

MINUTES FOR JULY 24, 2017**BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS****CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS****CONVENE**

Chairman Collins called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 24, 2017 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Pat Collins, Neal Anderson, Cory Moates, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Jordan Zabel, and Machel Smith

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2017 BOCC meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 2-0 with Commissioner Collins abstaining.

Clerk Edmondson presented an invoice from Naylor Funeral Home for an indigent burial in the amount of \$595. The death occurred on July 1st, but they have not been able to locate any family to take possession of the body. Edmondson stated that state laws have changed and Cherokee County doesn't have a resolution addressing indigent burials. The Board asked Counselor Wright to review the laws regarding indigent burials.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to pay the invoice from Naylor Funeral Homes in the amount of \$595 for the indigent burial. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

Leonard Vanatta, County Road Supervisor, and Louis Schreiner, County Lot Supervisor appeared before the Board on routine county lot business. Leonard presented an agreement from KDOT and BNSF Railway Company for the installation of highway crossing signals at the railroad crossing on SE Black Jack Rd. just west of SE 40th St. Chairman Collins signed the agreement. Leonard stated that the paving at Crossland Park is finished. The project took 1,157 tons of asphalt with the county's portion of the cost being approximately \$30,000. Louis stated that the trees have been cleared away from the low water bridge on SW Clem Rd. There are more trees to remove, but they are too far for the trackhoe to reach right now. They reported that Davis Construction is currently working on the extension to the concrete culvert on 100th St. Commissioner Moates asked them to grade Watermelon Ln. one more time now that the demolition of the flooded homes is complete.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins for an executive session with the Board, Counselor Wright, Leonard Vanatta, and Louis Schreiner for the purpose of employee discipline of non-elected personnel for a period of 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

No action was taken during the executive session.

Mark Hixon, County Appraiser, appeared before the Board as a follow-up to his reorganization plan for his department. He stated that he has one employee that has resigned and will be leaving on the 28th. He stated that the Appraisers Department had nine employees in 2015 and they are now down to five. He thinks they can make it with five while using temporary employees during peak season. He would like to hire two temporary employees now, then offer a job to the one that works out the best. He asked the Board to approve his reorganization plan, which would include salary increases when appropriate to employees that have met the requirements. The Board approved his request to hire two temporary employees. The Board also approved his reorganization plan as requested.

Counselor Wright presented the draft resolution to close three financial accounts as requested by Gene Mense for a second read by the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to pass Resolution 13-2017 to close three financial accounts as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

Machelle Smith of the Sentinel Times addressed the subject of the publication of the delinquent tax list as required by the County Treasurer. She stated that they would publish the list in the Sentinel Times and also deliver the list as an insert to the News Report and the Cherokee County News-Advocate for distribution by them.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins for an executive session with the Board for disciplinary action of non-elected personnel for a period of 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:05 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

No action was taken during the executive session.

Deana Randall from Human Resources informed the Board that she had received the list of employees that participated in the health screening. She asked the Board when they wanted to start the increase in premium for those employees that didn't participate. The health insurance premium for non-participation will increase \$60 per month. The Board agreed to start the increase with the first pay day in August.

Ralph Houser, Maintenance Director, appeared before the Board to discuss upgrading the lighting in the courthouse with LED bulbs. He stated that upgrading the fixtures with four LED bulbs would cost \$46, while upgrading the current fixtures with electronic ballasts and new bulbs would cost \$25. The LED's have a 50,000 hour life while the electronic bulbs would last 20,000. He stated that it's possible that only two LED bulbs would be needed to supply the same light output as the electronic bulbs and that would cut the cost of the conversion in half. Also, the energy consumption with LED's is far less than the electronic bulbs. They agreed to

convert some of the fixtures in the commission room to LED's as an experiment. Houser stated that he has been in contact with two electricians about repairing the pump on the water fountain in front of the courthouse, but hasn't been able to get one here yet.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to take a 10 minute recess. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:33 a.m.

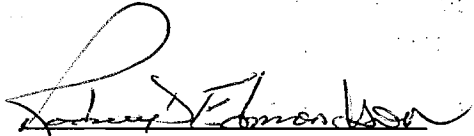
The meeting reconvened at 10:43 a.m.

Commissioner Moates stated that the 5th St. project in Baxter Springs is being held up with property acquisitions.

Counselor Wright stated that Robert Myers has told her that he has a petition ready and is having his staff do the research on properties for a tax sale. She said Myers told her that he's close to filing it with the court. She also stated that she spoke with Gene Barrett this morning regarding the tax sale that he has been working on. She said Barrett told her that he is close to filing his petition with the court.

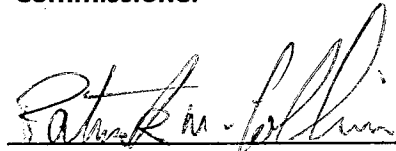
Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, July 31, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:12 a.m.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 31st day of July, 2017


Cherokee County Clerk


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO. 13-2017

AN ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE COUNTY TREASURER TO CLOSE THREE COUNTY FINANCIAL ACCOUNT FUNDS THAT ARE INACTIVE, NO LONGER USEFUL, OR HAVE BECOME OBSOLETE IN CONDUCTING COUNTY BUSINESS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS, THAT THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED:

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY. K.S.A. 19-101 *et. seq.*, and K.S.A. 19-212 authorize the Board of County Commissioners to transact all County business and perform all powers of local legislation deemed appropriate, and to make all contracts and do all other acts in relation to the property and concerns of the county, necessary to the exercise of its corporate or administrative powers.

SECTION 2. PROJECT. The Cherokee County Treasurer, upon the advice and assistance from the County's contracting accountant, shall close the following accounts: Stateline Road Project Account # 105; Community College Account # 170; Landfill Account # 310, by transferring remaining fund balances into County General Account # 100.

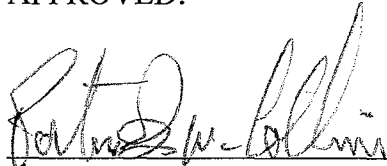
SECTION 3. ADMINISTRATION. The Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, directs the Treasurer to transfer fund balances from Stateline Road Project Account # 105; Community College Account # 170; Landfill Account # 310, into County General Account # 100, and to close the three affected accounts.

SECTION 4. That all resolutions, County policies or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed insofar as they conflict herewith.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall become effective upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 24 day of July, 2017, by the Governing Body of Cherokee County, Kansas.

APPROVED:



Patrick Collins, Chairman
Cherokee County Commissioner



Cory Moates
Cherokee County Commissioner



Neal Anderson
Cherokee County Commissioner

ATTEST:



Rodney Edmondson
Cherokee County Clerk

Executed: July, 24, 2017.
by the Board of County Commissioners

Memo

DATE: July 20, 2017

TO: Board of Cherokee County Commissioners

FROM: Mark Hixon, CKA, RMA, Cherokee County Appraiser



RE: Reorganization Plan

Last Monday, one of my employees tendered her resignation effective June 28th.

I am hereby requesting authorization to fill the position of Appraiser Trainee pursuant to the Position Description contained in the Reorganization Plan I submitted to you on June 26th. However, it would not be my intent to fill the position immediately. Rather, the Reorganization Plan and 2017 budget provide for two temporary seasonal employees and it would be my intent to fill those positions immediately. After evaluating their work performance and aptitude for long-term success at the position of Appraiser Trainee, I would offer the most qualified candidate the position.

I am also requesting approval of my Reorganization Plan for which there are sufficient funds in the 2017 budget and the 2018 proposed budget.

