



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

*Joe Byrd, Speaker*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke*

*Phone: 1-800-995-9465*

*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Thursday, May 28, 2020

10:30 AM

TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICES

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### CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd  
Speaker of the Council

**Speaker Byrd called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Patzkowski gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke  
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

**Present** 12 - Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joe Byrd; Harley Buzzard; Canaan Duncan ; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere and Keith Austin

**Absent** 5 - Mary Baker Shaw; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Rex Jordan and Julia Coates

### DECLARATION OF EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES PURSUANT TO LA-04-20

**Speaker Byrd announced a vote would need to be taken to declare events of extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the Tribal Council that prevent or inhibit Tribal Council members from being physically present and authorizing remote attendance of the session or meeting by audio visual device. The events of extraordinary circumstances are the pandemic of Coronavirus COVID-19 previously declared by the Principal Chief in the emergency disaster declaration of March 16, 2020. Councilor Shambaugh moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.**

### ROLL CALL

**Councilors Coates, Jordan, Shaw, Taylor and Vazquez attended remotely.**

**Present** 12 - Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joe Byrd; Harley Buzzard; Canaan Duncan ; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere and Keith Austin

**Absent** 5 - Mary Baker Shaw; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Rex Jordan and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Nofire moved to approve the April 27th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.  
Principal Chief

*Chief Hoskin commented on the legislation up for approval during the meeting that would help restore the Cherokee Nation and out entities. The tribe continues to be in a strong financial position but the efforts have come at a great cost. This cost deserves assistance from the United States in the form of the CARES Act.*

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*None pending.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

AMEND THE AGENDA

**Councilor Deere moved to amend the agenda to include comprehensive operating budget modification #9 just passed out of Executive & Finance committee. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

[20-027](#)

**AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #15-19 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 - MOD. 9; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**Sponsors:** Janees Taylor

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

Enactment No: LA-09-20

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Dobbins announced the election law reform work group will meet immediately following this meeting.*

*Councilor Shambaugh commended the health system and our nurses for all of their hard work at the drive thru testing sites.*

*Councilor Deere announced a grocery give away in North Tulsa tomorrow.*

*Councilor Smith announced tomorrow at Blue Ribbon Downs will be the drive thru grocery give away.*

*Councilor Nofire announced they are in the process of coordinating the next District 3 grocery give away.*

*Councilor Legg announced they are working in a partnership with Go Fresh, Carl Albert and the American Indian Resource Center for their grocery give away on the next four Fridays at Carl Albert.*

*Councilor Crittenden announced tonight at the Mid County Fire Department will be a food box give away and at Carson Park in Stilwell.*

*Councilor Austin commented on the medical personnel rising to the occasion at the Claremore Indian Hospital. He announced he along with Councilors Patskowski, Vazquez, Taylor and Deere provided every employee of the Claremore Hospital a boxed lunch.*

*Councilor Buzzard gave appreciation to the current Cherokee Nation Administration as well as several individuals and organizations in District 9 for their efforts during this pandemic.*

*Councilor Duncan expressed gratitude for the community organizations and volunteers for their efforts.*

*Councilor Shambaugh gave appreciation to the Kansas Volunteer Fire Department for assisting in each of his food give away events. He also commented on the schools for their feed programs during this pandemic.*

*Speaker Byrd commented on the ceremony held in honor of Memorial Day. He also commended Chief of Staff, Todd Enlow, for being a warrior during this time.*

*Chief of Staff Enlow announced Hello Fresh and Food on the Move are providing the food boxes. He provided details regarding the refrigeration issues and the need to coordinate quickly to distribute.*

*Councilor Dobbins inquired if the schools would be able to continue the food program throughout the remainder of the summer.*

*Councilor Legg announced the loss of Echo Rider, Janelle Fullbright's Aunt, and requested a moment of silence.*

*Speaker Byrd announced all of the committee and Council meetings will be held*

*beginning at 9:00 a.m. on June 25th and a PAC sub is scheduled remotely for June 15th.*

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Duncan moved to adjourn. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 11:59 a.m.**