



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

*Joe Byrd, Speaker*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain*

*Phone: 1-800-995-9465*

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Monday, November 14, 2016

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd  
Speaker of the Council

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

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Vazquez gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain  
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

**Present** 17 - Joe Byrd; David Thornton, Sr. ; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Victoria Vazquez; Buel Anglen; Rex Jordan; David Walkingstick; Dick Lay; Bryan Warner ; Shawn Crittenden; Keith Austin and Wanda Hatfield

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Taylor moved to approve the October 17th regular session minutes. Councilor Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### STATE OF THE NATION

Bill John Baker  
Principal Chief

*Deputy Chief Crittenden gave the State of the Nation in the absence of Chief Baker. Deputy Chief Crittenden announced Chief Baker is traveling to Standing Rock to support them in their fight to protect water and ensure their natural resources remain in tack. This is the Nation's second trip to deliver wood and water. We have secured ownership of Sequoyah's Cabin from the State Historical Society. We are celebrating the one year anniversary of our grant and partnership with the CDC to screen and cure Hepatitis C. We hosted the Annual Native American Contractors Association Conference at the Hard Rock. Deputy Chief Crittenden recognized the newly elected Tribal Youth Council in attendance. The President of the Tribal Youth Council, Austin Jones, gave an update of Youth Council's recent activities. Deputy Chief Crittenden*

*read a long list of Cherokee citizens who have passed away within the last month. He requested a moment of silence for them.*

#### CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

S. Joe Crittenden  
Deputy Principal Chief

*Deputy Chief Crittenden requested the assistance of Councilor Thornton in honoring Cherokee Veteran Robert Loyal Sanders Jr. with the Cherokee Warrior Award.*

#### ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Monthly Reports:

##### Housing Authority - Gary Cooper

*Mr. Cooper announced the next board meeting is on the same day as their employee staff development on the 20th of January. This week the Housing Rehab department is moving office locations here in town. He reported we provide housing assistance to 6,949 families monthly as of September. As of the end of September the Housing Authority had 251 employees with 95.2% of those being Cherokee and 98.4% total Native American employment.*

##### Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Shawn Slaton

*Mr. Slaton reported on the end of the fiscal year totals. Our gaming operations remain strong even with a new competitor in the market. Our diversified businesses were a huge part of our success by accounting for almost \$400ml in revenue and record profit. Our diversified businesses were awarded their first overseas contract with the State Department. He provided an update on the current projects including the Spa at Hard Rock and the new Grove casino. Our Cherokee Nation Technology Group is providing unmanned aircraft to help NASA with meteorological forecasts and storms. CNB currently has 6,586 employees, 4,647 of which preference can be practiced and of those 73% are Cherokee, other Native Americans are at 7.1% for a total Native American employment of 80.2%. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Speaker Byrd recognized CNB Board member Jerry Holderby in attendance.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

## AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Baker made a motion to amend the agenda to include two items passed out of Rules Committee earlier today. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rules Committee

1. [16-109](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DR. JAMES STALLCUP AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION HEALTH PARTNERS**

**Sponsors:** Frankie Hargis, Buel Anglen, Jack D. Baker, Harley Buzzard, Joe Byrd, Shawn Crittenden, Wanda Hatfield, Don Garvin, Rex Jordan, Dick Lay, Curtis Snell, Janees Taylor, David Thornton, Victoria Vazquez, David Walkingstick and Bryan Warner

Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-084-16

2. [16-118](#) **A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CHEROKEE NATION CITIZEN JOE POLECAT**

**Sponsors:** Frankie Hargis and Joe Byrd

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the Resolution. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Deputy Speaker Vazquez read into the record a portion of the Resolution honoring Security Officer Polecat. The motion to approve carried.

Enactment No: R-085-16

Executive and Finance Committee

3. [16-110](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #23-16 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 - MOD. 1; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**Sponsors:** Janees Taylor

Councilor Taylor moved to approve. Councilor Baker seconded the motion by acclamation. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-24-16

4. [16-119](#)      **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF SHERYL ROUNTREE AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION SEQUOYAH HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Sponsors:** Rex Jordan, Joe Byrd, David Walkingstick and David Thornton

**Councilor Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Thornton requested to be added as a sponsor. The motion to approve carried.**

Enactment No: R-086-16

5. [16-113](#)      **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF M. TODD HEMBREE AS ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION**

**Sponsors:** Frankie Hargis, Bryan Warner, Victoria Vazquez, Buel Anglen, Rex Jordan, Janees Taylor, Curtis Snell, Joe Byrd, Wanda Hatfield, Jack D. Baker, David Walkingstick and Don Garvin

**Councilor Buzzard moved to approve. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Councilor Garvin requested to be added as a sponsor. Councilor Baker offered a friendly amendment to correct the term dates. The dates of the term should read beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2021. The friendly was accepted. The motion to approve carried.**

Enactment No: R-087-16

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Taylor requested Olivia of the Youth Council make an announcement regarding the Pryor Girls Softball team. She announced they won the 5A State Championship and she was the MVP.*

*Speaker Byrd requested the Youth Council stay after the meeting adjourns for pictures.*

*Councilor Warner announced he and Councilor Thornton would have a community meeting at Blue Ribbon Downs on the 29th of November.*

*Councilor Jordan announced on December 13th Districts 1, 2, and 3 would have a community meeting in Hulbert.*

*Councilor Walkingstick announced Districts 1, 2, and 3 would have a community meeting on December 1st at the Tahlequah Community building.*

*Councilor Crittenden announced on November 21st a community meeting would be held at the Mid County Fire Department in Barron.*

*Councilor Hargis announced a District 7 community meeting at the Stilwell High School on the 8th of December.*

*Councilor Hatfield announced she and Councilor Baker will be in Phoenix and Tuscan Arizona for At Large meetings this Saturday.*

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 6:37 p.m.**

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on December 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.