



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

*Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker*  
*Kevin Easley, Jr., Deputy Speaker*

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

---

Thursday, October 30, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

---

### CALL TO ORDER

Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker of the Council

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

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

**Present** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Deere moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief

*Chief Hoskin commented current state of emergency due to the federal government shutdown. He announced the changes made to the SNAP benefits for Cherokee citizens during this emergency and gave appreciation to the Council for the laws in place that allow quick action in times of need. He stated we should be worried but to know that we are in a strong financial situation. The State of Oklahoma has \$3.69b in surplus and could put a portion of these funds in place to assist the women and children who are going to be cut off from the SNAP program. Chief Hoskin provided an update on the Claremore hospital with the changes to be made to the current building and the new facility. An Elder Summit was held at the Hard Rock yesterday for the northern area and tomorrow a summit will be held for the southern area at the Choeta Center. A celebration was held for the signing of the Heritage Center Act. An Act*

*prioritizing the care of Cherokee cemeteries has been signed. A Speakers Gathering and Language Summit has been scheduled. He announced a wage increase for employees who are fluent speakers. Chief Hoskin spoke of the opening of the ICW building here in Tahlequah. The opening of the Warner Community Building was held. The road in Bowlin Springs has been fixed. He attended the new housing in Ochelata. This year Flag Day was celebrated with the creator of the original Cherokee Nation flag, Stanley John. Chief Hoskin visited the native villages in Alaska who were affected by the recent storms and announced the Cherokee Nation is giving \$25,000 in recovery efforts. The Scared Summit is scheduled for November 4th and 5th at Hard Rock. A Veteran's Summit will be held on November 12th for the Southern Cherokees in Roland and on November 19th for the Northern Cherokees at the Craig County fairgrounds. Special guests were recognized as the 2025/2026 Cherokee Nation Royalty and Ambassadors.*

#### CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief

and

S. Joe Crittenden, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

*Deputy Secretary of State Duncan and Secretary of Veteran Affairs Crittenden presented Veterans Rita Sharon Didion and Carlos Gentry Rogers with the Cherokee Medals of Patriotism.*

#### RECOGNITION: Woodall Public School Softball Team

*Councilor Sasha Blackfox-Qualls recognized the Woodall Softball undefeated State Champions in attendance.*

#### ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

*Mr. Garrett delivered his monthly report earlier in the day at Executive & Finance Committee.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### Rules Committee

A. [25-095](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE TRIBAL TRUST LAND IN THE CHEROKEE NATION INDUSTRIAL PARK TO THE CHERRY TREE RURAL WATER DISTRICT, INC.**

**Sponsors:** Lisa Hall, Codey Poindexter and Joshua Sam

**Councilor Hall moved to approve. Secretary Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-073-25

B. [25-097](#)**CHEROKEE NATION TRAIL SYSTEM ACT**

**Sponsors:** Johnny Kidwell, Kevin Easley, Joshua Sam, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Daryl Legg, Clifton Hughes, Julia Coates, Joe Deere, Danny Callison, Melvina Shotpouch, Codey Poindexter, Candessa Tehee, Uriah Grass, Kendra McGeady, Dora Patzkowski, Lisa Hall and Ashley Grant

**Councilor McGead moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Enactment No: LA-30-25

C. [25-098](#)**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SUPPORT FOR JOE DEERE AS CANDIDATE FOR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS**

**Sponsors:** Johnny Kidwell, Kevin Easley, Candessa Tehee, Codey Poindexter, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Joshua Sam, Uriah Grass, Clifton Hughes, Kendra McGeady, Danny Callison, Ashley Grant, Daryl Legg, Melvina Shotpouch, Lisa Hall and Julia Coates

**Deputy Speaker Easley moved to approve. Councilor Callison seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-074-25

D. [25-099](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND TO APPOINT THE TRIBAL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES**

**Sponsors:** Johnny Kidwell, Kevin Easley, Joshua Sam, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Daryl Legg, Clifton Hughes, Julia Coates, Joe Deere, Danny Callison, Melvina Shotpouch, Codey Poindexter, Candessa Tehee, Uriah Grass, Kendra McGeady, Dora Patzkowski, Lisa Hall and Ashley Grant

**Secretary Sam moved to approve. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-075-25

E. [25-101](#)**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DANIEL MEAD AS MARSHAL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION**

**Sponsors:** Johnny Kidwell, Kevin Easley, Joshua Sam, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Danny Callison, Julia Coates, Joe Deere, Ashley Grant, Uriah Grass, Lisa Hall, Clifton Hughes, Daryl Legg, Kendra McGeady, Dora Patzkowski, Codey Poindexter, Melvina Shotpouch and Candessa Tehee

**Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-076-25

Executive and Finance CommitteeF. [25-102](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE NATION TO DONATE SURPLUS ITEM TO THE FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INC.**

**Sponsors:** Joshua Sam and Dora Patzkowski

**Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve. Councilor Shotpouch seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Enactment No: R-077-25

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Numerous Councilors announced the passing of Cherokees over the last month and requested their remembrance.*

*Councilor Deere announced an Owasso Indian Education fundraiser on October 2nd and the Choctaw Powwow tomorrow at their event center.*

*Chief Hoskin announced At Large Organizations would be receiving \$5,000 for direct relief from the federal government shutdown.*

*Councilor Blackfox-Qualls announced an upcoming Trunk or Treat, a community meeting on November 4th at the Hulbert Community Building and the Norwood Fall Festival.*

*Councilor Tehee announced a community meeting on November 6th with Districts 1, 2, 3, and 8 at the Cherokee County Community building.*

*Councilor Legg announced a District 6 and 7 community meeting on November 3rd in Belfonte.*

*Councilor McGeady announced a community meeting in South Coffeyville on November 13th.*

*Councilor Hughes announced a community meeting with Districts 9 and 10 on November 14th at the Jay Community Building.*

*Chief Hoskin announced At Large meetings on November 15th and 16th in Arizona.*

*Speaker Kidwell recognized three Council Members who ran the TTCU 15k this past weekend as Councilors McGeady, Tehee and Grant. He reminded everyone to set their clocks back this weekend. He announced November is Native American Heritage Month. The swearing in of Marshal Mead will take place immediately following the adjournment of this meeting.*

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Shotpouch seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:52 p.m.**