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*Cherokee County Commission Meeting Minutes for April 26, 2021*

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Chairman Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Commission to order at 9: 00 a.m. Monday, April 26, 2021, in room #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 West Maple, Columbus, Kansas. Commissioner Frazier opened the meeting with all standing for prayer to Father God the Creator. And leading all in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

District #3 Commissioner Corey Moates, District #2 Commissioner Lorie Johnson, District #1 commissioner Myra Frazier, County Attorney & County Council Nathan Coleman, County Clerk Kyle Rennie, and Deputy County Clerk Kaden Wimmer all in attendance for the open. Proprietor and reporter of the Columbus News Report Larry Hiatt also attending.

Commissioner Frazier moved to accept and approve the April 12, 2021 Commission minutes. Commissioner Johnson 2nd the motion, motion passed 3-0.

County Treasurer Raven Elmore addressed and advised THE BOARD on a transfer of funds.

Commissioner Moates moved to transfer \$100,000 from Baxter State Bank to Citizens Bank of Weir. Commissioner Johnson 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3-0

Road & Bridge report and up-date: Supervisor Cody Zook reported on a number of items. Cody recommended JC Parsons for hire as a

Grader Operator at \$14/hr.

HR Program info and signatures, Discussion concerning Policies, Employee Comp Time, Culverts, and Permitting for work on ROW.

Commissioner Moates moved to hire JC Parsons into R & B Department as a

Grader Operator at \$14/hr. Commissioner Johnson 2nd the motion, motion passed 3-0.

Ann Sharp, David Holmes, and Dewey Smith addressed THE BOARD, explaining that the Fairground facilities need maintenance, and their resources are lower than anticipated and are asking for financial help. After discussion, The Commissioners agreed to help, \$1000 each from Districts #3, #2, and \$500 from District #1.

Commissioner Moates moved to hire Millicent Clugston at \$12/hr. Into the Health Department. Commissioner Johnson 2nd the motion, motion passed 2-1. Commissioner Frazier opposed. Health Department Director Betha Elliot recommended the new hire in the April 12, 2021 meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Noxious Weed, Cord Mays reported he has spotted and will be taking action on a very powerful and invasive Knot Weed out of Asia similar to Bamboo. Cord also reported he would be out of his office June 3 for a Multi-County Noxious Weed meeting.

Register of Deeds: Barbara Bilke reported her office renewed 28 passports and collected fees on those renewals and Business as usual.

Economic Development: Janet Miller reported that all the CBDG funds are very near complete.

Courthouse Maintenance: Ralph Houser reported that the exterior repairs on the courthouse had been Completed. And the roof of the courthouse is in good condition.

Discussion of Flood Plains with Emergency preparedness Director Jason Allison and 911 Mapping Department Head Rebecca Brassart.

County Appraiser Mark Hixon presented information on and recommended upgrading the courthouse server, which had been discussed in previous meetings.

Commissioner Johnson moved to upgrade the courthouse server at the cost of \$6,985 from Stronghold of Joplin, Mo. To be paid from the Tech Fund. Commissioner Frazier 2nd the motion, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Johnson moved to break at 10:56 and to reconvene at 11:10 p.m. Commissioner Frazier 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3-0. The meeting reconvened at 11:10.

Mac Young with Community Corrections updated THE BOARD with Budget information. Both Mac Young and District Court Judge Lynch took questions and discussed reopening District Court. Jude Lynch explained that the Kansas Supreme Court regulates district Court.

Commissioner Moates moved to break for lunch and to reconvene in the break room to meet with Department heads and Kansas Policy Institute at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Frazier 2nd the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 in room #134 (the Breakroom)

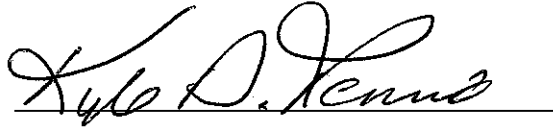
Kansas Policy Institute (KPI) is an independent think tank that advocates for free-market solutions and the protection of Personal Freedom of all Kansans. KPI gives Kansans a clear look at how their state and local tax dollars are spent. KPI is privately funded and offers its services free of charge.

Dave Trabert, Chief Executive Officer for Kansas Policy Institute of Overland Park, Kansas, sat down with each Department head to help prioritize department budgets with the upcoming 2022 budget process. The goal is to make each department budget perform more efficiently, giving the resident of Cherokee County a more transparent view of how Cherokee County tax dollars are being spent.

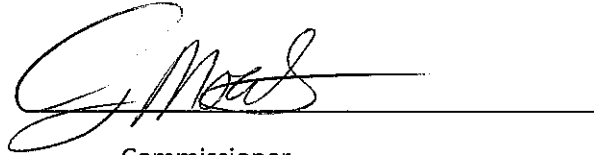
Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn until the next regular session on May 3, 2021. Commissioner Moates 2nd the motion, motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:02.

These Minutes were written in draft by Cherokee County Clerk Kyle Rennie.

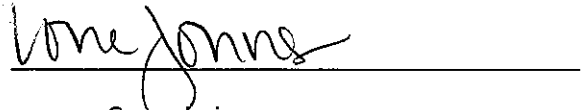
ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this May 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2021



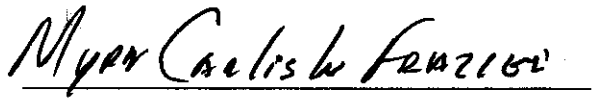
County Clerk



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner