



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Janelle Fullbright, Chair

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

Monday, April 22, 2013

1:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fullbright called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - David Thornton, Sr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Julia Coates; Jodie Fishinghawk; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Frankie Hargis and Joe Byrd

Late Arrival 6 - Buel Anglen; Curtis Snell; Meredith Frailey; Tina Glory Jordan; Lee Keener Jr. and Cara Cowan Watts

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Hoskin Jr. moved to approve the March 11, 2013 minutes as submitted. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere provided an update from the written report provided and offered to answer questions. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the cuts due to the sequestration and if they were across the board.

2. Cherokee Nation Health Services - Connie Davis

Ms. Davis provided a handout of the impact of sequestration across the board, and provided an explanation and update. She announced they have obtained a new oral surgeon. Mr. Jones continues to review the unpaid dental claims from last year. She provided assurance of our sterilization techniques within the dental department. Ms. Davis gave an update on the electronic health care provider. An update was given on the feasibility study for the hospital and clinic expansions. The grand opening for

the Dialysis Center in Sallisaw will be at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. An open house will be held on the 25th at the Jack Brown Center as they celebrate twenty-five years for the program. The ground breaking for the new Jack Brown facility is scheduled for the 26th at 2:00 p.m. The surgical tech open house is this Thursday from 11:00 to 1:00 at Southgate. Dr. Nolan and Dr. Montgomery will be traveling to Jay see patients one day a week each to help with the shortage of providers. Councilor Baker inquired about At Large citizens being eligible for all services at Hastings Hospital. Councilor Cowan Watts requested the sequestration handout by email and asked several other questions regarding the impact and if it would include an impact on the expansions. She requested a summary of health service options by clinic and hospital. She questioned if dental crowns were being provided to patients. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired as to the status of the joint venture program. She inquired about the status of third party billing and requested it be included in the monthly report. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired about lobbying efforts in regard to the budget cuts. Councilor Fishinghawk voiced concern for timing issues with Contract Health and the processes. Councilor Keener inquired about an interpreter at Hastings. Councilor Lay inquired if any newly graduated doctors have been hired since the beginning of the year. He also inquired if the new electronic records software would correct the issue and unite all clinics. Chair Fullbright requested Dr. Montgomery provided an update on the ninety day prescriptions and the plan to phase them in and the misconceptions surrounding it. Councilor Cowan Watts requested the financial numbers be monitored and provided in the report with this ninety day refill change.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [TMP-254](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: THE 5% SET ASIDE PER LA-25-11

Councilor Lay commented he is getting phone calls from patients who are getting phone calls from collection agencies. He requested a report back on why the contract referral system isn't working and why aren't we utilizing the 5% program. Ms. Davis stated commented the expenditures on the 5% fund is included in the monthly report. She stated she is aware there is room to improve the contract health care system. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested next month a graphic layout of how the process works. Councilor Cowan Watts asked several questions about the denials for contract health, she requested a one page document to provide to patient explaining the step by step process for denials. She inquired if it could be brought back before the body possibly next month for the Committees input.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [TMP-263](#) REPORT: UPDATE ON CNB BLUE CROSS HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM

Chair Fullbright stated she requested Mr. Slaton to provide an explanation on the changes upcoming with our insurance as he did not too long ago with his employees. Mr. Shawn Slaton gave an update on the new program with their employees and the process should be transparent and seamless. Councilor Cowan Watts requested clarification as to how this would affect the Cherokee Nation employees. Ms. Elizabeth Odell from the Attorney General's office assisted in answering questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Keener inquired if a vote needed to be taken on the old business item sponsored by Councilor Lay.

OB#1 [TMP-254](#)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: THE 5% SET ASIDE PER LA-25-11

Councilor Lay moved to table for one month. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Byrd seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:14 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Elizabeth Odell</i>	<i>Lacey Horn</i>
<i>Bret Hayes</i>	<i>Jeff Sanders</i>	<i>Lisa Long</i>
<i>Terrisa Muskrat</i>	<i>Steve Jones</i>	<i>Roger Montgomery</i>
<i>Connie Davis</i>	<i>Brian Hail</i>	<i>Courtney Roark Thompson</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Charles Dry</i>	<i>George Valliere</i>	<i>Dianne Barker Harrold</i>
<i>Ruth Ann Weaver</i>	<i>Ollie Starr</i>	<i>Freddie Ferrell</i>
<i>Shawn Slaton</i>	<i>Ferrell Prater</i>	