



# Council of Cherokee Nation

## Meeting Minutes

### Community Services/Tribal Services Committee

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Tuesday, May 15, 2007

2:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

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#### Call To Order

Chair Shotpouch called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

#### Invocation

Council member Conner gave the invocation.

#### Roll Call

**Present** 12 - Bill John Baker; Audra Smoke-Conner; S. Joe Crittenden; Jackie Bob Martin; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Linda Hughes-O'Leary; Melvina Shotpouch; Cara Cowan Watts; Buel Anglen; Taylor Keen and Jack D. Baker

**Absent** 3 - Phyllis Yargee; John F. Keener and Meredith Frailey

#### Approval of Minutes

Council member Cowan Watts made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17th regular session. Councilman Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### Reports

1. Human Services Department  
Norma Merriman

Ms. Norma Merriman announced the Child Support Enforcement office should be open in June. Mr. Jerry Sweet will be available next month for questions and an update. She announced they have a verbal acceptance of a geriatrician who is also a pharmacist for the PACE position. He is scheduled to begin in July. She announced the funds appropriated in October to increase the ICW staff are already providing results. There are 99 tribal custody children as of yesterday. They were able to reunify 20 children in the past 4 months as a result of the additional staff. The Mayes County Methamphetamine Prevention Project had 76 activities in March and 45 in April. They have held 110 school presentations and 3 parenting fairs.

2. Community Services

Charlie Soap

Mr. Don Greenfeather reported in the absence of Charlie Soap. He gave an update on the Ballou and Tailholt self help waterline projects. They will have the closing of the Compassion Capitol Grant the first weekend in June in Tulsa. They are awaiting additional funds for the Community Works program. He provided a pamphlet for the Self-Help Housing Program. These are single packet homes with a payback of \$35,000.00 plus taxes at 0% interest. The participants are provided with technical assistance on how to construct the home as well as the slab, electrical and plumbing. They have placed a material bid on 28 homes and have additional funds appropriated for additional materials. He announced they have applied for SBC funding. They must have clear title to the land and not exceed 50% of the debt to income ratio. The homes are 1344 square feet with 3 bedrooms and 1 bath.

3. Housing Authority

David Southerland

Ms Amy Woodruff reported in the absence of David Southerland.

Councilman Bill John Baker announced the Emergency Housing staff was requested to report monthly to provide updates. Councilman Bill John Baker made a motion to amend the agenda for this month and to make it a monthly reporting item as number 4. Council member O'Leary seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Woodruff announced there have been some staff changes with the Community Shield program. She stated they have staff available to attend community meetings to provide information regarding the program upon request.

4. Emergency Housing/Rehab

Sharon Lay

Ms. Sharon Lay announced they processed 1086 applications during the disaster and served 545 clients. They have served 254 clients through the weatherization program, 385 emergencies, 220 rehabs in process, 21 HIP in process, and 400 applications pending. Councilman Bill John Baker inquired about the status of the rehab applications. Ms. Lay announced they do not have any applications or a waiting list for Tulsa, Nowata, Cherokee, and Rogers counties. Councilman Bill John Baker announced \$500,000.00 was approved in full council last night for the emergency program. Ms. Lay stated they had used all of the funds available during the disaster.

**Old Business**

*None.*

## New Business

### A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF MORTGAGES FOR SELF-HELP HOUSING AND BUILDING PACKAGE HOMES

Ms. Shay Smith announced a wording change in the 5th whereas. Council member Cowan Watts made a motion to approve. Councilman Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## Announcements

Chair Shotpouch announced the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the 12th of June.

## Adjournment

Motion made by Councilman Bill John Baker to adjourn the meeting. Council member Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried at 2:35 p.m.

## Approval / Distribution

Minutes submitted by: Shelli Brittain, Recording Secretary

Motion to approve minutes made by: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes attested and concurred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Staff Present

Norma Merriman  
Ben Phillips  
Velva Gifford

David Pruitt  
Don Greenfeather  
Will Chavez

Darlene Foreman  
Shay Smith

## Visitors Present

Amy Woodruff

Charles Dry

Bob Leach