



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION
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Rules Report
April 2015

I. Budget Highlights

a.) None

II. Program Highlights

a.) N/A

III. Accomplishments

- a.) CNEC staff completed the audit received from Tribal Registration of deceased voters
- b.) The first Candidate Financial Disclosure Reports for the 2015 election cycle were filed
- c.) CNEC is continuing to enhance our street guide database to accommodate in their district and precinct assignments
- d.) Office staff has stayed current and on target with all registration and absentee ballot request processing and Election preparation goals thus far
- e.) CNEC has stayed current with Tribal Registration monthly deceased citizen listings

IV. Future Plans and Initiatives

- a.) The office staff and director are making and will continue to make preparations for the upcoming election cycle
- b.) Hart Intercivic will continue to provide on-site support services throughout the election cycle

I. Budget Highlights – please refer to Monthly Financial Report

Description of Budget exceptions: No budget exceptions to report. Two of three Self Governance Analyst positions are vacant.

II. Program Highlights

1. 2015 Tribal Self-Governance Consultation Conference:

Self-Governance staff participated in the Annual Tribal Self-Governance Consultation Conference on April 26th-30th. Vickie Hanvey served as a moderator and participant in several breakout sessions, which covered a wide array of topics, including Contract Support Costs, Expansion of Self-Governance, IHS Funding Table PSFAs, and other topics. Staff also participated in listening sessions with IHS Oklahoma City Area staff and BIA Eastern Oklahoma Regional staff. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss self-governance specific issues that directly affect tribes in the OKC Area and Eastern Oklahoma Region.

The conference had 745 participants from tribes across Indian Country. The following is a synopsis of participation on various panels by Cherokee staff.

DOI Contract Support Costs: Short and Long Term Solutions	<i>Moderator: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
Expansion of Self-Governance	<i>Panelist: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
Self-Governance under the New OMB OMNI Circular	<i>Moderator: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
IHS Contract Support Costs: Short and Long Term Solutions	<i>Panelist: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
Strategic Plan to Expand Self-Governance- Title VI	<i>Moderator: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
IHS Funding Tables and PSFA: Services and Facilities	<i>Moderator: Vickie Hanvey, Self-Governance Administrator</i>
Leveraging the Improving Patient Care Program in Your Facilities	<i>Panelist: Katherine Hollenbeck, RN Case Manager, Sam Hider Community Clinic,</i>
Office of Justice Service and Department of Justice Law Enforcement Funding 101	<i>Recorder: Clint Hastings, Self-Governance Analyst,</i>
Compacting Indian Trust Programs	<i>Recorder: Clint Hastings, Self-Governance Analyst,</i>
Health Care Funds: OIG Compliance and Tribes Pursuing/Reinvesting Third Party Revenue	<i>Recorder: Clint Hastings, Self-Governance Analyst,</i>



Expansion of SG Panel



CSC Panel

2. Department of Interior Office of Special Trustee (OST) Trust Evaluation

Contractors with the OST Office of Trust Review and Audit (OTRA) visited Cherokee Nation on the week of May 4th to conduct a regular trust evaluation. The Department of the Interior, per 25 CFR 1000.351, is required to conduct trust evaluations of Tribes that have assumed management responsibilities of trust assets via Self-Governance agreements. Under federal regulation, the Secretary of the Interior is responsible for conducting the trust evaluations “to ensure that Tribal and individual trust assets and resources are managed in accordance with the legal principles and standards governing the performance of trust functions...” The last trust evaluation was held in 2012. The Self Governance Office served as the contact/coordinator of the evaluation, which reviewed several different trust programs, including Real Estate, Human Services, Information Technology, Natural Resources, and other departments.

3. Department of Veterans Affairs Direct Care Services Reimbursement Agreement:

The Self-Governance Office worked with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to extend and revise the Nation’s existing Direct Care Services Reimbursement Agreement. The option extends the agreement through May 19th, 2016. The agreement allows Cherokee Nation to bill the VA for certain health care services provided to eligible American Indian veterans and the Nation’s health care facilities. The two parties also revised sections of the agreement to include expanded coverage of outpatient pharmacy services and reimbursement rates more favorable to the Nation.

4. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Region VI Consultation:

On May 6th and 7th, Vickie Hanvey attended the HHS Region VI Consultation in Norman, OK as a representative of the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) Tribal Advisory Committee. Vickie currently serves as the Region VI representative to the ACF TAC and provided an update on the committee's work to all of the tribes and federal staff in attendance. ACF also oversees several other programs and services for Native Americans, including programs that support language preservation, head start, job placement, child care support, and social and economic self-sufficiency.



HHS Regional Consultation in Norman, Ok

5. Bureau of Indian Affairs Roads Inventory:

The Self-Governance Office, Roads Department, and Attorney General's Office are continuing to review the status of the Nation's 2012 Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) Inventory update. The BIA did not include 2.0 miles of roads located on the Sequoyah High School campus to the Nation's IRR inventory as requested by the Nation in 2012. Staff is working to re-engage with the Department of the Interior, which has been slow to provide the Nation with adequate information to resolve this problem.

6. IHS Special Diabetes Program for Indians Consultation Response:

Self-Governance coordinated with Health Services to write a letter in response to the Indian Health Service's request for input on changes to the funding distribution methodology for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI). SDPI was created by Congress in 1997 to treat and prevent diabetes in American Indians/Alaska Natives and is a \$150 million per year grant program administered by IHS. The Nation recommended that IHS keep the current funding formula in place, but utilize more recent user population and diabetes prevalence data in the formula so long as tribes currently receiving funding are held harmless.

7. Contract Support Costs Proposal in the FY 2016 President's Budget:

Tribal leaders and advocates have forged a common position on the issue of mandatory appropriations. This common position has been sent by self-governance tribal leadership to key members of Congress. The tribal position expresses support for the President's three-year proposal, while stating a clear tribal preference for a permanent measure. President Obama's FY 2016 proposal includes:

- Mandatory appropriation, with a specified amount for each year
- X year (or no year) funding which can be carried over in future years
- 2% of CSC totals can be used for administrative and program management

- New CSC estimates will be provided on a three year cycle as part of the reauthorization process. After three years, the mandatory funding for CSC would have to be reauthorized

NEGOTIATIONS:

- **DOI, OST Negotiations:**

Self-Governance staff plan to reengage in renegotiation discussions with the DOI Office of Special Trustee to renegotiate our Real Estate Appraisal Services and Beneficiary Processes Program Memorandums of Understanding. Self-Governance is coordinating with program staff throughout the renegotiations which will resume in the near future.



Vickie Hanvey, SG Administrator and John Brooks, SG Intern attending the NSU Alumni Teach-In.
 Ms. Hanvey is also an Adjunct Professor at NSU Business College



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