



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

Mike Shambaugh, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke

Phone: 1-800-995-9465,

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Thursday, August 31, 2023

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shambaugh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Joshua Sam; Melvina Shotpouch; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Victoria Vazquez; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

Absent 1 - Mike Dobbins

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Buhl announced the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation has a new Indian Country Liaison. He commented on the importance of working with them on any pre-McGirt indigenous cases. There are currently approximately forty-one missing and twenty-three homicides. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Tehee commented she has had some constituents voice concern over an audio circling the community. She requested Marshal Buhl address the audio. Councilor Smith bragged on the Emergency Management group with their assistance recently at Marble City. Councilor Legg requested clarification on the celebration recovery for the Texas inmates referred to in the report. Councilor Sam inquired about a threat assessment for area schools. Councilor Callison inquired about the progress in staffing more of a presence in the North.

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

Attorney General Hill introduced a special guest with us today as the President of the American Bar Association, Mary Smith, who is a tribal citizen. Ms. Smith was given the floor for a few moments. She stated she is the first native American woman to hold this role. Ms. Hill announced they are busy in the transition process, as this is her very last Rules Committee meeting. She reported they have filed an amicus brief in the Stitt versus Treat and in the Matter of SJW. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Deere requested an update on Hooper. He also inquired as to the number of memorandums of agreement there are across the reservation. Councilor Shotpouch requested clarification on an instance where a citizen was ticketed \$60.00 more for having a Cherokee Nation tag. Numerous Councilors commented on Ms. Hill's work as Attorney General and stated she will be greatly missed.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported there are twenty-three FOIA requests, with three of those outstanding at this time. No GRA's have been filed to date and the website has been updated.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston announced they are fully staffed in Jay and have added three additional employees at Catoosa. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

Ms. Taralee Montgomery offered to take questions in the absence of Ms. Purcell.

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

Ms. Hendricks provided an update on the open interviews. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Deere inquired about the time it takes to hire from application received to first day of work.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [TMP-408](#) SELECTION OF TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CO-CHAIRS

Councilor Vazquez nominated Councilor Johnny Kidwell as the Rules Committee Co-Chair. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Tehee nominated Councilor Joshua Sam as the Executive & Finance Committee Chair. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Sam resigned as the Co-Chair of Executive & Finance Committee.

Councilor Sam nominated Councilor Easley as the Co-Chair of Executive & Finance Committee. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Callison moved to nominate Councilor Tehee as the Chair of Education Committee. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Tehee resigned as the Co-Chair of Culture.

Councilor Tehee moved to nominate Councilor Callison as Co-Chair of Education Committee. Councilor Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Tehee moved to nominate Councilor Poindexter as Co-Chair of Culture Committee. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Vazquez moved to re-nominate Councilor Patzkowski as the Health Committee Co-Chair. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Deere moved to nominate Councilor Smith as the Chair of Resource Committee. Councilor Callison seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Smith resigned as the Co-Chair of Resource Committee.

Councilor Smith moved to nominate Councilor Lisa Hall as the Co-Chair of Resource Committee. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilor Deere moved to re-nominate Councilor Legg as Chair of Community Service Committee. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [TMP-407](#)

SELECTION OF ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the selection of the Council advisory board members. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion.

Councilors Deere, Sam and Easley requested the three vacant positions on the Cherokee Nation Businesses Advisory Board. No opposition was heard.

With the resignation of Councilor Tehee, Councilors Hall and Shotpouch requested the two vacant positions on the Gaming Commission Advisory Board. No opposition was heard.

With the resignation of Councilor Sam, Councilors Poindexter and Callison requested the two vacant position on the Housing Authority Advisory Board. Councilor Blackfox-Qualls requested to be the alternate. No opposition was heard.

Councilors Shambaugh, Deere, Patzkowski and Callison requested the vacant position for Inter-Tribal. Councilor Easley requested to be the alternate. No opposition was heard.

The motion to approve all requested positions carried.

3. [23-038](#) A RESOLUTION ELECTING, DORA PATZKOWSKI, A MEMBER OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL TO THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL
- Councilor Vazquez moved to re-nominate Councilor Patzkowski as the Office of Secretary of the Council. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Kidwell moved to amend the agenda to include an amendment to the Attorney General's Act. Councilor Coates seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. [23-039](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RENOMINATION OF DERRICK VANN AS REGISTRAR OF THE CHEROKEE NATION
- Councilor Legg moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.
5. [23-040](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RENOMINATION OF STANLEY JOE CRITTENDEN AS SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION
- Councilor Kidwell moved to approve. Councilor Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.
6. [23-041](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RENOMINATION OF JANEES TAYLOR AS TREASURER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION
- Councilor Callison moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.
7. [23-045](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RENOMINATION OF KIMBERLY TEEHEE AS CHEROKEE NATION DELEGATE TO CONGRESS
- Chief Hoskin was given a moment to speak about his appointments up for consideration today.*
- Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.
8. [23-042](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CHRISTINA JUSTICE AS SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE CHEROKEE NATION
- Councilor Smith made a motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.
9. [23-043](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF SHELLA BOWLIN AS THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION
- Councilor Sam made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Following questions from Councilor Coates the motion to approve

carried with opposition from Councilor Coates.

10a. [23-055](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 51 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED PERTAINING TO THE FILLING OF A VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Councilor Kidwell made a motion to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. Councilor Kidwell gave background for the reasoning of the amendment. The motion to approve carried.

10. [23-044](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CHAD HARSHA AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

11. [23-046](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF TINA GLORY JORDAN TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

Councilor Patzkowski made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Following questions and comments from Councilors the motion to approve carried with Councilors Coates and Blackfox-Qualls opposed.

12. [23-047](#) A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-13-23 APPROVING A LETTER OF CREDIT AGREEMENT AND GRANTING A LIMITED CONSENT TO BE SUED

Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A moment of silence for everyone to pray for Councilor Dobbins was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Tehee moved to adjourn. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>	<i>Michael Lynn</i>
<i>Scott Craig</i>	<i>Kim Teehee</i>	<i>Shella Bowlin</i>
<i>Janees Taylor</i>	<i>Samantha Hendricks</i>	<i>Ginger Reeves</i>
<i>David Moore</i>	<i>Anna Knight</i>	<i>Diane Kelley</i>
<i>Mark Vance</i>	<i>Rae Wacoche</i>	<i>Bryan Warner</i>
<i>Derrick Vann</i>	<i>Corey Bunch</i>	<i>Joe Crittenden</i>
<i>Sara Hill</i>	<i>Chad Harsha</i>	<i>Christina Justice</i>
<i>Ethan Green</i>	<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Camerin Fite James</i>
<i>Daniel Mead</i>	<i>Chuck Hoskin Jr.</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>
<i>Joe Rainwater</i>	<i>Logan Lewis</i>	<i>Tina Glory Jordan</i>
<i>Rex Jordan</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

*John Young
Brandon Scott
Beverly Cowan*

*Teddy Snell
Gina Blackfox*

*Adam McCreary
Cara Cowan Watts*