



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

Joe Byrd, Chair

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

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

10:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:04 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Vazquez gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 15 - Jack D. Baker; Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; David Thornton, Sr.; Victoria Vazquez; Keith Austin; Buel Anglen; Dick Lay; Shawn Crittenden; Wanda Hatfield; Rex Jordan and Bryan Warner

Absent 1 - Harley Buzzard

Late Arrival 1 - David Walkingstick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve the January 26th regular session minutes. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Mr. Buhl announced they have been having active dive operations looking for a missing hiker. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Byrd gave appreciation to all of those who participate in the Polar Plunge fundraising efforts.

Office of the Attorney General - Todd Hembree

Ms. Chrissi Nimmo reported for the Attorney General's office. She commented on the numerous phone calls during election time. She announced the final easement has been issued on the Dakota Pipeline along with a no trespassing order. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Baker inquired about

the printing of the Cherokee Constitution showing the amendments. Councilor Crittenden inquired if they were going to provide legal support for the protestors at Standing Rock. He also inquired if the Attorney General's office could represent Cherokee citizens when the case doesn't involve the Cherokee Nation. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification on the situation when term was defined in the election code. Councilor Lay requested a list of legal aid agencies and contact information by email.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin was not available to report.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

No one was present to report.

Self-Governance - Karen Ketcher

Ms. Ketcher offered to answer questions from the report handed out. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the jurisdiction for the LEA in regard to the Every Student Succeeds Act being considered.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

No one was present to report.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton gave clarification on a portion of the report given pertaining to the number of application received. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the Sequoyah teachers as Cherokee Nation employees not getting the \$1,000 bonus. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the job openings online being updated more frequently. Councilor Taylor inquired as to how often a person should apply for a position at the Cherokee Nation. She also asked what to tell someone who continually applies for employment but never receives an interview.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Walkingstick moved to amend the agenda for consideration of a constitutional referendum on same sex marriage to put to a vote of the Cherokee people. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [16-121](#) A RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION TO AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE ALL CHARITABLE DONATIONS AND SURPLUS EQUIPMENT OF ALL SUBSIDIARIES IN THE CHEROKEE NATION
Councilor Walkingstick moved to table for one month. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [17-013](#) AMENDMENT TO LA 30-04 ESTABLISHMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
- Councilor Hargis gave an overview for the purpose of the amendment. She moved to approve. Councilor Lay seconded the motion. Councilor Baker offered a friendly amendment in (e) Holdover Clause to strike the first sentence. The friendly was accepted. Councilor Hargis requested "etc" be stricken.*
- After discussion was held Councilor Garvin called for the question and the motion to approve carried with Councilor Jordan opposed.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. [17-018](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF LEROY QUALLS AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION FOUNDATION
- Councilor Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. Councilors Walkingstick, Jordan, and Warner requested to be added as sponsors. The motion to approve carried.**
2. [TMP-347](#) DISCUSSION ONLY: TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL EXPENSE POLICY
- Councilor Baker gave an overview of the reason for his proposed amendment. Chair Byrd requested additional time to determine a financial breakdown if this was approved. Councilor Baker moved to table. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
3. [17-023](#) A RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO TITLE 43 SECTIONS 1 & 3 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED, AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT; TO APPROVE AND REFER THE MEASURE ON WHETHER THE DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE AS A CIVIL CONTRACT CONSENT OF PARTIES SHALL BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE OF THE OPPOSITE SEX; TO APPROVE AND REFER THE MEASURE ON WHETHER THE DEFINITION OF WHO MAY NOT BE MARRIED SHALL BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE NOR BETWEEN PARTIES OF THE SAME SEX UNDER "THE CHEROKEE NATION MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PROTECTION ACT OF 2004" AND CODIFIED AS TITLE 43, OF THE CHEROKEE CODE ANNOTATED; AND TO DIRECT IT BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT AT A REGULAR GENERAL ELECTION
- Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve and gave an overview of the purpose of the resolution. Councilor Lay seconded the motion. Following lengthy discussion pertaining to the language and the references to articles in the constitution Councilor Walkingstick made a motion to table. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Lay moved to adjourn. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried at 11:33 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Shannon Buhl
Karen Ketcher
Bruce Davis*

*Chrissi Nimmo
Canaan Duncan
David Cornsilk*

*Nason Morton
Jody Reece
Diane Kelley*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Carolyn Allen

Teddye Snell

Dianne Barker Harrold