



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Janees Taylor, Chair

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

Thursday, May 27, 2021

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Taylor gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Councilor Coates attended remotely.

Present 17 - Janees Taylor; Joe Byrd; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mary Baker Shaw; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Canaan Duncan ; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Dobbins made a motion to approve the April minutes as submitted.
Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

REPORTS:

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Tralynna Scott

Ms. Scott announced they were informed last week the Cherokee Nation Finance Department won the Government Finance Officer Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for FY2020. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley reported they are applying for three grants. They have been doing a lot of recruitment fairs. They have two new classroom trailers and a digital display. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Deere inquired about an asphalt and concrete training program. Councilor Duncan requested clarification on

the lineman program. Chair Taylor acknowledged Rae Corp and all they have done for the Cherokee Nation.

Cherokee Nation Businesses - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett reported the April revenue numbers for gaming and hospitality were the second highest since the pandemic began. They lifted the mandatory masking requirement for guests starting May 14th. They have resumed retail gaming at the West Siloam Spring smoke shop and the Roland Travel Plaza. He provided an update on the no dancing and no smoking inquiries. He gave an update on the federal contracting businesses. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Byrd inquired about additional tenants in the Cherokee Plaza here in Tahlequah. Councilor Shaw requested they keep their eye out for industry possibilities for Adair and Cherokee counties. Mr. Garrett gave a brief update on the Arkansas gaming initiative.

Commerce - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight reported they are on track to make over \$3ml in loans this year. Chair Taylor commented on the VITA Program.

CONSENT ITEMS:

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

Councilor Duncan made a motion to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

A new list was provided. Mr. Reece announced additions for Councilor Deere for \$500 to the Native Arts Alliance and Speaker Byrd \$500 to all of the churches he normally gives to. Councilor Austin requested \$360 to the Claremore Veterans Home for a Phoenix newspaper rack and \$750 to the Collinsville 4H Club. Councilor Duncan requested \$250 to Oklahoma Indian All State. Councilor Duncan moved to approve as amended. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

A new list was provided. Councilor Buzzard requested \$5,000 to the Delaware County Sheriff's Office and Councilor Shambaugh requested \$5,000 to the District 13 DA's Office. Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Dobbins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ROADS

Councilor Duncan moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SPORTS TEAMS APPLICATIONS

Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

LIVESTOCK PREMIUM SHOW APPLICATIONS

No new livestock applications have been submitted.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

An updated list has been provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [21-053](#) A RESOLUTION EXPRESSLY DETAILING THE CHEROKEE NATION'S PLAN TO EXECUTE FUNDING UNDER THE U.S. TREASURY'S GUIDANCE FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Councilor Deere made a motion to approve with a suggestion of one payment instead of two. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion with a friendly amendment to approve the revised version of one payment of \$2,000 this year. He requested Chief address the revised version. Chief Hoskin stated the revised version provides \$2,000 to each citizen of the Cherokee Nation and leaves the application process open until June of 2022. He announced a Helpline for the Gadugi Portal 91-453-5001. Chief Hoskin reported a scrivener's error in the revised version, the date should be December 31st not the 21st. Councilor Byrd requested Mr. Jody Reece read the breakdown of how the \$1.8b will be spent. Councilor Duncan requested clarification on the motions. Councilor Shambaugh had questions of clarification on the distribution of the funds. Councilor Coates inquired about the date open and deadline. She inquired if the At Large would receive a mailer about the program. Councilor Shaw voiced concern for the Council not having involvement in how the funds are being spent, her constituents have stated they want to be part of how it is spent. Councilor Buzzard offered a friendly amendment to vote on the individual assistance portion separately. The friendly amendment by Councilor Buzzard was not accepted.

Following additional lengthy discussion Councilor Dobbins called for the question. The motion to approve the revised version with the corrected date carried with no opposition.
2. [21-054](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #16-20 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 - Mod. 5; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Austin made a motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. [21-055](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #17-20 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 - Mod. 8A; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Deere moved to approve substitute 8A. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. Mr. Reece gave clarification on the budget totals changing in 8A. Chair Taylor commented this budget also includes the \$34ml health budget

that was tabled at the last meeting. A line item list was provided explaining the health spending. Councilor Nofire requested clarification. Councilor Nofire requested to enter into executive session. Additional discussion was held and the motion to approve Mod. 8A carried with Councilors Nofire, Shaw and Buzzard opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Duncan made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:42 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>	<i>Anna Knight</i>	<i>Ami Sams</i>
<i>Tralynna Scott</i>	<i>Steve Jones</i>	<i>Sara Hill</i>
<i>Tina Glory Jordan</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Tim Brown</i>	<i>Teddye Snell</i>	<i>Randy Cloud</i>
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