

**MINUTES for April 4, 2022**  
**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 4, 2022, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioner Cory Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Cody Zook Road and Bridge Supervisor, County Counselor Nathan Coleman and Columbus News Report Reporter Jacob Spencer were present.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2022, meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried 3-0.

**APPROVAL of PAYROLL**

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**APPROVAL of PAYABLES**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the accounts payable as presented. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**ROAD & BRIDGE**

Cody Zook, County Road Supervisor, appeared before The Board regarding county road business. Cody updated The Board regarding the recent Skidmore proposed right-a-way. Cody presented The Board with aerial maps so that he could show The Board a proposal for the right-a-way width.

Zook informed The Board of the issues that he is having with Burns McDonell who is taking their loaded trucks over bridges and when questioned by Cody they are not be able to provide a weight of the loaded truck. They stated they were unable to get a certified scale in and Cody informed them that Crain Farms have a certified scale and that they should contact them and see if they could work out a pay agreement to use their scale. Zook stated he was also going to meet with them to go overhaul routes.

Cody notified The Board that he had been in contact with Onyx Hall Brothers Seal Coat and that he had received information regarding their product. He stated he would like to find some roads within the county that needs sealed and painted and would like to try the product on them.

Zook stated that he is still waiting to hear back on quotes for the road graders.

Commissioner Johnson ask Cody if there was something that could be done regarding the Crestline corner and the corner at Mike Carpino Ford due to the number of wrecks that have taken place there, along with the amount of semi's that are blowing threw those corners.

There was discussion regarding the meeting with KDWP and the effected Taxpayers of the Skidmore area. The date of April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at the Cherokee County Courthouse was set as the meeting date.

**EXTENSION UPDATE**

County extension agent Dale Helwig came before The Board to give an update on some of the recent activity that has been taking place within their office. In Economics and Development, he discussed the program F.A.R.M.S., he discussed a possible new spray that can be sprayed over hay to prevent spoilage



and it will also add protein to the hay. He stated there is also a new pesticide jug recycle available through the county extension office.

He spoke of the school programs that have been taking place called money for foods, choose health, tomato series, the learning and hunter education.

Helwig discussed some of the adult programs called create better health, fresh conversations, and walk with ease.

Some other areas that were discussed were community Action, farmers market, composting and 4-H. As Dale stated the county extension has been very busy with these programs. The Board was very impressed with the update that was given by Helwig.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

County Counselor Nathan Coleman requested an executive session for 10 minutes attorney client with The Board and himself. Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 10-minute attorney client privilege executive session with the three commissioners and County Counselor Nathan Coleman to return at 10:05 AM. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 0.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

### **OFFICE HEADS**

#### **SHERIFF DAVID GROVES, INTERIM EMERGENCY MANAGER**

Sheriff Groves came before The Board to give an update on the office of Emergency Management he discussed with The Board the emergency operations plan update, severe weather, vehicle and equipment, local emergency planning committee, projects, and storm sirens.

#### **SHERIFF DAVID GROVES, SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Groves gave a select activity summary regarding the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, he discussed with The Board, inmate housing, staffing, funding, bonds, child abuse awareness month, and dispatch academy. Groves gave an update on the number of law enforcement line of duty deaths in 2022, case summaries, Joplin police assistance, common facility improvements, ARPA projects and he gave a report on some upcoming events.

### **ROGER DRAGER RWE UPDATE**

Taxpayer, Roger Draeger appeared before The Board to give them an update on RWE, the company that has been looking at our county for wind turbines. Draeger stated that he has been in contact with RWE and they have stated that for the sake of the current project that is taking place in Labette County that they are currently not interested in pursuing any wind turbines in Cherokee County. Draeger asked The Board if they would still consider the wind turbines and with possibly going with a different company than RWE, and Draeger stated that he was still on the fence regarding the turbines.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE**

Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 30-minute attorney client privilege executive session with the three commissioners, County Counselor Nathan Coleman, and County Sheriff David Groves to be present and to return at 11:25 am. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson. The motion carried 3 to 0.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGER APPLICATIONS**

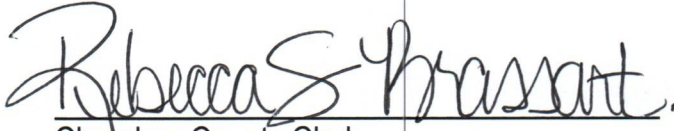
Commissioner Moates stated that he would like for each member of The Board to review the submitted applications for Emergency Manager this coming week so that The Board could have further discussion on

the open position during the April 11<sup>th</sup> commissioner meeting.


**ADJOURNMENT**

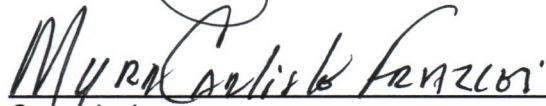
Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 11th day of April 2022**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner Chair

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner