

**MINUTES for January 13, 2025**  
**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, January 13, 2025, in Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Lorie Johnson opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, employee of KODE TV, Machele Smith, Jimmy Krokroskia, 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 Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from the January 6, meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ROAD and BRIDGE**

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board. Commissioner Moates requested that Cody check into putting a sign at the corner of Highway Alt 166 and SE 72<sup>nd</sup> Ter for Lowell. Cody stated that he will check into it as it will have to be placed on the county right of way.

Cody discussed with the Board putting the Rainbow Bridge Project out for bid. The Board agreed to allow Cody to handle the bid process.

**ROAD USE RESOLUTION 01-2025**

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve resolution 01-2025, a resolution regulating traffic on county roads. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT of CURRENT COMMISSION**

Commissioner Moates motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**RECONVENE AFTER SWEARING IN of NEW COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Moates reconvened the meeting of the newly formed board of County Commissioners consisting of commissioner district 1, Myra Frazier, commissioner district 2, Jack Garner, and commissioner district 3 Cory Moates.

**BOARD of REORGINIZATION**

Consider the selection of a commission chairperson for the ensuing year. Commissioner Frazier asked commissioner Garner if he would like to be chairman, he stated he did not and he asked commissioner Moates if he would like to be chairman again. He said he would accept the position. Commissioner Frazier stated that there needed to be a change and that if commissioner Garner was not interested then she would like to be chair of the commission. Commissioner Moates made a motion to appoint Commissioner Frazier as the new chair of the Board. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider the selection of commission vice-chair for the ensuing year. Commissioner Garner motioned to appoint commissioner Moates as the vice-chair of the Board. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider establishing meeting dates for the ensuing year. Commissioner Frazier motioned to hold the regular commission meetings on Monday of every week except for holidays when the courthouse will be closed. Commissioner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of county auditor. Commissioner Moates motioned to appoint the Mense CPA Firm as the county auditor. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of county counselor. Commissioner Moates made a motion to appoint attorney Jake Conard as the county counselor. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Emergency Manager. Commissioner Frazier appointed Matt Haviland as the Emergency Manager. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Health Department Director. Commissioner Moates motioned to appoint Peyton Kessler as the health

department director. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Noxious Weed Director. Commissioner Moates motioned to appoint JC Parsons as Noxious Weed Director. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Road and Bridge Superintendent. Commissioner Moates motioned to appoint Cody Zook as the road and bridge superintendent. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **ACCOUNTING RESOLUTION 02-2025**

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve resolution 02-2025, a resolution concerning waiver of generally accepted accounting principles. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **ACCOUNTING RESOLUTION 03-2025**

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve resolution 03-2025, a resolution designating a depository for public funds. Commissioner Garner requested to know more about the news story regarding the CBW bank. Commissioner Frazier stated that Larry Hiatt of the news report could fill him in later. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed with commissioner Garner voting no on the motion.

#### **BANK SIGNATURES**

County Treasurer Heather Sapp requested new signatures from the Board for American Bank for affidavit of authority.

#### **OFFICER LIST of SIGNATURES**

County Clerk Rebecca Brassart requested signatures from all commissioners for the Secretary of State List of County Officers paperwork that is due to the state every odd year.

#### **APPRAISER OFFICE PAY RAISES**

County Appraiser Delinda White came before the board to present pay raises for members of her staff. Commissioner Frazier asked if the money was in her budget and Delinda noted the discussion that was had in 2024 regarding giving these raises and that she is pretty sure the money is in her budget. Commissioner Garner stated he would like to see a printout of all the county employees to have a better understanding of years of service and where they currently set pay wise. County Clerk Rebecca Brassart stated she would have the HR director get him a copy.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to increase the pay for Taylor Brown from \$20.38/hr to \$21.38/hr. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to increase the pay for Deann Norris from \$17.31/hr to \$18.31/hr. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to increase the pay for Robbi Shilts from \$17.31/hr to \$18.31/hr. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to increase the pay for Sara Goff from \$17.00/hr to \$18.00/hr. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to increase the pay for Carla Wood from \$22.47/hr to \$23.47/hr. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **CONTRACT ATTORNEY**

Commissioner Frazier asked where we stood on the contract attorneys. County Counselor Jake Conard stated that he had spoken with Candace Gayoso, Barbara Wright, JoAnna Derfelt and Keith Pennock who all stated they would like to remain in their current positions. Jake went on to inform the Board that attorney Matt Bonner had expressed interest in the position as well. Commissioner Frazier stated that she had not heard anything negative regarding the current attorneys and would be in favor of reappointing them. Commissioner Frazier motioned to appoint Candace Gayoso, Barbara Wright, JoAnna Derfelt and Keith Pennock to the contract attorney position. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

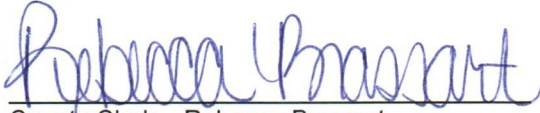
#### **NEXT MEETING**

The Board discussed the time for the next meeting of January 17, 2025. A decision was made to meet at 8:30 a.m. to approve the payroll and payables.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

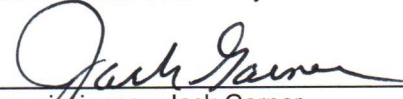
**ATTEST:** Resolved and ordered this 27th day of January 2025.



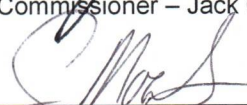
County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart



Commissioner Chair – Myra Carlisle Frazier



Commissioner – Jack Garner



Commissioner – Cory Moates