

**MINUTES FOR APRIL 17, 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, April 17, 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, and Machel Smith

Doug Mogle with the Columbus Community Foundation appeared before the Board regarding the funding for the Veterans' Memorial. He stated that he has spoken with County Treasurer Juanita Hodgson and she verified with Mr. Mense that the county could receive funds from the Foundation for the project. He stated that the Foundation would be able to receive tax deductible donations for the project, then forward the funds to the county.

There were comments from those in attendance that the design may be hasty and would like to see other designs considered before a final decision is made. It was mentioned that a plaque for Cherokee County Veteran's that gave their all would be nice to see.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2017 BOCC meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Scott Jackson with the Spring River Mental Health & Wellness Center appeared before the Board for the second reading of the proclamation designating May 2017 as Mental Health Month. He invited the Board to a ceremony at the Center in Riverton on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to accept the Mental Health Month Proclamation as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Jason Allison presented a contract for the asbestos removal on two flood buyout properties. He also presented an invoice for asbestos inspection for the 16 properties in the buyout. He presented an invoice for the housing relocation for one of the buyout properties. The Board approved the payment of the invoices and asked Counselor Wright to review the contract.

Bill Dehart from the Columbus Fair Board appeared before the Board regarding the quarterly payment of funds for the fair. He stated that he returned the check in January because he thought that it was a double payment from December. He stated that he would not have returned the check otherwise. Clerk Edmondson stated that he recalled being informed that the Fair Board was returning the check because the American Legion was in charge of the fair now. The Board authorized the reissuance of the quarterly payment to the Fair Board.

Athena McColm appeared with Don Babcock of Si Memorials in Parsons regarding the plans for the Veterans' Memorial at the Courthouse. Athena stated that utility lines are being located before a location is chosen. She stated that Empire Electric has agreed to put a light on the utility pole that would shine on the monument. Jim Burton from the City of Columbus stated that the sewer line has been located and it runs from the shrubs to the corner of the building about five feet deep. Commissioner Collins stated that he would like to see public meetings to gather input from residents regarding the design of the memorial. A deadline of August 14<sup>th</sup> was set for design submissions.

Thomas Niegisch appeared before the Board to say thank you for allowing him to meet with them over the past few weeks. He informed the Board that they have sales of equipment and would appreciate being considered for future purchases. The Board thanked him as well.

Citizens in attendance voiced their opposition to the renewal of the computer service agreement with Stronghold Data. Commissioner Moates addressed their concerns and explained his reasons for voting the way he did.

The Board approved the purchase request by the Health Department for a baby scale at a cost of \$206.96.

Clerk Edmondson presented two applications from Downstream Casino for Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for 2017 for consideration by the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to approve the Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Downstream Casino. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Anderson voting no.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins for an executive session for the purpose of Attorney Client Privilege for contractual obligations with the Board, Counselor Wright, and Clerk Edmondson for a period of 20 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:39 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

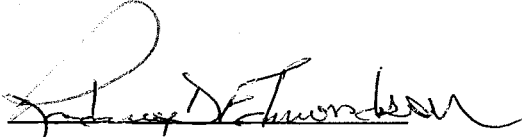
Mac Young, District Court Administrator, appeared before the Board to present the Fiscal Year 2018 Behavior Health Grant application. He stated that this year's amount is \$135,462.98 in mental health dollars to be used for community corrections. He also presented the Fiscal Year 2018 Comprehensive Plan for the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Community Corrections. He stated that the plan hasn't changed for several years. He reminded the Board that the plans do not cost the county anything, they are Department of Correction's funds. The Board signed both agreements as presented.

Leonard Vanatta, County Road Supervisor appeared before the Board on routine county road business. He stated that paving would begin next week on either East Maple or at the soccer fields.

Counselor Wright stated that she had reviewed the contract for asbestos removal from the flood buyout properties that was presented by Jason Allison. She stated that she has questions for him before the Board considers it.

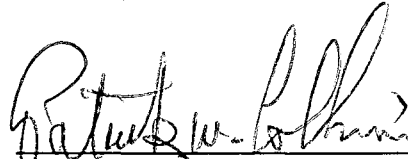
Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, April 24, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:18 a.m.

**ATTEST:** Resolved and ordered this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

# MENTAL HEALTH MONTH 2017

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, mental illnesses are real and prevalent in our nation, and half of us will have a mental health diagnosis at some point in our lives; and

**WHEREAS**, people with mental illnesses make important contributions to our families and our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and

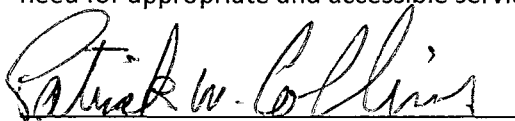
**WHEREAS**, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, with early and effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, greater public awareness about mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses

**Therefore**, Cherokee County does hereby proclaim **MAY 2017** as **Mental Health Month** and calls upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Cherokee County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, its relationship to physical health the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.



Patrick Collins, Chairman  
Cherokee County Commissioner



Neal Anderson  
Cherokee County Commissioner



Gery Moates  
Cherokee County Commissioner

# Board of County Commissioners, Cherokee County, Kansas

Public Attendance Log: April 17, 2017

Printed Name	Phone Number	Address	Company or Organization
Jerry Messer	674-1550		
Cyndy Amming		Galena KS	
Don Amming		Galena KS	
Richard Fink		Columbus KS	
Jim Tunnell	848-7852	4236 SE 51 <sup>ST</sup> Dr. Galena, KS	
Doug Moske		Columbus, KS	CCF
Charles Frank	620-762-3195	Col.	
Steve	620-762-0061	Columbus	
Lee John	620 848-2300	Riverton / Columbus	SRMHW
Bill DeHart	620-762-6402	729 S. HIGH SCHOOL	FAIRBOARD
Thomas Niegisch	620-384-0669	169 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Columbus	KISS TECH
Athena McCollm			
Don Babcock	620-421-4210	1609 Union Ave Parsons, KS	Wilbert MREnowin