

Cherokee County Planning Commission
Minutes for August 8⁶, 2025 Regular Meeting

CONVENE

Commissioner Randy Commons began the meeting with an opening prayer. Chairman Brett Warstler then called the meeting of the Cherokee County Planning Commission (the Commission) to order at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, August 8, 2025 in the break room of the Cherokee County Courthouse.

ROLL CALL

Chair Warstler conducted a roll call. Commission member Roger Draeger, Chairman Brett Warstler, Commission member Randy Commons, Commission member Scott Boyes and Vice-Chair John Lopp were all in attendance.

Secretary Lorie Johnson, Abbey Eckberg with Confluence, Rob Herrington with Clearway Energy and Larry Hiatt with Columbus News Report were also in attendance.

REVIEW OF 7/2/2025 MINUTES

Upon review of the minutes from the July 2nd meeting, Commissioner Commons moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Boyes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Commission discussed homework from the previous meeting with Confluence Representative, Abbey Eckberg. The Board will continue to submit stakeholder names to Abbey. Abbey stated she will create a summary explanation of the role of being a stakeholder for Board members to share. Abbey will also forward flyers with information about public input opportunities to commission members for them to distribute throughout the county. Potential locations for these public meetings are Columbus High School Auditorium, Baxter Springs High School Auditorium, and Galena High School Auditorium. Abbey will contact the respective schools to schedule. The board suggested holding the meetings on a Tuesday or Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.
2. Abbey provided another update on phase progression, with maps of current land use, population demographics and employment data.
3. Chair Warstler informed the board that the moratorium extension request had been passed by the county commissioners.
4. No action was taken on the budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commissioner Lopp made a motion to approve the listed outstanding bills from Confluence, and request payment approval from the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Boyes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Invoice #32461	\$3215.00
Invoice #32491	\$8796.41
Invoice #32153	\$1225.00
Total:	\$13,236.41

2. Chairman Warstler requested that Secretary Johnson work prepare a rough draft Request for Proposal for an attorney to represent the Commission. The draft RFP will be distributed to members of the commission prior to the next meeting for review.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Boyes made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Commons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 3rd day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.



Brett Warstler, Chair



John Lopp, Vice-Chair




Roger Draeger, Planning Commissioner 1



Randy Commons, Planning Commissioner 3



Scott Boyes, Planning Commissioner 4



Lorie Johnson, Secretary