



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Joshua Sam, Chair*

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

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Monday, November 6, 2023

5:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sam called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Callison gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 17 - Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Melvina Shotpouch; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Victoria Vazquez; Joshua Sam; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Shotpouch moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Cherokee Nation Businesses - Chuck Garrett

*Mr. Ben Blossch reported on the financials and the employee base. He offered to answer questions from the report.*

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Janees Taylor

*Mr. Jamie Cole offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

*Mr. Hunter Palmer gave highlights from the report and staff training. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Deere requested clarification on the facility at J.W. Sam. Councilor Shotpouch requested on clarification on the Work*

*Experience program and getting work for the participants who were on that program.*

Commerce - Anna Knight

*Mr. Stephen Highers reported their offices have moved to the Cort Mall where the Spider Gallery is located. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Legg inquired about buffalo burgers at the Kawi Cafe.*

CONSENT ITEMS:

*Mr. Jody Reece announced the elective travel carry over is now included in the community assistance funds.*

**No issues or concerns were voiced.**

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

ROADS

SPORTS TEAMS APPLICATIONS

LIVESTOCK PREMIUM SHOW APPLICATIONS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

1.     [23-066](#)     AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #22-23 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 - Mod. 2 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY  
  
*Co Chair Easley moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. Ms. Christina Justice gave an explanation for the funding request for the landfill. Several questions were asked pertaining to the landfill.*  
  
**The motion to approve carried.**
  
2.     [23-069](#)     A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF EQUIPMENT TO OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE VIA THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

**Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:17 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery*  
*Stephen Highers*  
*Shella Bowlin*

*Jody Reece*  
*Brenda Fitzgerald*  
*Corey Bunch*

*Jamie Cole*  
*Hunter Palmer*  
*Chad Harsha*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Ben Blosch*

*Teddye Snell*

*John Young*