

**MINUTES FOR APRIL 1, 2019**  
**BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS**

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 1, 2019 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, Neal Anderson, Myra Carlisle Frazier, County Counselor Barbara Wright, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the Minutes of the March 25, 2019 BOCC meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Edmondson presented an application from the new owners of the Riverton Quik Stop for a Cereal Malt Beverage Retail Sales Permit.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to issue the Cereal Malt Beverage Permit to the Riverton Quik Stop due to the change of ownership. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried 3-0.

Leonard Vanatta, County Road Supervisor, appeared before the Board on county road business. Leonard stated that they will need to make a new plate to cover the hole on the bridge on 50<sup>th</sup> St. Commissioner Frazier asked Leonard to check on the condition of the road going east from 69A to the State Line. Leonard stated that work is to begin on the Faulkner Bridge this week. He stated that he has scheduled April 15<sup>th</sup> to begin the bridge work on SW 20<sup>th</sup> St. with the EPA. The concrete pipe should be delivered at that time. Commissioner Frazier asked Leonard to prepare a list of the cemeteries that the County mows. Counselor Wright stated that she needs the list of items from the County Lot to be included in the Purple Wave Auction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for executive session for the discipline of non-elected personnel with the Board and Leonard Vanatta. The meeting will reconvene in the commission room at 9:50 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:31 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

No action will be taken at this time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for an executive session for the purpose of non-elected personnel discipline policy with the Board, Leonard Vanatta, and Counselor Wright. The meeting will reconvene in the commission room at 9:56 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried 3-0 at 9:51 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:56 a.m.

Commissioner Moates stated that Leonard Vanatta will have the discretion to enforce his own policy that is in place pertaining to county employees that are volunteer firefighters and responding to calls while on county time.

Leonard stated that Teeters is wanting to get a schedule for asphalt projects. The Commissioners stated that they would each get with Leonard this week to review the projects in their districts.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for an attorney/client executive session for policy with the Board, Counselor Wright, and Clerk Edmondson. The meeting will reconvene at 10:10 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the executive session at this time.

“Doc” Schaiff presented to Counselor Wright a petition regarding City Ordinance No. 1436, a protest petition that he is asking to have certified as to form. Counselor Wright stated that she has a conflict of interest for the review of the petition. She is asking the Board to appoint a Special County Counselor to review the form so he can circulate it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to appoint Candace Gayoso to look over the petition in regards to City Ordinance No. 1436 due to the involvement with the County Counselor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Moates stated that the Board is working with each department on being proactive on the budgets this year. He stated that the Board is asking that each department begin budgeting for office supplies in their own budgets instead of one line for office supplies in the General Fund. He also stated that some departments aren’t budgeting for gasoline and is just using fuel from the Road & Bridge Department. The Board would like departments to budget for gasoline as well.

### **Department Heads - Monthly Reports**

Officials met with the Board for their routine monthly meeting for the purpose of updating the Board on happenings within each department, with the following department heads present: Barbara Bilke, Register of Deeds; Betha Elliott, Health Department; David Groves, Sheriff; Deana Randall, Human Resources; Jacob Conard, County Attorney; Janet Miller, Economic Development; Logan Grant, Noxious Weeds; Mark Hixon, Appraiser; Ralph Houser, Maintenance; Raven Elmore, Treasurer; Rodney Edmondson, Clerk & Election; and Wayne Elliott, 911 Addressing & Mapping.

Barbara Bilke stated that they issued 17 passports last month.

Betha Elliott stated that they have several activities planned for the spring.

David Groves stated that funds were donated for a new K-9 unit and both are now certified and on the road. He stated that they are making arrangements to get an inmate back from California to face charges. He reported that the first quarter statistics has seen a decrease in several categories. He stated that the people from Purple Wave will be here April 4<sup>th</sup> to photograph the items going to auction.

Jacob Conard stated that they filed 49 new cases in March with 47 being felonies.

Janet Miller stated that she has talked with people looking to relocate to Cherokee County. They are also preparing for the annual recognition breakfast to be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Logan Grant stated that he attended the annual conference last month and is up to date on hours. He stated that he sold \$500 worth of chemical and things are picking up. He stated that the price of chemicals is set to increase 5 to 20% due to tariffs.

Ralph Houser stated that he is waiting on bids for the remainder of the flooring to be replaced in the courthouse following the water leak. He is also waiting on the other bid for the alarm system.

Raven Elmore stated that they are working on straightening out some revenue and expense accounts. She stated that the second half taxes are due next month.

Rodney Edmondson stated that they have taken delivery of the 22 new Election Poll Pads to be used for voter check-in. The remainder of the equipment is scheduled to be delivered on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Elliott stated that they issued four new addresses, issued eight building permits, and made six street signs during March. He stated that he has spoken with Jim Burton about making new signs for the recycling bins.

Commissioner Frazier asked the Board to table two of the three properties that have been presented for condemnation until after they meet with Jason Allison for his budget workshop. She would like to know more about the process of choosing which properties to condemn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson to recess until 10:45 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0 at 10:36 a.m.

Mac Young and Tammie Carlson appeared before the Board regarding the quotes for new flooring for the Court Services Offices. The bids from Derailed Commodity and The Home Store are very different in how they plan to replace the flooring. There is concern that Derailed is leaving the loose tile and just covering it up. The Board reviewed both bids and all options included in the bids. Clerk Edmondson stated that the insurance is going to pay for option 2.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frazier to approve option 1 from The Home Store in the amount of \$9,299.10 with the remainder of the money coming from the Equipment Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moates. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Moates presented an invoice from First American Title Co. in the amount of \$14,250 to be paid at the completion of the tax sale. The invoice is for title work for the law firm in Wichita for the tax sale. The goal from that firm was an August sale date. Clerk Edmondson will hold the invoice until after the tax sale.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moates for an attorney/client executive session for contract purposes with the Board, Counselor Wright, and Clerk Edmondson. The meeting will reconvene at 11:16 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 11:06 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:26 a.m.

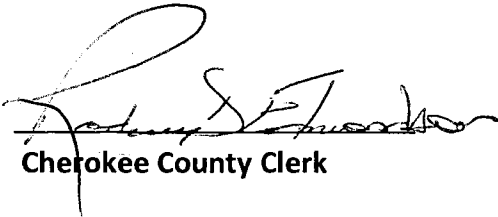
Jason Allison reported that they inspected approximately 25 homes on Gum Lane and found several with septic problems. They will begin on Fur Rd. next.

Jacob Conard, County Attorney, appeared for the budget workshop for the County Attorney's Office. No action was taken during the workshop.

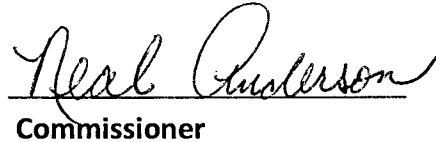
A motion was made by Commissioner Moates to refund Hallowell Manufacturing the estimated \$42,019.27 tax refund from Casino Revenue Funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0.

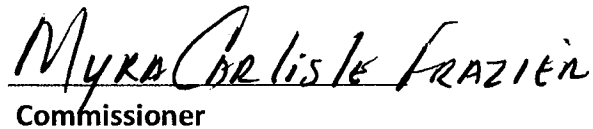
Commissioner Frazier made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting set for Monday, April 8, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried 3-0 at 12:38 p.m.

**ATTEST:** Resolved and ordered this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner