CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

110 W. Maple St, Room 109, Columbus, KS 66725
Date: Monday June 8, 2026
Time: 9:00 A.M.

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 8, 2026, 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 of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Jack Garner, Myra Frazier, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, Intern Abbie Miller, County Deputy Clerk Logan Cloyd, John Beitzinger, Thomas Niegisch with the Columbus News Report and Galena Sentinel Times Editor Machelle Smith were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, PAYROLL, AND PAYABLES

- Commissioner Moates moved to approve the minutes as presented from the June 1, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Moates moved to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Moates moved to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Superintendent JR Neal was unable to attend due to overnight flooding.
Commissioner Moates collected 3 sealed bids from Road and Bridge for a repave project.

- Bettis Asphalt & Construction - $312,558.87 with $38,715.12 being optional.
- Arrow Asphalt Paving - $465,000 with deposit of $232,500 (50%). Remaining due upon completion.
- Emery Sapp & Sons - $495,244.75 with the option of Aggregate Edge Treatment for $22,440.00.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAINTENANCE

Maintenance Supervisor Mike Thomas provided a repair estimate for the elevator at a cost of $95,000.00+-.
Thomas also provided the Board with a Bond Cost and Building Cost Increase for the Health Department.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates moved to enter into a 5-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board and Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke. The session was set to return at 9:17 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Discussion regarding Orion System privileges and access between offices.
GIS Computer to return to Appraiser Office.
Appraiser to gather information and pricing for an additional plotter.

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BUDGETS

- Appraiser Delinda White presented Appraisal and GIS budget to the Board with minor alterations suggested.
- Stacy Manbeck and Karena Evans with Spring River Mental Health presented their budget to the Board.
- Cherokee County Economic Development presented their budget to the Board.

RESOLUTIONS AND POLICY UPDATE

- Commissioner Moates moved to pass Resolution 10-2026 – Proclamation of a State or Local Disaster Emergency. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Public Notice provided to Logan Cloyd to be put into Publication.
- Commissioner Moates moved to pass Resolution 11-2026 – Adopting a moratorium on consideration of special requests to use Cherokee County roads, resources, and/or infrastructure for commercial renewable energy projects, cryptocurrency mining operations, data centers, battery energy storage systems, new and unpermitted landfills and transfer stations, quarries, and nuclear energy plants. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed 2-1 with Commissioner Frazier voting nay.
- Assistant County Counselor Manke stated the bank is requiring an updated county policy regarding Direct Deposit. Commissioner Moates moved to allow Manke to revise the employee policy handbook regarding Direct Deposit. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGETS (Cont.)

- Emergency Manager Lyle Grandy presented budget proposal to the Board. The board requested that he verify rates for Blue Valley (Storm Sirens). Grandy provided the board with an application to apply for the EMPG Grant. Commissioner Frazier moved for the Board to allow Commissioner Moates to sign the application. Commissioner Moates seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mac Young with 11th Judicial District provided budget proposal for District Court and Jury Cost. Discussion regarding Contract Attorney Salaries was discussed.
- Bob Davis with Class LTD presented a budget proposal to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:33 a.m., Commissioner Moates moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 15 day of June 2026.

Commissioner Chairman – Cory Moates

Commissioner – Jack Garner

Myra Carlisle Frazier

Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier

County Clerk – Taylor Brown