



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Candessa Tehee, Chair

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

Monday, September 11, 2023

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Blackfox-Qualls gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Committee membership was established.

Present 17 - Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joshua Sam; Mike Shambaugh; Melvina Shotpouch; Victoria Vazquez; Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Vocational Programs/Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley announced the construction on the training center begins today. Last Thursday they received notice of being awarded a new grant for over \$1ml. They are in the process of reviewing the Job Corp Center's five year plan. She invited all of the new Council Members to come tour the center. The recruitment is up at the Job Corp. She commented on the spotlights in the report. Chair Tehee inquired if there would be time for a tour of the Job Corp Center on Thursdays prior to meetings. Councilor Legg inquired about the possibility of lunch at the Job Corp Center. Councilor Easley inquired what programs are offered to rehabilitate prisoners.

Executive Director's Report - Mark Vance

Mr. Aaron Emberton reported in the absence of Mr. Vance. He announced the applications for the Remember the Removal bike ride close this Friday. October 10th at 10:00 a.m. is scheduled for the Youth Council inauguration in the Council Chambers. An update was given for the college scholarship applications. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Callison inquired how the riders are chosen. Councilor Vazquez requested invitations for the Council to attend the Youth Council inauguration.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson announced it is the 45th Anniversary for Head Start. They are near capacity in staff and announced both Barbara Littledave and Sandra Turner are celebrating forty-one years with Head Start. October 3rd is Head Start Awareness Day. She sadly announced they would not be able to host the Council for Thanksgiving lunch this year due to the fire. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls suggested creating a hashtag for everyone to tag their posts for Head Start Awareness Day.

Sequoyah High School - Rita Bunch

Principal Brown reported on the parent/teacher conferences scheduled. The construction project is nearing completion. They have a home game scheduled this Thursday. Chair Tehee commented we are very fortunate to be able to hire STEM teachers.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speaker Shambaugh announced the meetings for November would all be held on November 6th instead of the 13th to allow Councilors to attend NCAI. No objections were voiced.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Patzkowski moved to adjourn. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:31 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Justin Brown</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>
<i>Corey Bunch</i>	<i>Sandra Turner</i>	<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>
<i>Aaron Emberton</i>	<i>Barbara Littledave</i>	

VISITORS PRESENT:

John Young

Teddye Snell