



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Janelle Fullbright, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Monday, March 11, 2013

1:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fullbright called the meeting to order at 1:53 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 13 - Buel Anglen; David Thornton, Sr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Janelle Fullbright; Jodie Fishinghawk; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; Cara Cowan Watts; Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Frankie Hargis and Joe Byrd

Late Arrival 4 - Curtis Snell; Julia Coates; Tina Glory Jordan and David Walkingstick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Thornton moved to approve the February 11, 2013 regular session minutes. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere gave the highlights of the report provided and stated the information requested last month pertaining to the number of tribal employees with Blue Cross and Blue Shield that visited their facility and the impact is on the last page of the report provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the increase in the contract health service numbers. She also inquired about the effects of the sequestration.

2. Cherokee Nation Health Services - Connie Davis

Ms. Davis announced they hosted the Oklahoma State Department of Health on February 15th were they were given an update on how the Affordable Care Act will affect the tribes specifically. She provided a packet of information pertaining to the Affordable Care Act. She announced the dialysis center in Sallisaw is open for business today. They signed a letter of request with NSU in January for entry into a

provisional accreditation process for a physician assistant program. She provided an update on the situation on the back log of colonoscopies. The provider vacancies have gone from 29 in January to 8 vacancies now. They have reviewed the Medicare billing denials and have discovered from January to May of 2012 and have uncovered \$600,000 in uncollected charges. The PACE Program has 121 patients and their financials were audited over the last couple of weeks with no deviancies found. The RFP for the Jay Clinic went out to bid last Friday. She provided pictures of the New Red Bird Clinic expansion. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about them using the directed studies program. She requested over the last four years a breakdown of Healthy Nation funding through the Healthy Community funds used in terms of grants to the schools and communities in Rogers and Tulsa counties. Councilor Frailey inquired about the status of the pharmacy expansion at the Salina clinic. Councilor Fishinghawk requested the color scheme for the Red Bird Smith clinic be more like the Cherokee rose which is a maroon. Councilor Glory-Jordan inquired about the possibility of a drive thru pharmacy in the future at Hastings. She also requested during the peak hours if there could be more than one of the thirteen doors open at the pharmacy pick up. Councilor Lay requested an update on the 90-day refills.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [TMP-244](#) JACK BROWN CENTER STATUS UPDATE (DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Davis provided a copy of the renderings of the new Jack Brown Center and provided details. The ground breaking is scheduled for April 26th at the Markoma facility. Councilor Cowan Watts asked several questions pertaining to the square footage, bed capacity, moving the ground breaking date to the 25th in the morning and who would be doing the construction.

2. [TMP-252](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: CLAREMORE IHS HOSPITAL BILLING CHEROKEE NATION BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD

Chair Fullbright announced she did appoint a work group in which they met at length this morning. Councilor Lay gave an overview of the determination of the work group. Councilor Cowan Watts apologized for not attending the work group meeting. She voiced her concerns and commented it could be done through the 5% dividends. Chair Fullbright stated if it is done for one I.H.S. facility it would have to be done for all therefore the findings of the work group is not to pursue this request. Councilor Cowan Watts made a motion to allow our Blue Cross Blue Shield to be billed by Claremore Indian Hospital. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. After some discussion was held Attorney General Hembree stated the motion is out of order. Councilor Glory-Jordan stated she would object to any vote being taken on this issue without a resolution provided. Councilor Frailey inquired as to the percentage of non-Cherokees being treated at Hastings. Chair Fullbright agreed with Councilor Glory-Jordan and Attorney General Hembree and stated no vote would be taken.

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to table for one month. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion to table failed with the following roll call vote:

Yea: 7 - Buel Anglen; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Julia Coates; Lee Keener Jr. and Cara Cowan Watts

Nay: 10 - Curtis Snell; David Thornton, Sr. ; Janelle Fullbright; Jodie Fishinghawk; Tina Glory Jordan; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Frankie Hargis and Joe Byrd

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. [TMP-254](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: THE 5% SET ASIDE PER LA-25-11

Councilor Lay requested clarification on the denture program and the amount charged if they are over income. After some clarification was received Councilor Lay moved to table for one month. Councilor Hoskin Jr. seconded the motion.

The motion carried with Councilors Cowan Watts and Coates opposed.

- 2. [TMP-242](#) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING HEALTHCARE MASTER PLAN EXPANSION

Councilor Fishinghawk withdrew this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Hoskin Jr. seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:57 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Dr. Charles Grim</i>	<i>Jeff Sanders</i>
<i>Bret Hayes</i>	<i>Brian Hail</i>	<i>Terrisa Muskrat</i>
<i>Chelsea Wilson</i>	<i>Connie Davis</i>	<i>Bill Foster</i>
<i>Ami Sams</i>	<i>Amy Hendricks</i>	<i>Steve Jones</i>
<i>Elizabeth Odell</i>	<i>Lacey Horn</i>	<i>Ron Qualls</i>
<i>Dr. Roger Montgomery</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Raymond Vann</i>	<i>Larry Horn</i>	<i>Dianne Barker Harrold</i>
<i>George Valliere</i>	<i>Charles Dry</i>	<i>Shawn Slaton</i>
<i>Doug Evans</i>	<i>Farrell Prater</i>	