



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tina Glory-Jordan, Acting Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain

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Monday, December 12, 2011

2:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Glory-Jordan called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Walkingstick gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 13 - Curtis Snell; David Thornton Sr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Tina Glory Jordan; Jodie Fishinghawk; Janelle Fullbright; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Cara Cowan Watts and Chuck Hoskin, Jr.

Late Arrival 2 - Buel Anglen and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to approve the November 14th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Human Services Department - Marsha Lamb

Ms. Lamb reported they have received a drastic reduction in LIHEAP funding this year from the federal government. Mr. Jerry Snell reported in past years we have received approximately \$4.7ml and this year on \$1.8ml. The last day for the continuing resolution currently in effect is this Friday the 16th. They will have enough funds to serve the elderly and disabled only. The request for the additional \$200,000 will allow the application process to be opened up for those households who are not elderly or disabled. Councilor Frailey inquired if Citgo funds would be available this year to assist with this shortfall. Mr. Snell stated it is usually March before Citgo releases any funds. Councilor Fishinghawk requested an update on the coats and the angel tree by email. Mr. Snell referred to a document prepared by Mr. Doug Evans showing the LIHEAP information breakdown. Mr. Evans commented the document provides information regarding participation levels as well as an update

from the Washington DC office. If this body chooses to do a subsidy with a provisional budget to allow the application process to open to the other households it could be brought back to the reserve fund once the federal funds are received. Councilor Hoskin Jr. inquired if the disabled had to be the head of household or just a Cherokee within the home. Mr. Snell stated our policy is it must be the adult making the application. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested consideration of changing the policy to allow anyone disabled in the home. Councilor Anglen requested the clothing voucher information for Tulsa and Rogers Counties be emailed to him. Councilor Lay inquired about wood stoves for the winter. Mr. Snell stated they are planning to purchase ten wood stoves this year. Councilor Cowan Watts requested a breakdown by county of the LIHEAP participants. Councilor Garvin inquired about the status of the LIHEAP blankets. The design has been submitted but may not be available until March.

TMP-188

LIHEAP Crisis Funding Request

Chair Glory-Jordan inquired if a motion was needed for the budget modification for LIHEAP. Councilor Jack D. Baker stated the budget modification is already on the Council agenda so it can be amended tonight. Chair Glory-Jordan inquired if anyone wished to make a motion at this time so that it has been through the committee process. Councilor Frailey made a motion that it be included in the budget mod this evening at full Council. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. Councilor Cowan Watts called point of order to inquire where the funds were coming from. Councilor Frailey stated it would come from the contingency reserve fund. She revised her motion to be a motion to approve a provisional budget for a LIHEAP subsidy in the amount of \$200,000 to be funded by a transfer from the contingency reserve fund and be an amendment to mod 3 to be considered at tonight's Council meeting. Councilor Garvin accepted the revision. All Councilors requested to be listed as sponsors.

The motion carried.

2. Community Services - David Southerland

Mr. Southerland announced the self-help housing program has been moved under the rehab program. They are in the process of completing seven homes. They will do a follow up on the SIP homes recently built to see if there are issues. They have four SIP homes to begin in the near future. They will be accepting application until January 27th on the Community Works projects. He provided a breakdown of the number of community youth grants and adult grants by county as well as applications for both grants. He commented the application for the adult grant really needs to be reviewed and determine the purpose. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested feedback from Administration who have been part of this program and provide guidance. Mr. Southerland commented it was suggested to form a work group for these programs. Chair Glory-Jordan inquired who the contact person is for these two programs. Mr. Gary Cooper is the contact for Administration. Councilors Hoskin Jr., Keener, Fishinghawk, Snell, Walkingstick and Glory-Jordan expressed interest in participating in the work group. Chair Glory-Jordan announced a work group would be formed and a report would be provided back to this committee in February. Mr. Southerland stated there are 326 unfunded applications and they stopped taking applications in November, the funds were distributed on a first come first serve basis. Councilor Cowan Watts voiced concern for almost all of the funds going to two counties and thought the funds were to be distributed equally between districts. Chair Glory-Jordan requested Councilor Fishinghawk be the interim leader on the work group and set the first meeting.

4. Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Southerland offered to answer questions from the roads report. Chair Glory-Jordan requested notice be given to the Council of community meetings regarding roads in their areas.

5. Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

3. Housing Services - David Southerland

Mr. Southerland announced there are no disclosures to report this month. The Housing Authority Board meeting will be one week from tomorrow at noon. They are working on the details for building houses and will be preparing an Indian Housing Plan revision in the near future. The housing funding bill was approved and was signed by the President for \$650ml which is comparable to the FY2011 money. Councilor Thornton commented he would appreciate consideration of homes being built in the Marble City and Nicutt areas. Chair Glory-Jordan inquired if the IHP revision would include the restructuring of the Housing Authority. Mr. Southerland commented he would need to visit with the Chief to be able to provide a timeframe. Chair Glory-Jordan requested an update on this be included in the January reports.

6. Pending HUD Policy Changes - David Southerland

Mr. Southerland questioned the need for this item on the agenda with the President signing the housing bill. Councilor Hoskin Jr. moved to remove item 6 from the agenda. Councilor Jack D. Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Old pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Glory-Jordan announced the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 16th at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Jack D. Baker moved to adjourn. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:55 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Marsha Lamb
David Southerland
Sean Nordwall*

*Jerry Snell
Michael Lynn
Gary Cooper*

*Anna Knight
Doug Evans*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Raymond Vann
Todd Hembree*

Frankie Hargis

Ollie Starr