

**MINUTES for June 3, 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, June 3, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Cory Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, and County Road and Bridge Road Supervisor Cody Zook were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from May 23, 2024, as corrected. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SEWER BILLING SYSTEM**

Commissioner Moates presented the Board with a current copy of the sewer budget.

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the purchase of the new billing system from Advantage Computer in the amount of \$4575.00. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ROAD and BRIDGE**

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to present the enterprise lease payment that is currently for 5 vehicles.

Zook informed the Board that he has received the wheeled excavator from Sany America. Commissioner Moates asked if he knew how long he would be allowed to keep the excavator. Zook stated he was unsure but knew that another county had been allowed to keep a piece of equipment from Sany America for around one year.

Cody stated that his employees are still working on the wash outs on the roads that have been caused by all the rain.

Cody discussed the asphalt with the Board and asked if he would like him to get quotes from different companies. The Board stated that they would like him to obtain emails for all the quotes.

Zook stated that the lower water bridge on Chico RD needs to be cleaned out and that the trees need to be just back.

**NON-ELECT PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE**

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 30-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and Health Department Director Peyton Kessler to return at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action.

Commissioner Moates motioned to extend non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, and Health Department Director Peyton Kessler for an additional 10-minutes, to return at 10:10 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action.

**TOURISM GRANT APPLICATION**

Jean Pritchett with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce came before the Board with a grant application request for the Cherokee County Fair Board in amount of \$500.00 to be used towards fair advertising. Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the grant application in the amount of \$500.00. Commissioner Moates seconded the grant application. The motion passed unanimously.

**30x30 LAND PRESERVATION GOAL**

The interested party made up of Beth Salmans, Angel Cushing and Tim Johnson came before the Board to present their opposition to the 30x30 Land Preservation Goal that President Biden signed into law and to make the Board aware of the impact 30x30 can have on areas in Kansas. The group presented the Board information regarding the Freedoms' Frontier National Heritage Area of which Cherokee County is a part of along with handouts which included pre-made resolutions. Discussion surrounded requesting an Attorney General opinion on home run rule regarding no conservation perpetual easement.

**COUNTY EXTENSION**

County Extension FAC agent Kylie Ludwig and County Extension 4-H agent Josie Welch came before the Board to introduce themselves. Kyley began with the County Extension in April of 2024 and Josie began in May of 2024. Kyley informed the Board they County Extension Board will be hiring a new AG agent this year. Kyley informed the Board of some of the programs she has going on within the county.

**FEMA LEASES**

Commissioner Frazier stated that she had an interested party in one of the lease properties. The Board agreed the property will need to go back for bid but not until the FEMA Lease resolution has been reworked. Due to County Counselor Jake Conard being absent from the meeting the Board will need to table the discussion until Jake is present.

**WATERMELON SEPTIC ISSUE**

Emergency Manager Matt Haviland came before the Board to give an update on the property down near Watermelon Lane that has a shad house with the septic that was put in. Matt stated that he has found in minutes from a few years ago where the Board had okayed letting the Emergency Manager decide if a property truly needed to be 2 acres in size or if it could be smaller to allow a septic to be put in. Commissioner Frazier stated that she would like to see a copy of the minutes in which this is stated. Matt stated he would bring her a copy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 10th day of June 2024.**

  
County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart

  
Commissioner Chair – Cory Moates

  
Commissioner – Lorie Johnson

  
Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier