



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*

Tuesday, December 17, 2013

9:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Cara Cowan Watts; Tina Glory Jordan; Lee Keener Jr.; Julia Coates; Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis; Janees Taylor and Victoria Vazquez

Absent 4 - Jodie Fishinghawk; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Curtis Snell

Late Arrival 2 - Janelle Fullbright and David Thornton, Sr.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Baker moved to approve the November 12, 2013 regular session minutes. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Buhl reported they have received the panel for the three new hires today. The physical fitness test is this Friday for the fifty-six qualified applicants. The top fifteen scores from the physical fitness test will move forward to the written test. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired if all of the applicants were Cherokee and if Cherokee preference would be given. She inquired about their relationship with the Claremore Indian Hospital.

Office of the Attorney General - Todd Hembree

Attorney General Hembree provided an update on the UKB case, the Freedman case and the Bay Mills case. All briefs are posted on the Attorney General website. He

announced they are working on updating the civil code and are once again looking at the old Five Tribes Amendments Act. They are considering using our hunting and fishing code to compact with the State of Oklahoma. Councilor Cowan Watts requested clarification on the pending court cases. Councilor Baker inquired about the recent audit at the Holiday Inn Express by the Oklahoma Tax Commission and their disallowing of the tax exemption for the Cherokee Nation. Councilor Coates requested clarification on the Five Tribes Act.

Codification - Todd Hembree

Mr. Hembree stated they have all seventy titles back from West and have divided them up between the staff of the Attorney General's office. Once a title is reviewed it is returned to West with any questions.

Election Commission - Bill W. Horton

No one was present to report.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report and provided an update for November by reporting 765 tags were sold in the new portion of the expanded counties. She offered to provide the report breaking down the number by county.

Self-Governance - Vickie Hanvey

Mr. Clint Hastings reported for Ms. Hanvey. He reported they are concluding their Department of Interior funding agreement negotiations. Yesterday was the deadline to exchange documents in the contracts disputes act litigation. He announced they are working with child care to amend our 477 Plan. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about registration policy and procedures including the revocation process. Councilor Keener inquired about the possible BIA budget changes.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Mr. Hummingbird reported they are in the process of doing a very hefty update of their software. He provided an update on the internet gaming bill filed by a Congressman recently. He announced the National Tribal Gaming Conference will be the week of March 17th at the Hard Rock Casino and Resort. They will have an all gaming staff meeting this Friday at the Tahlequah Armory beginning at 9:00 and a traditional lunch at 11:30 a.m. Chair Byrd inquired who was hosting the gaming conference. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about their staffing levels. She also inquired if there are policies and procedures for taking an existing smoke shop and turning it into a casino. Councilor Thornton requested a gaming commission staff flow chart showing positions and locations. Councilor Glory Jordan requested it also included vacancies. Councilor Thornton inquired how much funding we pay the NIGA and NIGC.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [13-118](#) A RESOLUTION CHANGING THE PLACEMENT PREFERENCES OF INDIAN CHILDREN
Ms. Sara Hill provided a brief overview of the changes requested. Councilor Glory Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. All

Councilors present wished to be added as sponsors.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. [13-134](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CAROLE RICHMOND AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION FOUNDATION

Secretary of State Hoskin, Jr. introduced Ms. Carole Richmond. Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. After numerous questions the motion to approve carried with no opposition.

- 2. [13-135](#) A RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARY KAY HENDERSON

Councilor Garvin moved to approve. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. After comments were made and all Councilors were added as sponsors the motion to approve carried unanimously.

- 3. [13-137](#) AN ACT AMENDING THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION ACT, SETTING REQUIREMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Thornton moved to table to next month. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Byrd requested a round of applause for the Council staff for all of their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Thornton moved to adjourn. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried at 10:54 a.m.

Chair Byrd requested Councilor Thornton bless our meal and social.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Andy Quetone</i>	<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Christina Carroll</i>
<i>Courtney Roark Thompson</i>	<i>Sara Hill</i>	<i>Elizabeth Odell</i>
<i>Sharon Swepston</i>	<i>Rhonda Trumbla</i>	<i>Lisa Long</i>
<i>Jamie Hummingbird</i>	<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Chuck Hoskin, Jr.</i>
<i>Tracy Archer</i>	<i>Vickie Hanvey</i>	<i>Clint Hastings</i>
<i>Sandy Long</i>	<i>Raymond Vann</i>	

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Dianne Barker Harrold</i>	<i>Debra Scott</i>	<i>BJ Batiste</i>
<i>Carole Richmond</i>	<i>Tommy Hearn</i>	