



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

*Mike Shambaugh, Chair*

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

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Thursday, September 29, 2022

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Shambaugh called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

*Councilor Coates attended remotely.*

**Present** 16 - Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin; Julia Coates; Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Joshua Sam; Melvina Shotpouch; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh and Victoria Vazquez

**Absent** 1 - Shawn Crittenden

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the August minutes. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

*Mr. Buhl reported his Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Investigator is looking into the information related to the Girl Scout murders. He gave some highlights from the report provided. Councilor Dobbins requested clarification on the Girl Scout murders. Councilor Smith inquired if we have any dealings with the Marshals Museum in Ft. Smith.*

Office of the Attorney General - Sara Hill

*Ms. Hill reported they are still dealing with the fallout from the Castro-Huerta decision. She gave an update on the Brackeen case to be heard in November. She offered to*

*answer questions from the report provided. Chair Shambaugh inquired about possible action for or against the Castro-Huerta case. Councilor Coates inquired if there is anything we could do to show or indicate our presence with the Supreme Court during these very important cases.*

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Ms. Terrapin reported there are sixteen FOIA requests with five of those outstanding at this time and no GRA requests.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

*Ms. Hendricks offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Tehee inquired about the learning portal hours and the time to fill positions. Councilor Dobbins requested clarification on the Human Resources staff at the clinic. Chair Shambaugh voiced concern for the hiring process taking entirely too long and gave the immediate need for additional Marshals as an example.*

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

*Ms. Purcell offered to answer questions from the report provided. She announced a job fair would be held at the Chota center on October 6th. Councilor Kidwell inquired as to the date of the next commission meeting.*

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. [22-048](#) A LEGISLATIVE ACT CREATING TITLE 21, SECTION 1835.2 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED - RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY  
**Councilor Patzkowski made a motion to table. Councilor Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. [22-078](#) A RESOLUTION ELECTING A MEMBER OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL TO THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL  
**Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
- 2. [22-079](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING A TRIBAL COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE BOARD MEMBER SEAT OF THE CHEROKEE NATION SEQUOYAH HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
*Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. Chair Shambaugh explained how the process for nominations and voting would happen. Councilor Sam nominated Carolyn Shipley, Councilor Nofire nominated Ryan Sierra, and Councilor Tehee nominated Sara Quetone. Each nominee was given the opportunity to give their background and then answer questions. Councilor Vazquez requested clarification if a Cherokee Nation employee could be a SHS board member.*

Chair Shambaugh requested a roll call vote where each Councilor would vote for either Ms. Shipley or Mr. Sierra, the nominee obtaining the majority will obtain the seat. Ms. Carolyn Shipley obtained the majority vote of 12 of 16 total votes as follows:

**Carolyn Shipley votes: Councilors Austin, Callison, Deere, Jordan, Kidwell, Legg, Patzkowski, Sam, Shambaugh, Shotpouch, Smith and Vazquez.**

**Ryan Sierra votes: Councilor Coates, Dobbins, Nofire and Tehee.**

3. [22-076](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 22 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED RELATING TO THE SAFETY OF NATIVE WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND JUSTICE PERSONNEL AND EXPANDING SPECIAL TRIBAL CRIMINAL JURISDICTION  
**Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
4. [22-077](#) CHEROKEE ARTIST RECOVERY ACT  
**Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. Councilor Coates requested to be added as a sponsor. The motion carried.**
5. [TMP-405](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: AMENDING THE TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL EXPENSE POLICY TO INCREASE THE ELECTIVE TRAVEL EXPENSES OF THE "AT LARGE" COUNCILORS  
**Councilor Kidwell moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. Councilor Jordan and Austin requested to be added as sponsors. The motion carried.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Callison began reading into the record a complaint pertaining to a Councilor attending a meeting within his district without prior notification. A point of order was called.*

*Councilor Nofire announced a community meeting at Dry Creek tonight.*

*Councilor Sam announced an Beyond the Trail Indigenous Day Event in Stilwell on October 10th.*

*Councilor Deere announced a powwow on October 22 at the Owasso YMCA.*

*Councilor Smith inquired as to the proper procedure to file a complaint.*

*Councilor Patzkowski announced community meetings in both Nowata and Ochelata.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:12 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery  
Sara Hill  
Samantha Hendricks  
Camerin Fite James*

*Gwen Terrapin  
Tina Glory Jordan  
Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Janice Purcell*

*Sharon Swebston  
Jody Reece  
Shannon Buhl*

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

*Carolyn Shipley  
John Young*

*Travis Owens  
Teddy Snell*

*Ryan Sierra*

*Remote:  
Sara Quetone*

*Molly Jarvis*