



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jack D. Baker, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Thursday, August 26, 2010

3:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jack D. Baker called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Snell gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Bill John Baker; Bradley Cobb; Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Chris Soap; Chuck Hoskin; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Janelle Fullbright; Jodie Fishinghawk; Julia Coates and Tina Glory Jordan

Absent 1 - S. Joe Crittenden

Late Arrival 2 - Don Garvin and Meredith Frailey

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Cobb moved to approve the July 29th regular session minutes.
Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

REPORTS:

Financial Report/Treasurer Report - Callie Catcher

Ms. Catcher offered to answer questions from her written report. She reported she had provided a position vacancy report, as requested last month, to Mr. Evans for his review prior to submission to the Council. The go live date for the position control module within Lawson is the 26th of September. Councilor Fishinghawk requested an update on her request regarding the number of sole sources going to TERO vendors. Ms. Catcher stated this is a manual and lengthy process and inquired if the request was just for this fiscal year. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired how the services to the people were affected by taking the employee bonuses out of the program budgets instead of using the funds set aside by the Council. Ms. Catcher stated she

could poll the group leaders to try to determine. The Group Leaders were requested to use their budgets but if it would cut them short to notify her and they would find an alternate option such as the small amount left in the employee incentive budget. Mr. Evans commented it may have been absorbed by vacant positions. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired about the Indian preference requirement at Cherokee Nation Home Health Services as their report shows 106 Cherokees out of 208 employees. Ms. Catcher stated they are a separate corporation and should have to follow the same guidelines. She stated she would speak to Mr. Richards to be sure. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired how TERO applies to the clinics and Hastings in regard to equipment, oxygen and supplies. Ms. Catcher stated if there are vendor complaints they need to go through the TERO office so they can be investigated. Ms. Catcher stated they are following the executive order to the best of their ability even without the policies being officially signed.

Cherokee Nation Businesses - David Stewart

Mr. Shawn Slaton reported in the absence of Mr. Stewart. He announced on a consolidated basis in June there was a net income of \$6.9ml. They are beginning to see an increase in revenue trend at CNE. The revenue increased 8% at CNE over the prior June. The event center will open next month at the Hard Rock facility. As of the end of June all 140 rooms at West Siloam were open and operational. The Ramona property continues to out perform their expectations. They have approximately 3,500 employees with 46.8% being Cherokee and 65.6% Native American. CNI continues to show great improvement over last year. Their June net income totaled \$248,000 with a year to date of \$1.1ml. CNI currently has 71.1% Cherokee employment and 81.2% Native American employment. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired about the status of her request for all of the proposed 2011 budgets for all entities. Mr. Slaton reported they are trying to finalize the budgets by next week then will forward to the board for their approval. He stated he would follow up on her request.

Career Services/Employment - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley offered to answer questions from her written report. Councilor Fishinghawk requested Ms. Kelley look into the clinics and Hastings following TERO vendor policy. Ms. Kelley stated the TERO Executive Order was signed in February and they are still waiting the approval of the procedures. They completed the training for CNB and all of the business side last month and are scheduling the tribal TERO businesses training after Labor Day. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired if TERO processes were followed with the Marshal's hiring the investigator. Councilor Fishinghawk requested a report showing the TERO growth for 2005 through 2010. Ms. Kelley announced the Administrative Appeals Committee is working as they reviewed their second case this week and upheld the Certification Committee's recommendation. An additional review hearing is scheduled next week.

Commerce - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from her report. Councilor Cowan Watts gave her appreciation to Ms. Knight and her group for all of their work. She stated she has received numerous words of encouragement and gratitude from constituents for the assistance they have received.

CONSENT ITEMS:

T.E.R.O. CERTIFICATIONS

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve as provided. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

No requests were presented.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS

No requests presented.

ROADS

Councilor Bill John Baker moved to approve the roads as amended. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilor Glory-Jordan requested confirmation that their unused balances in roads and bridges rolls over into the next years funding. Mr. Evans agreed they do roll over.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-09 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 - MOD 11; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Evans announced the majority of mod 11 is tweaking some grants and some carry over funds. He stated there is \$8.2ml in grant reporting with the two largest being for the Head Start Program, Family Preservation Support and the Community Anti-Drug Network Grant. Councilor Hoskin Jr. moved to approve Mod 11. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired about the timeline remaining for the Donations and Contributions funds. Mr. Evans stated items that wait until a sub committee at the end of next month must have the Chief's concurrence as it would be too late pursuant to normal appropriation processes. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested Ms. Ragsdale to notify the Council if the Chief concurs on items submitted prior to the committee meetings next month. Ms. Ragsdale agreed. Mr. Evans commented there will not be a budget modification for September. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested feedback from the Chief prior to the September Council meeting. Ms. Ragsdale commented the Chief would act quickly once received. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested to go on record stating the process for this program doesn't work.

The motion to approve carried without opposition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Fishinghawk inquired if there is a proposal to cut the bridge funding for next year. Mr. Evans stated the proposal is to cut the bridge funding by almost half.

Secretary of State, Melanie Knight gave a copy of the book "Building One Fire" to each Council member from Chief Smith. The book will be available for sale in the gift shop. Details on the book signing in Catoosa will be sent out when available.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Coates seconded the motion. Motion carried at 4:50 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Callie Catcher
Jon Overacker
Diane Kelley*

*Doug Evans
Anna Knight
Mike Miller*

*Paula Ragsdale
Melanie Knight*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Gina Olaya

Shawn Slaton

Robert Drvostep