

CHEROKEE BOARD OF ETHICS
Meeting Minutes

Date: October 22, 2013

Meeting Location: Hickory Flat Community Center

Board Members:

Debra Frieden, Chairman	Present	John Seufert, Director	Present
Gil Howard, Director	Present	Phil Dodge, Director	Present
Julie Cullins, Director	Present	Stacey Vyneman, Director	Present

Others Present:

J. Marshall “Buzz” Wehunt, CCBBoE Attorney of Record
L.B. “Buzz” Ahrens, Jr., Chairman of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

- **Chairman Frieden called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**
- **Approval of Minutes from August 15, 2013**
Julie Cullins made motion to adopt the minutes from the August 15, 2013 meeting, seconded by Gil Howard. Motion passed.
- **Public Hearing of Ethics Complaints**
Chairman Frieden opened floor for public hearing/discussion. No business brought forward. Motion for public hearing closed.
- **Discussion: Nomination for Interim Vice Chair**
Chairman Frieden nominated Gil Howard for Vice Chairman, seconded by Member John Seufert.
- **Discussion: Announcement of candidate search for Mark Webb’s vacated seat**
Chairman Frieden announced a recommendation of a lawyer named Sylvia G. Eaves, who works with Roach, Caudill and Gunn, LLC. Chairman “Buzz” Ahrens asked if anyone knew the recommended candidate and announced that he would be meeting with her the following day.
- **Discussion: Resignation of Secretary Kathy Ringhoffer**
Chairman Frieden announced Secretary Kathy Ringhoffer’s Letter of Resignation and new secretary candidate Laura Shoop under consideration. Member Gil Howard introduced secretary candidate. Chairman Frieden opened the floor for comments; none made. Chairman Frieden welcomed new secretary.
- **Discussion: Consolidation of 2013 records being digitized.**
Chairman Frieden suggested having Christy Black digitize records for the archives as she did the previous files, rather than trying to do it once a month. Chairman

Frieden stated that she would get together with the Secretary or put the file together herself and give it to Christy.

▪ **Discussion: Updating Ethics Legislation**

Chairman Frieden provided an update on the meeting she and Member Howard had with Chairman “Buzz” Ahrens regarding updating ethics legislation. She stated that they are currently reviewing options but have determined nothing definite as of yet. She further stated that they would like to take care of it through the county rather than the state, but they are still working on it.

▪ **Discussion: Upcoming election schedule for Chair and Vice Chair**

Chairman Frieden reminded members about the upcoming election for Chair and Vice Chair at the January 2014 meeting and asked them to consider serving in this capacity.

▪ **New Business:**

Chairman Frieden asked if there was any new business. None was brought forward. Discussion was closed.

▪ **Next Meeting:**

Chairman Frieden announced the next CCBoE Meeting/Public Hearing would be held on January 7, 2014, at the Hickory Flat Community Center.

▪ **Motion to Close:**

Chairman Frieden asked if there was a Motion to close.

▪ **Point of Order:**

Member John Seufert raised a Point of Order and asked whether any motions needed to be put to a vote.

▪ **Adoption of Motions:**

Chairman Frieden motioned that Member Gil Howard be Vice Chair. Motion carried. Member Julie Cullins motioned that Laura Shoop be Secretary, seconded by Member Howard. Motion carried.

▪ **Closing Remarks:**

Chairman Frieden opened the floor for Chairman “Buzz” Ahrens to comment before the close of the meeting. Chairman Ahrens stated that he thought he, Chairman Frieden and Member Howard had a good discussion regarding the updating of the ethics legislation. He felt better about the current one after their discussion but still believed there was room for improvement. One of those was adapted in 1991 but includes only part of the scope of what should be included. He has looked at a draft of ACCG, which is a model ordinance for counties that do not yet have one. He also made a general comment regarding the importance of the Ethics Board and his satisfaction with the team currently serving on the Ethics Board.

Motion for Adjournment:

Member John Seufert made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Julie Cullins. Motion carried.