



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,
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Monday, July 15, 2019

11:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Byrd gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent 1 - Janees Taylor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the June 10th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Mr. Buhl commended the surveillance and security teams at Catoosa Hard Rock for their part in a drug bust. He gave appreciation to the Councilors leaving next month for the support and working relationship with the Marshal Service. He offered to answer questions from the report.

Office of the Attorney General - Chrissi Nimmo

Ms. Nimmo gave an update on the Murphy case as it has been set for re-argument. She reported they have been awarded a grant to hire additional attorneys to prosecute for crimes and a public defender. She reported on the letter the Governor sent to all of the Chiefs in the State saying he wanted to renegotiate the gaming compact. She commented a joint resolution that was passed at Inter-Tribal last week and sent to the

Governor by all five tribes stating there is an auto renewal clause if not renegotiated within a small window. She stated there are only two sections of the compact that are renegotiable. Chair Byrd commented on some of the Inter-Tribal discussion held regarding the gaming compact. He inquired about the gaming compact auto renewal. The Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association Conference will be held next week and this will be an issue of discussion. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about the status of the ICWA case in Texas. Ms. Nimmo stated the UKB land into trust case is still pending with no change. Councilor Shaw if the election candidates who broke the law still have an ongoing investigation. Councilor Walkingstick requested clarification on the class II and the class III gaming in regard to the possible renegotiation.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported there are 31 total FOIA and GRA requests. The website has been updated.

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

Commissioner Rick Doherty offered to answer questions from the Election Commission report provided. Councilor Lay inquired about the notification process of complaints. Councilor Buzzard requested clarification on a situation where a voter receives an absentee ballot but didn't use and wants to vote a challenged ballot at the poll. Councilor Crittenden stated he wanted to form a work group on Election Law reform now with this current Council and continue with the newly elected. He inquired who would want to participate in this work group. Councilors Shaw, Dobbins, Shambaugh, Duncan, Buzzard, Smith and Crittenden all wished to participate. Councilor Shaw requested the Election Commission also provide a list of suggested amendments.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report. She stated she did provide information to Chairman Byrd regarding the benefits veterans get through the Tax Commission. Chair Byrd stated it would be forwarded to the Council. Councilor Buzzard inquired if the motor vehicle tag compact and the tobacco compact automatically renews. He inquired if we still provided the smoke shop owners a rebate on cartons of cigarettes. He requested she give a brief explanation on the rebate process. Ms. Nimmo gave clarification on the motor vehicle compact renewal.

Self-Governance - Karen Ketcher

Mr. Enlow commented she is on travel and offered to take back any questions for Ms. Ketcher.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Mr. Hummingbird gave clarification that the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association is next week on the 23rd and 24th. He gave an update on the Ft. Gibson casino and proposed reopening date following all of the flood damage. He commented on some proposed regulations sent out. Councilor Hatfield inquired about the long-term plans on Fair Meadows racetrack. Councilor Shaw inquired about sports betting. Councilor Lay commented on building a casino in a flood plain. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the differences in the classes of gaming.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Crittenden inquired about a follow-up from a questions regarding an employee a couple of weeks ago. Councilor Lay requested clarification on Human Resources for CNB, Health and the Cherokee Nation.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [19-033](#) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A POLICY TO MAKE PUBLIC ALL REGULARLY KEPT JOB DESCRIPTIONS BY THE CHEROKEE NATION VIA THE CHEROKEE.ORG WEBSITE TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY AND REDUCE AND DELAY COSTS TO THE CHEROKEE NATION
Councilor Shaw withdrew this item.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [19-040](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF TOMMYE SUE BRADSHAW WRIGHT AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC
Councilor Jordan made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about a conflict with Ms. Wright's connection with Wright Real Estate and leases in the new Cherokee Plaza. The motion to approve carried with Councilors Crittenden, Walkingstick, Anglen and Lay abstaining.
2. [19-047](#) AN ACT REJECTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER LEGISLATIVE ACT 01-15 WHICH CALLS FOR A PAY INCREASE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS
Councilor Crittenden made a motion to approve. Councilor Lay seconded the motion with a request to forward to the Council meeting this evening. Councilor Crittenden requested a substitute section 8 the emergency clause. Councilor Lay as the second accepted the substitute. Councilor Crittenden gave his reasoning for the legislation to reject the pay raise.
Following comments by Council members Councilor Lay called for the question. The motion to approve with the amendment to Section 8 and forward to Council this evening passed with the following roll call vote:
Yea: 9 - Keith Austin; Buel Anglen; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Shawn Crittenden; Joe Byrd; Harley Buzzard; Mike Dobbins and Mary Baker Shaw
Nay: 6 - Rex Jordan; Bryan Warner ; Victoria Vazquez; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh and Canaan Duncan
Abstain: 1 - Wanda Hatfield

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Shambaugh moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 12:19 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Jody Reece</i>	<i>Sharon Swepston</i>
<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>	<i>Taryn King</i>	<i>Jamie Hummingbird</i>
<i>Joe Rainwater</i>	<i>Todd Enlow</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>
<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Nason Morton</i>	<i>Amy Brill</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>David Cornsilk</i>	<i>Wes Nofire</i>	<i>Brian Barlow</i>
<i>Tommye Wright</i>	<i>Jackie Bob Martin</i>	<i>Tahlina Blakestad Nofire</i>
<i>Teddye Snell</i>	<i>Cara Cowan Watts</i>	<i>John Paden</i>
<i>Rick Doherty</i>	<i>Donald Crawford</i>	