



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

Thursday, August 28, 2014

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Byrd called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Byrd gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Cara Cowan Watts; Jodie Fishinghawk; Tina Glory Jordan; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis ; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor and David Thornton, Sr.

Late Arrival 5 - Janelle Fullbright; Lee Keener Jr.; Julia Coates; Jack D. Baker and Victoria Vazquez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve the July 31st regular session minutes. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Office of the Attorney General - Todd Hembree

Ms. Elizabeth Odell reported in the absence of Attorney General Hembree. She announced a FOIA report has been placed on the website. She commented there aren't any new updates on the pending court cases. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the water planning and litigation process. She inquired about the logistics for the Freedom of Information Officer would work. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the upcoming dates for the Freedman and UKB cases.

Codification - Todd Hembree

Ms. Odell reported everything is with West and we are waiting. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about an estimated time of arrival.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Mr. Andy Quetone offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Cowan Watts requested an update on the Catoosa/Tulsa tag office. Councilor Byrd requested an update on the Tahlequah tag office.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Mr. Hummingbird offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Fishinghawk requested additional information on the exception given during executive session at their last board meeting. Mr. Hummingbird stated the exception was in regard to a list of proposed rules for charitable gaming. These rules are for any charitable organization that seeks to operate any type of game on either lands held in trust for the tribe or in fee simple status. This is being discussed due to a charitable organization wishing to have a bingo night. The Commission has adopted them as a proposed set of rules and has asked the Principal Chief to consider an emergency provision to enact those rules allowing them to be in effect until the rules can go through the normal process. After discussion was held Councilor Glory Jordan requested the Executive Branch withhold their approval of this emergency provision until there is time to study and review the impact of this request. Councilor Cowan Watts requested whatever the decision is for the community group to be given the opportunity to voice their thoughts and concerns as well as the opportunity to resend their gift back to the tribe if they want to continue as State of Oklahoma fee simple and pay state taxes. Councilor Thornton requested to review the criteria and the letter submitted. He also inquired if other tribes allowed this type of operation. Councilor Fishinghawk requested the Gaming Commission agenda packets prior to the meeting for review. Councilor Thornton inquired if they would come forward to the Council with a proposal for additional staff funding for the new casinos.

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Shannon Buhl offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the number of time they visit the Claremore Indian Hospital each week.

Self-Governance - Vickie Hanvey

Ms. Hanvey reported they have completed the 2015 funding tables for the Department of Interior. They continue to work with contract support costs and several national work groups on how to address the issues. They are in the process of starting negotiations to update their agreement with the Office of Special Trustee. They have begun a new initiative with the EPA. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the requirements for the IHS overhead funds settlement.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton gave an update on the electronic EAN process trial with the clinics. He stated they have been visiting with the individual departments to determine issues with the hiring process. Councilor Hargis inquired about additional staffing issues at the Stilwell CDC. Chair Byrd inquired about the substitute teacher issue at Sequoyah.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [TMP-315](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL RECOGNITION WORK GROUP UPDATE
Councilor Hargis announced the policy for the procedure to recognize Cherokee citizens has been provided. She moved to approve the policy. Councilor Glory Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [14-059](#) AN ACT AMENDING LA-04-14 THE CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION CODE TO ADDRESS NOTARY PUBLIC ISSUES AND THE RETURN OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS
Councilor Baker moved to approve. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. Councilor Glory Jordan stated our Council Attorney, Dianne Barker Harrold has been working with the Election Commission Attorney to review this issue. She stated it has been discovered California is not the only state that uses the Jurat. She requested the Election Commission explain their fix for the issue as well as the amendment proposed to Section 78 regarding the return of absentee ballots. Councilor Glory Jordan stated there is concern for the voter's signature not being part of the jurat paper.
Councilor Glory Jordan made a motion to approve the Section 78 language just provided. Councilor Fishinghawk seconded the motion. Both Mr. Harvey Chaffin and Ms. Martha Calico explained the absentee ballot and notary process. Councilor Coates requested the At Large citizens from California present in regard to this vote stand and be recognized. After lengthy discussion was held the motion to approve carried with not opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [14-079](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND TO APPOINT THE TRIBAL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES
Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [14-084](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN E. BARRICK AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION
Councilor Thornton moved to approve. Councilor Fullbright seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired who was being replaced on the commission. She asked Mr. Barrick a few questions. After discussion was held the motion to approve carried with no opposition.

3. [14-068](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF RICKY KELLY AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Fullbright moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts requested clarification on the Cherokee Health Partners board. The motion to approve carried.

4. [14-069](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF SANDIE TAGGART AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Fullbright moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 5. [14-070](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF AMI SAMS AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve. Councilor Fullbright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 6. [14-071](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF BIRAN HAIL AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Lay moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 7. [14-072](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CONNIE DAVIS AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Fishinghawk seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 8. [14-073](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DR. ROGER MONTGOMERY AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR CHEROKEE HEALTH PARTNERS
Councilor Garvin moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Walkingstick moved to adjourn. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:56 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Elizabeth Odell</i>	<i>Andy Quetone</i>	<i>Rhonda Trumbla</i>
<i>Ami Sams</i>	<i>Connie Parnell</i>	<i>Madison Cornett</i>
<i>Tracy Asher</i>	<i>Nason Morton</i>	<i>Connie Davis</i>
<i>Kelli Myers</i>	<i>Jamie Hummingbird</i>	<i>Shannon Buhl</i>
<i>Vickie Hanvey</i>	<i>Sandie Taggart</i>	<i>Brian Hail</i>
<i>Dr. Roger Montgomery</i>	<i>Tyler Thomas</i>	<i>Chuck Hoskin Jr.</i>
<i>David Moore</i>	<i>Tom Elkins</i>	<i>Rick Kelly</i>
<i>Willard Mounce</i>	<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Dr. Neil Morton</i>
<i>Jamie Cole</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Phyllis Lay</i>	<i>Harvey Chaffin</i>	<i>Steve Barrick</i>
<i>Ruth Ann Weaver</i>	<i>Ollie Starr</i>	<i>Martha Calico</i>
<i>Carolyn Allen</i>	<i>Bill Horton</i>	<i>Cheryl Brown</i>
<i>Larry Horn</i>	<i>Dan Carter</i>	<i>Dianne Barker Harrold</i>