



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

*Johnny Jack Kidwell, Chair  
Kevin Easley, Jr., Co-Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke  
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,  
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Thursday, September 25, 2025

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

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

### INVOCATION

Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

*Councilor Coates attended remotely.*

**Present** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Daniel Mead

*Marshal Mead took a moment to brag on the Marshals, attending the Warrior Flight, who assisted a baby ceasing until the emergency medical team could arrive. He reported on the patrolling efforts. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

*Ms. Patien Qualls offered to take questions on behalf of the Attorney General.*

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Ms. Terrapin offered to answer questions from her report.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Swepston gave highlights from the report then offered to answer any questions. Councilor Deere requested statistics on the rebate for the At Large citizens along with a timeline of getting the rebate.*

Gaming Commission - Audra Imhoff

*Ms. Imhoff offered to answer questions from the report. She stated the next board meeting is scheduled for October 17th at 9:30. She gave appreciation to Councilor Grass for attending the last meeting.*

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

*Ms. Hendricks reported they continue to attend community meetings. She reported the terminations have increased due to the interns leaving. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Legg inquired when the open positions for the Sallisaw childcare center would be online.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### AMEND THE AGENDA

**Councilor Sam moved to amend the agenda to include items 5 - 11 passed out of committees earlier today and in the month. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

1.     [25-099](#)     A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND TO APPOINT THE TRIBAL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES  
  
          **Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
2.     [25-101](#)     A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DANIEL MEAD AS MARSHAL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION  
  
          **Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. Mr. Mead was given the opportunity to speak to the Council. The motion to approve carried.**
3.     [TMP-423](#)     DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - THE SCHEDULING OF CULTURE COMMITTEE  
  
          **Councilor Poindexter moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. As Culture Committee Chair, Councilor Poindexter, commented about the growth in the cultural activities and the reopening of the Heritage Center there is a need for the Culture Committee to meet monthly instead of every**

other month. Following discussion the motion passed for the Culture Committee to meet every month at 11:00 a.m. on Council day.

4. [TMP-424](#)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – TRIBAL COUNCIL WORK GROUP CREATION AND MEMBER SELECTION:

*Councilor Easley made a motion to allow discussion. Councilor Sam seconded the motion. Chair Kidwell gave an overview of the need for each work group and commented there would need to be less than 8 members to each work group. A point of contact would need to be created for each work group.*

**1. Election Code Revision Work Group:**

Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.

**Members:** Councilors Sam, Tehee, Easley, Grant, Blackfox-Qualls, Deere, McGeady, and Coates.

The motion carried. This Work Group will report back to the Rules Committee.

**2. Council House Construction Work Group:**

Councilor Callison moved to approve. Councilor Sam seconded the motion.

**Members:** Councilors Sam, Hall, Grass, Poindexter, Hughes, Shotpouch, Patzkowski, and Callison

The motion carried. This Work Group will report to Resources Committee.

**3. Creation of Tribal Council Seal Work Group:**

Councilor Legg moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion.

**Members:** Councilors Kidwell, Blackfox-Qualls, Tehee, Hall, Grass, Legg, Poindexter and Patzkowski

The motion carried. This Work Group will report to Culture Committee

Councilor Legg inquired if non members were able to make recommendations and give ideas to the work groups.

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

5. [25-093](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS FUND ACT - 2025 AMENDMENTS

**Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

## RESOURCE COMMITTEE

6. [25-094](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO ADD AN OPTION TO RENEW TO BUSINESS LEASE NO. G08-3492 TO THE TENKILLER UTILITIES AUTHORITY (TUA) ON LAND HELD IN TRUST FOR CHEROKEE NATION

**Councilor Hall moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

7. [25-095](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE TRIBAL TRUST LAND IN THE CHEROKEE NATION INDUSTRIAL PARK TO THE CHERRY TREE RURAL WATER DISTRICT, INC.
- Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
8. [25-096](#) CHEROKEE NATION HISTORIC CEMETERIES PRESERVATION ACT
- Co-Chair Easley moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. Councilor Callison requested an overview of the changes. The motion to approve carried with the following roll call vote:**
- Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.
9. [25-097](#) CHEROKEE NATION TRAIL SYSTEM ACT
- Councilor McGeady moved to approve. Councilor Easley seconded the motion. Chief Hoskin gave comments on the proposed legislation. The motion to approve carried with the following roll call vote:**
- Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

10. [25-098](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SUPPORT FOR JOE DEERE AS CANDIDATE FOR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS
- Councilor Legg moved to approve. Councilor Callison seconded the motion. Councilor Deere commented on the work being done at NCAI. The motion to approve carried.**

#### CULTURE COMMITTEE

11. [25-100](#) THE CHEROKEE HERITAGE CENTER ACT OF 2020 – 2025 AMENDMENTS
- Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. Councilor Tehee recognized the board members in attendance. Chair Kidwell gave the board an opportunity to speak. The motion to approve carried with the following roll call vote:**
- Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor McGeady recognized Cherokee Citizen Bill Davis in attendance.*

*Councilor Deere announced the 102nd birthday of Paul Dudley a Cherokee Warrior.*

*Co-Chair Easley announced a combined district community meeting on October 14th at Will Rogers Downs with Councilors McGeady, Deere, Callison and himself.*

*Councilor Poindexter announced a community meeting next Tuesday at Chewey Community Building.*

*Councilor Legg commented on the great work by the Cherokee Nation Emergency Management Team for thier efforts following the storm damage in Sallisaw.*

## ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:54 p.m.**

## STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Joe Rainwater</i>	<i>Daniel Mead</i>	<i>Chuck Hoskin Jr.</i>
<i>Brooke Neff</i>	<i>Samantha Hendricks</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>
<i>Paiten Qualls</i>	<i>Audra Imhoff</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>
<i>Canaan Duncan</i>		

## VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Teddye Snell</i>	<i>John Young</i>	<i>Molly Jarvis</i>
<i>Travis Owens</i>	<i>Christie Neoff</i>	<i>Brenda Partain</i>
<i>Susan Plumb</i>		