



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker
Kevin Easley, Jr., Deputy Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
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Monday, February 9, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker of the Council

Speaker Kidwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 13 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Absent 4 - Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Uriah Grass and Kendra McGeady

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Hughes moved to approve. Secretary Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Warner delivered the State of the Nation Address while Chief Hoskin was on travel. He reported on the expanding of the Re-Entry Program through a portion of the Opioid Settlement funds. Through the Verna Thompson Act they have completed the sixth facility with the expansion of the Head Start facility in Salina. The Community Organization Report came in showing a strong need in grassroots and a need to expand those efforts. He expressed congratulations to the Natural Resources Group for acquiring additional watershed funding. Deputy Chief Warner spoke of the collaboration with the City of Tahlequah in regard to the newly dedicated ball fields and the building of the crisis shelter. Lastly he touched on the sadness of the loss of former Councilor and Justice, Troy Wayne Poteete. He requested a moment of silence.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief
 and
 S. Joe Crittenden, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Deputy Chief Warner and Secretary of Veteran Affairs Crittenden presented Charles Richard Carey with the Cherokee Medal of Patriotism.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett
Mr. Garrett wasn't available to report.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Rules Committee

- A. [26-001](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CYNTHIA MYERS AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH SERVICES, INC.
A motion was made by Councilor Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, seconded by Councilor Clifton Hughes, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried unaimously by Voice Vote

- B. [26-002](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT STOVER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH SERVICES, INC.
A motion was made by Councilor Ashley Grant , seconded by Councilor Codey Poindexter, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried unaimously by Voice Vote

- C. [26-008](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DEBRA PROCTOR AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION
A motion was made by Deputy Speaker Kevin Easley Jr., seconded by Councilor Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried unaimously by Voice Vote

- D. [26-005](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE CHEROKEE NATION'S INVENTORY OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

A motion was made by Councilor Lisa Hall, seconded by Councilor Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried unaimously by Voice Vote

Executive and Finance Committee

- E. [26-009](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #25-25 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - MOD. 2; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion was made by Councilor Callison, seconded by Councilor Hughes, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried by the following vote.

Yea: 13 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls;Lisa Hall;Daryl Legg;Codey Poindexter;Julia Coates;Candessa Tehee;Ashley Grant ;Joshua Sam;Clifton Hughes;Melvina Shotpouch;Danny Callison;Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

- F. [26-010](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #26-25 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - MOD. 4 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion was made by Councilor Sam, seconded by Councilor Hughes, that this matter be Approved . The motion carried by the following vote.

Yea: 13 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls;Lisa Hall;Daryl Legg;Codey Poindexter;Julia Coates;Candessa Tehee;Ashley Grant ;Joshua Sam;Clifton Hughes;Melvina Shotpouch;Danny Callison;Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilors expressed condolences for citizens who have passed over the last month.

Councilor Blackfox-Qualls invited everyone to a community meeting at the Locust Grove Elementary on February 23rd with Councilors Hughes, Callison and herself.

Councilor Grant invited everyone to a District 5 and District 13 community meeting on March 2nd in North Tulsa.

Speaker Kidwell announced Councilors Deere and Grass were at the NCAI Conference. He reminded everyone of these up coming events; February 12 - Cherokee Nation Agriculture Summit, February 12 - Cherokee Speakers Bureau, February 17 - Dewey Elder Nutrition Lunch and on February 17 - the Legislative Luncheon. He announced the swearing in of Deb Proctor will be immediately following the adjournment of this meeting. He introduced Joshua Newton as the new Tribal Council Senior Director of Communications.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Hughes moved to adjourn. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 6:29 p.m.**