



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Tribal Council Minutes

Resource Committee

Monday, June 11, 2007

4:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Martin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Council member Shotpouch gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 15 - Bill John Baker; Audra Smoke-Conner; S. Joe Crittenden; Jackie Bob Martin; David Thornton Sr. ; Phyllis Yargee; Don Garvin; Melvina Shotpouch; John F. Keener; Meredith Frailey; Cara Cowan Watts; William G. "Bill" Johnson; Buel Anglen; Taylor Keen and Jack D. Baker

Late Arrival 1 - Linda Hughes-O'Leary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Bill John Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14th regular session. Councilman Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council member Yargee made a motion requesting the agenda be amended to consider a request from the Webber Falls water district. Councilman Jack Baker seconded the motion. Motion carried as item 2 in new business.

REPORTS:

1. Natural Resources

Angela Drewes

Ms. Angela Drewes announced Natural Resources is shifting gears regarding their conservation practices and are moving toward to Ga Du Gi projects. They have been in contact with the Nicut cemetery group to complete a cooperative project. The Oak Hill community group has requested ground work on their community building. They will be also assisting Piney and Round Springs cemeteries. They will be providing the fuel for the equipment used. The Orphan cemetery has been taken on as a special project by the Natural Resource Department. They have reset the original rocks from the 3rd story of the old jail as the headstones. The site should be complete by the end of this week. They are working with the Muskogee monument company to help to reset the original monument along the road. The 2008 budget proposal has a request for funds for the tearing down and re establishment of the Spring House at the Saline Courthouse. She announced the caretaker house is empty at this time. She stated they are taking measures to place solar lighting to deter vandalism until a caretaker is hired. She stated they have several

interested in the job and they are in the process of developing a questionnaire to go along with the application. They are hoping to locate someone with a good historical background. Natural Resources is behind on the spraying due to the rain. Council member Yargee inquired about the possibility of a landscape project that contains native plants with labels providing the name and uses. Ms. Drewes stated they are in the process of doing this type of thing. They are working with Jeannine Hale, Pat Gwin, and Melissa Gower on the projects. Chair Martin inquired who is responsible for cutting the grass at the Stilwell senior housing facility. Ms. Drewes stated it is a Housing Authority complex and she would inquire with him who is responsible. Ms. Drewes announced with the additional funds set aside for the Sallisaw Creek Park they are working with the electric company to get the electric back to the area to deter vandalism.

2. Real Estate Services

Linda Donelson

Ms. Linda Donelson stated Real Estate Services has received and returned 786 phone calls, had 73 individual clients in the office, completed 42 site inspections, completed 3 probate inventories. They had 13 individual hunting leases at the Bureau returned approved. They had 1 individual restricted grazing lease and 20 tribal grazing leases back approved from the Bureau. The Bureau has approximately 20 additional leases still pending. They did 5 home visits, 12 jurisdictional calls, 10 quiet title, and 3 will interviews. They went to Washington DC to meet and discuss the Patton property trust application. They have completed the environmental. Once the review is complete by the BIA regional office it goes back to Washington for further approval. They are hoping the process will be complete by the year's end. She announced they are working on the cemetery in Collinsville that has land that could be used for a community building. There is one issue with the property regarding an environmental problem. She announced they will be filing the deed for the Owen school located next to the Heritage Center tomorrow. Jamie Hothouse went to Austin last week for training on GPR equipment to enable him to work with Dr. Gloria Sly. Ms. Sue Switzer won the integrity award at the employee appreciation day.

3. Roads & Transportation

Michael Lynn

Mr. Michael Lynn. He provided the following update of IRR roads:

- ☐ Cedar Crest Road and Bridge – working with 1 land owner gave a revised offer on the bridge portion. Dealing with approximately 10 land owners on the land portion
- ☐ Daytown Dry Creek – within in a few days of making the award
- ☐ Red Barn Road – well under way
- ☐ Fairview Euche phase II – should be complete this fall
- ☐ Honey Hill – have responded with discovery items for the landowners attorney
- ☐ Rice Woodard – has been sent to the county commissioner for review
- ☐ Saline Creek Bridge – final inspection held last week.
- ☐ Stick Ross Loop – waiting on the environmental to come back from the bureau
- ☐ Kenwood Road – waiting on bridge information
- ☐ Hulbert Lost City – 90% of the design is complete
- ☐ Twin Oaks Bull Hollow – design 70% complete

Mr. Lynn announced there are 2 motor fuel/motor vehicle projects going to Executive and Finance Committee this month one from Rogers County: Port City Baptist church driveway entrance with a drainage problem in the amount of \$376.00 and Childers Road in Nowata County a 3 mile job in the amount of \$34,998.73.

Mr. Lynn announced under the public comments section of the agenda they are open to

hear comments from the public regarding any projects. This month is a little different they would be presenting a Transportation Improvement Project update. He stated they have been holding public meetings for the following projects; Drycreek Road East, Dreadfulwater Road, Pumpkin Hollow Road, Stick Ross Road phase II. He stated public comment was received during the meetings and if there has been any voiced to the Council or the Council House he would be open to hear them at this time. Mr. Lynn stated the Resolution in new business has been amended to add 9 roads instead of 10 as listed.

4. Public Comments: Road Issues

Michael Lynn

5. Facilities

David Roberts

No one present to report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **a resolution Authorizing the ADDITION OF TEN (10) ROADS TO, AND REMOVAL OF (2) ROAD SEGMENTS FROM THE LIST OF CONSTRUCTION PRIORITIES FOR INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS FUNDING**

Mr. Robert Endicott provided an amended version of this legislation requesting only 9 roads to be added. Councilman Bill John Baker inquired if this is a time sensitive issue. Mr. Endicott stated it is and would like them to go to council tonight.

Councilman Bill John Baker made a motion to approve the item and move for it to be added to the full council agenda tonight. Council member O'Leary seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. **East Central Oklahoma Water Authority Request for Funding Webber Falls.**

Council member Yargee stated they are requesting \$25,000.00 for the purchase of equipment to supply water for areas including Webber Falls. She stated she has requested Mr. Billy Hix to be present for questions if needed. She stated the update to this water system would be a win win situation for the Cherokee Nation. Council member Cowan Watts inquired how this project is different from the Inola water district. Mr. Hix stated it could not be assisted through Indian Health funds however it could be done if the Council wanted to appropriated funds. Councilman Bill John Baker stated this is a unique situation. We spend up to \$10,000.00 per house hold for water and with this we can assist several thousand Cherokee's water system.

Councilman Garvin inquired about the value of the equipment. Mr. Hix stated the has not seen the equipment but has spoken to the engineer and if the equipment was purchased new it would be approximately \$2ml. This equipment is not even 10 years old and is in extremely good shape. The Wagoner water district is selling the equipment because they use the Verdigris river as their water source. With the new EPA standards they are not able to meet the water quality standards. There shouldn't be a problem to meet the standards using the Tenkiller lake as the water source. Council member Frailey inquired if they have tried to acquire funds from the Grand Gateway or anyone else. Council

member Yargee stated they have approached EODD. Councilman Bill John Baker stated receiving funds from EODD takes time and the auction is immediately.

Councilor Bill John Baker made a motion to approve and move to full council. Council member Yargee seconded the motion. Council member Yargee requested this item be placed on the budget mod tonight. The dead line to bid on the equipment is June 19th. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The executive/legislative conference has been cancelled for today due to the Chief and Melanie Knight being in Washington DC.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Council member Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Linda Donelson
Ben Phillips
Jeannine Hale*

*Michael Lynn
Angela Drewes*

*Robert Endicott
Billy Hix*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Joan Johnson

APPROVAL / DISTRIBUTION

Minutes submitted by: Shelli Brittain, Recording Secretary

Motion to approve minutes made by: _____

Minutes attested and concurred by: _____

Date: _____