

MINUTES for July 8, 2024
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chair Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, July 8, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioner Moates opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, Deputy County Clerk Jess Frasher, County Counselor Jake Conard, Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook, and Columbus News Report Owner Larry Hiatt were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from July 1, 2024. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYABLES

Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed with Commissioner Johnson voting against.

ROAD and BRIDGE

Road and Bridge Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to provide an update. Zook briefed the Board on upcoming projects, specifying Star Valley and 90th Street. Commissioner Johnson asked Zook to provide the cost of the work done on 90th to her when it is finished so that she can determine the remaining funds allotted for her district. Zook stated that the work would be \$1,200. Zook stated that R&B staff, Joni Hicks has provided the county's right of way permit to Bright speed regarding a claim, and that they have not responded.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT

County Councilor Jake Conard informed the Board that he has received correspondence regarding the Opioid Settlement. Conard stated that he has contacted the Attorney Generals Office, and that the board has the option to either sign the settlement, or to continue litigation. Conard recommended that the Board sign the settlement. Commissioner Moates motioned to allow County Councilor Jake Conard to sign the settlement agreement. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NRP APPEALS

County Councilor Jake Conard discussed the terminations of Matt Turley's and Americana Asset Group's Neighborhood Revitalization (NRP) tax rebates. Both applicants had properties that were part of the City of Baxter Springs NRP. Conard stated that he has spoken with the City Attorney of Baxter Springs Candace Gayoso, and that they had concluded that The City of Baxter Springs is the only organization that would have the authority to remove participants of the Baxter Springs NRP. Conard recommended that the Board reinstate the Baxter Springs NRPs that were terminated by the County.

Commissioner Moates motioned to reinstate Matt Turley's Baxter NRP rebates for the property located at 1627 Military Avenue in Baxter Springs Kansas. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Moates motioned to reinstate Americana Asset Group's NRP rebates for the property located at 1101 Military Avenue in Baxter Springs Kansas. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FEMA LEASE BIDS

Commissioner Moates opened the sealed bids for the FEMA properties that had been advertised for bid. Commissioner Moates read the bids aloud as follows:

Tract 2: 9490 SE 90th St, Baxter Springs, KS

Mark LaTurner for \$1,836.00 for a 3-year lease.
Doty McQuillan for \$102.50 for a 3-year lease.
Jerry Jenkins for \$650.00 per year, totaling \$1,950.00 for a 3-year lease.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to accept the bid from Jerry Jenkins in the amount of \$1,950.00 for a 3-year lease. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tract 3: 7999 SE Hwy Alt 69, Baxter Springs, KS
Corey and or Christina Bates for \$50 for a 3-year lease.

Commissioner Moates motioned to accept the bid from Corey and Christina Bates in the amount of \$50 for a 3-year lease. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion.

Tract 4: 7641 SE Watermelon Ln, Galena, KS
Waycee Brassart for \$200 for a 3-year lease.

Commissioner Frazier motioned to accept the bid from Waycee Brassart in the amount of \$200 for a 3-year lease. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Manager Matt Haviland asked the Board if they need to leave the unbid property vacant until next year. Commissioner Johnson asked if it would be appropriate to ask the previous lease holders if they would be interested in bidding for the lease. County Counciler Conard stated that it would need to be bid again.

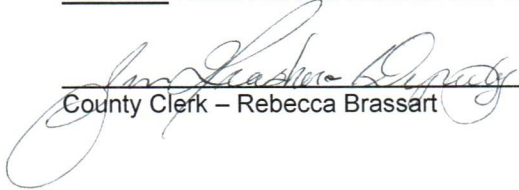
BUDGET WORKSHOPS

The commissioners met with County staff and discussed budgets of the Extension Council, the Sheriff's Office, the Road and Bridge Department, and the Health Department. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moates motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 15th day of July 2024.



County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart



Commissioner Chair – Cory Moates



Commissioner – Lorie Johnson



Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier