



Cherokee County Board of Commissioners WORK SESSION MINUTES

January 7, 2014

3:00 p.m. | Cherokee Hall

The Chairman began at 3:12 p.m. with all Commissioners present except Commissioner Poole. The Chairman wished everyone a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous and Safe 2014. He spoke about the email letter he sent out to all staff seeking feedback on opportunities to expand our growing competitive edge and conversely, the most significant weakness that inhibits ability to grow/expand our complete advantage. He said that he had received a few replies and was looking forward to more.

1. Employee Service Recognition by Steve McClure.

Chairman Ahrens thanked those in advance who have continued to serve and for the continuity they provide the County. He then asked Mr. McClure to come to the podium to recognize the employees.

Mr. McClure began by stating that for those who reached the five year service milestone awards for the dates of July through December 31, those employees had been sent the award already. He then read the list of employees who received 10 year, 15 year, 20 year and 25 year milestone awards.

Chairman Ahrens thanked everyone again for their commitment and service to Cherokee County.

2. Update on Ethics Committee Candidates.

Chairman Ahrens said that he stopped the list of candidates at 15, all of whom he had spoken with (except one who he could not reach). He said that there were a lot of really good candidates with very different backgrounds and different reasons for wanting to serve. He said his goal is to narrow the list of 15 down to 4 and he may ask the Board to make some phone interviews to assist in this.

3. Discussion of Regular Agenda Items.

The Chairman then went over the **announcement**:

1. **2014 Guns and Hoses** 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run, Saturday, February 15 at Hobgood Park in Woodstock. Registration information is available on the table outside Cherokee Hall or visit crpa.net for a link to online registration.

CHAIRMAN

L. B. AHRENS

The Chairman mentioned that at the last meeting the approval of minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting had inadvertently gotten skipped, so they would be approving those at tonight's meeting.

A. Reminder and notice of retreat.

The Chairman went over the draft list of potential topics they had already which included Review of 2013 and Outlook of 2014, Cherokee County Strategic Plan, Ethics Ordinance, Historic Preservation Ordinance, Economic Development / Innovation Center and Incentives and Invitation to Canton Mayor and City Council to discuss topics of common interest.

Discussion ensued on the topic of Historic Preservation Ordinance and the invitation to Mayor Hobgood. The Chairman stated that a couple of councilmembers have said they'd attend and set a date/time of Friday at 9:30 a.m. to attend the retreat. The Chairman didn't know how many would show up or who would show up, but they were invited to speak about topics of common interest such as fire consolidation.

The Chairman then said that although it was left off of agenda, the County would appoint the Vice-Chair tonight. District 4 will rotate off and it will go to District 1 and Commissioner Johnston for 2014.

Chairman Ahrens stated that Commissioner Poole had a family issue come up and would be unable to attend the meeting tonight.

Mr. Cooper went over the two items under the **County Manager** portion:

- 2.1 Consider renewal of Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between Rindt-McDuff Associates, Inc. and Cherokee County for Blalock Landfill closure for amount not to exceed \$147,300.00.

Commissioner Johnston asked how long we were required to monitor the landfill after closure. Mr. Cooper replied that the requirement was for 30 years and that we were in the 13th or 14th year of monitoring it.

- 2.2 Consider acceptance of ASPCA Grant Award and budget amendment in the amount of \$3,000.00 for the care of impounded Tietjen Show Dogs at the Animal Shelter.

Commissioner Johnston asked if the Animal Shelter was still housing these animals and if they were available for adoption. Animal Shelter Director Susan Garcia said that they no longer had the animals at the shelter and that the dogs could not be adopted until a final court disposition. Mr. Cooper commended Ms. Garcia and her staff on the great job they do at the shelter, and the rapport they have with outside organizations that enable them to receive such grants.

Ms. Davis went over the one item under the **County Attorney** portion:

- 3.1 City of Woodstock Annexation Notice for property located on Old Rope Mill Road.

Ms. Davis gave an overview of the notice received for approximately 18.415 miles of property located at 267 Old Rope Mill Road in Woodstock. She said that she had not received feedback from County staff indicating that there was a legal objection available to the County so there would be no action required at tonight's meeting if no one else had anything to add. She said the deadline to object to this annexation would be before the next meeting.

Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Commissioner Nelms made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 3:53 p.m. to discuss personnel, land acquisition or

disposal, and pending or threatened litigation; Commissioner Johnston seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.