



# 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*

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Monday, July 31, 2017

10:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Thornton gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 15 - Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis ;  
Janees Taylor; David Thornton, Sr. ; Victoria Vazquez; Keith Austin; Buel  
Anglen; David Walkingstick; Shawn Crittenden; Wanda Hatfield; Rex  
Jordan and Bryan Warner

**Late Arrival** 2 - Curtis Snell and Dick Lay

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Anglen moved to approve the June 20th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

*Marshal Buhl reported on the federal investigation being held in Adair County. They have been active in Sequoyah County with the new Sheriff on a few issues. They have settled in to their new accommodations next to the emergency services. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Austin gave appreciation for the Marshal Service attendance at his recently held community meeting.*

Office of the Attorney General - Todd Hembree

*Ms. Nimmo reported for Attorney General Hembree. Ms. Nimmo announced the United Keetoowah Band has filed an appeal in the 76 acre case. We have filed our response in the Northern District to the Opioid case. She announced they are in the process of moving into their new offices upstairs. Councilor Buzzard requested a brief overview of*

tribal relinquishments. Councilor Taylor inquired about the Mississippi Choctaws decision and its effect on our Opioid case. Councilor Thornton requested clarification on dual citizenship.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin announced they have had 4 new FOIA requests since the last meeting. Of the 10 requests this year 3 are outstanding at this time. There have been 2 GRA requests this year and none are outstanding at this time. The website has been updated. She offered to answer questions.

Election Commission - Connie Parnell

Ms. Connie Parnell and Commissioner Shawna Calico reported. They offered to answer questions. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the difference in registered voters between districts 7 and 8. Councilor Crittenden inquired if they are getting some of the address issues corrected in Adair County. Councilor Hargis requested clarification on what is considered highway 59 with the Election Commission, is it 2nd street or the bypass. Councilor Lay inquired if the vacant staff positions have been filled within their office. Councilor Anglen inquired about those who were allowed to pick a district when they lived at large and it has now changed, can they go back to the district they picked. He also inquired people registered to vote in one district has to go outside their district to a polling place.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on dates given in the report.

Self-Governance - Karen Ketcher

Ms. Ketcher offered to answer questions from the report provided. Chair Byrd inquired how the USDA proposals are progressing. He requested an organizational chart within the Cherokee Nation.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Mr. Hummingbird wasn't present to report. Councilor Buzzard inquired if they have a staff attorney. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the gaming compact. Attorney General Hembree addressed both questions.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton provided follow up information from questions asked during the last meeting including tracking transfers within the Cherokee Nation, teacher's summer paychecks, and adoption leave. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Walkingstick inquired if all employees at Sequoyah are on contract. He inquired if a contracted employee could run for office without resigning their position. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the teachers not receiving the Cherokee Nation bonuses. Councilor Austin requested clarification on the definition of the word placement when used in regard to adoption.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. [17-070](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF THOMAS MERRELL AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**Councilor Austin introduced Mr. Merrell and made a motion to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. Councilor Crittenden requested information on the economic development board. Following a few additional questions the motion to approve carried.**

## NEW BUSINESS

1. [17-075](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DENNIS DARREN DELOZIER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried following a few questions.**

2. [17-076](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF VYRL KEETER AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION TREASURES PROGRAM  
**Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. Councilor Crittenden moved to table until after a special meeting is held regarding the National Treasurers. Councilor Buzzard seconded the motion. The motion to table failed with the following roll call vote:**  
**Yea:** 4 - Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Buel Anglen and Shawn Crittenden  
**Nay:** 11 - Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis ; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; David Thornton, Sr. ; Victoria Vazquez; Keith Austin; David Walkingstick; Rex Jordan and Bryan Warner  
**Abstain:** 1 - Wanda Hatfield  
**Not In Room:** 1 - Dick Lay

**Following additional discussion Councilor Taylor offered a friendly amendment to change the term to three years instead of one year to reflect the change of the bylaws. The friendly was accepted. The motion to approve as amended carried with Councilors Buzzard and Crittenden opposed.**

3. [17-077](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF VIVIAN COTTRELL AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATIONAL TREASURES PROGRAM  
**Councilor Warner made a motion to approve. Councilor Baker seconded the motion. Councilor Crittenden made a motion to table until after the completion of a work group regarding the National Treasurers. Councilor Buzzard seconded the motion. The motion to table failed with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 5 - Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Don Garvin; Buel Anglen and Shawn Crittenden

**Nay:** 10 - Joe Byrd; Frankie Hargis ; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; David Thornton, Sr. ; Victoria Vazquez; Keith Austin; David Walkingstick; Rex Jordan and Bryan Warner

**Abstain:** 1 - Wanda Hatfield

**Not In Room:** 1 - Dick Lay

**Councilor Hargis offered a friendly amendment to change the term from one year to three years to reflect the bylaws. The friendly was accepted. The motion to approve carried with Councilor Crittenden opposed.**

4. [17-078](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JANICE PURCELL AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION

**Councilor Jordan made a motion to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Following questions the motion to approve carried with Councilors Buzzard and Crittenden opposed.**

5. [17-079](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF TINA GLORY JORDAN AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION

**Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Following discussion the motion carried with Councilor Jordan abstaining and Councilors Crittenden and Buzzard opposed.**

6. [17-080](#) AN ACT RELATING TO TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CHEROKEE NATION RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT

**Councilor Snell moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Taylor announced the reception for the outgoing Councilors would be held following the adjournment of this meeting and the Executive & Finance committee meeting would start at 12:30 p.m.*

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 11:45 a.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Anna Knight</i>	<i>Steven Highers</i>	<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>
<i>Connie Parnell</i>	<i>John Young</i>	<i>Tom Elkins</i>
<i>Nason Morton</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>	<i>Shannon Buhl</i>
<i>Chuck Hoskin Jr.</i>	<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>
<i>Joe Crittenden</i>	<i>Bill John Baker</i>	<i>Alan Hefner</i>
<i>Karen Ketcher</i>	<i>Ethan Green</i>	<i>Todd Hembree</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Shawna Calico*  
*Tina Jordan*  
*Mary Baker Shaw*  
*Vyrl Keeter*  
*E.O. Smith*  
*Thomas Merrell*

*Carolyn Allen*  
*Janice Purcell*  
*Chuck Garrett*  
*Vivian Cottrell*  
*Teddy Snell*

*Gary Cooper*  
*Jami Murphy*  
*Molly Jarvis*  
*Dennis Delozier*  
*Dianne Barker Harrold*