



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Harley Buzzard, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Tuesday, May 17, 2011

10:00 AM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Buzzard called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Bill John Baker gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Bill John Baker; Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Chris Soap; Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Janelle Fullbright; Jodie Fishinghawk and Tina Glory Jordan

Absent 1 - Bradley Cobb

Late Arrival 3 - Julia Coates; Meredith Frailey and S. Joe Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to approve the April 12th regular session minutes. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Human Services Department - Norma Merriman

Ms. Merriman provided a handout of information for the National Food Distribution Conference beginning June 6th at the Hard Rock Casino and Resort in Catoosa. She provided an update on the Veteran's center building with hopes of activity beginning soon. They are awaiting approval at the federal level on the CDC Childcare building in Stilwell prior to sending out bids. The Nowata and Collinsville CDC childcare buildings will be bid together and are ready to be sent out. The regular LIHEAP applications will begin in November. The supplemental LIHEAP payments have been made to the propane clients and they will begin making payments to the electric clients. The wood and pellet clients will receive payments to their electric companies instead of payments directly to the client to purchase wood or pellets. Families with a total loss from a natural disaster or burnout should contact

the Human Services department for help with some payments and clothing.

2. Community Services - Charlie Soap

Ms. Ashley Canoe offered to answer questions in the absence of Mr. Soap. Councilor Fullbright requested a status update on the Redbird Smith project. Councilor Fishinghawk requested a list of SIP home participants in each county. She also requested maps of waterlines with one county per map for Cherokee, Adair, Delaware and Ottawa counties. Councilor Fishinghawk requested information regarding the total number of acreage and the total number of home sites for Redbird Smith. Councilor Frailey requested notification of the next waterline meeting in Locust Grove. Councilor Bill John Baker inquired as to the amount of the house payment for the homes at Redbird Smith. Ms. Canoe stated they at this time do not know what the house payment will be as some final decisions still have to be made. Councilor Fishinghawk voiced concern for the backwards budget for the Redbird Smith project with each home costing \$238,000 each and not knowing what the payment will be to the families. Chair Buzzard voiced concern for SIP homes sitting 90% complete and families waiting to move in while the crews are at the Redbird Smith site. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested Mr. Soap to be present at the next committee meeting.

3. Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Lynn announced beginning last Thursday they will be hosting a series of public meetings to accept comments on roads they are considering adding to their inventory. Councilor Fishinghawk announced she has received complaints from landowners along the Honey Hill project that their hay meadows have been blocked with the fencing.

4. Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

5. Housing Services - David Southerland

Mr. Southerland gave the monthly disclosures. He announced there wouldn't be a board meeting this month as they are shy one board member. He announced they are trying to obtain additional FEMA trailers. Councilor Thornton inquired about assisting families with homes who have had a burn out. Mr. Southerland commented they assist with rental assistance but they do not provide replacement homes. Councilor Bill John Baker inquired if a policy change could be considered to assist families with Mortgage Assistance in emergency situations who have previously owned homes.

3. Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Councilor Fullbright requested an update on the Bradley Ford Bridge. Mr. Lynn stated this bridge is on the Nicutt South project in Sequoyah County. The contract was terminated and during the process rebid the floods have washed out the embankment. The county determined the last bridge inspection performed by the ODOT had an extremely high sufficiency rating. The county will be designing and adding an additional span for the bridge. A temporary detour is being installed now.

6. Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight announced the Individual Development Account program also provides assistance with weatherization and rehab on a home.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [11-066](#) A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2011 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve. Councilor Soap seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Bill John Baker opposed.

2. [11-067](#) A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2012 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Councilor Cowan Watts moved to approve. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Chair Buzzard suggested following discussion to forward this item to Executive & Finance Committee at the end of the month which would allow for a work group meeting for additional discussion prior to that meeting. Mr. Marvin Jones suggested recessing this meeting and reconvening at a later date for further discussion.
Councilor Jack D. Baker made a motion to table the 2012 IHP and recess following other discussions today until 11:00 a.m. on the day of Rules and Executive & Finance. Councilor Glory-Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. [11-070](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION THE THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES TO THE U.S. DHHS, FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES PROGRAM, FOR VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE
Councilor Bill John Baker moved to approve. Councilor Jack D. Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to recess to May 26th at 11:00 a.m.. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Norma Merriman
Ashley Canoe
Paula Ragsdale
Doug Evans*

*David Southerland
Michael Lynn
Jerry Snell
Shay Smith*

*Anna Knight
Dallas Pettigrew
Marvin Jones*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Tommy Hearn