

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2010
COLUMBUS, KANSAS, CHEROKEE COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
CRYSTAL L. GATEWOOD

The Cherokee County Commission met February 1, 2010. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Hilderbrand and those present were Commissioners Garner and Collins. All present said the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the minutes for January 25, 2010 as presented by County Clerk Crystal Gatewood, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner and all voted in favor.

CHEROKEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS MEET

Leonard Vanatta, Supervisor of Road and Bridge, reported that the county is currently taking calls and the county workers were very busy getting the roads cleared for the citizens of the county.

Jason Allison of Emergency Preparedness reported that he was waiting on a Disaster Declaration from the state, but so far he has not yet heard a final word. He also reported that the Reverse 911 System is in the final phases.

Betha Elliott of the Health Department explained her current budget comparisons for 2009 and 2010. She also explained she has seen an increase for WIC services overall, especially in the Montgomery County area which Cherokee County services.

Wayne Elliott of 911 Mapping reported things were going smoothly in his office and he also discussed current budget comparisons for 2009 and 2010.

Register Deeds Office reported things were going smoothly.

Sheriff David Groves reported the jail population was down. He also gave a current budget report to the commissioners.

County Appraiser Nancy Herrenbruck reported that five individuals from her office spent a week at ORION classes. She looked forward in using the new system and Cherokee County will have a year to get familiar with the new system required by the state. She also explained to the commission how the valuations are done.

Ralph Houser, Director of Maintenance for the courthouse, reported everything was fine. The commission and other office heads thanked him for all his hard work on the clean up from the weather and the new floor he installed in the County Commission Room.

County Treasurer Juanita Hodgson reported her office has posted all payments received for the December 2009 tax statements. She will also be sending courtesy reminders out to those 3700 individuals in regards to their taxes. Due to a change in the Kansas Statute all personal property must be paid in full.

Judge Bill Lyerla came before the commission and thanked Sheriff Groves and County Attorney John Bullard for purchasing the new video conferencing equipment used in the courtroom. The new equipment is working well and saving time and money for the county.

County Clerk Crystal Gatewood reported her office is very busy doing Homestead and Food Sales filing for the citizens of Cherokee County. The new on-line system is more accurate and able to catch fraud. She also reported her office is already working on the city elections for April 2010; the filing deadline was January 26, 2010 at noon. Those cities having elections are Columbus, West Mineral, and Baxter Springs.

**VOUCHERS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS SIGNED AND APPROVED BY
COMMISSIONERS GARNER, HILDERBRAND, AND COLLINS**

Voucher #9790 - \$5,932.00 - ES&S ELECTION SOFTWARE

Voucher # 9789 - \$766.98 - 4-State Printing - Vouchers to be taken out of Courthouse Fund

Voucher – 001 - \$10.00 - Cherokee County Sheriff Department - (EARLY CHECK #108937 - TO BE TAKEN OUT OF FUND #110-HWY)

ANNUAL NOXIOUS WEED REPORT FOR 2009 - AS REQUIRED BY K.S.A. 2-1316

ANNUAL 2010 NOXIOUS WEED - NO CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO 2010.

Voucher #7437 - \$429.00 - E-Gov (Toner Cartridge) To be taken out of Courthouse fund

Hired new Road Grader for County Lot to re-place someone who retired in 2009.

Hired 1 Part-Time and 1 Full-Time Patrolmen for the Sheriff's Department for the safety of the citizens in the county

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Commissioner Hilderbrand made a motion to go into **Executive Session** for ten minutes for **Non-Elected Personnel** with himself, Commissioners Garner and Collins, and Leonard Vanatta. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner and all voted in favor. **They went in at 9:54 AM and returned at 10:07 AM.**

Commissioner Collins made a motion to go into **Executive Session** for five minutes for **Non-Elected Personnel** with himself, Commissioners Garner and Hilderbrand, Leonard Vanatta, and County Counselor Kevin Cure. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner and all voted in favor. **They went in at 11:41 AM and returned at 11:52 AM.**

Commissioner Collins made a motion to go into **Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel** for ten minutes with himself, Commissioners Garner and Hilderbrand, and Sheriff David Groves. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner and all voted in favor. **They went in at 1:45 PM and returned at 1:55 PM.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Citizen Raymond Griffith came before the commission to discuss a legal problem. He said he wants the commissioners to arrest Empire District Electric Co. and the former Deputy under Sheriff from the Steve Norman administration. The commission explained to him he would have to get an attorney to represent him, as they did not have any authority to do what he asked of them.

Citizen Buddy Andrew came before the commission to voice his opposition to an increase in the Transient Guest Tax. The commission explained they were not raising the Transient Guest Tax.

Jason Dittmer of MY Modern Web of Joplin, MO gave a presentation for the county web site. The commissioners and others present asked many questions. No decisions were made regarding the website. The commission asked the Clerk to get more competitive bids

Commissioner Garner made a motion to break for lunch, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins and all voted in favor.

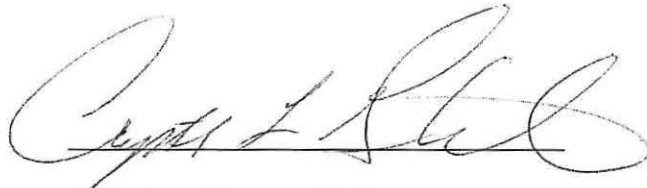
County Counselor Kevin Cure set a date for the County Tax Sale for March 31, 2010 at 10:00 AM in the Cherokee County Courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Garner made a motion to adjourn, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins and all voted in favor. The next regular meeting of the Cherokee County Commission will be held February 8, 2010 in the Cherokee County Courthouse at 9:00 AM.

Resolved and ordered this day:

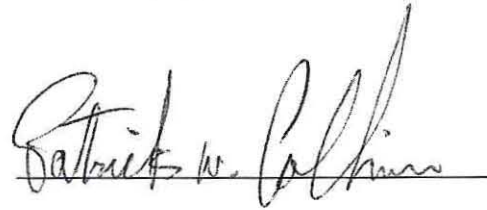
February 8th, 2010

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cheryl L. Hill", written over a horizontal line.

Cherokee County Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack Garner", written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patrick W. Palmer", written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Hildebrand", written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner