



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,

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Monday, December 17, 2018

11:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Austin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - Keith Austin; Buel Anglen; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Shawn Crittenden; Wanda Hatfield; Rex Jordan; Bryan Warner ; Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins and Mary Baker Shaw

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the November 14th regular session minutes. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Mr. Scot Craig offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Walkingstick commended the emergency management group for their efforts during the recent tornado. Mr. Craig touched on a low interest loan available through emergency management for the tornado victims. FEMA hasn't declared a disaster at this time. Chief Baker commented on the tribal emergency funds available.

Office of the Attorney General - Chrissi Nimmo

Ms. Nimmo introduced, Taylor Edwards, a new attorney in their office. Ms. Nimmo gave an update on the Murphy Case and the ICWA Case. She also touched on how Ryan Zinky, The Secretary of the Interior, stepping down could affect changes in the BIA. She offered to answer questions. Councilor Taylor referenced a recent issue where she contacted the Attorney General's office regarding a timeline on an ICW case

where the family was later told by an ICW worker that they shouldn't reach out to their Councilor and it is harassment for them to contact the Attorney General's office. She requested clarification on the harassment comment. Councilor Buzzard requested a briefing on the BIA letter circulated regarding the certification of the election code. Questions were raised about the 1999 Constitution.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported no changes since the last report.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Lay requested a tag office in Copan.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Ms. Kelly Myer offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton referenced the report where we have exceeded 3,700 employees. He offered to answer questions. Councilor Walkingstick requested a legal definition of an employee. Councilor Crittenden requested a listing of all of the different definitions of an employee.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [18-084](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CHRIS CARTER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC
Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. Mr. Carter was present for questions. Councilor Crittenden requested contact information for the CNB Board members. He also inquired about the salary of a position on this board. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Crittenden abstaining.
2. [18-085](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DR. ROGER MONTGOMERY AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Shaw moved to approve. Councilor Warner seconded the motion. Councilor Dobbins requested an overview of Cherokee Health Partners. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Lay opposed.
3. [18-086](#) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND SHOWING APPRECIATION TO OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY GENERAL MIKE HUNTER FOR HIS WORK IN SUPPORT OF WEARING EAGLE FEATHERS DURING GRADUATION CEREMONIES
Councilor Warner moved to approve. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. Councilor Walkingstick requested clarification on the content of the letter. The

motion to approve carried.

4. [TMP-376](#)

DISCUSSION ONLY - THE ELECTION LAW - LEGISLATIVE ACT 12-16 AMENDING TITLE 26 "ELECTIONS" AND LEGISLATIVE ACT 26-14 ADDRESSING NOTARY PUBLIC ISSUES AND THE RETURN OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Chair Byrd stated he was requested to place this on the agenda, it is for discussion only. Due to timing with the upcoming general election and the BIA approval process there isn't enough time to amend. He requested the Election Commission Attorney, Harvey Chaffin, come forward for questions. Councilor Austin requested this discussion item be withdrawn as it is improper due to the election cycle currently being underway. Councilors raised question and requested clarification about the current absentee processes.

Councilor Vazquez made a motion to table indefinitely. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. Chair Byrd stated this is a discussion only item in which he is the sponsor and will withdraw. He recommended review of the election law and to bring forward amendments following the completion of the upcoming general election.

Chairman Byrd as the sponsor withdrew this discussion only item.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Warner made a motion to amend the agenda to appoint members to the elected officials compensation committee. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

[18-091](#)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING _____ TO THE CHEROKEE NATION ELECTED OFFICIALS CITIZEN COMMITTEE

Councilor Warner made a motion to appoint Lyndon Emberton to the Cherokee Nation Elected Officials Citizens Committee. A resume has been provided and Mr. Emberton served on this committee previously. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. Councilor Walkingstick voiced concern for resolutions being submitted for consideration without an appointee listed. Chairman Byrd requested clarification from the Legal & Legislative Coordinator, Shelli Brittain Coke, in regard to past practices. Councilor Crittenden voiced concern for the last minute process. Councilor Taylor inquired if there are one or two positions open. The motion carried.

Councilor Austin moved to approve Suzanne B. Gilstrap to the Cherokee Nation Elected Officials Citizens Committee. Councilor Buzzard seconded the motion. The motion carried with a request both of these nomination move forward to Council this evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried at 12:48 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Lacey Horn</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>	<i>Taryn King</i>
<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>	<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>	<i>Roger Montgomery</i>
<i>Connie Parnell</i>	<i>Brian Hail</i>	<i>Marcus Fears</i>
<i>Scott Craig</i>	<i>Bill John Baker</i>	<i>Todd Enlow</i>
<i>Kelly Myres</i>	<i>Taylor Edwards</i>	<i>Nason Morton</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Chris Carter</i>	<i>Shawn Slaton</i>	<i>Harvey Chaffin</i>
<i>Shaun Shepherd</i>	<i>Teddy Snell</i>	<i>Tahlina Nofire Blakestad</i>