

**MINUTES OF
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER:

Speaker Frailey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers, W.W. Keeler Complex.

INVOCATION:

Councilor Fishinghawk gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Shelli Brittain, Legal and Legislative Coordinator gave roll call. The following members were present:

Buel Anglen	Bill John Baker	Jack D. Baker
Harley Buzzard	Julia Coates	Bradley Cobb
Joe Crittenden	Jodie Fishinghawk	Meredith Frailey
Janelle Fullbright	Don Garvin	Chuck Hoskin, Jr.
Tina Glory-Jordan	Curtis Snell	Chris Soap
David Thornton	Cara Cowan Watts	

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Councilor Buzzard made a motion to amend the agenda. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Councilor Bill John Baker inquired as to the purpose. Councilor Buzzard made a motion to table item 1 under old business. Speaker Frailey inquired if this is the purpose for amending the agenda. Councilor Buzzard agreed. Motion carried with Councilor Soap opposed. Councilor Buzzard made a motion to amend the agenda to include in toto the following:

- 1) A Resolution Authorizing the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to Revise and Update the Cherokee Nation's Inventory of Indian Reservation Roads
- 2) A Resolution for Access & Utility Easements and Service Line Agreements Over, Across, in and Upon U.S.A. in Trust Land for the Cherokee Nation in Rogers County Oklahoma A. K. A. Cherokee Casino Catoosa Property
- 3) A Resolution Authorizing Approval of Land Assignment to Tibbs Family Trust for One Acre, Known as Sunset Gardens (Tibbs) Cemetery, and Quit Claim Deed to Record Owners of Property not Containing the Cemetery.

Councilor Garvin seconded the motion to amend the agenda to include these 3 items. Councilor Anglen inquired if these items would be 6, 7, and 8 under new business. Both Speaker Frailey and Councilor Buzzard agreed. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilor Jack Baker moved to approve the minutes of the February 11th Regular Session. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS:

Chief Chad Smith recognized the Cherokee's lost over the last month as Susan Blackbird, Lucinda Backwater, Lizzie Adair, Don Guy, James Fishinghawk, Author Keener, Nannie Carter, Pansy Crawford, Jerry Crawford, Jess Tidwell, and Eddie Pittman. He requested a moment of silence to pay respect to members and friends who have passed this last month. Chief Smith honored two Veterans this month as Tom Felix Rider and Wilson Vann. He announced the Three Rivers Health Clinic in Muskogee and the Will Rogers health center in Nowata are both open. Last week nearly a hundred school districts in Northeastern Oklahoma received a total of more than \$2.8ml in Cherokee car tag revenues. Over a period of five years the Cherokee Nation has contributed more than \$13ml to school districts. The Health Department's Cancer Program hosted a cancer summit in Tulsa last week. A highlight of one of the presentations was a panel of cancer survivors who had received help from some of the Cherokee Nation's services. There were over 250 in attendance. He gave appreciation for the employees of the cancer program for all of their hard work. He announced cancer survivors were also acknowledged at the Sequoyah and Keys basketball game. The Cherokee Nation Community Services held a training workshop for almost 100 participants from 30 different community organizations. The workshops were to help the organizations become better organized and work effectively to better serve their communities. Chief Smith gave congratulations to both Sequoyah basketball teams for winning silver at the State playoffs. The girls came up three points short of their fourth straight state championship. He read an article from an Oklahoma City Newspaper with the caption "Showing why they are Oklahoma's team". He stated the largest newspaper in Oklahoma calling Sequoyah the State's basketball team speaks of the leadership at Sequoyah as well as the guidance and support provided by the Council. Nine years ago this was known as a school of last resort and now is known as the school of first choice. The Marshals raised almost \$6,000 for the special Olympics by plunging into the Illinois river during the polar bear plunge event held last Saturday. The Cherokee Nation Marshals were honored by being the law enforcement group raising the most money. The Cherokee Nation has partnered with Tulsa's Junior Diabetes Organization to host a gala benefit on April 28th in Tulsa. He extended an invitation to all of those who wished to show support. He requested everyone wish a happy birthday to Keith Danner a Cherokee Nation employee currently serving in Iraq.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (None Pending)

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Housing Authority: David Southerland

Mr. David Southerland announced the board meeting is scheduled for one week from Tuesday on the 18th at 5:30 p.m. at the Alene Hogner Administration Building Conference room. Last month the board approved several items related to the housing transition. They approved a four week payment to any employee who chooses to voluntarily separate from the Housing Authority. There have been eight employees choose this option. The board also approved a four week recruitment incentive to any employee that accepts a non comparable job offer. There have been an approximate 25 employees accept a non comparable job offer. They currently have four employees that do not have an offer and he expressed hope that would change this week. They have had two job fairs with CNE, CNI and Cherokee Nation. May 1st is the official date of transfer for employees. The Community Shield Program premium renewals went into effect the first day of March. The annual premium went up \$3.00 for both a stick built home and a mobile home. There are 2200 families participating in the Community Shield program.

Cherokee Nation Enterprises: David Stewart

Mr. David Stewart announced January was a good month however the numbers are slightly below budget and slightly behind last year. The dividends to the Cherokee Nation were \$2.4ml and the combined sales tax and excise tax was \$86,000. He announced they are about to top out West Siloam with the steel. He stated they continue to see price pressure on all of the construction projects. The current employee count is at an approximate 3300 with 71% Native American, and 58% Cherokee. They have kicked off the new tourism website cherokeetourismok.com. The employees of CNE contributed 14 bags of goods for the PACE program.

Councilman Thornton requested a report be given in committee regarding the proposed federal gaming rules. Mr. Stewart stated he would provide a report at the Executive and Finance Committee this month.

Cherokee Nation Industries: Dennis McLemore

Mr. McLemore reported monthly sales as of February 2008 are \$6.8ml with total sales year to date at \$33ml. This is approximately 30% less than last year. Their local employment remains at 290 which is 82% Cherokee. CNI's next board meeting will be held March 31st in the Tulsa facility.

Cherokee Nation Businesses, Inc: Brad Carson

No one present to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

A Resolution for the Commission of a Comprehensive and Independent Environmental Study of the Cherokee Nation Landfill in Adair County/R#

Tabled to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A Resolution Authorizing the Department of Children, Youth and Family Services to Submit an Application for Youth Shelter Services to the U.S. Family and Youth Services Bureau, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program/R#17-08

Councilor Buzzard moved for its approval. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

A Resolution Authorizing the Department of Children, Youth and Family Services to Submit an Application to the U. S. Department of Health Services Family Violence Prevention and Services Program for Victims of Family Violence/R#18-08

Councilor Buzzard moved for its approval. Councilor Cobb seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

A Resolution Approving Articles of Incorporation of Cherokee Nation Community Association Corporation/R#19-08

Councilor Coates moved for its approval. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Native Americans/R#20-08

Councilor Coates moved for its approval. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

An Act Amending Legislative Act #37-07 Authorizing the Comprehensive Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 – Mod 5; and Declaring an Emergency/LA#04-08

Councilor Jack Baker announced this modification increases the budget approximately \$2ml to reduce it to \$437ml for the year. This is due primarily to the adjustment in the tobacco sur-tax and the Housing Authority. This does include an increase of \$400,000 for a new roof at the Jay clinic as well as \$317,000 for tribal bridge projects. Councilor Jack Baker moved for the approval. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried by acclamation.

A Resolution Authorizing the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BLA) to Revise and Update the Cherokee Nation's Inventory of Indian Reservation Roads/R#21-08

Councilor Buzzard moved for its approval. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

A Resolution for Access & Utility Easements and Service Line Agreements Over, Across, in and Upon U.S.A. in Trust Land for the Cherokee Nation in Rogers County Oklahoma A. K. A. Cherokee Casino Catoosa Property/R#22-08

Councilor Buzzard moved for its approval. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

A Resolution Authorizing Approval of Land Assignment to Tibbs Family Trust for One Acre, Known as Sunset Gardens (Tibbs) Cemetery, and Quit Claim Deed to Record Owners of Property not Containing the Cemetery/R#23-08

Councilor Buzzard moved for its approval. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion for approval passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Youth Tribal Councilor, Jason Lowe, from the Three Rivers District announced the Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council is hosting a benefit pow wow at Sequoyah High School in the old gym beginning at 2:00 p.m. on the 29th of March.

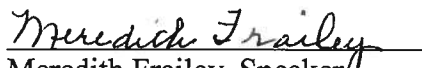
Councilor Snell announced the Delaware County Inter Tribal Youth Council will host their 8th annual benefit pow wow on the 4th of April at the Jay High School.

Councilor Cowan Watts announced the Eastern Band of Cherokee's and the Cherokee Nation will hold a joint council meeting on the 9th of April at the Cherokee Casino in Catoosa. The meeting will be video streamed however everyone is welcome to attend.

Councilor Cowan Watts further announced the Women's Conference is April 19th from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. with former Chief Mankiller moderating and First Lady Bobbie Gail Smith is the Chairperson. The Cherokee Women's Grassroots Leadership Group has been meeting for the last three years and would appreciate your participating. RSVP is requested by the 11th of April.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business presented, Councilor Bill John Baker moved for adjournment. The next regular Council meeting will be held on March 10th, 6:00 p.m. at the W.W. Keeler Complex.


Meredith Frailey, Speaker
Council of the Cherokee Nation