

MINUTES for September 12, 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 AM on Monday, September 12, 2022, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioner Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, Clerk Employee Tonia Altis, County Counselor Nathan Coleman, Derek Dick and Joe Holdenried with Bukaty and Larry Hiatt owner of the News Report were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2022 meeting as written. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BUKATY

Joe Holdenried presented the board with a Stop Loss Proposal comparing IOA Re and Tokyo Marine. The board discussed and agreed unanimously to stay with IOA Re. The disposition needed 1 signature to approve. Commissioner Moates motioned to sign the IOA Re to Bukaty disposition. All in motion.

The Board requested that the 12-month quote be prorated into a 10-month quote for next year due to budget deadlines. Joe said Bukaty would get that going.

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve to move the IOA Re to Bukaty as the broker of insurance. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Cody Zook road and bridge supervisor came before the board with a pay rate increase for Natalie Bailey. Commissioner Moates motioned to increase pay for Natalie by \$1.00 per hour affective in September. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cody discussed with the board Road and Bridge employee wages and presented them with an excel spreadsheet. He explained that Road and Bridge is down on employees, and he would like to start increasing starting wages and come up with steps to increase current employee wages. He asked that the board look over the sheet and get back with him in a week or so.

Zook notified the board that they are starting to asphalt the Sheriff's Department today.

Cody also discussed the sale on Purplewave. The sale ends tomorrow and Zook is thinking about a different way of sale on other equipment.

Commissioner Frazier asked about the quarterly highway disbursements from the state and which quarter will be used. Cody said he would look to see if they received the check. Commissioner Moates said that the board will look as well and figure something out today.

SPORTSMAN ASSOCIATION

Jason Daniels came before the board to request a donation for the kids Free Annual Fishing Derby.

Commissioner Johnson explained that he needed to go to the Chamber of Commerce and ask Gene for an application and asked if Jason could do that today.

After hearing back from Jason, Commissioner Johnson called and spoke with Gene and this event

doesn't qualify due to the amount of funds and due to the funding comes from hotels, therefore, donations are made to events that require overnight stays.

DISCUSSION

Nathan Coleman discussed with the board a non-gaming land acquisition letter from the Bureau of Indian Affairs requesting a 30-day response about 69.5 acres of non-gaming land that the Miami Tribe owns to be moved to their trust. The land is used for agriculture or fun for tribe.

After much discussion on location, all were in favor.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Joni came before the board with a request from a sewer customer.

The customer was asking that the board wave late fees on a rental property that the previous tenant had left.

Commissioner Johnson motioned that the late fees not be waved. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINAL BUDGET

Gene Mense and Matt Mense came before the board to discuss order of events and to finalize the budget before tonight's hearing.

Commissioner Moates motioned to decrease the county courthouse budget \$50,000 and transfer it to the sheriff's department, increasing their budget \$50,000. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates motioned to leave the rest of the numbers and have Gene prepare the final for the hearing. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER

Raven Elmore, County Treasurer, came before the board and presented a bill for the surveillance cameras that were installed and asking which account to pay the bill from.

Commissioner Moates asked if this was a monthly or 1 time bill. Raven said she would check and get back with the board.

RECESS

Commissioner Moates motioned for a 30-minute lunch break and to return at 12:00 pm. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jared Glover came before the board to inform them that there had been a lagoon dug without a permit or line. Jared also informed the board that there are 3 properties out there and 2 of the 3 do not have addresses.

The board feels there needs to be some type of repercussion for the owner. Jared will look into the statues of fines and advise the board next week.

Glover also spoke about a couple properties in the county that need to be cleaned up and/or condemned. The first property is out by Crestline and has been being used as a salvage yard, but the owner doesn't have a salvage license.

The second property is at Seneca Street and Jared had mailed the owner a letter. The owner called and spoke with Glover and he gave her 30 days to decide a plan on either tearing it down or fixing it up. It