



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Joe Byrd, Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke

Phone: 1-800-995-9465

E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Monday, November 16, 2020

5:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd

Speaker of the Council

Speaker Byrd called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Deputy Speaker Vazquez gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke

Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Councilor Coates attended remotely per the Council Remote Attendance Act and the Global Pandemic.

Present 14 - Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; Janees Taylor; Joe Byrd; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; Canaan Duncan ; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski and Joe Deere

Absent 1 - E. O. "JR." Smith

Late Arrival 2 - Keith Austin and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Jordan made a motion to approve the October minutes as submitted.

Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.

Principal Chief

Chief Hoskin announced the state of our Nation remains strong even during this difficult time. He gave appreciation to the work of the Council and all staff. He spoke of the many safety measures and programs created to assist those in need during this

difficult time. He voiced concern for the spread of COVID-19 through our communities. Lastly he commented on the reappointments of several Cherokee Nation Businesses board members up for approval on this agenda.

Speaker Byrd requested a moment of silence for those members who we have lost over the last month.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett gave an overview of their business units and their financial status. The CNE gaming and hospitality business is making inroads back toward the performance we have grown accustomed to. They are seeing positive trends across the portfolio. He gave an update on how they are maintaining responsible hospitality during the COVID-19 pandemic. They have had a record contract year. They will host the Leadership Summit this week as a virtual event. An update was given on the Tru Hotel and Starbucks in the Cherokee Plaza. Mr. Garrett reported they recently presented their annual contribution of \$20,000 to the Cherokee Nation Angel Tree project. They also presented the Tulsa area United Way with their annual support of \$25,000. Their Cultural Tourism team has resumed and opened all of their facilities. He provided information about new exhibits. They recently celebrated the formal purchase of the Will Rogers Birthplace and Museum. The Cultural Arts Team continues to coordinate with the Cherokee Artists on multiple projects. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Rules Committee

1. [20-059](#) **A RESOLUTION ELECTING JANEES TAYLOR TO THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd

Councilor Shambaugh made a motion to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried with all Councilors requesting to be added as sponsors.

Enactment No: R-033-20

2. [20-060](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF TIM LANDES JR. AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE PHOENIX**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.

Enactment No: R-034-20

3. [20-061](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL WATKINS AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Janees Taylor, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Mike Shambaugh, Keith Austin, Victoria Vazquez, Rex Jordan and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-035-20

4. [20-062](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF BUCK GEORGE AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Victoria Vazquez, Janees Taylor, Mike Shambaugh and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-036-20

5. [20-063](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF BOB BERRY AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Victoria Vazquez, Janees Taylor, Mike Shambaugh and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-037-20

7. [20-066](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF GARY COOPER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Janees Taylor, Victoria Vazquez, Mike Shambaugh and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-038-20

8. [20-067](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JERRY HOLDERBY AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Janees Taylor, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Mike Shambaugh, Keith Austin, Victoria Vazquez, Rex Jordan and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-039-20

9. [20-068](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DEACON TURNER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Janees Taylor, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Mike Shambaugh, Keith Austin, Victoria Vazquez, Rex Jordan and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-040-20

10. [20-069](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DAN CARTER AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, Mike Dobbins, E. O. "JR." Smith, Harley Buzzard, Victoria Vazquez, Janees Taylor and Joe Deere

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve in Toto. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Buzzard and Nofire opposed.

Enactment No: R-041-20

6. [20-064](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF BRENT TAYLOR AS A BOARD MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd, Rex Jordan, Victoria Vazquez, Mike Dobbins, Mike Shambaugh, E. O. "JR." Smith, Keith Austin and Joe Deere

Councilor Duncan moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Nofire opposed and Councilor Taylor abstaining.

Enactment No: R-042-20

11. [20-070](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD HULL AS A MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION**

Sponsors: Canaan Duncan

Councilor Duncan made a motion to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-043-20

12. [20-076](#) **AN AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND TO APPOINT THE TRIBAL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES**

Sponsors: Rex Jordan, Canaan Duncan, E. O. "JR." Smith, Victoria Vazquez, Mary Baker Shaw, Joe Byrd and Dora Patzkowski

Councilor Shaw made a motion to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilor Patzkowski requesting to be added as a sponsor.

Enactment No: R-044-20

13. [20-071](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY FOR THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OFFERED BY OOKLA, LLC**

Sponsors: Janees Taylor, Canaan Duncan, Daryl Legg and Mike Shambaugh

Councilor Legg made a motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-045-20

14. [20-072](#) **A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GRANT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY JURISDICTION TO THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

Sponsors: Joe Deere, Julia Coates, Mary Baker Shaw, Harley Buzzard, Daryl Legg, Victoria Vazquez and Mike Shambaugh

Councilor Deere made a motion to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilors Vazquez and Shambaugh requesting to be added as sponsors.

Enactment No: R-046-20

15. [20-073](#) **AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 6(B) OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2009 CODIFIED AS TITLE 44 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Joe Byrd

Councilor Duncan moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-25-20

Executive and Finance Committee

16. [20-074](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT 16-20 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 - MOD. 1: AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Janees Taylor

Councilor Austin moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-26-20

17. [20-075](#) **AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT 17-20 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 - MOD. 1; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Sponsors: Janees Taylor

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: LA-27-20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilors announced the passing of several tribal citizens and others needing prayers to help them through COVID. Councilor Shambaugh gave appreciation to all the years of service from Gary Cooper and wished him well in his next endeavor. He also welcomed Jerri Killer as the interim Housing Director.

Speaker Byrd announced he would be passing out a resolution tomorrow to enhance the mask mandate for the City of Tahlequah.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Duncan made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:27 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Tribal Council Offices, W.W. Keeler Complex.