

MINUTES for November 13, 2023
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE CANVASS

Chairman Cory Moates opened the special election canvass session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 8:30 AM on Monday, November 13, 2023, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Deputy Election Clerk Trisha Burdette, and the election board for canvass made up of Marcia Trease, Vicki Hess and Matt Haviland were present.

CANVASSING

County Clerk Rebecca Brassart presented the board with 23 provisional ballots. The board rejected 5 accepted 18 to be counted in full. Commissioner Moates made a motion to accept 18 in full and reject 5 ballots. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates closed the special session of the election canvass. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The provisional ballots were then counted for votes by the election board of canvass and added to the unofficial primary results. Once the unofficial totals were presented which included the provisional ballot count. Commissioner Moates made a motion later in the regular session of the Commissioner meeting to certify the abstract of the election. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, November 13, 2023, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Clerk Rebecca Brassart opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, and County Counselor Jake Conard and News Report owner Larry Hiatt were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the November 6, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL of PAYROLL

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL of PAYABLES

Commissioner Moates made a motion to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD and BRIDGE

Road & Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook informed the Board that Straight-Line Striping, INC had striped SE Clem RD, Old Highway 96, and NE 30th north of Highway 103.

Cody stated he had made a deal to purchase fiberglass bridge decking for \$1000. He went on to notify the Board that

a bridge collapsed on SW Star and the lot is putting in a cross pipe to rectify the issue.

Commissioner Moates informed Cody that the asphalt on SE Quakerville RD., has been torn up severely just to the west of the Family Life Center. Commissioner Johnson also notified Zook of an issue on NW Sherman City RD and that the grass is growing in the road on 124th Ter in Sheman City.

COUNTY PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

The Board requested that all office heads get together for a meeting and bring back to the Board any issues or adjustments that they see which need to be made to the county handbook. They ask that this take place prior to the November 27th Commissioner meeting. County Clerk Rebecca Brassart was instructed to send out an email to plan the meeting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Manager Matt Haviland came before the Board to inform them that he will be sending out the FEMA leases this week. Commissioner Johnson asked County Counselor Jake Conard if we should rewrite the lease agreements prior to sending out. Conard agreed with Commissioner Johnson and stated that he would draw up a new lease agreement.

Matt stated that he has been continuing to work on the EOP Grant and has been correcting any errors that were previously found prior to him taking over the office of Emergency Management.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Health Department Director Peyton Kessler came before the Board to request a 15-minute attorney client executive session with the Board. Commissioner Moates made a motion for a 15-minute attorney client executive session with the Board, County Counselor Jake Conard, Health Department Director Peyton Kessler to return at 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Sheriff David Groves and Chief Deputy Nate Jones came before the Board to inform them of a Grant that he had obtained through the Department of Justice Police Grant. He stated the Grant was written to be used for an extra deputy and would include 3-year salary and benefit with a 1-year commitment by the County to pay the salary and benefits of the employee.

APPRAISER

County Appraiser David Thornton came before the Board to notify them that he is in his compliance margin with PVD. The Board stated that was great news.

ATTORNEY CLIENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Johnson made a motion for a 10-minute attorney client executive session with the Board, and County Counselor Jake Conard to return at 11:05 a.m. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken because of the executive session.

2024 ABSTRACT CERTIFICATION

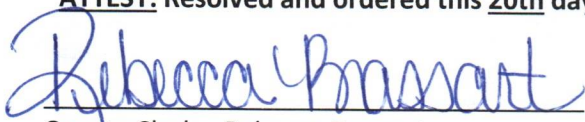
Commissioner Johnson asked County Clerk Brassart what the process was for certification. Brassart stated that prior to beginning the November Abstract she sets up a time with CIC to come and help prepare the Abstract for the County to ensure there are no errors. She then lets the County Appraiser know of the date to have files submitted to her. Once the Abstract is completed and all appropriate documents are submitted to PVD the Clerks Office waits for PVD

to review all documents and release the County. During this time the County Appraisers Office is locked out on making any changes. Commissioner Frazier stated that she felt that the County Appraiser should join the discussion. County Appraiser David Thornton came to the meeting at the request of the Board. Thornton stated that his office had been locked out since the 10th of October and needed to get in to make changes. Brassart stated that until her office is released by PVD that would not be an option. Thornton stated that his office has never been locked out this long. Brassart stated that she was at the mercy of scheduling with CIC and Crawford County who had been waiting for Bourbon County to certify school values to her. Brassart went on to state that should she allow the Appraisers Office in to begin changes, should PVD find an error that all work which would have been done by the Appraisers Office would have to be removed to correct the error and would then have to be re-entered into the system. Thornton stated that all he wanted to know was when the Clerks Office would be released, and Brassart stated that she was waiting for PVD and that she had no way to know when PVD would release her office. Brassart went on to state she and her employees had discussed this same question with the Appraisers Office employee Carla Wood on Thursday the 9th of November, so she was unsure of why she was being asked the question again. Brassart stated everything had been submitted electronically to PVD and that the hard copies would be going in the mail today. Brassart stated that she could request that CIC come later in October of 2024. The Board stated that they are trying to understand the process better and that they felt that both Brassart and Thornton have been doing a great job.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 20th day of November 2023.


County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart


Commissioner Chairman – Cory Moates


Commissioner – Lorie Johnson


Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier