

**MINUTES FOR APRIL 16, 2018****BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS****CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS****CONVENE**

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 16, 2018 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Jim Tunnell opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Pat Collins, Neal Anderson, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Jordan Zabel

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2018 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Louis Schreiner, County Lot Supervisor, appeared before the Board regarding county road business. The Board recognized Louis for 16 years of service to Cherokee County and presented him with a certificate and pin from the Kansas Association of Counties. The Board recognized Mike Barnett for 24 years of service to Cherokee County and presented him with a certificate and pin from the Kansas Association of Counties.

Sheryl Phipps appeared before the Board regarding one of the properties that is on the list of county owned property to be auctioned on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. She is representing her step-mother, Ruth Emerson and her late father. They thought they owned the parcel being auctioned and it is landlocked and surrounded by their property on all four sides. They also have a geothermal heating system that is on the parcel in question. They have always mowed and maintained the property. Counselor Wright recommended to the Board that the parcel be kept on the auction list and to announce that it is landlocked. Phipps stated that she did not mind to attend the auction and to bid on the property.

Counselor Wright presented a draft resolution to update the Rural Opportunity Zone for student loan reimbursement. There is a change in the payment date from previous years asking that payment be made to the Department of Commerce by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board placed the item on next week's agenda for consideration.

The Board discussed the 30 day quotes on skid loaders from March 19<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Moates stated that there is \$45 difference in the two machines that met the requested specifications.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to purchase the Caterpillar 289D Track Loader from Fabick CAT with highway funds in the amount of \$61,495. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.


Commissioner Collins brought up the topic of the Vermeer sewer vacuum and trailer as presented by Jason Youngblood last week. The unit will be purchased by the City of Galena and they will house and insure it and they will offer their personnel to assist when the County needs to use it.


A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to allocate \$25,000 toward the purchase of the sewer vacuum and trailer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0. The Board stated that a majority of the funds will come from the sewer fund if available.


A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to hire Melanie Bingham for the attorney contract for court appointments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0. The contract will be for the remainder of Tiana McElroy's term whose resignation takes effect May 1, 2018.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, April 23, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:01 a.m.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2018**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS, AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS, THAT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED:

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 19-101 *et. seq.*, and K.S.A. 19-212 authorize the Board of County Commissioners to transact all County business and perform all powers of local legislation deemed appropriate, and to make all contracts and do all other acts in relation to the property and concerns of the county, necessary to the exercise of its corporate or administrative powers.

WHEREAS, Cherokee County has been designated a county within the Kansas Rural Opportunity Zone pursuant to K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 74-50,222.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has expressed its intent to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) student loan repayment program, according to K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 74-50,223, effective February, 2015, by Resolution Number 4-2015.

**Section 1.** Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, the Board of County Commissioners expressed its intent to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) student loan repayment program.

**Section 2.** Cherokee County has been designated a Rural Opportunity Zone pursuant to K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 74-50,222.

**Section 3.** The Cherokee County Commissioners hereby obligated Cherokee County to participate in the ROZ student loan repayment program as provided by K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223 for a period of five years, effective February, 2015, which shall be irrevocable.

**Section 4.** Cherokee County agrees to pay in equal shares with the State of Kansas the outstanding student loan balance of any resident individual for five years, if the resident individual meets the terms of qualification provided by the State of Kansas in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, and the appropriate rules and regulations. The number of qualified resident individuals receiving such payments will be subject to the availability of funds.

**Section 5.** Cherokee County intends to enter into partnerships with Employers for the direct sponsorship of Rural Opportunity Zone Applicants. Sponsored Applicants must meet all qualifications of the ROZ program. All sponsorships will be subject to ROZ student loan repayment rules and regulations.

**Section 6.** The maximum student loan balance for each qualified resident individual to be repaid jointly by Cherokee County and the State of Kansas shall be \$15,000 over a term of five years.

**Section 7.** Cherokee County shall allocate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ a year for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas to qualified resident individuals. Cherokee County shall revise its ROZ budget on an annual basis and shall inform the State of Kansas of any changes to the annual allocation. Cherokee County shall submit the obligation in full to the Department of Commerce before the first day of August each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be published once in the official County newspaper and shall be in effect from and after its date of publication.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, by the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cory Moates, Chairman  
Cherokee County Commissioner

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Patrick Collins  
Cherokee County Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Neal Anderson  
Cherokee County Commissioner

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rodney D. Edmondson, County Clerk

(Seal)