



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 Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Thursday, January 30, 2020

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Buzzard gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 15 - Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin and Julia Coates

Late Arrival 2 - Canaan Duncan and Shawn Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Deere moved to approve as submitted. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Buhl announced they have an opening in the Marshal Service due to the retirement of LD Drywater. Mr. Drywater is now with security here at the complex. Some of the requirements and qualifications were requested for the marshal position. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Chair Byrd inquired if they have discussed changes to the Marshal service depending on the outcome of the Murphy case.

Office of the Attorney General - Sara Hill

Mr. John Young reported for the Attorney General's office. He provided an update on the Gaming compact case, the UKB seventy-five acres case, the bracken case, and the Murphy case. Councilor Nofire inquired about the ability to handle large influxes

upon the decisions in the Murphy and McGurt cases. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about a timeline on the gaming case. Chair Byrd requested the input of Chief Hoskin on the gaming issue.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Not present to report.

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

Mr. Fears gave highlights from the report provided. Councilor Crittenden inquired when the Commission would need changes to the election law to proceed for the next election. Mr. Harvey Chaffin, the Election Commission Attorney, stated changes would need to be passed by the Council by September of this year at the latest to not hinder the next election cycle. He stated the commission would be agreeable to attend the Councilor work group meeting to provide input if requested. Councilor Dobbins agreed to the Commission attending when to the point the work group is ready. Councilor Coates inquired about the process for the relinquishments, deceased, changes of address and coordination with the Registration Department. Councilor Smith inquired about the number of voters removed since the last election. Councilor Shambaugh commented on his request to make changes to the work group on the current election law prior to being brought before the committee.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report provided. Chair Byrd inquired about the checks to the schools this year compared to last year. Councilor Shaw requested clarification on the alcohol tax referred to in the report.

Self-Governance - Karen Ketcher

Not present to report.

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

Ms. Purcell offered to answer questions from the report. She invited the Council to attend the Commission meetings. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on the audit evaluation referred to on page 4 of the report provided. Councilor Buzzard requested clarification on attendance to the NIGC meetings once again. He also inquired about paying for staff to attend conferences to represent the Commission or tribe as an elected position. Councilor Nofire inquired what areas are most susceptible to fraud. Both Councilors Nofire and Shaw inquired about the audits. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification on attendance at the conferences in regard to appearances.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton commented on the recent amendment to the HR policy regarding to controlled dangerous substances. Councilor Nofire inquired about the safety sensitive jobs. Mr. Chad Harsha touched on the new Executive Branch work group in regard cannabis. Councilor Buzzard requested an overview of the policy changes in regard to cannabis. Chief of Staff, Todd Enlow, announced there will no longer be random drug testing of employees. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the effective date of the policy. Mr. Enlow stated the Administration has been working on this policy changes for months. Councilor Deere inquired about notification to applicants on pending

positions. Councilor Shambaugh requested clarification on the policy change dealing with medical marijuana and nothing else. He inquired about growing marijuana and cannabis for profit.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [19-096](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 10 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND INCORPORATE CERTAIN CHEROKEE TRIBAL TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE
Councilor Nofire gave an overview for the purpose of the proposed amendment and moved to approve. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion.
Councilor Patzkowski moved to table indefinitely. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:
Yea: 11 - Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Canaan Duncan ; Rex Jordan; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere and Keith Austin
Nay: 6 - Harley Buzzard; Mary Baker Shaw; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden and Julia Coates

NEW BUSINESS

1. [20-005](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF MICHAEL DOUBLEHEAD AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION TAX COMMISSION
Councilor Jordan moved to approve. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. He read a note from Mr. Doublehead stating why he was unable to attend committee. The motion to approve carried.
2. [20-006](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF STEVE WILSON AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION TAX COMMISSION
Councilor Nofire moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. [20-015](#) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - AN ACT TO PROTECT CHEROKEE EMPLOYEES AND HOLDERS OF A MEDICAL MARIJUANA LICENSE IN THE CONTEXT OF EMPLOYMENT
Councilor Nofire gave an overview of the reasoning for the item for discussion. Lengthy discussion was held.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:20 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Sharon Swepston
Shannon Buhl
Janice Randall
Diane Kelley*

*Marcus Fears
Todd Enlow
Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Taralee Montgomery*

*Chad Harsha
Tina Glory Jordan
John Young
Nason Morton*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Steve Wilson
Harvey Chaffin*

*Teddye Snell
Brenda Partain*

Tim Brown