



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,
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Monday, December 15, 2025

4:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kidwell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Callison gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

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

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Daniel Mead

Marshal Mead offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

Attorney General Harsha provided both background and an update on the hunting and fishing litigation. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Coates inquired about the relationship between water rights and wildlife and if it created a precedence. Councilor Deere inquired about our juvenile courts and the number of cases. Councilor Shotpouch inquired if there have been any hunting and fishing citations given. Councilor Tehee requested additional information, if known, on the rider attached to the defense bill for Lumbee Tribe recognition.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin offered to answer questions from the report that has just been emailed.

Tax Commission - Sharon Slepston

Ms. Slepston gave report highlights and comparison statistics from the previous year. She offered to answer any questions. Chair Kidwell requested the statistics on the At Large car tags.

Gaming Commission - Audra Imhoff

Ms. Imhoff reported that the OMES conducted their inspection and audit of all casinos, we are in compliance and no findings were reported. She offered to answer questions from the report.

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

Ms. Hendricks provided some highlights from the report then offered to answer any questions. Councilor Callison inquired if the "How to Apply" referred to in the report can be shared on social media.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Hall moved to amend the agenda to include two items passed out of Resource Committee earlier today. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

25-112 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING LITIGATION IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

Councilor Hall moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried along with the request to forward to Council this evening.

25-113 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN AGRICULTURE FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

Councilor Hughes moved to approve. Councilor Easley seconded the motion. Councilor Callison requested to be added as a sponsor. The motion to approve carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Deere gave an update on the Lumbee Tribe Fairness Bill that is attached to the Defense Bill. He stated they do meet the requirements of NCAI. The Eastern

Band of Cherokee Indians is at Congress today where the vote will take place. Councilor Callison inquired which Congressman attached it to the Defense Bill.

Chair Kidwell announced Brooke Neff just received her Master Degree from the University of Oklahoma. He also requested prayers for Deputy Speaker Easley's grandma who is ill.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Easley seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:31 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Samantha Hendricks
Shella Bowlin
Daniel Mead
Brooke Neff*

*Brandon Scott
Gwen Terrapin
Chad Harsha
Michael Lynn*

*Sharon Swepston
Audra Imhoff
Canaan Duncan*

VISITORS PRESENT:

John Young Todd Enlow