



# 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 Coke*  
*Phone: 1-800-995-9465,*  
*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Thursday, February 28, 2019

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Chairman Byrd gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

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

**Late Arrival** 1 - David Walkingstick

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Shaw moved to approve the January 31st regular session minutes. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

*Mr. Buhl reported the housing addition patrols are down in the report due to the increase in the emergency detention orders to transport to a treatment facility. He announced two of his marshals have been certified with the FBI as task force officers. He stated they do have some ongoing investigations they are currently working. He reported on the nonpolitical position of the himself and the Marshal Service. They will have three big tents set up outside of the Marshal Service on election night for those there waiting on the elections results. Councilor Shaw requested clarification on the FBI credentials of our two marshals. She inquired if there is a current FBI investigation. Councilor Shaw also asked about the Marshal Service monitoring the opening and processing of ballots from the first day absentees are opened till the end of the election. Councilor Crittenden inquired if the FBI credentials would go with a Marshal if he leaves our employment. He inquired about the need for a Marshal to be*

*present if there is a security guard already present. Mr. Buhl stated they are currently working with three of CNE's Loss Prevention Specialists, who are certified full time police officers, to make them deputy Marshals at the Hard Rock. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the status of the Marshal raises. Councilor Buzzard inquired how long they have been transporting behavioral health patients from Hastings. He inquired if there would be more security at Hastings especially with the new facility opening. Chair Byrd inquired about the retention of our Marshals versus BIA. He also inquired about the timeframe for a security guard to become a marshal. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the number of marshals needed for our geographical area versus the number we have.*

Office of the Attorney General - Chrissi Nimmo

*Ms. Nimmo gave an update on the ICWA case in New Orleans. Councilor Shaw requested clarification on the ICWA case. Councilor Walkingstick asked questions on the content of a letter of frequently asked questions sent to the candidates from the AG's Office. During the discussion of this letter Councilor Walkingstick raised question about a Councilors spouse's ownership of property being leased to Career Services. Chair Byrd stated if it is going to become personal we would need to go into executive session.*

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION - ENTER

**Councilor Walkingstick requested to enter into executive session. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried to enter into executive session for personnel reasons at 2:00 p.m. with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 14 - Keith Austin; Buel Anglen; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Shawn Crittenden; Wanda Hatfield; Bryan Warner ; Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw and Canaan Duncan

**Nay:** 3 - Rex Jordan; E. O. "JR." Smith and Mike Shambaugh

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION - EXIT

**Chair Byrd called the meeting back to order at 2:45 p.m. Councilor Anglen made a motion to exit executive session. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Chair Byrd stated there were no votes taken during executive session, also right before entering executive session a vote was taken to enter executive session for personnel reasons. The vote was 14-3 to enter executive session.**

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Ms. Terrapin reported for 2019 there are seventeen GRA requests all of which are outstanding at this time. She is updating the website. Councilor Lay inquired if it is possible to submit a FOIA request for future activities.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Fonda Gritts reported for Ms. Swepston. Councilor Shambaugh requested clarification on the identification required to get a tag at the Jay office. Councilor*

*Crittenden inquired about the new Catoosa tag office.*

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

*Mr. Hummingbird briefed the Council on the successful opening of the new portion of the Catoosa property, the upcoming Tahlequah opening, the board meeting scheduled tomorrow and the all office staff meeting on March 15th. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Human Resources - Nason Morton

*Mr. Morton offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Lay requested an update on how quickly we are placing someone for employment especially in the health area. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the employment panel process. Councilor Smith inquired if the panel participants that aren't selected receive notification. Mr. Morton offered to provide a presentation of the hiring process from beginning to first day at work. Councilor Lay requested the length of time it takes to hire be sent by email.*

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. [19-014](#) DISCUSSION ONLY - A RESOLUTION REGARDING A BALLOT QUESTION ON WHETHER TO CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
*Councilor Shaw gave a background for the reason of this discussion item only. She requested an overview of the timeline from Council Attorney, Tahlina Nofire Blakestad. She inquired if the Council received the letter from the Attorney General's office. She stated the question is if the twenty-year requirement is from the last time it was on the ballot or when ratified by the people or when the supreme court ruled it effective. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification as to what the constitution states. Chair Byrd inquired if everyone had received the letter from the AG's office.*  
**Councilor Shaw made a motion to table to allow everyone to receive the letter and have time to review. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Chair Byrd requested Council Attorney Blakestad get the letter to all Council members. The motion carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Warner moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:13 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>
<i>Jamie Hummingbird</i>	<i>Nason Morton</i>	<i>Fonda Gritts</i>

*Gwen Terrapin  
Taryn King  
Chad Hunter*

*Todd Enlow  
Andy Quetone  
John Young*

*Brandon Scott  
Jamie Cole  
Taylor Edwards*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Tahlina Nofire Blakestad*

*Teddy Snell*

*Molly Jarvis*