



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

Joe Byrd, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
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Thursday, October 31, 2019

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Buzzard gave the invocation.

Chair Byrd requested everyone keep Councilor Smith in thier prayers.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; Canaan Duncan ; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin and Julia Coates

Absent 1 - E. O. "JR." Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Jordan moved to approve the September minutes as submitted.
Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Buhl announced officer Shambaugh is in New Mexico participating in a four-month para-military academy. He reported on an officer involved shooting Friday night in Twin Oaks. Councilor Duncan gave appreciation for the assistance during the flooding.

Office of the Attorney General - Chrissi Nimmo

Ms. Nimmo reported on Monday the AG's office accompanied the Chief to the tribal meeting with State AG Hunter where they listened to the State's proposal, this remains an ongoing issue. They filed a petition for rehearing on the UKB land into trust case. Nothing new to report on the Murphy case. In the 5th Circuit ICWA case, we won, and

now they have filed for rehearing. She provided an update on the opioid case. Councilor Coates inquired about the possible impact on the tribes and reservations in regard to the Murphy case. Chair Byrd commented the reunification of the tribes advertisements are great and need to continue long term.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported there are a total of thirty-seven requests to date, eighteen of those are FOIA and nineteen are GRA. Two of the FOIA requests are outstanding at this time. The website has been updated. She gave appreciation to the support given our Cherokees participating in the Indian National Rodeo.

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

Mr. Fears reported they are enjoying the normal working hours and once again being able to attend the community meetings. He reported on the status of the Election Commissions proposed election law revisions. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Crittenden gave appreciation for the research and consideration of a tag office in Stilwell.

Self-Governance - Karen Ketcher

Ms. Ketcher offered to answer questions from the report provided. She announced the 2020 reprogramming compact is signed. In the last Self-Governance Advisory Committee held IHS requested and received special authority to fully fund our health programs. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the roads at the Sequoyah High School being placed on the IRR System. He also asked about the pine trees in Kenwood and if they could be compacted with DOI. Chair Byrd requested they look at a joint venture with the BIE for the SHS campus.

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

Chief of Staff, Todd Enlow, introduced Ms. Janice Walters Purcell as the Executive Director of Gaming. Ms. Purcell offered to answer questions from the report submitted. She extended an invitation to the Gaming Commission Board meeting on the 8th of November at the Tahlequah Casino. Councilor Coates requested an organization chart of gaming more specifically where Ms. Purcell and Mr. Hummingbird are in the chart. Councilors had additional questions and concerns with the changes in positions. Councilor Buzzard commented all of the new positions with high salaries are concerning when we have citizens who need services and assistance and can't get help. Secretary of State, Tina Glory Jordan, requested Ms. Purcell's regulatory report to Rules committee be moved to the Executive & Finance committee where Mr. Garrett reports on the gaming operations.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton reported they are watching on a national level the consideration to increase the threshold amount for overtime. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [19-084](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN SPARKS AS MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION
Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.
2. [19-085](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF SHAWNA BAKER AS MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION
Councilor Duncan made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Following several questions the motion to approve carried with no opposition.
3. [19-087](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERTA GIBSON AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE SEQUOYAH HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Councilor Nofire moved to approve. Councilor Austin seconded the motion. All Councilors requested to be added as sponsors. The motion to approve carried.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Upon the request of Chair Byrd, Councilor Duncan moved to amend the agenda to move item 4 to the end of the agenda. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. [19-086](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF KRISTY STURGILL AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE PHOENIX
5. [19-088](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 44 CHAPTER 1 SECTION 6(F) OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED RELATING TO FRE AND INDEPENDENT PRESS FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION
Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried with no opposition.
6. [19-089](#) A LEGISLATIVE ACT ENTITLED "THE CHEROKEE NATION MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSING AND TAX CODE MODIFICATION OF 2019"
Councilor Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Following questions Councilor Austin offered a friendly amendment on page 4 to add "federally recognized" where it states and/or other tribes. The friendly was accepted. The motion carried as amended.
4. [19-086](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF KRISTY STURGILL AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE PHOENIX
Chair Byrd asked how many of the four nominees were present. Ms. Kristy Sturgill was present. Councilor Coates commented Mr. Graham Brewer planned to attend and had

an emergency but is available by phone. Ms. Sturgill gave an overview of her background and answered questions from the Council.

Chair Byrd requested to move forward to item #7 and come back to this once Mr. Brewer calls in.

- 7. [19-093](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE NATION TO INCUR INDEBTEDNESS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY TO OKLAHOMA STATE BANK

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. Secretary of Natural Resources, Chad Harsha, gave an overview for the loan requested. Following questions and the final agreement to be provided prior to the Council meeting the motion to approve carried with no opposition.

- 4. [19-086](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF KRISTY STURGILL AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE PHOENIX

Nominee Graham Brewer, via conference call, gave an overview of his background, apologized for not being able to be present, and answered questions from the Council. Councilor Coates inquired about the process for voting with four nominees for one position.

Councilor Austin made a motion to approve the nomination of Kristy Sturgill to the Editorial Board. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried by a show of hands 10 in favor and 6 opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dobbins announced the initial work group meeting of the election law reform will be on November 12th in the Tribal Services Conference room at 10:00 a.m. Chair Byrd inquired about the AG's recommended amendments. Election Commission Attorney, Harvey Chaffin, announced their recommendations have been submitted and are available for any questions.

Councilor Nofire recognized Cherokee citizen Chace Jones, A Junior PGA Nationalist.

Councilor Crittenden announced District 7 and 8 will have a joint community meeting on November 14th at the Stilwell High School cafeteria.

Mr. Enlow invited everyone to the grand opening celebration of the Cherokee Nation Out Patient Clinic on November 14th at 11:00.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Tina Glory Jordan</i>	<i>Chad Harsha</i>	<i>Shannon Buhl</i>
<i>Todd Enlow</i>	<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>
<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>	<i>Marcus Fears</i>

*Taralee Montgomery
Bryan Warner
Tralynna Scott*

*Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Brenda Fitzgerald*

*Nason Morton
Karen Ketcher*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Harvey Chaffin
Tim Brown
Roberta Gibson*

*Shawna Baker
Teddy Snell
Nate Young*

*Janice Purcell
John Sparks
Kristy Sturgill*