



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Complex  
17675 S. Muskogee Ave.  
Tahlequah, OK 74464

## Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

*Tina Glory-Jordan, Speaker*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain*

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*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Monday, December 16, 2013

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER

Tina Glory-Jordan  
Speaker of the Council

**Speaker Glory Jordan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Byrd gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain  
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

**Present** 15 - David Walkingstick; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; Janelle Fullbright; Cara Cowan Watts; Julia Coates; Tina Glory Jordan; Joe Byrd; David Thornton, Sr. ; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker and Victoria Vazquez

**Absent** 2 - Jodie Fishinghawk and Curtis Snell

### RECOGNITION OF A LONG TERM EMPLOYEE

Tina Glory-Jordan  
Speaker of the Council

*Speaker Glory Jordan took a moment to recognize TJ Stand, a forty-three year employee, who is retiring. The Council honored her with a plaque, gourd basket and a Pendleton blanket.*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Thornton moved to approve the October 31, 2013 special session and the November 12, 2013 regular session minutes. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## AMEND THE AGENDA

**Councilor Baker moved to amend the agenda to include Mod. 4 passed out of Executive and Finance committee earlier today. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## STATE OF THE NATION

Bill John Baker  
Principal Chief

*Chief Baker commented it is a wonderful time of the year and the Cherokee Nation has been blessed. He announced on the 20th at 10:30 a.m. they will have the Ochelata clinic ground breaking. He requested a moment of silence for the passing of our Human Resources Director, Bill Foster. Chief Baker announced the LIHEAP elders program is in full swing. A state of emergency was declared here at the Cherokee Nation due to the snow and ice. This year the Angel Tree received donations from CNB in the amount of \$20,000, their employees donated and additional \$5,000, the hospital donated money and all of the departments here at the Nation have adopted angels. He announced tomorrow he would be with the Governor, the Tulsa Chamber and several other entities from Northeast Oklahoma to announce possibly the largest jobs creation with our partnership in an area sorely needing jobs. The Cherokee Nation CRC was named the minority construction firm of the year by the U.S. Department of Commerce. CNB also secured a contract to help the Department of Interior and the Office of Special Trustees to manage and research historical documents related to the tribal trust settlement. We recently hosted the Annual TERO Conference at the Hard Rock Resort and Casino. We recently partnered with the Will Rogers Museum by providing a new heat and air system to protect the collection of one of our most famous Cherokee Citizens, Will Rogers. He gave special recognition to our Treasurer, Lacey Horn and her team for securing the twelfth straight year of financial excellence in reporting from the federal government. We are the first tribe to receive the popular financial annual report award which speaks to the transparency and the ease of reading of our financial reports. Kudos were given to Cherokee Citizen and former CNB executive, Brad Carson, for his nomination as a U. S. ARMY Under Secretary. Chief Baker recognized the Jack Brown Center and the Hastings Pharmacy who earned accreditations for their respective organizations. He requested a moment of silence for those Cherokee citizens who have passed over the last month.*

## CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

S. Joe Crittenden  
Deputy Principal Chief

*Deputy Chief Crittenden presented Cherokee Warrior Awards to the following veterans: Kenneth Coward, Major Isaac Holland, Ralph Walkingstick and R.B. Brad Brashears.*

## ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Housing Authority - Gary Cooper

*Mr. Cooper gave apologies for missing the meeting last month as he was in attendance at the Regional Indian Housing Association Meeting where he was asked to serve as the Southern Plains Indian Housing Association Representative on the National American Indian Housing Board of Directors. They will be accepting college housing applications from December 30th to January 10th. Their monthly board meeting will be held tomorrow evening at 5:30. They continue to assist a number of low income families with home insurance through the Community Shield Program. They have completed fifty-five new homes and fifty-three replacement homes to date.*

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Shawn Slaton

*Mr. Slaton commented on the announcement being made tomorrow for the new jobs in Owasso referred to earlier by Chief Baker probably wouldn't have happened without the hard work and leadership of Chief Baker. He reported the companies are strong in the first quarter. He complemented the employees who made it in to work during the snow storm. They collected an additional \$317,000 in tax collections for the Nation. He recognized employees who went above and beyond by reroofing a terminally ill Cherokee citizen's roof on their own time with their own funds. The CNI employee volunteers have given the students at Greasy Schools the gift of reading by filling the school library with donated books. The Security and Defense division has signed an agreement with OSU Multispectral to provide business and administrative services as well as management personnel support operations. Cherokee Nation Office Solutions has become the first tribally owned company to join the Staples Advantage Diversity Program. CNB currently has 4,500 employees with 74% of those being Cherokee, 7.9% other Native American for a total of 81.9% Native American employment. Councilor Cowan Watts requested to be kept in the loop with the new business opportunity in Owasso.*

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

Executive and Finance Committee

1. [13-130](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-13 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 - MOD. 3; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**Councilor Taylor moved to approve. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.**

Enactment No: LA-31-13

2. [13-136](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #21-13 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 - MOD. 4; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Councilor Baker moved to approve. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

Enactment No: LA-32-13

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Baker recognized Condessa Teehee, Director of the Cherokee Heritage Center, who is providing the each Councilor with a copy of the 5th volume of the Moravian Books.*

*Speaker Glory Jordan announced the Tribal Council open house and social is tomorrow from 11:30 to 4:00.*

*Councilor Garvin made comment the two acts passed earlier weren't passed by acclamation or roll call. Councilor Baker moved to approve both by acclamation. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

*Councilor Coates introduced the At Large citizens in attendance. She also introduced BJ Batiste a Choctaw citizen who is a nationally renowned flutist. Ms. Batiste performed a prayer with her flute.*

*Councilor Cowan Watts wished a Merry Christmas to everyone in attendance and especially the Council staff.*

*Councilor Vazquez announced tomorrow evening the Native American Fellowship would be having a Christmas dinner in South Coffeyville.*

*Councilor Byrd announced December 19th District Councilors 1, 2 and 3 would be having a community meeting at the Welling Baptist Church.*

*Councilor Lay announced the ground breaking for the Ochelata Clinic will be this Friday at 10:30 a.m.*

*Councilor Garvin invited everyone to the Porum Christmas dinner this Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.*

*Councilor Keener wished a happy birthday to his Aunt Blanche Gourd who turned 107 at the end of last month.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Garvin moved to adjourn. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried at 7:06 p.m.**

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on January 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.