



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Dick Lay, Chair

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

Monday, July 14, 2014

2:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lay called the meeting to order at 2:55 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Tina Glory Jordan; Julia Coates; Janelle Fullbright; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Cara Cowan Watts; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Frankie Hargis ; David Thornton, Sr. ; Jack D. Baker; Joe Byrd; Curtis Snell and Victoria Vazquez

Absent 2 - Jodie Fishinghawk and Don Garvin

Late Arrival 1 - Lee Keener Jr.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Hargis moved to approve the June 16th regular session minutes.
Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

REPORTS:

1. Human Services Department - Marsha Lamb

Ms. Barbara Foreman reported in the absence of Ms. Lamb. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired if we have a Rogers County Advocate yet. She inquired about Indian Child Welfare assisting with parent visits and restoring their homes. Councilor Baker inquired about the process in acquiring an attorney for and adoption of a Cherokee child. Councilor Keener requested clarification on the MOU with Creek Nation in regard to the LAUNCH Program. Ms. Foreman commented on the changes in the report and other upcoming changes in the report. The letters have gone out for the elder and disabled Summer Cooling Program. The Elder in Need Program payment will go out in August. The Veteran's Center will be open to the public on Saturday of the Cherokee National Holiday. The School Clothing Program vouchers are in full swing. Councilor

Glory Jordan requested they be given updates on the numbers for the clothing vouchers.

Chair Lay requested clarification from Secretary of State Hoskin Jr. in regard to questions pertaining to ICW and if they are becoming their own program. Secretary of State commented it is becoming a standalone department and could come and report. Councilor Glory Jordan commented she had spoken to Ms. Nikki Baker Limore about reporting to this body.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Glory Jordan made a motion to amend the agenda to add 3 items: A Resolution Certifying Compliance With 24 CFR Ch. (4-1-03 Edition 1003.604 Citizen Participation), A Resolution Adopting Standards for Housing Rehabilitation, and A Resolution Authorizing the Appropriation of \$250,000 of Housing Rehabilitation Funding for FY 2015 to Match the ICDBG Application. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion carried. All Councilors requested to be added as sponsors.

2. Community Services - Ron Qualls

Mr. Michael Lynn reported in the absence of Mr. Qualls. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard voiced concern about the Rehab Program and acquiring contractors. He requested clarification from Mr. David Pruitt on the bid process for the rehabs, emergencies and handicapped accessibility. Councilor Buzzard made a motion after the first bid if there isn't a Cherokee bidder the contract be given to the low bid. Councilor Glory Jordan commented the agenda would have to be amended for this consideration as we are in the reports. She suggested an agenda item for next month and he work with our Attorney with an amendment to the TERO law. Councilor Glory Jordan suggested increasing the \$5,000 limit to \$10,000 to TERO vendors. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the five private companies providing technical assistance through COTTA partnerships. She inquired about the status of the replacement home policy and dollar amount on rehab versus replacement. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the possibility of using the traveling construction groups to help get caught up with the rehab and emergencies. Councilor Taylor inquired about using those who need to complete community service hours as laborers. Councilor Snell expressed concern for the lost applications. Councilor Thornton commented when they had work crews by area there didn't seem to be such a backlog. He suggested using the Day Work Program or Job Corp. He questioned the pay scale for their heat/air and electricians. Councilor Glory Jordan commented there are too many inspectors and not enough carpenters and trades people. She suggested they reorganize or the Council can take steps to correct the situation.

3. Housing Services - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper announced college housing applications will be accepted August 1st through the 15th. He provided an update on the Negotiated Rule Making sessions. A new HUD Secretary has been confirmed. They are in the process of making the area offices more accessible. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the possibility of keeping a trust or restricted status when building homes by using the exceptions in the federal regulations. Mr. Cooper suggested the need for an opinion from the Attorney General. Councilor Cowan Watts suggested she work with Mr. Cooper, our Council Attorney and the Attorney General to review the codes and keep the status. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired if there is an inventory of all homes with their status.

4. Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Lynn provided an update on the current road projects. They are in the process of scheduling a ribbon cutting ceremony for the recently finished Nicutt South road. Councilor Thornton inquired about Moonshine Highway and Dwight Mission Road. Councilor Glory Jordan inquired about Mud Valley Road. Mr. Lynn reported there was some of Rock Fence Road torn up during the construction of Nicutt South that they are in the process of determining how to fix. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the Leach Kenwood issue. Councilor Taylor inquired about the CNG buses.

5. Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

6. Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from the report provided. She reported they are currently working on 370 MAP applications with 340 of those coming from the Housing Authority. Councilor Cowan Watts requested a breakdown by year of the number of homes since the inception of the MAP program.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

14-065

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH 24 CFR CH. IX (4-1-03 EDITION 1003.604 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION)

Councilor Glory Jordan made a motion to approve all three new business items and forward them to the Council meeting this evening. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the citizen outreach required. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Coates abstaining.

14-066

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING STANDARDS FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION

Councilor Glory Jordan made a motion to approve all three new business items and forward them to the Council meeting this evening. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the citizen outreach required. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Coates abstaining.

14-067

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 OF HOUSING REHABILITATION FUNDING FOR FY 2015 TO MATCH THE ICDBG APPLICATION

Councilor Glory Jordan made a motion to approve all three new business items and forward them to the Council meeting this evening. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the citizen outreach required. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Coates abstaining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Thornton moved to adjourn. Councilor Baker seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 4:11 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Barbara Foreman
Diane Kelley
Michael Lynn
Darryl Legg
G. V. Gulager*

*Reva Crawford
Chris Sams
Tom Elkins
Bill Andoe
Ginger Brown*

*Chuck Hoskin Jr.
David Pruitt
Anna Knight
Elizabeth Odell
Gary Cooper*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Cheryl Brown

Lisa Long

Dianne Barker Harrold