



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Complex
17675 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mary Baker Shaw, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke

Phone: 1-800-995-9465,

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Monday, June 10, 2019

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shaw called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Dobbins gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 17 - Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Mary Baker Shaw; Mike Dobbins; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Shambaugh; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez and Canaan Duncan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the May 13th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Dr. Gary Lang reported in the absence of Mr. Valliere. He gave an update from the report provided including a correction with the outpatient numbers. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the waiting list for an audiology appointment. He inquired if a patient outside of the Claremore area go to the Claremore clinic if the wait time for an appointment is shorter. Councilor Buzzard requested clarification on the numbers given. He requested the additional numbers given today could also be included in the monthly report. Councilor Shaw inquired if the areas where the numbers are down if they have been compared to years past. She requested clarification on the VA acute care referred to on the report.

Cherokee Nation Health Services - Dr. Steve Jones

Dr. Jones gave highlights from the report provided then offered to answer questions. Councilor Walkingstick commented on the ambulance numbers reported. He inquired about the EMS long shifts. Councilor Lay inquired if the panel report pertaining to the nurse incident at Hastings has been finalized and when it would be submitted to the Council. He requested more ambulatory services from the Cherokee Nation in the Northern areas. Councilor Crittenden inquired about being able to send audiology patients to the Claremore clinic. He requested an update on the Stilwell clinic renovations. Councilor Crittenden shared some concerning information reportedly said by an official at the Muskogee Clinic about Dr. Jones and the Council. Councilor Buzzard shared the request for additional ambulance services in his area. He requested reconsideration for the clinic storm shelter in Jay to be open for the citizens. He requested a review of the pharmacy numbers from Jay compared to the other clinics. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about portable oxygen for elders. Councilor Dobbins commented on the vacancy rates referred to on page 9 of the report. Councilor Smith inquired if we own or lease the ambulances. Councilor Warner requested a breakdown of cost for the ambulance to transport. Chair Shaw inquired if we were offering free Ipads if you sign up of marketplace insurance. She requested additional information on marketplace insurance. She applauded the Health Department's effort as this is the second month in a row where she hasn't received any provider complaints. She inquired about the Three Rivers Clinic being shut down during the flooding. She inquired about the timeline for the new Tahlequah Clinic opening.

Cherokee Nation Home Health &
Cherokee Nation Hospice - April Moore

Ms. Moore gave highlights from the report provided. She provided an update from discussion last month in regard to expanding services and also providing coverage in areas not already included in their service area. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the structure of the Home Health and Hospice programs. Councilor Anglen inquired if this program used to be in Claremore. Councilor Warner inquired what the purchase amount of an existing agency included. Chair Shaw inquired about the number of requests monthly of patients who are covered versus those who aren't. She inquired what it would do to the budget if they included the non-covered. She asked about their funding sources. Councilor Crittenden inquired why they are Cherokee Nation Hospice and Cherokee Nation Home Health if they receive no funding from the Cherokee Nation. Councilor Walkingstick inquired if there is a program that provides assistance to a patient while the family member is at work. Councilor Byrd commended Ms. Moore, her position and the efforts of the agency. He requested numbers be provided which include the needs, how many are turned away and how many are assisted to be able to consider providing any financial assistance during the budget hearing process. Councilor Warner requested the information include the average daily cost. Councilor Buzzard voiced concern for not being able to assist those who are not insured. Councilor Austin inquired about the reason for the service if the Cherokee Nation doesn't fund nor profit and the Cherokee people aren't provided with extra services. Councilor Buzzard recalled the Tahlequah PACE site was a pilot with the intention of have a total of eight locations.

PACE - Thelma Pittman

Ms. Pittman was unable to attend but will report next month. A written report has been provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 2:02 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Chrissi Nimmo
Steve Jones
Taryn King*

*Steve Carey
Bill John Baker*

*Roger Montgomery
Todd Enlow*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*April Moore
Gary Land*

*Teddy Snell
Deb Reed*

Tahlina Nofire Blakestad