



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Dr. Mike Dobbins, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
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Monday, April 15, 2024

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dobbins called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Dobbins gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Deere moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Shotpouch seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere gave highlights from the report including working with Cherokee Nation Public Health and one of their nurses receiving the Daisy Award. He offered to answer questions from the report.

Cherokee Nation Health Services - Dr. Steve Jones

Mr. Wayne Coldwell gave highlights from the report in the absence of Dr. Jones. Councilor Deere inquired about issues with medical transports to appointments. Councilor Callison inquired about going to a four day work week.

Cherokee Nation Public Health - Lisa Pivec & Dr. David Gahn

Ms. Pivec gave highlights from the report and offered to answer any questions. Councilor Callison requested clarification on the EBT cards at the farmer's markets.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

- 24-027** AN ACT REPEALING CHAPTER 3, SECTIONS 301-304 OF TITLE 63 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED
Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Chair Dobbins requested the rationale for repealing this prescription mandate. Mr. Coldwell stated they are still able to facilitate some ninety-day refills. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls relayed some constituent concerns and the pharmacy line backup due to this change. Councilor Coates inquired about the vision for the changes. Councilor Callison inquired what the law was previously. Councilor Smith inquired if medicine shortage is going to be an issue. Councilor Kidwell inquired if there is data to support waste of medications with the ninety-day mandate. He agreed with Chief of Staff Bunch that we shouldn't be mandating how our physicians provide care. Councilor Easley inquired if it was a physician request to repeal the mandate. Councilor Tehee gave clarification on the wording of the original language. She commented the letters have already gone out to patients stating the change to thirty-day prescriptions therefore this repeal is after the fact and she would be voting no.
Councilor Deere made a motion to table to next month to allow for further clarification. The motion failed for the lack of a second.
Councilor Kidwell read a portion of the original law and commented it is mandated for a ninety-day prescription and he is in support of the repeal. Councilors Shambaugh and Coates agreed with Councilor Kidwell's statement. Councilor Deere inquired about the ability to still do tele-med. Councilor Smith inquired about the timeline for being able to refill. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls requested clarification on still being able to request ninety-day prescriptions, billing for tele-health, and pharmacy staffing changes. Councilor Hall inquired if the physicians are able to handle the influx with this change. Both Councilors Poindexter and Easley requested to be better informed for issues in the future. Councilor Coates commented on the discussion held today is good for our viewers.
The motion to approve carried with Councilors Blackfox-Qualls and Tehee opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Poindexter moved to adjourn. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:51 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

Wayne Coldwell
Canaan Duncan
Bryan Warner

Lisa Pivec
Brooke Neff
Christina Justice

Corey Bunch
Taralee Montgomery
Ginger Reeves

VISITORS PRESENT:

George Valliere
John Young

Carl Murray

Teddye Snell