

**MINUTES FOR JUNE 6, 2011**  
**COLUMBUS, KANSAS, CHEROKEE COUNTY**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**  
**CRYSTAL L. GATEWOOD**

The Cherokee County Commissioners met June 6, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Garner and those present were Commissioners Collins, Garner, and Hilderbrand. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. County Clerk Crystal Gatewood submitted the minutes for May 23, 2011, Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the minutes; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hilderbrand with Commissioners Collins, Garner, and Hilderbrand voting in favor.

**MOTIONS**

**Commissioner Garner made a motion to recess for lunch; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with Commissioners Collins, Hilderbrand, and Garner voting in favor.**

**CONCERNING THE TAX SALE: "Commissioner Collins made a motion to start at no-minimum bid by Cherokee County and it will start at the appraised value by the county, if no bids are generated the bids will be lowered until the bidding process generates bids; also any announcement made by the auctioneer the day of the Tax Sale (June 9, 2011) will take precedent over any and all printed materials. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Hilderbrand with Commissioners Hilderbrand, Collins, and Garner voting in favor."**

**Commissioner Hilderbrand made a motion to accept the sale price of \$47,500.00 for the NSP home located on 424 S. Delaware Ave in Columbus; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with Commissioners Collins, Garner, and Hilderbrand voting in favor. Commissioner Garner and County Clerk Crystal Gatewood signed off on the necessary paperwork provided by Susan Galemore of Southeast Kansas Regional Planning and David Holmes.**

**Commissioner Collins made a motion to look at three used tractors and mowers and keeping payments as they are now; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Garner; with Commissioners Garner and Collins voting in favor, and Commissioner Hilderbrand abstaining.**

RH

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mike Keal, Jerry Beachner, Jim Beachner, and Terri Beachner of Beachner Construction came before the commission to ask the Cherokee County Commissioners for help in opening a landfill for C and D only debris from the tornado debris from Joplin, MO. The location of the C and D Landfill is near Evonik Jayhawk Fine Chemicals. Mr. Keal said it takes usually four to five months to receive a permit, but the commission could approve an emergency permit within 48 to 72 hours. He also said that the county would have some liability responsibility, but Beachner would work to keep the responsibility on Beachner Construction by continuing to get a permit through KDHE. Local citizens Bob Burgan (owner) of landfill B-3, and Jason Johnson agreed that the need was not present in the county for an additional C and D landfill, that the demand could be met using business within the county. The local citizens in the room voiced their opinions and said they did not want to have it located in that area. Commissioner Collins suggested that Mr. Keal have a meeting with local citizens in the area proposed and get their input in determining the final decision and Mr. Keal agreed. Carl Hays, the County Environmentalist, said that the county would be responsible for the proposed landfill for 30 years after it has been closed.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Commissioner Garner made a motion to go into Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel for five minutes with himself, Commissioners Hilderbrand and Collins, and Cherokee County Treasurer Juanita Hodgson; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with Commissioners Hilderbrand, Collins, and Garner voting in favor. They went in at 10:59 AM and returned at 11:03 AM.**

**Commissioner Hilderbrand made a motion to go into Executive Session for Attorney/Client Privilege for twenty minutes with himself, Commissioners Garner and Collins, and County Counselor Kevin Cure; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins with Commissioners Collins, Hilderbrand, and Garner voting in favor. They went in at 2:00 PM and returned at 2:20 PM.**

## COUNTY APPOINTED DEPARTMENT HEADS

**Betha Elliott of the Cherokee County Health Department** - reported that they had re-scheduled a free class for Functional Needs for Rural America for Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at the Columbus Community Building from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The class is joint with NW Arkansas and maintained by Homeland Security (Functional Needs – the elderly, non-English speaking, etc.)

**Wayne Elliott of 911 Mapping** - reported they had made 138 maps with the tax sale coming up.

**Supervisor Leonard Vanatta of Road & Bridge and Gene Langerot of the County Lot** - reported they have been doing general road maintenance in the county. The commission, Leonard, and Gene discussed purchasing three used tractors and mowers. The commission discussed the lease properties of the county and the interested parties are first come first serve, and the county is waiting on County Counselor Kevin Cure to work up the agreement.

**Nancy Herrenbruck** - reported they were finishing 2011 values that will be ready for the Clerk's Office at the end of this week. She and her staff will be taking an Excel class because the new data base works off the excel program. Her office has received many inquiries regarding the tax sale.

**Deana Randall of Human Resource** - reported that everything was good and June Mid-month bills will be ready to be sent out.

**Ralph Houser Court House Maintenance** - reported everything is going well. The elevator work is still on track for July and August 2011.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SHERIFF DAVID GROVES** - reported for Emergency Preparedness Director Jason Allison since he is currently deployed with the Instant Management Team. The county has also been approved for a grant to purchase 500 weather radios for the county's citizens. The cost to the county's citizens will be a fee of \$5.00 and these radios will be through Radio Shack. Sheriff Groves asked the commission if county funds could pay for the radios and then the state would reimburse the county. The commission agreed to the proposal. Emergency Preparedness has been working on the Reverse 911 System and he reported it wasn't working out very well so they are looking at another system called Nixel. Nixel would offer unlimited text and e-mail messages for \$2,500.00 a year. He also reported there is a new Game Warden for Cherokee County, and vehicle inspection fees will go from \$10.00 to \$15.00 and salvage fees will go from \$15.00 to \$20.00 effective July 1, 2011. The Cherokee County Sheriff's Department has just completed their "Seatbelts Are for Everyone" campaign and the campaign increased seatbelt usage for high school students by 52 %.

BK

**Cherokee County Treasurer Juanita Hodgson** - reported that County Counselor Kevin Cure had spoken with her regarding the Tax Sale for June 9, 2011 and that pre-registration is available in the Treasurer's Office. The bidders will have until 9:30 AM to register the day of the sale and get a bidder's number. Registration for the sale ends at 9:30 AM. Those purchasing property will have the option to pay with cash, personal checks (stipulation on personal checks is the check must clear before registering the deed with the county), or a letter of Credit that has to be good for the date of the sale, June 9, 2011. The sale takes place at 10:00 AM in the District Court Room on the second floor of the courthouse. Currently there are 82 properties on the list. Sheriff Groves and Janis Dalton will be here from the Sheriff's Office the day of the Tax Sale.

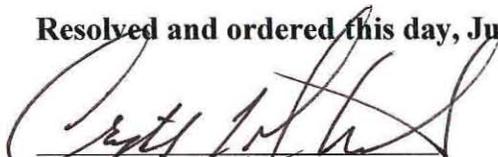
**Deputy Barbra Bilke, representing the Register of Deeds Office** - reported that all old books are now on CD.

**Cherokee County Clerk Crystal Gatewood and Clerk Susan Jones** - reported that all Department Heads' and Elected Officials' 2012 Budget proposals are due in her office by August 1, 2011 at 5:00 PM so she can get the necessary input done for budget preparation. Susan Jones and Crystal Gatewood attended a budget seminar and legislative update put on by the Kansas Department of Revenue in Iola, Kansas. Paula Cheney and Vickie Hess had additional training on the new upgraded Elvis System put on by ESS through the Kansas Secretary of State's Office. The Clerk's Office has been working and preparing the quarterly distributions for the Treasurer's Office and checks have been processed and sent.

### **ADJOURMENT**

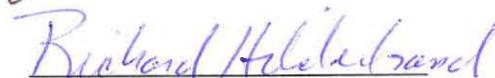
Commissioner Collins made a motion to adjourn at 2:24 PM; his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hilderbrand and all voted in favor. The next Cherokee County Commission meeting will be held June 13, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the Cherokee County Courthouse in Columbus, Kansas.

**Resolved and ordered this day, June 13, 2011**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner