



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

*Mike Shambaugh, Speaker*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke*

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Monday, May 12, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER

Mike Shambaugh, Speaker of the Council

**Speaker Shambaugh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

### STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief

*Chief Hoskin announced Foster Care Awareness month was kicked off this morning. We will be doing the Summer food EBT Program again for all low income families throughout the reservation. This year there will be an Elders Farmer's Market Program for low income elders within our reservation. Chief Hoskin spoke of the efforts to engage awareness in recognition of Murdered Missing Indigenous People Awareness month. He reported on the impact of Governor Stitt's veto of Ida's Law. He commented on meetings recently held in Washington D.C. A celebration for Teacher of the Year was held to honor teachers within our reservation. With the upcoming Earth Day celebration he announced the Cherokee Nation would be more earth conscious by reducing food waste and eliminating Styrofoam. He gave highlights from a recently held Agriculture Summit. An awards ceremony was held to honor all of the rural fire*

*departments within our reservation boundaries. Chief Hoskin commented on the recent graduation ceremonies he attended and those upcoming. The tribe gave out a record amount in scholarships this year. The current Youth Tribal Council term ends this August, they have a Youth Summit scheduled for June. The current Youth Council, in attendance, were requested to introduce themselves.*

#### CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief

and

S. Joe Crittenden, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

*Deputy Chief Warner and Secretary of Veteran Affairs Crittenden presented Joe Wayne Atchley and Michael David Thomas with the Cherokee Medal of Patriotism.*

#### ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Monthly Reports:

##### Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

*Mr. Garrett reported they have just closed the books on April financials. There is currently turbulence in the gaming and federal contracting. They will continue to pursue all opportunities available. In federal contracting despite declining revenues they were able to have an increased bottom line. The economy is showing people are dialing back in regard to gaming and other non essentials. He provided an update on gaming in Arkansas. Mr. Garrett stated sports betting will once again go before the State Legislature without any action. The CNB State of the Company report for fiscal year 2024 is now available online. He announced they are some upcoming bid opportunities for Cherokee art work. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Speaker Shambaugh inquired if sports betting would be a veto by the governor.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### AMEND THE AGENDA

**Deputy Speaker Easley moved to amend the agenda to include items 4 and 5 passed out of committees earlier today. Secretary Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Rules Committee

1. [25-050](#)      **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF RANDY DUNCAN AS A GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER OF TSUNADELOQUASDI CHEROKEE IMMERSION SCHOOL BOARD**
- Sponsors:**      Mike Shambaugh, Joshua Sam, Codey Poindexter, Melvina Shotpouch, Candessa Tehee and Joe Deere
- Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
- Enactment No: R-042-25

Executive and Finance Committee

2. [25-051](#)      **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #34-24 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 - MOD. 8; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
- Sponsors:**      Joshua Sam
- Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
- Enactment No: LA-13-25
3. [25-052](#)      **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #33-34 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 - MOD. 5; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
- Sponsors:**      Joshua Sam
- Deputy Speaker Easley moved to approve. Councilor Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
- Enactment No: LA-14-25
4. [25-053](#)      **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE A PORTION OF TRIBAL TRUST LAND IN OCHELATA OKLAHOMA TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION (HACN)**
- Sponsors:**      Mike Shambaugh, E. O. "JR." Smith, Dora Patzkowski and Kendra McGeary
- Councilor Smith moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
- Enactment No: R-043-25
5. [25-054](#)      **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE CHEROKEE**

**NATION'S INVENTORY OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION  
FACILITIES**

**Sponsors:** Mike Shambaugh, Daryl Legg, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls and Candessa Tehee

**Councilor Legg moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Hall abstaining.**

Enactment No: R-044-25

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Councilor Deere announced the Oklahoma Special Olympics is this week in Stillwater.*

*Deputy Speaker Easley announced this Saturday is the Annual Pocahontas Club Picnic.*

*Councilor Hall gave appreciation to Chief Hoskin for claiming April 30th as Susie Holt Day in honor of her 100th birthday.*

*Multiple Councilors recognized Cherokee citizens who have passed on over the last month.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:47 p.m.**

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 16th, 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.