



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

1:00 PM

Legislative Colnference Room

Call To Order

Chair Crittenden called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Invocation

Councilor Keener gave the invocation.

Roll Call

Present 10 - Bill John Baker; Audra Smoke-Conner; S. Joe Crittenden; Jackie Bob Martin; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; John F. Keener; Cara Cowan Watts; Buel Anglen and Jack D. Baker

Absent 2 - Phyllis Yargee and Meredith Frailey

Late Arrival 3 - Linda Hughes-O'Leary; Melvina Shotpouch and Taylor Keen

Approval of Minutes

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17th regular session. Councilor Jack D. Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports

Claremore Service Unit:

Jim Cussen

: Vicki Snell reported housekeeping is moving in this week and they will vacate space by the emergency room and they will be redesigning the space to enhance the emergency room and they will also be looking at safety issues to make it more patient and customer friendly. They are transitioning and continuing to work on closing out as much of the business as they can before they transition to their new finance system and the go live date is October 15th. They have a new contract specialist, Yolanda Raina, that has joined their organization and this is the first position of its kind for Claremore. She will be handling all the contracts and procurement activities for their service unit. They are completing their second room of digital radiography, it is being leased from GE and it should be up and running by June 1st. They have set aside third party dollars and have allocated the funds to purchase an automated pharmacy system. It will give a faster turn around for prescriptions and also because insurance companies are denying their point of service claim because they don't dispense thirty days. CHS has a new manager, Teresa Payne, and this year they have submitted twenty-two catastrophic cases for possible additional funding for high cost/high dollar cases. Councilor Cara Cowan Watts has been nominated as the Chairperson of their Advisory Board.

Hastings Indian Medical Center:

Ed McLemore

Dr. Farris reported on the PT and Diabetic Building. She also gave a brief update on recruitment of vacancies. Collections for the month of April were \$2,928,729 dollars. The FY 2007 acquisition deadlines are being issued on an agency-wide basis due to the agency's conversion to the new Unified Financial Management System (UFMS) application. In order to complete the UFMS conversion, all requirements for FY 07 must be awarded and obligated by August 31, 2007.

Cherokee Nation Health Services:

Melissa Gower

Melissa Gower reported Cherokee Health Partners performed 128 procedures for a net gain of \$53,466 in the month of April. They have successfully recruited and hired a Medical Director for the PACE program who is a geriatrician. They continue to work with Cherokee Nation Businesses on health business development ideas and continuing meeting with Oklahoma University on the development of the Diabetes and Cancer Program. May 21st through the 25th is National EMS week. They will be having a luncheon for the staff on Monday, May 21st. For the month of April they scanned over 200,000 documents and they continue to do that on a regular basis to get all of their previous documents into electronic format. She gave construction project and recruitment updates on the Sallisaw, Nowata, and Muskogee Clinics. They have held two community screenings for the Diabetes Prevention Program, one at Cave Springs and the other at Dahlenegah with 42 people participating. They have met with the Housing Authority to implement the Diabetes Prevention Program there and also the Tahlequah CNI offices are interested in implementing the program. The dieticians have weight management classes going with 73 participants. They have reviewed and approved two IRB submittals for the month of April. The Wings program has over 1300 active members. The Tobacco Control and Prevention Program have six courses with 31 participants for smoking cessation. Public Health Nursing made 175 home visits for the month. Jack Brown currently has a census of 19 students. The Behavioral Health staff saw almost 4900 patients. They entered into a partnership with Career Services for a Dental Assistant Training Program with the Vo-Tech. The dental assistant training program will complete their internships on May 10th. They are scheduled to graduate on May 17th at 1:00 in the Indian Capital Vo-Tech. The next class is scheduled to June 18th and run through November 15th. Cherokee Nation had several employees who won pier recognition awards from the Oklahoma City Area and the awards ceremony is scheduled for July. Kim Osborn at the Muskogee Clinic won the Merit Award. Contract Health Services for the month of April processed 1490 referrals, approved 1302 and denied 188. Revenue is looking good for the year and if they stay on the projections they will increase their revenue for this fiscal year. She also included in the packets a Health Policy Update.

Old Business

None.

New Business

1. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE THE FUNDING FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION CANCER REGISTRY

Councilor Martin moved for approval. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. ADDITIONAL CONTRACT HEALTH FUNDING (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Councilor Jack D. Baker stated that he asked Melissa Gower to go through and list her needs for Contract Health for this fiscal year. Melissa Gower provided a handout of the FY 07 funding needs for Contract Health Services and stated this is only a response to the request she got, which was to provide information on the FY 07 Contract Health needs. Contract Health Medical needs is \$2,000,000. The additional \$2,000,000 for FY 07 would be used for such items as; expanded ophthalmology services, orthopedics (including surgeries and radiology procedures, i.e., MRI), back and neck pain; diagnostic testing; and emergency room call INS. Contract Health Services Eyeglasses needs for \$50,000. Contract Health Services Dental needs is \$150,000. The additional \$150,000 would be used to allow for more immediate referral of head start children from screenings to pediatric dentistry; wisdom teeth procedures to oral surgeons; and biopsies of lesions and follow up treatment.

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to approve the additional \$2,200,000 for Contract Health needs for this fiscal year. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Councilor Bill John Baker offered a friendly amendment to raise the amount of eyeglasses to \$250,000 and to include caps and dentures in the dental needs and raise that amount to \$250,000 making the total \$2.5 million dollars. Councilor Jack D. Baker accepted the friendly amendment and Councilor Anglen seconded the friendly amendment. Motion carried and this item will be forwarded to the Executive & Finance meeting.

Announcements

Next months meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 12th, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Councilman Martin moved for adjournment. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

Melissa Gower Tammy Marshal Tom Elkins

VISITORS PRESENT:

Charles Dry Dr. Farris Vicki Snell

APPROVAL / DISTRIBUTION:

Minutes submitted by: Gayle Miller, Recording Secreatry

Motion to approve minutes made by: _____

Minutes attested and concurred by: _____

Date: _____