CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

110 W. Maple St, Room 109, Columbus, KS 66725
Date: Monday June 29, 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 29, 2026, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Deputy Clerk Michelle Mosler opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Jack Garner, Myra Frazier, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, County Deputy Clerk Michelle Mosler, Road and Bridge Supervisor Jr. Neal, Kathryn Harrington, Gerald Messer, Loren Harding, Susie Natalini, Greg Jones, Thomas Niegisch with the Columbus News Report, and Galena Sentinel Times Editor Machelle Smith were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier moved to approve the minutes as presented from June 22, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

NOTICE TO PROCEED

Commissioner Moates moved to authorize the Chair to sign the Notice to Proceed agreement with McDaniel Construction Services LLC for the construction of the County Health Department. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

- Road and Bridge Supervisor Jr. Neal provided an update on storm and flood damage.
- Commissioner Moates moved to give Road and Bridge Supervisor Jr. Neal authority to spend up to $180,000 from the Federal Fund Exchange, when approved. The money will be spent on replacing culvert pipes and rock due to the recent flooding. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ROAD ISSUE

Susie Natalini voiced concerns to the Board regarding the rocks being placed on county roads.

TREASURER

Treasurer Heather Sapp discussed a taxpayer issue with the Board. No action was taken.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Moates moved to enter into a 15-minute executive session for attorney-client communication with the Board, Assistant County Counselor Ethan Manke, and County Clerk Taylor Brown present. The session was set to return at 9:50 a.m. Commissioner Garner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Emergency Management Director Lyle Grandy informed the Board that he declared a state of emergency due to flooding on June 26, 2026, for a period of seven days.
- Grandy informed the Board of a Facebook link available for county residents to report storm damage. The reports are submitted to both the county and the state.

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ELEVATOR
The Board discussed repairs to the elevator at the Sheriff's Office. The quote received for the repairs was $95,000. No action was taken.

BUDGET REVIEWS
The Board set July 13, 2026, to review the Road and Bridge and Sheriff's 2027 budgets.

PUBLIC HEARING
The Board set August 10, 2026, as the date for a public hearing with Confluence regarding the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan for zoning.

ADJOURNMENT
At 10:17 p.m., Commissioner Moates moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 3 day of July 2026.

Commissioner Chairman – Cory Moates

Commissioner – Jack Garner

Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier

County Clerk – Taylor Brown