



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Meeting Minutes Community Services Committee

Thursday, January 4, 2007

9:00 AM

Legislative Conference Room

Special Session

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shotpouch called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Martin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 10 - Bill John Baker; Jackie Bob Martin; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Melvina Shotpouch; John Keener; Meredith Frailey; Cara Cowan Watts; Buel Anglen and Jack D. Baker

Absent 5 - S. Joe Crittenden; Phyllis Yargee; Linda Hughes-O'Leary; Charles "Chuck" Hoskin and Taylor Keen

Late Arrival 1 - Audra Smoke-Conner

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Sponsors: Councilor Melvina Shotpouch

Mr. Marvin Jones provided handouts summarizing the 2007 Indian Housing Plan and providing a basic overview of a basic IHP. He gave a brief overview of the handout regarding Indian Housing basic information. He stated it is important to remember that this 2007 IHP ends a second 5 year period. The 2008 IHP will begin a new 5 year period. Congress has not passed the HUD appropriations bill for this year. Therefore we are working with estimated amounts at this time. Mr. Jones gave an overview of the differences between the 2006 and the 2007 IHP. The 2007 does not include Title VI funds. Mr. Jones encouraged a community planning process to determine what the needs are. Up until now housing has been based on a waiting list. This is an attempt to plan better. He stated there is a limited amount of money. Administration is looking to propose supplementing tribal funds for the purchase of land. Councilman Thornton inquired if funds could be set aside for disaster. Mr. Jones stated funds could be set aside through rehab. Mr. David Southerland announced it is in their policy to assist with rent in disaster situations. Councilman Thornton inquired if it would be able to replace an entire home. Mr. Southerland replied no. Chair Shotpouch inquired about waiving income guidelines for the elderly with expensive medications. Mr. Jones stated generally NAHASDA funding can't be waived. It would be difficult to create a program that HUD would approve. Tribal funds would be the easier way to help these elders. Mr. Don Greenfeather announced there is a clause within the self help emergency funds for disasters for a \$1,000.00. He stated the \$1,000.00 can be waived in the case of natural disasters. Councilman Bill John Baker read item 4 as "information provided by the Housing Authority shows a large

decrease in home ownership needs based on applications on file due to the elimination of the 100% subsidy mutual help type program in favor of mortgage assistance.” He stated there isn’t less of a need we have just taken away the hope of the poorest of the poor. Mr. Jones stated the homeownership needs is the number on the waiting list. Councilman Bill John Baker requested an update regarding the FEMA mobile homes in Hope Arkansas. He asked if arrangements would need to be made within the IHP to subsidize a program for the mobile homes. Mr. Southerland announced Mr. Todd Enlow is the one in contact with FEMA. Mr. Southerland stated some of the regulations include no one entity can get over 100 units and they must be used for affordable rental housing. The units range from regular mobile homes, travel trailers, and construction site trailers. Mr. Jones stated if the Cherokee Nation should receive some of these units there should be plenty of funds that can be redirected.

Councilman Anglen made a motion to forward this resolution to full council as presented. Councilman Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman Martin to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Anglen seconded the motion. Motion carried at 2:05 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Don Greenfeather</i>	<i>Sharon Lay</i>	<i>David Pruitt</i>
<i>Travis Snell</i>	<i>Charlie Soap</i>	<i>Darlene Foreman</i>
<i>Sammye Rusco</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>David Southerland</i>	<i>Marvin Jones</i>
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APPROVAL / DISTRIBUTION

Minutes submitted by: Shelli Brittain, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Motion to approve minutes made by: _____

Minutes attested and concurred by: _____

Date: _____