



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Jack D. Baker, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain  
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E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Thursday, May 27, 2010

3:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Jack D. Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Hoskin Jr. gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 11 - Bill John Baker; Cara Cowan Watts; Chuck Hoskin; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Janelle Fullbright; S. Joe Crittenden and Tina Glory Jordan

**Absent** 2 - Bradley Cobb and Julia Coates

**Late Arrival** 4 - Buel Anglen; Chris Soap; Jodie Fishinghawk and Meredith Frailey

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve the April 29th regular session and April 29th Donations & Contributions sub committee minutes. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Callie Catcher

*Ms. Catcher reported they are in the process of formulating the 2011 budget and it is going to be a tuff budget year. She stated the 2010 budget has \$25ml in non-recurring revenue which poses a challenge to down size the budgets to match the actual recurring revenue.*

Cherokee Nation Entertainment - David Stewart

*Chair Jack D. Baker announced both Mr. Stewart and Don LeBass are out of town however a written report has been provided for both CNE and CNB. Chair Buzzard commented on his frustrations with CNE placing non-Cherokee's in high positions. He inquired as to the status of the succession plan.*

Cherokee Nation Businesses - David Stewart

*No one present to report.*

Cherokee Nation Industries - Robert Drvostep

*Mr. Drvostep reported CNI's revenue for the month of March was close to budget at \$10,997,233 with an operating profit of \$73,000. Councilor Buzzard inquired as to the budget status of the two remaining construction projects. Mr. Drvostep announced they are right on budget. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired as to the amount of potential profit on the two remaining construction projects. Mr. Drvostep stated he doesn't have the numbers with him although the profit before corporate overhead is approximately 5 to 6%. For the month of March CNI has 495 employees with 81% being Native American.*

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

*Ms. Kelley announced we now have employees working in the Gulf. An additional training class is set up for June with 65 participants signed up so far. She gave appreciation to the Environmental Services Program for providing the 40 hours of training required. Ms. Kelley provided a handout of information pertaining to a new program they are applying for regarding employment and training notices. They are considering moving some of the Day Work participants to this program if approved. The Summer Youth Program is scheduled to begin on the 3rd of June and the Day Work Program is scheduled for the 9th of June. Criteria now exists for the Day Work Program participants.*

Commerce - Anna Knight

*Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from her written report.*

Cherokee Nation Education Corporation - Kimberlie Gilliland

*Ms. Gilliland gave appreciation for allowing them to defer their report a month as both she and Shelley Butler-Allen were on travel status. She announced they have received a record number of scholarship applications this quarter. Each applicant is required to write an essay as well as provide support on how they give back to the Cherokee communities or our language, history and culture. The Artist and Residency Program has been launched in Murray County, Georgia. On private donations Robert Lewis and Gayle Ross were able to provide story telling in 22 different public schools. The same funder provided funding for our immersion school to enable David Scott to make gourd masks with the children. Councilor Hoskin requested a breakdown of their administrative costs to allow a comparison with the Education Department. Ms. Gilliland stated she would provide the numbers within a couple of weeks. She stated they issue private scholarships because they are all privately funded and their status as a 501C-3 allows them to give a tax credit and tax benefits to the private citizens. Chair Jack D. Baker inquired if all of the Reddus*

*funds have been received. Ms. Gilliland replied they have not but expect the last portion to come in on the 4th of June.*

CONSENT ITEMS:

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

*Councilor Glory-Jordan made a request to remove the Ermost Group, LLC from the certification list to allow them to go back before the certification committee. Ms. Kelley provided clarification that the business needs to remain on the list so they can make a request to go before the review committee. Councilor Glory-Jordan withdrew her request.*

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Fishinghawk seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

CEMETERY RESTORATION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve the amended cemetery application list provided as submitted. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Ms. Catcher announced they are considering making a policy for payments to employees for cemetery assistance and sports teams funding.**

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve the amended list provided. Councilor Soap seconded the motion. Councilor Hoskin requested the addition of the Craig County Sheriff's Reserves for \$4,000 and the City of Nowata for \$2,000. Councilor Crittenden requested to add \$9,000 split between himself and Councilor Fishinghawk to the City of Stilwell. Councilor Cowan Watts and Soap accepted the additions. Motion carried.**

ROADS

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve the amended Roads request. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to amend the agenda to include a resolution regarding inherited property in California. Councilor Bill John Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried to place as new business item #3.**

OLD BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION: STATUS OF FY2010 COUNCIL INITIATIVES

*Councilor Hoskin inquired if the Administration had updates to provide. Ms. Ragsdale reported payments are out to all of the approved items in regard to Donations and Contributions with the exception of the Red Cross item. She announced they are*

working with Salvation Army programs in Districts 9 and 7 to determine the number of Cherokee citizens who are served in their food pantries. She reported a letter requesting additional information has been sent out to all of the food pantries on the list provided at last month's meeting. Councilor Fishinghawk stated in the budget hearings the motion was for \$2,000 to the nutrition sights, \$2,000 to organization/community buildings and \$2,000 to food pantries. She inquired if any of these had received the funding. Ms. Ragsdale stated she would follow up and report back. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested a list for the food pantries, the nutrition sights and community buildings be provided to the Council to allow review of their areas to determine if all are accounted for.

**Councilor Glory-Jordan moved to table for one month to allow Ms. Ragsdale the opportunity to provide the list. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion to table. Motion carried.**

**Ms. Ragsdale provided a handout of the policy regarding the driveway and sidewalks.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OVER INCOME FUNDING

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to move \$500,000 from contingency reserve to summer youth. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Councilor Bill John Baker stated there are 103 over income students that have applied. A family with an income over \$14,000 is considered to be over income for the Summer Youth Program. He suggested giving priority to the lowest of the high income applicants first. In the contingency reserve there is \$2,237,174 of which we have expended zero this year. Last year \$3,000,000 was put in the contingency reserve and zero was spent. Ms. Catcher commented she understands the dilemma. When the \$8ml budget cut was brought forward last month it was done with the intent of preserving job and as much as possible the programs. One of the programs recommended to not be funded was the summer youth over income. She stated this is partly due to the \$1.5ml invested in the Day Work Program. She stated it is not responsible to take money out of the contingency reserve and put it toward a program that we can not continue to fund without reducing other programs. She stated we have been funding initiatives with non-recurring revenue. Councilor Bill John Baker gave other options of funding sources. Councilor Glory-Jordan stated a budget analysis has been done and there are a number of budgets that are consistently under spent year after year. She stated she doesn't want to make cuts that she would rather Ms. Catcher make the cuts but she doesn't have a problem finding the funds if she has to. Councilor Glory-Jordan commented on the numerous vacant jobs that aren't being filled year after year. She stated she will not vote against helping the youth. Councilor Hoskin Jr. stated he would rather balance the budget on the backs of lobbyists and lawyers in Washington who advocate on various Congressional initiatives rather than these Cherokee youth. The lawyers and lobbyists are better able to come back at a later time to advocate on their own for funding.

Councilor Fishinghawk offered a friendly amendment to take \$75,000 out of the \$600,000 in contingency reserve coming back out of the Salina Clinic to a line item in the Council's budget for travel. Councilors Bill John Baker and Anglen accepted. Councilor Fishinghawk called for the question. The call for the question carried with Councilors Soap and Garvin opposed.

**The motion to approve with the friendly amendment carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 10 - Bill John Baker; Buel Anglen; Chuck Hoskin; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Harley Buzzard; Janelle Fullbright; Jodie Fishinghawk; S. Joe Crittenden and Tina Glory Jordan

**Nay:** 4 - Chris Soap; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker and Meredith Frailey

**Abstain:** 1 - Cara Cowan Watts

2. AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-09 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 - MOD 8; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to approve the mod with the previous motion included. Councilor Fishinghawk seconded the motion. Councilor Glory-Jordan called for the question. The motion to call for the question carried with Councilor Hoskin Jr. opposed. The motion to approve carried.**

3. AMENDED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF INHERITED PROPERTY IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND AUTHORIZING THE PLEDGE OF CREDIT OF THE CHEROKEE NATION ASSOCIATED WITH THE INHERITED PROPERTY

**Councilor Bill John Baker moved to approve. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried at 5:10 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Callie Catcher</i>	<i>Doug Evans</i>	<i>Anna Knight</i>
<i>Kimberlee Gilliland</i>	<i>Jon Overacker</i>	<i>Diane Kelley</i>
<i>Paula Ragsdale</i>	<i>Mike Miller</i>	<i>Linda Donelson</i>

#### VISITORS PRESENT:

*Robert Drvostep*                      *Ollie Starr*