



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Joshua Sam, Chair*

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

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Monday, January 22, 2024

5:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Sam** called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Poindexter** gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 15 - Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Melvina Shotpouch;  
Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joshua Sam; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls;  
Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere;  
Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

**Absent** 1 - Victoria Vazquez

**Late Arrival** 1 - Mike Shambaugh

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

### REPORTS:

Cherokee Nation Businesses - Chuck Garrett

*Mr. Garrett reported the first quarter for fiscal year 2024 net income is up 25%. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the new Hard Rock property along the Red River. Councilor Kidwell gave appreciation for the veterans' parking at all properties. Councilor Coates inquired if the Gold Strike is admitting Cherokee Nation ownership. Councilor Shambaugh requested an update on gaming in Arkansas.*

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Janees Taylor

*Ms. Taylor reported the audit is in full swing and will have to the Council as required by March 31st. She reported on donations to the Cherokee Nation and the continuing federal resolution. She offered to answer questions from the report.*

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

*Mr. Hunter Palmer reported in the absence of Ms. Kelley. He reported the Strategies Business Partners were recognized, the Career Services Department attending community meetings, and provided an update on TANF. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

Commerce - Anna Knight

*Mr. Stephen Highers reported in the absence of Ms. Knight. He provided a handout of VITA dates for appointments and stated walk-ins would only be accepted in Tahlequah. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

CONSENT ITEMS:

*No questions or concerns were voiced.*

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

ROADS

SPORTS TEAMS APPLICATIONS

LIVESTOCK PREMIUM SHOW APPLICATIONS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. [24-007](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-23 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 - MOD 2; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY  
  
**Co Chair Easley moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

2.     [24-008](#)     AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #22-23 AUTHORIZING THE  
COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 - MOD 4; AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Councilor Shambaugh moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Mr. Reece apologized for the budget modifications not being in the packets. He gave clarification on the federal budget.*

*Councilor Poindexter announced on behalf of CNB Board Member, Dan Carter, that the American Legion Group is requesting Oklahoma Girls State nominations.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Easley seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:31 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Corey Bunch</i>	<i>Hunter Palmer</i>	<i>Janees Taylor</i>
<i>Jody Reece</i>	<i>Stephen Highers</i>	<i>Bryan Warner</i>
 <i>Remote:</i>		
<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>		

#### VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>John Young</i>	<i>Teddy Snell</i>	<i>Brent Taylor</i>
<i>Chuck Garrett</i>		