



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Dora Patzkowski, Chair*  
*Danny Callison, Co-Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke*  
*Phone: 1-800-995-9465,*  
*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Thursday, October 30, 2025

4:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

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

### INVOCATION

Chair Patzkowski gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 13 - Mike Dobbins; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Ashley Grant; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Johnny Kidwell; Kevin Easley Jr.; Dora Patzkowski and Danny Callison

**Late Arrival** 5 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Uriah Grass; Candessa Tehee and Joshua Sam

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Co-Chair Callison moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Janees Taylor

*Ms. Taylor reported that in the middle of a lengthy federal government shutdown she is thankful for this Council passing the Cherokee Nation budget. She gave an update on the Cherokee Nation's status amidst the shutdown. She reported on a current issue of having to close a bank account due to fraudulent check draws. She urged the Council not to take pictures with the actual checks with the account number being shown. She offered to answer questions from the report.*

Cherokee Nation Businesses - Chuck Garrett

*Mr. Garrett announced they have wrapped up fiscal year 2025. He stated they made more than expected and out performed the budget proposal. He reported they are having to make tough decisions as two-thirds of their business is federal contracting. He commented on the current statistics around the country and in state in regard to job cuts and past due loans. Mr. Garrett commented on the impact of AI. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

*Mr. Hunter Palmer reported in the absence of Ms. Kelley. He gave highlights from the report and showed a picture of the Chili Cook off win. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

Commerce - Anna Knight

*Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

CONSENT ITEMS:

*No questions or concerns were voiced.*

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

ROADS

SPORTS TEAMS APPLICATIONS

LIVESTOCK PREMIUM SHOW APPLICATIONS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

- A.     [25-108](#)     AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #26-25 AUTHORIZING THE  
COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - MOD. 1 AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Co-Chair Callison moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.  
The motion carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 18 - Mike Dobbins; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Uriah Grass; Candessa Tehee; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Johnny Kidwell ; Kevin Easley Jr.; Dora Patzkowski and Danny Callison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor McGeady seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 4:23 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Janees Taylor  
Anna Knight*

*Hunter Palmer*

*Shella Bowlin*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*John Young  
Chuck Garrett*

*Ollie Starr*

*Debra West*