



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker
Kevin Easley, Jr., Deputy Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
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Monday, March 9, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Johnny Jack Kidwell, Speaker of the Council

Speaker Kidwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke, Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 16 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Absent 1 - Joe Deere

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Hughes moved to approve. Councilor Poindexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief

Chief Hoskin reported on the Proclamation signing and the documentary celebrating Black History Month as well as the opening of the community building in North Tulsa. This community building will also house a elder nutrition site. A job fair will be held on March 12th at the North Tulsa Community Building and on March 10th in Muskogee. A Data Center Task Force has been created. A Cherokee Futures Program has been developed with NSU. Legislation has been signed for some of the OPIOID Settlement funds to be designated to the Re-Entry Program for both a Male and Female transitional living center. The Tribal Council has enacted an increase in the Claremore Health Center of \$400ml. A Proclamation has been signed for Rare Diseases. GaDuGi Corp has now been place under the Education Department. The Dewey Nutrition Center

opening was celebrated. The Sequoyah Heights Community Center for Seniors here in Tahlequah has been opened. At Large meetings will be held in Kansas. Chief will be in Washington D. C. next week. He congratulated Senator Mark Wayne Mullins on his new position. He also congratulated Stacy Leeds on being named as the President of The University of Tulsa. Speaker Kidwell commented on the funding for Claremore and what it says about how we run our Health Care.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief

and

S. Joe Crittenden, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Deputy Speaker Warner and Secretary of Veteran Affairs Crittenden presented Bobby Gene Grigg, Jr. and a postural presentation for Phillip Eugene Grigg with Cherokee medals of Patriotism.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett reported on behalf of the almost 11,000 CNB employees. He reported on the employees working in the rough areas of the Middle East and how they maintain contact and keep them safe. He requested prayers for those fifty-four employees. He announced they made a significant investment in a Houston utility business. They will be hosting the World Series of Poker at the Hard Rock. They will be also be hosting Spring Break activities for children. He commented they are very engaged in the Freedmen documentary. The February financials will be out next week, he provided an update on the gaming numbers and the federal contracting.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Rules Committee

- A. [26-015](#) **AN ACT RELATING TO THE NAMING OF THE CHEROKEE
IMMERSION MIDDLE SCHOOL AS □□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□
(TSUNADELOQUASDI GALIQUOGI NIDUYUGDV)**

Sponsors: Candessa Tehee, Julia Coates, Melvina Shotpouch, Codey Poindexter, Lisa Hall, Johnny Kidwell and Sasha Blackfox-Qualls

Councilor Tehee moved to approve. Councilor Grass seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Yea: 16 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Enactment No: LA-12-26

B. [26-017](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO GRANT AN EASEMENT FOR RIGHT OF WAY TO THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND / OR THE CONSERVATION FUND FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS ACROSS A PORTION OF TRIBAL TRUST LAND LOCATED IN ADAIR COUNTY OKLAHOMA

Sponsors: Clifton Hughes and Lisa Hall

Councilor Hall moved to approve. Secretary Sam seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Enactment No: R-10-26

C. [26-019](#)

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF T. LUKE BARTEAUX AS A DISTRICT JUDGE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION DISTRICT COURT

Sponsors: Johnny Kidwell, Kevin Easley, Joshua Sam, Dora Patzkowski, Sasha Blackfox-Qualls, Danny Callison, Joe Deere, Ashley Grant, Uriah Grass, Lisa Hall, Clifton Hughes, Daryl Legg, Kendra McGeady, Codey Poindexter, Melvina Shotpouch and Candessa Tehee

Deputy Speaker Easley moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Yea: 16 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Enactment No: R-11-26

D. [26-020](#)

AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 19 “COUNCIL”, CHAPTER 4, SECTION 33 - TIME AND PLACE OF SESSIONS

Sponsors: Johnny Kidwell

Secretary Sam moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Yea: 16 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

Enactment No: LA-13-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Patzkowski announced the Wall that Heals will be open to the public in Bartlesville from the 7th through the 10th of May.

Councilor Shotpouch announced a community meeting on the 34th of March in Grove.

Speaker Kidwell commented Joe Hutchinson declared a John Kidwell Day by proclamation and it was signed by Senator Easley.

Councilor Hall announced she and Councilor Legg would be having a community meeting at the Brushy Community Center on March 30th.

Councilor Grass congratulated Johnny Teehee on being selected as U.S. Marshal.

Councilor Legg announced the Annual Donkey Basketball game this Thursday.

Deputy Speaker Easley requested prayers for Councilor Deere who was in an accident over the weekend. He also provided comments on the recent passing of his grandma.

Secretary Sam announced the grand opening of the ball fields in Greasy this Thursday.

Multiple Councilors requested prayers for Cherokee citizens who have passed over the last month.

Speaker Kidwell announced Judge Barteaux's swearing in ceremony will be held on Wednesday of this week. At Large meetings will be held in Kansas this weekend. The graduation for the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program will be on March 20th and Public School Appreciation Day is scheduled for March 26th.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hughes moved to adjourn. Councilor Shotpouch seconded the motion. The motion carried at 6:46 p.m.