



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

*Johnny Jack Kidwell, Chair  
Kevin Easley, Jr., Co-Chair*

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

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Thursday, February 26, 2026

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Co-Chair Easley called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Callison gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

*Councilor Coates attended remotely.*

**Present** 15 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

**Late Arrival** 2 - Julia Coates and Ashley Grant

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Daniel Mead

*Marshal Mead offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

*Attorney General Harsha provided updates on the pending litigation. He announced a staffing change, Paiten Qualls is now the Deputy Attorney General. He offered to answer questions from the report. Co-Chair Easley gave appreciation from this body for always protecting our sovereign immunity.*

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Ms. Terrapin offered to answer questions from the report.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Swepston announced the report has been changed to reflect the rebates as requested. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Callison inquired about the process for the State giving the rebates back to the Cherokee Nation.*

Gaming Commission - Audra Imhoff

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

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

*Ms. Hendricks provided an update on the Internship Program. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Callison inquired about the status of the Marshal Service pension plan. Councilor Legg commented he has had nothing but good feedback on the new PTO system.*

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

FROM CULTURE COMMITTEE

- A. [TMP-428](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION - APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION SEAL  
*Handouts of both the color and black/white Council Seal and description were provided.*  
**Councilor Poindexter moved to approve. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.**

FROM HEALTH COMMITTEE

- B. [26-012](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LIMITED CONSENT TO SUIT FOR A TRANSACTION INVOLVING CHEROKEE NATION AND ORACLE AMERICA, INC.  
**Councilor Grant moved to approve. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.**
- C. [26-013](#) CHEROKEE NATION CLAREMORE OUTPATIENT AND EMERGENCY HEALTH CENTER ACT  
**Councilor Blackfox-Qualls moved to approve. Councilor McGeady seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 15 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison and Kevin Easley Jr.

**Not In Room:** 1 - Johnny Kidwell

**Late Arrival:** 1 - Julia Coates

**D. [26-014](#) PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS FUND ACT - 2026 OPIOID SETTLEMENT AMENDMENTS**

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

**Yea:** 15 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison and Kevin Easley Jr.

**Not In Room:** 1 - Johnny Kidwell

**Late Arrival:** 1 - Julia Coates

FROM RESOURCE COMMITTEE

**E. [26-017](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO GRANT AN EASEMENT FOR RIGHT OF WAY TO THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND / OR THE CONSERVATION FUND FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS ACROSS A PORTION OF TRIBAL TRUST LAND LOCATED IN ADAIR COUNTY OKLAHOMA**

**Councilor Hall moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.**

**F. [26-018](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE A PORTION OF TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO THE AMO HEALTH CENTER IN SALINA TO THE CITY TOWN OF SALINA AND TO SUPPORT THE RESERVATION UNLEASED PORTIONS IN SUPPORT OF CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND LIFEWAYS, PROGRAMS OR SERVICES INCLUDING TO LEASE A PORTION TO THE OLD SALINE CHEROKEE ASSOCIATION**

**Councilor McGeady moved to approve. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried to approve the revised version provided with no opposition.**

FROM EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**G. [26-015](#) AN ACT RELATING TO THE NAMING OF THE CHEROKEE IMMERSION MIDDLE SCHOOL AS  (TSUNADELOQUASDI GALIQUOGI NIDUYUGDV)**

**Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - 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 and Kevin Easley Jr.

**Not In Room:** 1 - Johnny Kidwell

FROM COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

- H. [26-016](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE CHEROKEE NATION'S INVENTORY OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES  
**Councilor Grass moved to approve. Councilor McGeady seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.**

FROM RULES COMMITTEE

- I. [26-019](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF T. LUKE BARTEAUX AS A DISTRICT JUDGE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION DISTRICT COURT  
**Councilor Blackfox-Qualls moved to approve. Councilor Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Coates abstaining. Judge Barteaux was given a moment to address the Committee.**

- J. [26-020](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 19 "COUNCIL", CHAPTER 4, SECTION 33 - TIME AND PLACE OF SESSIONS  
**Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - 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 and Kevin Easley Jr.

**Not In Room:** 1 - Johnny Kidwell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Deere provided an update on the recently held NCAI Conference. He also announced former Councilor Buel Anglen passed away.*

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:31 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Daniel Mead</i>	<i>Chad Harsha</i>	<i>Sharon Swepton</i>
<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Paiten Qualls</i>	<i>Steve Jones</i>
<i>Todd Gourd</i>	<i>Audra Imhoff</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>

*Sheila Bowlin*

*Luke Barteaux*

*Samantha Hendricks*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*John Young*