



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Shawn Crittenden, Chair*

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

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Tuesday, October 12, 2021

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Co-Chair Nofire called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Legg gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

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

**Late Arrival** 1 - Shawn Crittenden

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Dobbins made a motion to approve the September minutes as submitted. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Vocational Programs/Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services - Diane Kelley

*Ms. Kelley announced they are recruiting for the childcare program as there is a dire need for help. They are celebrating this Friday the Cherokee Career Readiness two year Anniversary. She commented on success stories in the report. Job Corp has been on pause due to a COVID case. Job Corp is looking at a possible mandate of employees to be vaccinated at all facilities. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the timeline for the new facility in Pryor and the number of Cherokee jobs will be available. Councilor Smith inquired about workers at the veterans home in Sallisaw. Councilor Legg requested clarification on the early childhood development program enrollment process. Chair Nofire commented on the lineman program and inquired about the number of districts represented.*

## Executive Director's Report - Corey Bunch

*Mr. Bunch gave highlights from the report provided. He announced Mark Vance has been re-elected as President of the National JOM. The College Resource Center will begin hosting a virtual college fair for two nights. Councilor Dobbins requested clarification on the report pertaining to enrollment statistics and an example of a denial. He inquired about the percentage of students who graduate. Councilor Tehee inquired if taking Cherokee language classes would be accepted as self-help requirements for scholarships. Chair Nofire announced he attended the National Indigenous Day at NSU yesterday and their Native American Student Association lost their federal funding, do we have a working relationship with this group.*

## Sequoyah High School - Corey Bunch

*Mr. Bunch gave update from Sequoyah High School. Councilor Tehee commented on how proud she is to see the band marching again. Chair Nofire commented on the fishing team and inquired they received funds dedicated to that program.*

## Head Start - Verna Thompson

*Ms. Thompson gave highlights on the perfect attendance of the staff and the babies. She offered to answer questions from the report.*

## Cherokee Nation Foundation - Janice Randall

*Ms. Randall gave highlights from the report provided. She offered to answer questions. Councilor Dobbins requested more clarification on the selection process. Chair Nofire commented on the cyber security program and possibly employing them at Cherokee Federal. Councilor Legg requested clarification on the scholarships by district.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

1. [21-098](#) A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, COMMEMORATING, AND CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEQUOYAH SCHOOLS, AND REAFFIRMING CHEROKEE NATION'S COMMITMENT TO ENSURING THE CONTINUED VITALITY OF SEQUOYAH SCHOOLS

**Councilor Legg made a motion to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. A request was made for it to be sent to Council this evening. All Councilors requested to be added as sponsors.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Dobbins seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:41 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery*  
*Corey Bunch*

*Todd Enlow*  
*Diane Kelley*

*Janice Randall*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*John C. Young*

*Teddy Snell*