



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Mike Shambaugh, Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke

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Monday, January 22, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

THIS MEETING WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Shambaugh, Speaker of the Council

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 16 - Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Joshua Sam; Melvina Shotpouch; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

Absent 1 - Victoria Vazquez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Deere moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief

Chief Hoskin reported on the federal summer food program and the State of Oklahoma not participating this year. He gave highlights from the Durbin Feeling Language Legislation and the Education Act of 2024 up for consideration tonight. Chief Hoskin reported on the recently celebrated road infrastructure. He congratulated Deputy Chief Warner on being a Northeastern State University Centurion, and Brian Hail for becoming part of Hammer C. The Cherokee Nation will not participate in Governor Stitt's Executive Order Task Force where they state McGirt is a broken system. The GRDA has revoked the cross commissions with our Marshal Service which under

minds public safety. The Legislative Session at the State Capitol is coming up.

Speaker Shambaugh gave appreciation to Chief Hoskin for his continued fight for the Cherokee Nation.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief

and

S. Joe Crittenden, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

No Warrior awards were given due to the bad road conditions.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett announced he is happy to report on behalf of approximately 10,000 hard working employees. He provided an update on the financials. He announced the Trail of Tears Spring Event Art Show is in the application process. Last month they present \$60,000 to the Tulsa Area United Way. The Arkansas Racing Committee meets this Wednesday where they will consider Racing in Polk County. He offered to answer any questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Patzkowski moved to amend the agenda to add items 4 through 11. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rules Committee

1.

[23-071](#)

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CECILEY THOMASON MURPHY AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION PHOENIX

Sponsors: Mike Shambaugh, Dora Patzkowski, Victoria Vazquez, Candessa Tehee and Lisa Hall

Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the

motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-001-24

Executive and Finance Committee

2. [23-075](#)

**AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-23 AUTHORIZING
THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024
- MOD. 1; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Joshua Sam, Kevin Easley, Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez and
Dora Patzkowski

**Councilor Easley moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.
The motion carried.**

Enactment No: LA-01-24

3. [23-076](#)

**AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT 22-23 AUTHORIZING THE
COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 -
MOD. 3; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Joshua Sam, Kevin Easley, Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez and
Dora Patzkowski

**Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The
motion carried.**

Enactment No: LA-02-24

4. [24-002](#)

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DWIGHT
BIRDWELL AS MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING
COMMISSION**

Sponsors: Mike Shambaugh, Kevin Easley, Johnny Kidwell, Dora Patzkowski,
Victoria Vazquez, Melvina Shotpouch, Joe Deere, Danny Callison,
Candessa Tehee, Codey Poindexter, Julia Coates, Sasha
Blackfox-Qualls, Lisa Hall and Mike Dobbins

**Councilor Kidwell moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the
motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-002-24

5. [24-003](#)

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JANICE
PURCELL TO THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE CHEROKEE NATION**

Sponsors: Candessa Tehee, Melvina Shotpouch, Lisa Hall, Daryl Legg, Codey
Poindexter, E. O. "JR." Smith, Victoria Vazquez and Julia Coates

**Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.
The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-003-24

6. [24-004](#)**AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 20 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE
ANNOTATED**

Sponsors: Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez, Daryl Legg, E. O. "JR." Smith, Kevin Easley, Candessa Tehee, Johnny Kidwell, Danny Callison and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-03-24

7. [24-005](#)**THE DURBIN FEELING LANGUAGE PRESERVATION ACT - 2024
PERMENANT REAUTHORIZATION**

Sponsors: Candessa Tehee, Mike Shambaugh, Dora Patzkowski, Victoria Vazquez, Codey Poindexter, Joshua Sam, Melvina Shotpouch, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Danny Callison, Julia Coates, Joe Deere, Mike Dobbins, Kevin Easley, Lisa Hall, Johnny Kidwell, Daryl Legg and E. O. "JR." Smith

Councilor Shotpouch made a motion to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-04-24

8. [24-006](#)**A COMPREHENSIVE CHEROKEE NATION EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIP ACT**

Sponsors: Candessa Tehee, Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez, Joshua Sam, Daryl Legg, Kevin Easley, Codey Poindexter, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Danny Callison, Julia Coates, Joe Deere, Mike Dobbins, Lisa Hall, Johnny Kidwell, Dora Patzkowski, Melvina Shotpouch and E. O. "JR." Smith

Councilor Hall moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-05-24

9. [24-001](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE
TRIBAL TRUST LAND FOR AN ANIMAL SHELTER IN DELAWARE
COUNTY TO KENWOOD ANIMAL RESCUE**

Sponsors: Mike Shambaugh, Melvina Shotpouch, E. O. "JR." Smith, Victoria Vazquez and Dora Patzkowski

Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Hall abstaining.

Enactment No: R-004-24

10. [24-007](#)**AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-23 AUTHORIZING
THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024
- MOD 2; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Joshua Sam, Kevin Easley, Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez and Dora Patzkowski

Councilor Sam made a motion to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-06-24

11. [24-008](#)

**AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #22-23 AUTHORIZING
THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2024 - MOD 4; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Joshua Sam, Kevin Easley, Mike Shambaugh, Victoria Vazquez and Dora Patzkowski

Councilor Easley made motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-07-24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Coates announced the At Large meetings will be in Florida on February 10th.

Councilor Deere gave congratulations to Chief of Staff Corey Bunch for obtaining his doctorate.

Councilors Coates, Kidwell, Easley, Callison, Deere, Shotpouch and Poindexter requested prayers for family member of Cherokees who have passed over the past month.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Patzkowski moved to adjourn. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:28 p.m.

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