



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Janelle Fullbright, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Monday, April 16, 2012

1:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fullbright called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Garvin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Buel Anglen; Curtis Snell; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Julia Coates; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; Cara Cowan Watts; Frankie Hargis and Joe Byrd

Late Arrival 6 - David Thornton, Sr. ; Meredith Frailey; Jodie Fishinghawk; Tina Glory Jordan; David Walkingstick and Chuck Hoskin Jr.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Byrd moved to approve the March 12th regular session minutes.
Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

REPORTS:

1. Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere offered to answer questions from the reports provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired as to the status of the MRI machine. Councilor Keener inquired about the status of the emergency room redesign.

2. Cherokee Nation Health Services - Connie Davis

Ms. Davis offered to answer questions from the reports provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired as to the status of the 5% dividend for contract health. Ms. Davis stated they would begin utilizing the funds this week. She stated no changes had been made to the policy. Councilor Cowan Watts requested the policy be changed to reflect a Rogers County citizen would get the same as Cherokees in other counties. She also inquired about the jurisdictional issues at Claremore Indian hospital and the

possibilities of compacting. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired about those people who have been denied since the Act was passed but prior to the policy being put into place. Councilor Hargis inquired about vision patients being charged more with insurance than those who don't have insurance. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired if the automatic appeal process has started as requested last month. Ms. Davis commented they will provided a monthly report showing the people approved through contract health with these dividend funds. Councilor Fishinghawk requested additional information about a health group employee who is going to law school. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested clarification on the dividend in regard to the dentures, eyeglasses and Claremore contract health denials. Ms. Davis provided a copy of the policy. Several other questions were asked about the dividend policy.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [11-136](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FUNDING OF CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH SERVICES, INC. LIFE CARE PROGRAM FOR THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS

Councilor Frailey moved to approve. Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve. Councilor Cowan Watts asked questions about the program proposed and which budget would provide the \$250,000 requested. Councilor Cowan Watts requested prior to the next Executive & Finance Committee for Mr. Doug Evans to located available funds. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired if Ms. Davis had the opportunity to review this program and determine if it is feasible to take this function under the Health Group. Ms. Davis stated they are considering this but have not completed their review.

Councilor Hoskin Jr. moved to table. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion.

Councilor Walkingstick inquired if it has been determined if this is a non-profit or a profit program. Councilor Glory-Jordan agreed with the concept of the program but stated she couldn't vote for it unless it was placed with the Health Group. Councilor Frailey inquired how this would impact the Health Group if they were to take over the program.

The motion to table to next month passed with some opposition.

Mr. Richards requested to be able to present to the Council next month an overview and history of the Home Health Group and Elder Care. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested the presentation also include how PACE receives funds from Cherokee Health Partners.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Coates seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

Doug Nolan

Connie Davis

Doug Evans

VISITORS PRESENT:

Raymond Vann
Ferrell Prater

Rick Richards
Patricia Carpenter

George Valliere
Flo Guthrie