



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Joe Byrd, Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain

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Monday, May 15, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd
Speaker of the Council

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Buzzard gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 17 - Joe Byrd; David Thornton, Sr. ; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Victoria Vazquez; Buel Anglen; Rex Jordan; David Walkingstick; Dick Lay; Bryan Warner ; Shawn Crittenden; Keith Austin and Wanda Hatfield

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve the April 10th regular session minutes. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Bill John Baker
Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Crittenden gave the State of the Nation as Chief Baker was in Washington testifying before the Congressional Appropriations Committee in regard to Indian Country's needs in the federal budget process. The Cherokee Nation hosted the Annual Volunteer Firefighters Ceremony last week where more than \$458,000 was awarded to one hundred and thirty-one fire departments within our jurisdictional area. Our economic impact on the State of Oklahoma was released last month. Eight Boys & Girls Clubs were given \$195,000 in Washington, Delaware, Sequoyah, Rogers, Nowata, Cherokee, Mayes and Adair Counties. A proclamation was signed supporting Million Women Mentors. He requested a moment of silence to recognize those Cherokees who we have lost over the last month.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

S. Joe Crittenden
Deputy Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Crittenden recognized Cherokee Veteran's Bernard Wesley Bennett, his daughter Sara Bennett and Ah-nee Christie.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Shawn Slaton

Speaker Byrd recognized CNB Board members in attendance as Dan Carter, Jerry Holderby and Brent Taylor. Mr. Slaton recognized Gina Olaya for her hard work and dedication to the tribe. He reported on the March and April financials. The Hard Rock Hotel and Casino has been certified as a Triple A Diamond which is a great honor as only 6% of hotels achieve this ranking. He reported their Native American employment is holding steady at 81% as they are looking for ways to improve this percentage. Speaker Byrd inquired about the status of the elevators to the 19th floor. Mr. Slaton announced the Cherokee Nation Distributors was awarded Swarovski Gold for the 4th year in a row.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Resource Committee

1. [17-041](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR RIGHT OF WAY ON AN EXISTING NATURAL GAS LINE TO THE OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPANY (ONG) FOR THE CHEROKEE HEIGHTS ADDITION (TRIBAL HOUSING PROJECT 45-16) PRYOR OK, MAYES COUNTY**

Sponsors: Janees Taylor

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-030-17

Rules Committee

2. [17-019](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF AMBER LYNN GEORGE AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION FOUNDATION**
- Sponsors:** Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, David Walkingstick and Victoria Vazquez
- Councilor Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried.**
- Enactment No: R-031-17
3. [17-045](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF WILFRED C. (W.C.) GERNANDT III AS A GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION COMPREHENSIVE CARE AGENCY (PACE)**
- Sponsors:** Frankie Hargis, Buel Anglen, Keith Austin, Harley Buzzard, Joe Byrd, Shawn Crittenden, Don Garvin, Rex Jordan, Dick Lay, Curtis Snell, Janees Taylor, David Thornton, David Walkingstick, Victoria Vazquez and Bryan Warner
- Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The Motion carried.**
- Enactment No: R-032-17
4. [17-046](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DAN CARTER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**
- Sponsors:** David Thornton, Buel Anglen, Keith Austin, Harley Buzzard, Joe Byrd, Don Garvin, Frankie Hargis, Rex Jordan, Dick Lay, Curtis Snell, Janees Taylor, Victoria Vazquez, David Walkingstick, Bryan Warner and Wanda Hatfield
- Councilor Thornton moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Hatfield requested to be added as a sponsor. The motion carried with Councilor Crittenden opposed.**
- Enactment No: R-033-17
5. [17-051](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF T. LUKE BARTEAUX AS A DISTRICT JUDGE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION DISTRICT COURT**
- Sponsors:** Victoria Vazquez
- Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Walkingstick requested some clarification on Mr. Barteaux's resume. The motion to approve carried with Councilors Buzzard, Crittenden and Anglen opposed. Chief Justice Garrett performed the swearing in of our new District Judge.**
- Enactment No: R-034-17

6. [17-047](#) **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSLY AGREEING TO CHOICE OF LAW AND VENUE AND AUTHORIZING A WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION IN CONNECTION WITH A SOFTWARE AGREEMENT WITH MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS, INC.**
- Sponsors:** Keith Austin
- Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Enactment No: R-035-17
7. [16-121](#) **A RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION TO REQUEST A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT MONTHLY OF ALL CHARITABLE DONATIONS AND SURPLUS EQUIPMENT OF ALL SUBSIDIARIES IN THE CHEROKEE NATION**
- Sponsors:** David Walkingstick
- Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve. Councilor Baker seconded the motion with a friendly amendment to change both of the “wishes to” to “shall be” in the Be It Resolved Clause. The friendly was accepted. The motion carried.
- Enactment No: R-036-17

Executive and Finance Committee

8. [17-048](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #22-16 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 - MOD. 5; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
- Sponsors:** Janees Taylor
- Councilor Baker moved to approve. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.
- Enactment No: LA-15-17
9. [17-049](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #23-16 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 - MOD. 7; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
- Sponsors:** Janees Taylor
- Councilor Taylor moved to approve substitute Modification 7a. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Tribal Council CPA, Jody Reece, gave a brief overview of the changes from Modification 7 to 7a. The motion carried by acclamation.
- Enactment No: LA-16-17

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Baker made a motion to amend the agenda to include a resolution establishing the Cherokee Nation conservation district. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

10. [17-061](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHEROKEE NATION CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd and Frankie Hargis

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried. Councilor Hargis requested to be added as a sponsor.

Enactment No: R-037-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Crittenden announced a community meeting on May 25th at the Fairfield Community building.

Councilor Austin announced this Saturday at the Will Rogers birthplace is the community picnic for the Indian Women's Pocahontas Club.

Councilor Walkingstick announced the deadline for the Cherokee Nation college scholarships is midnight on the 15th of June. Tuesday, May 30th at 9:00 a.m. is the sendoff for the Remember the Removal Bike Riders. He also reminded everyone Saturday, June 3rd is election day for the Cherokee Nation.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:52 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.