



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 Coke

Phone: 1-800-995-9465

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Tuesday, October 13, 2020

5:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd
Speaker of the Council

Speaker Byrd called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Patzkowski gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Councilor Coates attended remotely.

Speaker Byrd announced we remain in the COVID -19 Pandemic which allows Councilors to attend the Council meeting remotely. A voice vote was taken to approve with no opposition.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve the September regular session and special sessions. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.
Principal Chief

Chief Hoskin reported they continue to navigate the difficulties of the pandemic. He pointed out the hard work of the staff during the pandemic. He discussed the recent

announcement of the new Cherokee Nation meat processing facility. An update was given the construction projects. He gave appreciation to all the hard work of the Council including Election Code revision. He gave an update on the Commission on Sovereignty he created through Executive Order and their initial report. Lastly he touched on the discussions held during the recent visit with U. S. Attorney General Barr.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett reported August was a comeback month in federal contracting. In regard to gaming and hospitality they continue to put forth a tremendous effort to rebuild the businesses after the shutdown. Osiyo TV has debuted its sixth season. He gave an update on the construction of the TRU Hotel and Starbuck in the Cherokee Plaza. They are continuing to adhere, develop and modify their safety protocols to fight against COVID. They have partnered with Cherokee Nation Health Services to provide flu shots to their employees. The 15th Annual Cherokee Art Market will be held virtually.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Rules Committee

1. [20-050](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF VIVIAN GARNER COTTRELL AS AN ADVISORY MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATIONAL TREASURES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

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

Enactment No: R-029-20

2. [20-051](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF VRYL KEETER AS AN ADVISORY MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATIONAL TREASURES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

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

Enactment No: R-030-20

3. [20-052](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF KENDRA MCGEADY AS MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION**

Sponsors: Victoria Vazquez, Mike Shambaugh, E. O. "JR." Smith, Canaan Duncan, Keith Austin, Janees Taylor, Dora Patzkowski and Joe Deere

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion with a request to be added as a sponsor.

Enactment No: R-031-20

4. [20-053](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE OKLAHOMA TOBACCO SETTLEMENT ENDOWMENT TRUST COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

Sponsors: Daryl Legg and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-032-20

5. [20-054](#) **ACT RELATING TO THE NAMING OF THE SALLIE BYRD SEVENSTAR COMMUNITY CENTER**

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

Councilor Smith made a motion to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-21-20

6. [20-058](#) **AN ACT REVISING AND RESTATING TITLE 26 ("ELECTIONS") OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED**

Sponsors: Mike Dobbins and Joe Deere

Councilor Dobbins made a motion to approve. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Jordan opposed.

Enactment No: LA-22-20

7. [20-056](#) **AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 26 SECTION 5 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED TO RECOGNIZE THE TRADITIONAL CHEROKEE NAMES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd and Joe Deere

Councilor Duncan made a motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Austin opposed.

Enactment No: LA-23-20

8. [20-057](#) **AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 26 SECTION 78 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND THE VERIFICATION OF IDENTIFICATION OF CHEROKEE CITIZENS VOTING THROUGH ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Sponsors: Julia Coates, Mary Baker Shaw and Joe Deere

Councilor Coates made a motion to approve. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. Councilor Taylor offered a friendly amendment to add “of legal age” following witness in both locations. The friendly has been accepted. The motion to approve carried with Councilors Dobbins, Austin, Duncan, Jordan and Byrd opposed.

Enactment No: LA-24-20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Duncan requested the families of two Cherokee speakers who recently passed be kept in everyone’s prayers.

Councilor Deere wished a happy 97th birthday to his friend and Cherokee Warrior.

Councilor Austin announced several Cherokees who have passed and requested their families be kept in prayers.

Councilor Vazquez recognized Ms. Kendra McGeedy and her husband in attendance.

Councilor Coates requested her Uncle who passed also be remembered.

Speaker Byrd a moment of silence for those who have passed over the past month.

Councilor Smith invited everyone to Lake Tenkiller for a cleanup at Chicken Creek this Saturday.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Shaw moved to adjourn. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:22 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 16th at 6:00 p.m.

