



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Dick Lay, Chair

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

Monday, June 10, 2019

4:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Co Chair Buzzard called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Byrd gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - Dick Lay; Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ;
David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike
Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith;
Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez and Canaan Duncan

Late Arrival 1 - Shawn Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Shaw moved to approve the May 13th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Human Services Department - Marsha Lamb

Ms. Lamb reported Cherokee Nation Emergency Management has requested their assistance with the disasters. She created a team within her department to assist the victims of the tornado and the flooding. This team will go to the areas affected instead of having the citizens affected coming into the office. Councilor Hatfield inquired about the type of assistance being offered to the disaster victims. Councilor Dobbins inquired if the first call should be to Human Services or Emergency Management. Mr. Todd Enlow of Government Relations gave a brief explanation of the process and what has been happening in regard to the disaster relief efforts. He also stated a budget modification will be presented later for funding to assist in the disaster efforts. Councilor Crittenden inquired about a letter sent to the employees of Human Services about holding program funding due to low balances. Councilor Shaw inquired if there is a website for disaster affected citizens to go to that gives a step by step instruction of

the process to follow. Councilor Shambaugh gave the contact number for the EOC. Councilor Lay commented on giving out several numbers to individuals for different types of assistance which can sometimes be overwhelming to victims during these situations, he suggested one main number to give out that would coordinate with the other groups. Councilor Smith inquired about the food distribution waiving some of the requirements for the flood victims. Councilor Byrd read a church flyer offering assistance and a number to call and suggested something to this effect for the Nation. Councilor Shambaugh cautioned everyone that there are scammers out offering to assist the victims and are just taking their money.

Community Services - Martha Ketcher

Mr. Lynn reported in the absence of Ms. Ketcher. He reported Ms. Ketcher is staying engaged with the National Indian Health Board with work on the community assistance tools and capacity building. He gave highlights from the Community Youth Development and Adult Services report. Our office of Environmental Health and Engineering is awaiting notification from Indian Health Service on the FY2019 projects to be funded. The southern Delaware county regional water treatment plant is scheduled for completion this summer, the Council will be notified of the ribbon cutting. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on some of the transit report missing. Councilor Crittenden inquired if the septic pump truck is used under tribal dollars or federal.

Housing Services - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper provided clarification on the help and assistance they are able to provide during a disaster. He reported they had approximately fifteen homes damaged in the tornado. They will begin accepting college housing applications next month. HUD has released the estimates for the 2020 Indian Housing Block Grant. It will be brought forward for consideration in July with the due date back to HUD on July 18th. He gave an update on the Tribal HUD VASH Program. The Housing Authority employment numbers as of the end of April were 220 with 94.5% Cherokee employment. Councilor Walkingstick requested clarification on the estimated IHP appropriation. He also asked about storm shelters in the housing additions. Councilor Shambaugh inquired if there is a program for individual storm shelters. Councilor Lay inquired if our home insurance offers flood insurance.

Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Lynn offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Walkingstick gave the approval to move forward with a Cherokee County road project.

Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Smith reported for Ms. Knight. She reminded everyone of the I-save program where you can save up to \$1,000 which could be used to purchase an individual storm shelter.

Indian Child Welfare - Lou Stretch

Ms. Limore announced the McIntosh Home opened last Friday. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Community & Cultural Outreach - Kevin Stretch

Ms. Dawnea Squirrel and Ms. Tammy Miller offered to answer questions from the report provided. Mr. Stretch is on the Remember the Removal Bike Ride. Ms. Miller reported their Annual conference will be held July 12th and 13th. Chair Buzzard requested information be sent regarding the event.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

- 19-035** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, TO APPLY FOR VETERANS CEMETERY GRANTS PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF NATION TO ESTABLISH A CHEROKEE VETERAN CEMETERY

Councilor Anglen moved to approve. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion to approve carried with a request to forward to Council this evening.

Councilor Byrd commented on the task this could be, where it could be located, the liability, and the cost involved. Ms. Robin Allen from Grants provided some clarification to the questions and concerns raised. The first application process is for the planning and pre-approval with a due date of July 1st. Ms. Foreman reported the proposed land is by the Sequoyah golf course and the powwow grounds. Councilor Austin inquired about the timeline and what happens after the twenty years referred too. Ms. Allen stated the cemetery will be a forever project, there is \$40ml available and we will be reimbursed for the operation and maintenance. Chair Buzzard inquired if changes could be made for this to be a Cherokee only National Veteran Cemetery. Councilor Lay raised question about the wording in the resolution. Councilor Walkingstick voiced concern for the proposed location.

Councilor Walkingstick moved to rescind the vote to approve and reconsider. Councilor Lay seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 19-035** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, TO APPLY FOR VETERANS CEMETERY GRANTS PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF NATION TO ESTABLISH A CHEROKEE VETERAN CEMETERY

Councilor Crittenden requested clarification. Councilor Lay commented the resolution as written approved the cemetery this isn't for pre-approval only. Councilor Shaw voiced concern for the location and inquired if an alternate location could be used. Councilor Austin suggested waiting a year and submitting the request as there are currently too many questions. Councilor Byrd suggested doing a feasibility study. Councilor Shambaugh requested clarification on the process. Mr. Enlow gave a timeline and spoke about the criteria, data, estimated number of interments and the construction cost. Councilor Vazquez inquired about rewording the resolution. Councilor Lay offered a friendly amendment to add the word "Cherokee" in from of veteran cemetery in the third whereas and also in the title. Councilor Austin inquired about spouses being buried with the veteran and if they are not Cherokee. Councilor Attorney Nofire Blakestad suggested inserting language to require this to come back to the Council to determine the location.

Councilor Lay made a motion to approve with the friendly amendment he

proposed to include "Cherokee" in the third whereas and also in the last line of the title. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried with the amendment and the request to forward to Council this evening with no opposition. Ms. Foreman suggested including "an spouses of the Cherokee veterans". The resolution was already passed and could be considered at the Full Council meeting this evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn carried at 5:41 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Michael Lynn</i>	<i>Marsha Lamb</i>	<i>Shay Smith</i>
<i>Billy Hix</i>	<i>Tammy Miller</i>	<i>Dawnea Squirrel</i>
<i>Barbara Foreman</i>	<i>John Young</i>	<i>Todd Enlow</i>
<i>Taryn King</i>	<i>Nikki Limore</i>	<i>Robin Allen</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Teddye Snell</i>	<i>Gary Cooper</i>	<i>Tahlina Nofire Blakestad</i>
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