

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2011
COLUMBUS, KANSAS, CHEROKEE COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
CRYSTAL L. GATEWOOD

The Cherokee County Commissioners met February 7, 2011. Commissioners Collins and Garner were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the minutes for January 31, 2011; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner with Commissioners Garner and Collins voting in favor. Commissioners Garner and Collins, and County Clerk Crystal Gatewood signed off on the minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS CALLED BY COMMISSION

Commissioner Collins made a motion to go into Executive Session for thirty minutes for Attorney/Client Privilege (Pending Litigation involving Penn Gaming) with himself, Commissioner Garner, Attorney David Cooper, and Teresa Watson; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner, with Commissioners Collins and Garner voting in favor. They went in at 11:04 AM returned at 11:32 AM.

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MOTIONS MADE BY COMMISSION

Commissioner Collins made a motion to extend the lease with Pitney-Bowes for the courthouse mailing system; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner; with Commissioners Garner and Collins voting in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Raymond Griffith came before the commission to discuss a problem on a right away on his property.

Ashley Rheums, a representative for Pitney-Bowes, came to give an overview of the proposed newer system. This system has the capability to print return addresses and the possibility of saving the county on printing charges incurred from envelopes used by the county so the county could buy mass quantities of envelopes to share. The company will also train everyone who has to use the system.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Leonard Vanatta, and Gene Langerot, reported the roads are getting in shape in the county due to the recent snow storm. The commission thanked all the employees at the county lot for all their hard work.

Bob Pilcher of Pre-Paid Legal Services spoke to the commission and Department Heads about his company, which would allow the employees to voluntarily purchase pre-paid legal services for themselves. The company offers the legal plan for \$15.95 a month and Identity Theft Shield for \$15.95 a month or both plans for \$25.90 a month. The commission asked him to come back and speak to the employees about the program individually and take sign-ups.

David Cooper, the attorney representing the county in the Penn Gaming Law Suit, discussed the pending litigation with the commissioners in executive session. The commission, along with David Cooper, will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be in Wichita, Kansas and the commission and the attorneys will be in attendance. Clerk Gatewood will be on the phone in contact with them during the meeting.

APPOINTED OFFICE DEPARTMENT HEADS

Jason Allison of Emergency Preparedness reported it had been a busy week with the severe storm which hit the county on February 1, 2011. The National Guard was here to help the citizens in the county and shelters in the county were ready if needed. He reported that everything went very well and around fifteen people helped with the effort of getting citizens help during the weather. The commission thanked him for his help.

Betha Elliott, the Director of the Health Department, appreciated the heads up from the Sheriff and the Emergency Preparedness Director so she could reschedule the clinics during the inclement weather. She also reported they had clinics scheduled in Columbus and Baxter Springs today.

Wayne Elliott, from the 911 Mapping & Addressing Department, submitted a comparison report of maps and addresses. He is also preparing a county owned property map with names which he will have on sale in his office after he completes the map.

County Appraiser Nancy Herrenbruck reported that the final review for the county is 75% done. They are also doing updates on property. Payment under protest hearings are being held also. She also thanked the commission for making the quick decision on closing the courthouse due to the predicted weather report.

Deana Randall, of the Human Resource Department, asked the Department Heads to turn in their supply list so she could get started working on the supply room. Many of the Department Heads have turned in their pay raises and they will be on this month's check.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Treasurer Juanita Hodgson reported that 3,592 delinquent tax payment notices are ready to be sent out to individuals who have not paid their taxes. Her office does this as a service to the individuals.

Sheriff David Groves reported that 84 non-injury accidents occurred over the last week. His office received 1,122 phone calls, seventy-nine 911 calls, and 1,689 radio transmissions during the four day period of inclement weather last week.

County Attorney John Bullard reported his office was very busy.

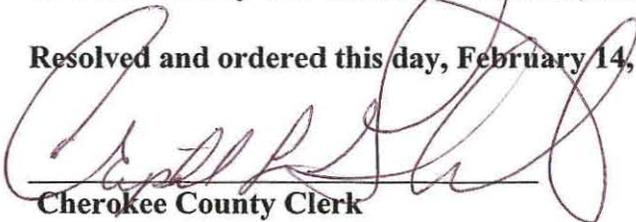
Barbra Bilke of the Register of Deeds Office reported they were getting caught up from last week.

County Clerk Crystal Gatewood reported her office is preparing for the April 2011 School Board and City Elections. They are also very busy preparing Homestead and Food Sales Tax Filings for the citizens in the county. The Township Reports are also getting completed and turned into the state. She also thanked Commissioner Garner for his promptness in letting her know that the Courthouse and County Offices would be closed due to the inclement weather; because she was able to call the Department Heads with plenty of time so they could call their employees and let them know not to come in to work.

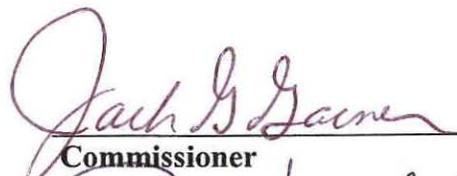
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Garner made a motion to adjourn at 12:00 PM; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with Commissioners Garner and Collins voting in favor. The next Cherokee County Commission meeting will be held February 14, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the Cherokee County Courthouse in Columbus, Kansas.

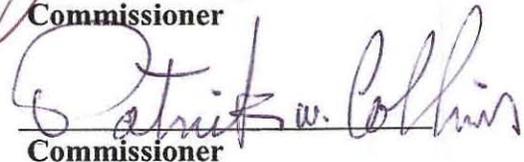
Resolved and ordered this day, February 14, 2011.



 Cherokee County Clerk



 Commissioner



 Commissioner

 Commissioner