



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Tribal Council Minutes Tribal Council

Monday, November 16, 2009

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Chris Soap gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - S. Joe Crittenden; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Meredith Frailey; Cara Cowan Watts; Buel Anglen; Jack D. Baker; Tina Glory Jordan; Janelle Fullbright; Harley Buzzard; Curtis Snell; Chris Soap; Bradley Cobb; Chuck Hoskin, Jr. ; Julia Coates and Bill John Baker

Absent 1 - Jodie Fishinghawk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Buel Anglen made a motion to approve the October 19th regular session minutes. Councilor Cara Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Jack Baker made a motion to amend the agenda to add A Resolution Opposing The Proposed I-MAC Petroleum Services Class II Salt Water Injection Well At Vian, Oklahoma as item #6 under new business. Councilor David Thornton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Principal Chief Chad Smith requested a moment to recognize the following friends and loved ones who have passed over the last month as Robert Catcher, Joyce Rose, John Whiteshirt, Betty Walker Cowan, Kristie Bush, Jimmie Gray, Louise Campbell Cameron, Sparlin Norwood, and Lewis Swindler. The Veterans Affairs Office held a ceremony Tuesday, November 10th, the day before Veteran's Day with a helicopter fly in to honor all the branches of service. A wreath was placed at the Veteran's Memorial as a token of our appreciation. A Veteran's Banquet was also held that evening at the place where they play. Veteran's honored were Owen Scott and Joel Graham. Chief Smith gave program and service updates and announced for the eighth year in a row Cherokee Nation has been awarded the certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting by the Government Financial

Officers Association of United States and Canada. The Redbird Smith Health Center, Three Rivers Health Center, Salina Health Center, Sam Hider Health Center, Will Rogers Health Center, and the Bartlesville and Vinita Clinics recently received governmental performance and results act awards from the U.S. Indian Health Service. This November is Diabetes Awareness Month. They had the opportunity to attend President Obama's Tribal Summit and the value of the exercise is that he kept a campaign promise to have a tribal representative in the White House and that is Kim Teehee. He gave congratulations to the Cherokee National Youth Choir who will soon be celebrating ten years. The choir is hoping to hear from all of its alumni for the past ten years and would like to invite alumni to sing at some of their special events. He gave a schedule of Christmas Parades that Cherokee Nation will be participating in. December 8th the Cherokee National Youth Choir will have a concert at the Wagoner Civic Auditorium. December 14th they will be hosting a Christmas Reception at the Jack Brown House and December 18th is the Employee Christmas Program from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the place where they play.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None Pending

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Housing Authority - David Southerland

David Southerland announced the November Housing Authority board meeting is scheduled for the 17th at 5:30 p.m. at the Alyene Hogner Conference Room. He attended the Amerand Risk Management Annual Convention. Amerand is concerned about some of the homes on the community shield program being under insured. Another issue is the number of claims that have been submitted has been real high. They are going to have to make changes to the program or there will be a substantial increase in premiums in the next few months. They are looking at different alternatives, such as deductibles to keep those increases and premiums down. He will keep the Council updated on this issue because there are a large number of Cherokee families on this program. Amerand is going to use their program to test a new claim procedure.

Cherokee Nation Entertainment - David Stewart

Molly Jarvis reported contributions made to the Nation beyond the dividend include retail sales at a total of \$155,963, liquor excise tax of \$13,340 for a total of \$169,304. The current number of employment is 3465 and of those 59.2% are Cherokee, 10.9% are other Native American for a total of 71% Native American employment. Last month they held the topping out ceremony for the West Siloam Hotel and that is expected to be completed by May 2010. They continue work on the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Event Center with expected completion on that arena in August 2010. They competed in the American Diabetes Association Walk with CNE employees raising a total of \$47,489. She gave updates on the History After Dark Tour which was very successful. They are currently still booking tours and have three sales people working to book the tours. The Supreme Court renovation on the interior should be completed this month and begin on the exhibit design with the expected date of grand opening of the Supreme Court Museum in March 2010. They continue to work on

Ross Cemetery and should begin work on the National Prison in January and Ross School in February. They are continuing with the education tours to continue to educate school kids on our culture.

Cherokee Nation Business, Inc - David Stewart

No one present to give report.

Cherokee Nation Industries - Bryan Collins

Brian Collins stated he does not have an update on financials but he is expecting to have update results for the E&F meeting tomorrow. He reported Native American percentage is holding at 82, with local employment at a total of 466 employees. There has been some issue over the lack of work but he is happy to report that is rebounding now and they are calling employees back to work. He gave an update on employee activities. PA Sims retired after 33 years of service. They are in the process of getting ready for their employee lunches and turkey handouts. They attended the kick off meeting at the Red Stone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama and it was a great success. Telecom has received its first contract from Verizon and they will be meeting with the customer to discuss the scope of work. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2nd at 2:00 p.m. in Stilwell.

OLD BUSINESS

None Pending

NEW BUSINESS

Community Services Committee

1. A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, INDIAN RESERVATION AND ROADS PROGRAM

Sponsors: Councilor Harley Buzzard

Councilor Harley Buzzard made a motion to approve. Councilor Cara Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Enactment No: R-127-09

Rules Committee

2. AN ACT AMENDING LA#7-97 AND LA#39-05; REVISING TITLE 26 ("ELECTIONS") OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED

Sponsors: Councilor Meredith Frailey

Councilor Cara Cowan Watts made a motion to table. Councilor Don Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF LARRY ADAIR AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION

Councilor Joe Crittenden made a motion to approve. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Enactment No: R-128-09

4. A RESOLUTION EXPRESSLY WAIVING THE SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION AND OF CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH SERVICES TO THE EXTENT IT MAY EXIST, AS IT APPLIES TO THE ARVEST AND CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH SERVICES LOAN AGREEMENT

Sponsors: Councilor Meredith Frailey

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to approve. Councilor Tina Glory-Jordan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Enactment No: R-129-09

Executive & Finance Committee

5. AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-09 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 - MOD 1; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Sponsors: Councilor Jack D. Baker and Councilor Cara Cowan Watts

Councilor Jack D. Baker made a motion to approve. Councilor Cara Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-23-09

6. A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED I-MAC PETROLEUM SERVICES' CLASS II SALT WATER INJECTION WELL AT VIAN, OKLAHOMA

Sponsors: Councilor David Thornton, Councilor Janelle Fullbright, Councilor S. Joe Crittenden, Councilor Jodie FISHINGHAWK, Councilor Bill John Baker, Councilor Chuck Hoskin,, Councilor Harley Buzzard, Councilor Tina Glory Jordan, Councilor Julia Coates, Councilor Cara Cowan Watts, Councilor Don Garvin, Councilor Jack D. Baker and Councilor Meredith Frailey

Councilor David Thornton made a motion to approve. Councilor Cara Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Enactment No: R-130-09

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Chuck Hoskin, Jr. acknowledged Chuck Hoskin, Sr. former District #9 Tribal Council Member and current State Representative. Councilor Buzzard reminded everyone that the Community Service Committee meeting this month will be held at the Head Start conference room. Councilor Bill John Baker recognized the Head Start Leadership Academy. Councilor Jack Baker recognized Aaron Carlson of the Kaw Nation. Speaker Frailey announced a community meeting will be held on December 10th from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Locust Grove Upper Elementary School cafeteria.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cara Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Jack Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried at 6:55 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on December 14, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.

**Meredith A. Frailey, Speaker
Council of the Cherokee Nation**