



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

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Monday, January 11, 2016

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd
Speaker of the Council

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Vazquez gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 17 - Joe Byrd; David Thornton, Sr. ; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Victoria Vazquez; Buel Anglen; Rex Jordan; David Walkingstick; Dick Lay; Bryan Warner ; Shawn Crittenden; Keith Austin and Wanda Hatfield

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the December 14, 2015 regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Bill John Baker
Principal Chief

Chief Baker wished everyone a Happy New Year and commented on the blessing of 2015. Last Friday they met with the Secretary of HUD as he launched a new HUD VA program to help native veterans. We are one of twenty-six tribes nationwide to be selected to participate in this new HUD VA program. The Attorney General's Office and the One Fire Program secured a \$400,000 grant from the Department of Justice to increase the awareness and help prosecute more sexual assault cases against women. We have issued our first hunting and fishing licenses to the Cherokee Nation citizens across the state of Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation Treasurer Lacey Horn has been appointed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury Tribal Advisory Committee.

He extended congratulations to Ms. Horn and her financial team for securing the certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting. The tribe has earned this honor for fourteen straight years. The Bureau of Indian Education Director has been with us today visiting our Sequoyah campus and our tribal complex. He requested a moment of silence to recognize those Cherokee citizens who we have lost over the last month.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

S. Joe Crittenden
Deputy Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Crittenden honored Cherokee veterans Chester Benton Havenstrike, Samuel Jordan Jr., and Selbert Lee Taylor.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Housing Authority - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper gave additional information on the HUD VA demonstration program. The Housing Authority will celebrate its 50th anniversary in May. The board meeting for this month will be held on the 19th at 5:30 p.m. at the Tahlequah offices. The HUD National Negotiated Rule Making committee will meet later this month. He gave an update on the HUD Deputy Assistant Directors position vacancy. The Housing Authority continues to provide housing to over 7,000 families each and every month through various programs. As of November they have 178 employees with 96% being Cherokee.

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Shawn Slaton

Mr. Slaton reported December was the end of the first quarter for FY2016 and it ended very strong. He announced their diversified businesses set a record for contract wins from the 8A government work performed. They contributed an additional \$251,000 in December to the Tax Commission for various taxes collected. He provided an update on the various projects. Several employees volunteered and raised funds to be able to present a check last month to the Cherokee Nation for \$27,000 for Heart of the Nation to be used in the purchase of diabetic shoes. Cherokee Nation Technologies is supporting the USGS through a new \$30ml contract providing scientific and technical support to the United States Geological Survey. They have launched season 2 of Osiyo Voices of the Cherokee People. Currently there are 6,516 employees with 4,665 once the temporary and contract employees are excluded. Cherokee percentage is currently 73.5% with other Native American at 7.9% for a total of 81.4% Native American employment. Speaker Byrd gave appreciation for the improvement in the Cherokee employment percentages. Councilor Thornton gave appreciation for the Roland renovations and additions. He commented on the Vian housing issues. He also gave appreciation to the work performed by Mark Fulton. Councilor Buzzard gave appreciation to the employees

for volunteering to raise money for the diabetic shoes.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive and Finance Committee

1. [15-098](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE NATION WAREHOUSE TO DONATE SURPLUS OFFICE EQUIPMENT TO FOYIL COMMUNITY BUILDING IN ROGERS COUNTY**

Councillor Austin moved to approve. Councillor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [15-099](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #17-15 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 - MOD. 3; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councillor Taylor moved to approve. Councillor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councillor Lay abstaining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Thornton announced the Vian School Board will be honoring the Cherokee Nation Language Bowl winners from Vian. One of the team members is his granddaughter.

Councillor Hargis gave appreciation to all of the Cherokee citizens and employees who have helped with the flood relief in Chewey and along Highway 10. She gave a special thank you to January Hoskin, wife of our Secretary of State, who organized a donation center in Vinita and raised over \$2,000 for the flood victims here.

Councillor Warner announced tomorrow at the Roland Casino there will be a photo id event from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Buzzard announced the JOM Committee in Jay has been recognized nationally with a JOM award. A Grove teacher, Lona Hampton, has been recognized as a National teacher of the year. He also gave recognition to the BIE Director in attendance this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councillor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:33 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.

