how to handle the issues with the NRP it was decided that they would deal with each issue on a case-by-case basis. Commissioner Frazier then made a motion to refund DeBeard Investmant any rebate that is due to them. Commissioner Johnson

seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.


Commissioner Johnson asked for an update on the NRP paperwork once Appraiser Thornton has figured it out.

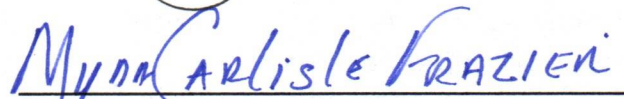
Commissioner Moates then apprised the Board that there would be a Senate Bill presented on February 9th in Topeka for SB 353 which will set state setbacks on windmills. Commissioner Moates was asked to go to Topeka which he stated he would not be able to do, but Commissioner Johnson might attend. Commissioner Moates stated he was asked to submit a letter from the Commissioners either in support or against. Due to the time constraint Commissioner Moates stated he was in favor of the bill after speaking to numerous people within the county. Commissioner Moates then made a motion to draft a letter in favor of SB 353 for State setbacks on windmills. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Moates then stated there was nothing else on the agenda and that they will be working to get the letter drafted and emailed. Commissioner Johnson asked Clerk Brassart if she could use a computer in her office to draft the letter, she stated she had one. Once the letter was drafted by Commissioner Johnson it was emailed. Commissioner Moates then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 14th day of February, 2022


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner