



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

*Mike Shambaugh, Chair*

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

---

Thursday, April 27, 2023

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

---

### CALL TO ORDER

**Co Chair Deere called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 14 - Rex Jordan; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin; Johnny Kidwell; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Joshua Sam; Melvina Shotpouch; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith and Victoria Vazquez

**Absent** 2 - Julia Coates and Mike Shambaugh

**Late Arrival** 1 - Wes Nofire

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

*Mr. Buhl reported they have had their sixth human trafficking arrest since McGirt. He spoke of the passing of Deputy Marshal Brian Catcher. Councilor Vazquez inquired about the investigation about Secretary of State Jordan. She requested a copy of the report be provided to the Council.*

Office of the Attorney General - Sara Hill

*Ms. Hill reported on the Domestic Violence Conference she recently attended. She met with attorneys from the other tribes at the recent Inter-Tribal Conference. She provided an update on the pending court cases. She offered to answer questions.*

*Councilor Legg inquired if they are considering a pardon and parole board? Councilor Dobbins requested a brief history on the Executive Director, accused of fraud and embezzlement ten years ago, that was recently in the papers. Councilor Tehee commented on the negativity being said about housing our prisoners in Texas. She requested AG Hill or Marshal Buhl speak to why the agreement was made with Texas. Councilor Crittenden inquired as to which of our prisoners are sent to Texas.*

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Ms. Terrapin reported as of today there are 11 FOIA requests and of those 5 are outstanding.*

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

*Mr. Fears offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Swepston reported the motor vehicle tax through February is 1% more in revenue than a year ago. Revenue and tax are up 26% from last year. Both the Stilwell and Catoosa offices are open. Councilor Callison inquired about boat tags.*

Self-Governance - Ashawna Miles

*Ms. Miles offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

*Ms. Purcell offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

*Ms. Hendricks provided an update on the open interviews. They implemented a new hire survey. She gave praises to the Human Resources team. Councilor Sam inquired about the pay raises and the minimum wage being bumped to \$15 per hour. He also inquired about everyone else who now needs a bump in pay.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

## AMEND THE AGENDA

**Councilor Austin made a motion to amend the agenda to include a resolution approving a letter of credit agreement and granting a limited consent to be sued. Councilor Kidwell seconded the motion. Councilor Nofire raised question on the need of the resolution. Following clarification the motion to amend carried with no opposition.**

[23-022](#)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LETTER OF CREDIT AGREEMENT AND GRANTING

A LIMITED CONSENT TO BE SUED

**Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Legg moved to adjourn. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:46 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Marcus Fears</i>	<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>	<i>Becca Isbell</i>
<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>	<i>Sara Hill</i>
<i>Samantha Hendricks</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>	<i>Ashawna Miles</i>
<i>Janice Purcell</i>	<i>Ami Sams</i>	

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Chuck Garrett</i>	<i>Steven Bilby</i>	<i>Teddye Snell</i>
<i>John Young</i>		