



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

Mike Shambaugh, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Thursday, May 29, 2025

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shambaugh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Poindexter gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Councilor Coates attended remotely.

Present 15 - Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Joshua Sam; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Johnny Kidwell; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr.; Julia Coates and Kendra McGeady

Absent 2 - Melvina Shotpouch and Dora Patzkowski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Deere made a motion to approve as submitted. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Daniel Mead

Mr. Cunningham offered to answer questions from the report in the absence of Marshal Mead. Councilor Smith commented it is great to see the patrols in his area. Councilor Legg also commented on the increase in patrols.

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

Mr. Harsha gave an update on pending litigation. He announced the Deputy Attorney General came for a visit to see a snapshot of us post McGirt. He offered to answer questions from the report.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin was not available to report.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston gave highlights from the report then offered to answer any questions. Councilor Dobbins inquired if there are any traffic issues getting in and out of the Tahlequah location. Chair Shambaugh commented it is good to see the Jay office fully staffed.

Gaming Commission - Audra Imhoff

Ms. Imhoff gave highlights from the report and announced the next board meeting is tomorrow morning. She offered to answer questions from the report.

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

Ms. Hendricks gave a follow-up on the question previously asked about 401k tenure. She commented on the Sequoyah High School Career Day held, where they promoted internships, she stated they would be expanding to other schools next year. She provided an update on both the Internship Program and the Recruitment Team. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [25-055](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE TO TRANSFER TITLE OF THE CLAREMORE INDIAN HOSPITAL PROPERTY TO THE UNITED STATES IN TRUST FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION

Councilor Easley moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. Councilor Deere inquired if the Resolution doesn't pass would we still be liable to take over. Councilor Coates inquired if the Resolution does pass are we still obligated to take over. Chief Hoskin stated this Resolution is just step one in a multi-step process.

Following questions the motion to approve carried with Councilor Hall abstaining.

2. [25-056](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 44 CHAPTER 1 SECTION 6(F) OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED RELATING TO FREE AND INDEPENDENT PRESS FOR THE CHEROKEE NATION - 2025 AMENDMENTS

Councilor McGeady moved to approve. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. [25-057](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 21 ("CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS") OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED

Councilor Tehee moved to table to the next Rules meeting. Councilor Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Deere announced the Special Olympics events in Stillwater raised over \$1ml. He gave appreciation for the Cherokee Nation Marshals participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:17 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Chad Harsha
Audra Imhoff
Brooke Neff*

*Canaan Duncan
Sharon Swebston*

*Gary Cunningham
Samantha Hendricks*

VISITORS PRESENT:

John Young

Teddye Snell