

**MINUTES for November 20, 2023**  
**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, November 20, 2023, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Counselor Jake Conard opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, County Counselor Jake Conard and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the November 13, 2023, minutes as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ROAD & BRIDGE**

County Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to notify them that he will be doing employee evaluations today due to the rain.

Cody informed the Board he found a 7-year lease on a dump truck that will also include a 7-year warranty with the cost of the lease being \$62,623.24. He also informed the Board of 2, 12-month tractor leases for \$7800 each. Zook stated he would be putting some equipment on purple wave to help fund the purchase of the truck and the lease on the tractors.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to allow Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook to enter into a 7-year lease agreement with Master Tech Truck to lease a 2024 Kenworth in the amount of \$62,623.24. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEASE**

The new hazard mitigation property lease agreement was presented to the Board which had been written by County Counselor Jake Conard. The Board discussed the newly written lease agreement with Emergency Manager Matt Haviland and County Counselor Jake Conard. The Board advised EM Matt Haviland to begin sending out the lease agreements.

Haviland discussed contingency plans in the event of some type of disaster.

**NON-ELECT EXECUTIVE SESSION HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute non-elect personnel executive session with the Board, County Health Department Director Peyton Kessler, and County Counselor Jake Conard to return at 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Health Department Director Peyton Kessler presented the Board with new hire sheets for Nancy Shafer and Gayla Woodcock.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the hiring of Nancy Shafer as a registered nurse for the Health Department at a rate of \$20.00/hr effective 11/20/2023. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the hiring of Gayla Woodcock as a patient resource coordinator for the Health Department at a rate of \$14.00/hr effective 12/1/2023. Commissioner