



Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES

March 4, 2014
Regular Meeting
CHEROKEE HALL 6:00 PM

INVOCATION

Pastor Ted Lester with Christ Covenant Presbyterian gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"Veterans of U.S. military service may proudly salute the flag while not in uniform based on a change in the governing law on 25 July 2007"

Flag Presentation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Cherokee County Fire Explorers.

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIRMAN AHRENS

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. Those present included Commissioner Harry B. Johnston; Commissioner Raymond Gunnin; Commissioner Poole; Commissioner Jason Nelms; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Angie Davis; County Clerk Christy Black. Also present were Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media; and the public.

RATIFY CLOSURE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman called for a motion to ratify the closure of Executive Session at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioner Nelms made the motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclaiming March 4, 2014 as **Cherokee County Fire Explorers Day**.

Chairman Ahrens read the proclamation and presented it to Chief Robinson as he commended Chief Robinson and the success of the program. Chief Robinson thanked the Board for allowing this opportunity to recognize these future leaders and turned the presentation over to Firefighter Michael Sims who gave an overview of the results of the 4th Annual Southeast Regional Championship in Gatlinburg Tennessee. This year, as in the past years, they were very successful, bringing home five trophies. Firefighter Sims thanked the Board for their continued support which contributes to the success of the program. Chairman Ahrens once again thanked Chief Robinson and the Leadership of the Firefighters.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION, WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 18, 2014.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

PUBLIC HEARING

None Scheduled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one signed up to speak.

ZONING CASES

None Scheduled.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN

L. B. AHRENS

A. Consider Appointment to the Ethics Board.

Chairman Ahrens thanked the Board for their assistance in going through the short list of resumes to select candidates for the vacant Ethics Board seat. He said that he was recommending Gaylen Roberts to fill the unexpired term of Mark Webb. (Through January 2016).

Chairman Ahrens made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

VICE CHAIR/COMMISSION DISTRICT 1

HARRY B. JOHNSTON

COMMISSION DISTRICT 2

RAYMOND GUNNIN

COMMISSION DISTRICT 3

BRIAN POOLE

COMMISSION DISTRICT 4

JASON NELMS

CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 Consider approval of budget amendment allocating insurance recovery monies and purchase replacement patrol unit for the Sheriff's Office.

- 1.2 Consider approval of 2014 budget amendment to reduce the Parks Bond FY2014 Budget to only appropriate the remaining reserves.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

COUNTY MANAGER

- 2.1 Consider adoption of the updated Cherokee County Capital Improvement Element as approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Atlanta Regional Commission.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.2 Consider adoption of resolution designating the County's Open Records Officers.

Mr. Cooper explained that the revised resolution was adding additional designees so that each agency can directly respond to open records requests. He added that this would streamline the process rather than having several agencies grouped together and going through one person for processing.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.3 Consider approval to execute MOU with Cherokee County, Georgia (Animal Shelter) and the Stanton Foundation to accept grant monies in the amount of \$201,300.00 and authorize a budget amendment to allocate the funds.

Mr. Cooper explained that the bulk of the funds will go towards an animal welfare expert to take a look at Cherokee County and the programs and services related to adoptions and intake of animals. Compared to surrounding counties, we take in 2.5 animals per 100 where others take in 1 per 100. He said this is an issue that needs to be addressed in the future. He

added that \$18,300 of the funds will go to the Animal Shelter for overhead and materials related to the grant.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve and extended his gratitude to the Stanton Foundation for the sizeable donation; Commissioner Johnston seconded and thanked Susan Garcia and others at the Animal Shelter for getting this grant; the vote was unanimous approval.

- 2.4 Consider approval of an Annual Traffic Striping and Pavement Marking Services Contract with Parker Traffic Markings, Inc., to perform traffic striping countywide as needed. Budget totals \$75,000.00.

Commissioner Gunnin made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.5 Consider approval of Purchase Order in the amount of \$80,750.00 to the low bidder, Reynolds-Warren Equipment Company, for the acquisition of a roller machine for Roads and Bridges with budgeted SPLOST V Program monies.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.6 Consider approval of Purchase Order in the amount of \$27,894.00 to the low bidder, Allan Vigil Ford-Lincoln, Inc., for the purchase of a 2015 Ford F-350 for Roads and Bridges with budgeted SPLOST V Program monies.

Commissioner Gunnin made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.7 Consider approval of submission of continuation application for Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Criminal Justice System Improvement (CJSI) Grant in the amount of \$70,000.00 with a required match of \$23,333.00 which satisfied with existing personnel. Match will not require any new County Funds.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.8 Consider approval of 2013 Post-Audit Budget amendment to recognize expenditures that were legitimately incurred in excess of the budget to conduct necessary county operations. Revenues sufficient to cover budget amendment. Total spend under budget \$14.7 Million.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to adopt the resolution; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.9 Consider approval of FY 2015 GDOT grant application in the amount of \$563,580.00 in operating expenses and \$188,828.00 in capital costs associated with the CATS 5311 Rural Public Transportation program. Cherokee County's obligation will be \$281,790.00 in operating expenses and \$18,883.00 in capital costs.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.10 Consider resolution to rename a portion of Old Rope Mill Road to Ridgewalk Parkway.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.11 Consider authorizing approval to purchase one (1) Chevrolet Tahoe with SSP package from low bidder, AutoNation in the amount of \$36,188.00. plus add-on package in the amount of \$300.00 for a total requested amount of \$36,488.00 for Cherokee Fire & ES.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.12 Consider one-time payment of \$25,000.00 to Cherokee Office of Economic Development (COED) to enhance marketing efforts.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Gunnin seconded and there was unanimous approval.

2.13 Consider awarding Purchase Order to highest ranked proposer, Flint Equipment Company, in the amount of \$141,116.00 for the acquisition of an Excavator machine for Roads and Bridges and authorize the trade of a County-owned Excavator. Funding is from budgeted SPLOST V Program monies.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

3.1 Annexation Notice from City of Woodstock for 8.13 acres of property located at 294 Rope Mill Road.

Ms. Davis began by stating the property is owned by James Queen and is currently zoned as an R-40 property. The proposed rezoning would be SL-C which is Senior Living and proposed use is a 96-unit campus-style assisted living facility. She added that this is projected in the County's future development map to be in the City of Woodstock's Urban Village Character area. It appears to be an appropriate use and staff has not indicated that it would be a material increase or burden on the County from a land use perspective. Ms. Davis stated that Geoff Morton with the Engineering Department did have notation of several issues relating to the development of the entrance; a de-acceleration lane and possibly and left turn lane as determined by a traffic study. She said it would be her recommendation to have these notations relayed to the City by staff.

Commissioner Nelms asked if a motion would be in order to have Mr. Morton relay this information to the City. Mr. Morton replied that that this has already been done. At that, Ms. Davis replied that there was no need for a motion because no action is necessary.

Commissioner Johnston commented that the area, which is near the Outlet Mall, seems like an ideal use of this type of facility and he doesn't think there would be any reason the Board should object to it.

ADJOURN

The Chairman asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, Commissioner Johnston made a motion to adjourn at 6:44 p.m.;

Commissioner Gunnin seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.