

**EDUCATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

May 13, 2008

1:05 P.M.

STANDING COMMITTEE: Education & Culture Committee

COMMITTEE PRESIDED BY: Julia Coates, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe Crittenden

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Neil Morton	Dr. Gloria Sly	Rita Bunch
Kim Carroll	Shelley Butler-Allen	Robert Girty
Jeff Ketcher	Nita Wilson	Jennifer Piegon
Gina Stanley		

VISITORS:

Jim Ketcher Paul Pinkerton

QUORUM ESTABLISHED: Yes

LEGISLATION/RESOLUTION: Yes

MINUTES: See Attached

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**May 13, 2008
1:05 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / ROLL CALL:

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Councilor Hoskin gave the invocation. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilor Anglen moved for the approval of the April 15th regular session. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc.Ed: Ms. Kim Carroll reported in the absence of Diane Kelley. Councilor Hoskin inquired when the deadline is for the Summer Youth Job Program. Ms. Carroll stated she didn't know, but they would still continue to take applications.

Executive Director's Report: Dr. Neil Morton announced written reports have been provided and offered to answer any questions. He stated they are increasing their contacts with Public Schools, especially those in Cherokee Communities due to Legislative Funding. They are continuing their efforts in making contact and establishing open lines where they can help where they can. Councilor Buzzard questioned if he's heard any discussion about the bus routes. Mr. Morton stated some bus routes may be reduced. It is a critical factor due to isolation. In the rural areas, there might be a problem.

Headstart: Ms. Verna Thompson stated their review has come and gone. They won't know the outcome for about 3 months. Ms. Rita Bunch stated it was an outstanding program.

JOM: Dr. Shelley Butler-Allen provided copies of their written report. Councilor Thornton questioned how the Federal Aide stands on the JOM. Ms. Butler-Allen stated they have strong lobbying efforts with the National JOM committee and schools. They are doing a survey at each school. Councilor Thornton questioned if the Tribal Council could do anything to help. Ms. Butler-Allen stated a letter writing campaign would be helpful. Councilor Thornton questioned if they should write the letters as individuals. Ms. Butler-Allen stated yes. Councilor Buzzard questioned about the JOM program in the school system. He questioned how effective is it with the parent community vs. the school JOM. Dr. Butler-Allen stated it works better in schools. It is a community based and is actively engaged. Councilor Hoskin inquired about the JOM being zeroed out in June as a markup. Dr. Butler-Allen stated she needs to do more research. Councilor Thornton inquired about the funding amount per school. Dr. Butler-Allen stated they do a tracking sheet allocated to each school. Councilor Thornton stated he would like a copy. Councilor Hoskin questioned who from Oklahoma is on the JOM Committee. Councilor Thornton questioned what is going to take to keep this program alive. He inquired if the Nation helps substitute the funding. Dr. Butler-Allen stated it is reducing 40% total elimination. The JOM allocation is 1.63 million dollars

and it happens in different part of the Nation. Some schools supplement some money for Indian Education Programs.

Sequoyah High School: Ms. Gina Stanley announced written reports have been provided. She stated they are in the process of interviewing a coach's position to the coach the girls' basketball. Also, she stated they have Junior, Shane Boyd, to attend the U.S. Naval AC Program. She announced Graduation is Friday night. She requests the Tribal Council to email if they are unable to attend. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the 3 proposals for the SBC Proposal. Ms. Stanley stated it is a facilities type, robotics program with NSU. It is the ¼ of the teacher's salary and offering an upper level Science. The 3rd one is a funding technology and public relations. Councilor Thornton commended on the 8 Gates Scholarship Award winners. Ms. Stanley stated it is highly known for academic.

Director's Report: Dr. Sly stated she would be happy to answer any questions. Dr. Sly provided the estimate for the historical markers as requested. Chair Coates inquired if the committee wished to discuss this old business item now or wait and follow the agenda. Councilor Cowan Watts stated she would like to make a motion in regard to the grave markers at this time if possible. Chair Coates agreed. Councilor Cowan Watts requested confirmation that there are 11 chiefs from John Ross to statehood. Dr. Sly confirmed there are 11 former chiefs. She inquired if the information containing the former chief's name and burial location was contained in the packets. Councilor Cowan Watts stated there are 13 including Milam and Keeler. She motioned to move \$30,000 to Executive and Finance Committee from un-appropriated general funds for Chief's markers. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Councilor Jack Baker inquired if this motion included both the grave marker and the historical marker. Councilor Cowan Watts stated the motion was just for the grave markers. She amended her motion to \$50,000 to include the historical markers. Councilor Garvin accepted the amendment. Councilor Jack Baker suggested a ceremony at each cemetery for each Chief in their honor. Councilors Cowan Watts and Garvin accepted as a friendly amendment. Chair Coates restated the motion as moving \$50,000 to Executive and Finance committee as part of the budget modification for grave markers for each chief, historical marker at each cemetery and a ceremony honoring each chief. Motion carried. Dr. Sly requested a couple of Council members to confer with during the process. Councilor Cowan Watts suggested the Chair and Co Chair.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Proposed Amendments to the School MVT Apportionment Boundaries.** Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to withdraw at this time. Motion carried.
2. **Chief's Grave Markers and Flag Status Update.** This item was considered during the Director's Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **A Resolution in Support of the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program at the University of California at Berkley.** Councilor Cowan Watts stated this is a move in the affirmative to acknowledge the work of the other tribes and how NAGPRA is being implemented nationally. She stated it would be a big statement for the second largest tribe to acknowledge the work of the smaller tribes in a

positive way. She stated this is an affirmation of an NCAI resolution already passed. Councilor Cowan Watts moved for the approval. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Neil Morton stated the deadline for the Higher Education Application will be June 13, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Cowan Watts moved for adjournment. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried at 1:37 p.m.

APPROVAL/DISTRIBUTION:

Minutes submitted by:

Robbi Girdner, Legislative Clerk
Shelli Brittain, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Motion to approve minutes made by:

Buel Anglen

Minutes attested and concurred by:

Julia Coates

Date:

6/17/08