

September 22, 2025
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

The Muskogee Board of County Commissioners met in session at 8:15 a.m. Members present were: Chairman, Ken Doke; Vice-Chairman, Keith Hyslop; Member Kenny Payne; and Muskogee County Clerk, Polly Irving.

1: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved to Open the meeting at 8:39 a.m. The motion was unanimous.

2: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved the Purchase Orders. The motion was unanimous.

3: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved the Monthly reports. The motion was unanimous.

4: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved Regular meeting minutes for September 15, 2025. The motion was unanimous.

5: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved the awarding of Bid 2025-036 – Courthouse Roof to CR Roofing in the amount of \$128,575 for a complete tear off, install two layers of sterile 1.5 insulation, half inch substrate, and 60 mil TPO roof system. The motion was unanimous.

6: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved a Contract with Summerlin Law Firm that will submitting application to U.S. Marshal Service and negotiating new per diem under Intergovernmental Service Agreement number 63-02-0020. The motion was unanimous.

7: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved Resolution 2025-06 – Muskogee County Building Codes. Board of County Commissioners Legal Counsel, John Tyler Hammons explains: *“Mr. Chairman, members of the board, seven and eight go together. Under the state law, the Oklahoma Uniform Building Codes Commission establishes building codes which are applicable to every building in the state of Oklahoma regardless of where it's located. By adopting these codes, the county can request the state fire marshal to have the authority to enforce those codes as opposed to going to Oklahoma City. That would be for commercial and industrial uses, not for agricultural uses. We would be adopting the state codes verbatim without deviation, so this wouldn't be any additional burden upon anybody. Anybody who has to get a building permit from the state fire marshal, they would have to be following the exact same rules. They could just get it locally from us, assuming the state fire marshal has approved it.”* The question was then asked of John Tyler Hammons: *“What's the benefit?”* John Tyler Hammons responds: *“The benefit is that we can be more expedient for those that need that permit. Right now, they have to go to the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal, I believe, has something like 27 total employees for the entire state. Their backlog is probably a year, I would guess, on some projects. By the county assuming this authority, we will be able to issue those permits and do those inspections on an expedited basis. It's an economic development tool to help big commercial and industrial development users get their projects approved faster.”* The question was asked of John Tyler Hammons: *“So we would issue the permits instead of them?”* John Tyler Hammons responds: *“Correct. Item 7, I spoke with the state fire marshal's office. We have to approve 7 and approve 8, asking them*

for the authority to do this. They will send us an agreement in about 30 days. If we don't receive a letter from number 8, number 7 is irrelevant. So, there will be at least one more vote from this board. But we have to show an initial step of adopting the Uniform Building Code Commission rules verbatim and then ask the state fire marshal to send us their contract. Once we have that contract, we will send it back to them for approval." Commissioner Doke asked: *"Will there be any cost to the county or anything?"* John Tyler Hammons responds: *"There'll be no cost to the county to do that."* The motion was unanimous.

8: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved the request for the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's Authority having jurisdiction AHJ letter. John Tyler Hammons explains: *"This is what we have to request. The state fire marshal sends us the letter to enforce the rules. We will ask they send us the letter, and we'll have it in about 30 days."* Commissioner Doke states: *"So I don't see a letter in here."* John Tyler Hammons responds: *"There's no letter. I will send them a letter with our minutes from today saying we are officially asking for it, and they will send it to us in 30 days."* There was no paperwork presented for signatures to support this motion. The motion was unanimous.

9: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved an Agreement with OKIE Safety Consulting to conduct plan reviews and inspections for Muskogee County. John Tyler Hammons explains: *"This is a subsidiary to items 7 and 8. OKIE Safety Consulting is a group out of Tulsa and office in Oklahoma City. They do inspection and permitting for counties that have received approval from the State Fire Marshals Office to do this work. It doesn't cost us anything unless we use them, which is to say an applicant will come to the county, pay the fee, and we'll then forward that fee on to OKIE Safety. They'll do the inspection and issue everything on behalf of the county, since the county will not employ its own inspectors. If the state fire marshal does grant us the authority, we will have to adopt a fee schedule. They have their fee schedule in the contract, so I anticipate the county's fee schedule will be nearly identical to their fee schedule, because this will not cost the county any money. The applicant for service will pay the fee, and we'll forward that fee on to OKIE Safety."* The motion was unanimous.

10: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved to adopt a Resolution consenting to the issuance of indebtedness of up to \$43 million in sales tax revenue bonds by the Muskogee County Public Safety Authority. John Tyler Hammons explains: *"Mr. Chairman, members of the board, at its meeting last week, the Muskogee County Public Safety Authority voted to incur indebtedness of not to exceed \$43 million to fund the various public safety sales tax projects approved by the voters back in January. As a county beneficiary of the trust, the board of county commissioners must consent to the issuance of that debt. That debt is not a debt of the county, will never be a debt of the county, will never roll upon the ad valorem tax rolls. But the authority cannot issue any debt without the approval of the Board of County Commissioners."* Commissioner Doke asks: *"So we won't know any of the details of that indebtedness until we start to try to issue bonds or whatever. We won't know rates, terms, etc.?"* John Tyler Hammons responds: *"So the resolution before you consents to the issuance of up to \$43 million in debt, up to, I think, 5%. We won't know, obviously, it will not exceed either of those numbers. We are evaluating how much we need at present. We think it's probably; it's really not going to be \$43 million. That's the upper end. It's not going to be 5%. That's the upper end. But market conditions at the time of issuance will tell us how much we have to issue and what the interest rate will be."* Commissioner Doke asks: *"To be clear, the County is not issuing the debt? The actual Authority is?"* John Tyler Hammons responds: *"This debt is not an obligation of the County, never will be an obligation of the County. The county taxpayers are not reliable."* Commissioner Doke comments: *"Just as the Beneficiary, we have to consent."* The motion was unanimous.

11: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved a County Road Machinery and Equipment Revolving Fund Resolution for District 3 (CERF-100 form). Commissioner Doke explains: *“So this is the ODOT revolving fund that allows us, to lease equipment for a super low rate.”* The motion was unanimous.

12: Motion

Commissioner Payne made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved a Declaration of Surplus for District 3. Commissioner Payne explains: *“That is from my county barn. We are putting our old asphalt paver. We'll be selling it, but we need to get it off our inventory in order to do so. We bought a new one. Just for the record, I didn't know we had them all on this week. There are other items that are going too. Truth of the matter is we're selling some things in order to pay for the new paver that we're not using anymore. There's also a 1995 international dump truck and a 2016, no it's not a 2016, it's an old Schwartz 45-foot equipment trailer. Just wanted that to be part of the record. We've got several more coming through.”* The motion was unanimous.

13: Motion

Commissioner Hyslop made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Payne, approved an Invoice from Five Star Demolition for the demolition of 429 Columbus Street in Muskogee. Commissioner Payne explains: *“That is a five-star in keeping with the grant that the County received is invoicing us every time he finishes a particular task or building in this case and that's the last one that he finished and that is the bill for it. Just for information, that was a \$280,000 grant that the County received. With the help of Jerri Stoudemire and that grant is extinguished at this time. It's all been spent. So, this should be the last thing we see on that.”* Commissioner Doke asks: *“And this is related to the Public Safety?”* Commissioner Doke responds: *“It is, yes.”* The motion was unanimous.

BIDS:

Bid 2025-037 – Trash Services

All bids were closed at 9:00 a.m. and it was announced at 9:02 a.m.

County Clerk, Polly Irving, announced that she could not provide a Proof of Publication at this time and requests the Commissioners to place the bid back on next weeks agenda.

Commissioner Doke stated that the bids are closed and will open those bids next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by Commissioner Payne and seconded by Commissioner Hyslop, approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 a.m. The motion was unanimous.