



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House  
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.  
Tahlequah, OK 74464

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

*Julia Coates, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain  
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Monday, April 12, 2010

4:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Fullbright gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 15 - Bill John Baker; Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Chris Soap; Chuck Hoskin, Jr. ; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Julia Coates; Meredith Frailey; S. Joe Crittenden and Tina Glory Jordan

**Absent** 2 - Bradley Cobb and Jodie FISHINGHAWK

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to approve the March 15th regular session minutes. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Crittenden moved to amend the agenda to include a Resolution Recognizing Former Principal Chief Wilma Pearl Mankiller as a National Treasure of the Cherokee Nation. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### REPORTS:

1. Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed - Diane Kelley

*Ms. Kelley offered to answer questions from her report. She announced they have temporarily shut down the Day Work Program with hopes to reopen in a couple of weeks. A work group has been formed to establish criteria to enable them to get through this fiscal year with the funds allocated. Job Corp was awarded Economic*

*Stimulus funding to upgrade their facilities. Adult Education will be moving across the street to the Old Pub building at the end of the month. She stated they will be in the Jay office by the first of May.*

2. Executive Director's Report - Melanie Knight

*Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from the written reports provided. She announced on April 3rd the Apple I-pad was released and has Cherokee language that is immediately viewable with no software installation. The JOM Cultural Competition Awards Banquet is May 12th at 10:00 a.m. at Catoosa Hard Rock. This is the week of the young child. Ms. Knight plans to attend the Tribal Leaders Consultation on Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in Oklahoma City where she will present our position on several of the issues. She offered additional information if any Council members were interested in attending. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired as to the status of the fall scholarship funds. Ms. Knight stated they funded 2,776 applications last fall and will be very challenged to fund the same number this fall. They hope to fund all applications received by June 11th. At this time they do not know how many applications they will receive for the fall semester. The program has increased in popularity. She estimated they would have the ability to fund 2,600 applications after the valedictorian and salutatorian awards are made. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested the Council be kept informed by email once the applications begin coming in.*

3. Head Start - Verna Thompson

*No one present to report.*

OLD BUSINESS

1. AN ACT AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO CHEROKEE NATION STUDENTS WHO ARE ACCEPTED TO THE MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES OF UNITED STATES  
*Councilor Bill John Baker commented he has done additional research in which he has found the students have to have \$2,000 to \$3,000 to get to the school and get started. He stated the closest academy is in Colorado. The students earn points but that it takes approximately two years to acquire enough points to purchase a plane ticket home. Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to pass the Act as written without restricting them from the ability to apply for other funds if needed. Councilor Glory-Jordan seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts stated during the first year of the military academies you don't go home. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested clarification if the current process allows the academy students to receive the Cherokee Nation Scholarship. Ms. Knight stated the academy students are currently eligible for our \$2,000 scholarship per semester. Currently there are two academy students on the program receiving \$4,000 per year. Councilor Bill John Baker stated the students must buy their first uniform, boots and get to campus. He stated this legislation is to get the student the money up front to get them to the academy and obtain the basics needed. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired if the funds could be used for the summer session. Ms. Knight stated they wouldn't recommend duplicating, she suggested if it is the up front funds that are needed then this Act should go in place of the eligibility of the other scholarship. Councilor Frailey inquired if there were funds available. Ms. Knight commented they haven't opened up this line of eligibility although one is currently known. She stated anyone that is funded by this Act will reduce students that are funded in the fall. Councilor Bill John Baker stated the Gates Scholars are still eligible for the \$2,000 per semester. Chair Coates inquired if there are any comparable provisions for non-Indian students entering military*

*academies. Ms. Knight stated she wasn't aware of any comparisons.*

**The motion for approval failed with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 6 - Bill John Baker; Chuck Hoskin, Jr. ; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; S. Joe Crittenden and Tina Glory Jordan

**Nay:** 9 - Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Chris Soap; Don Garvin; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Julia Coates and Meredith Frailey

#### NEW BUSINESS

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FORMER PRINCIPAL CHIEF WILMA PEARL MANKILLER AS A NATIONAL TREASURE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

*Councilor Crittenden moved to approve with an amendment to remove the "to" from the second line of the seventh whereas to read " , re-established its criminal and civil jurisdiction, and made key innovations in Health and Community Development." He requested the resolution be moved to full Council tonight and offered for anyone to join in as sponsors. Councilor Glory-Jordan seconded the motion. All Council members requested to be sponsors of this resolution.*

**The motion to approve as amended and forward to Council tonight passed unanimously.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried at 4:45 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

*Melanie Knight  
Diane Kelley*

*Paula Ragsdale  
Jennifer Pigeon*

*Doug Evans*

#### VISITORS PRESENT:

*Ollie Starr*

*Todd Hembree*