



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Julia Coates, Chair

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

Monday, January 16, 2012

3:00 PM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Coates called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Keener gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Buel Anglen; Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Julia Coates; Jodie Fishinghawk; Tina Glory Jordan; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Cara Cowan Watts

Late Arrival 3 - Curtis Snell; David Thornton, Sr. and Janelle Fullbright

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Keener moved to approve the December 12th regular session minutes. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley gave an update from her report. Councilor Hoskin Jr. requested a step by step breakdown of the job bank procedures. Councilor Lay gave appreciation for the upcoming job fairs in the northern area. He voiced concern for some miss-communication being given with the TERO contractors in regard to the pre-bid meetings. Councilor Keener requested regular updates on the progress of their department working with CNE employees in regard to TERO. Councilor Hargis inquired about the number of Day Work participants and the number of hours they are able to work. Councilor Fishinghawk requested information regarding prompt payment be located as TERO law review will begin soon. She also inquired as to when contracts could be pulled from contractors who don't hire our Cherokees.

2. Executive Director's Report - Dr. Neil Morton

Dr. Morton offered to answer questions from the report provided. He announced the Annual Science Fair is scheduled at Northeastern State University on January 28th. Councilor Cowan Watts commented the JOM numbers aren't included in the report this time and requested they be provided by email. Councilor Fishinghawk requested an update on the dorm assistance program and inquired if consideration was going to be given to changing the program next year. Dr. Morton stated he is scheduled to meet with NSU in regard to the program. They would continue to have an obligation to the students currently in the program. Councilor Fishinghawk inquired about the Motor Vehicle Scholarship and if any were awarded. Chair Coates reminded everyone that the dorm assistance program is now the Cherokee Promise program and it is a pilot project at NSU. Dr. Morton made clear that he believes in this type of project and just needs clarification from NSU in regard to the dorm rehab. Councilor Glory-Jordan requested the agreement with NSU be provided to this committee once it is located. Chair Coates commented it was stated in the CNF board meeting last week that it is the Administration's decision to discontinue this program. She requested some clarification be given in this regard as this is a program that is working extremely well.

3. Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from the report provided.

4. Leadership - Mark Skinner

Mr. Mark Skinner announced he is the Acting Group Leader of Leadership Services. He offered to answer questions from the reports provided. Councilor Cowan Watts inquired about the Youth Leadership Council and the possibility of them going back to their old structure. Mr. Patrick Hill gave a synopsis of what has occurred.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [12-003](#) AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT 31-07 PROVIDING HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHEROKEE NATION STUDENTS

Councilor Walkingstick introduced this amendment by stating its main objective is to get funds distributed equally among PELL and non-PELL applicants. He moved to approve. Councilor Glory-Jordan seconded the motion. After several questions and comments were made Councilor Walkingstick stated he needed to make some amendments to this legislation.

Upon the suggestion of Chair Coates Councilor Cowan Watts moved to table to allow time for the amendments to be brought forward and be reviewed. Councilor Jack D. Baker seconded the motion. The motion failed with the following roll call vote:

Yea: 6 - Buel Anglen; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Julia Coates; Lee Keener Jr. and Cara Cowan Watts

Nay: 8 - Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Curtis Snell; Jodie Fishinghawk; Janelle Fullbright; Tina Glory Jordan; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Frankie Hargis

Not In Room: 2 - David Thornton, Sr. and Don Garvin

After several questions were posed including the budget impact of this change. Mr. Hembree gave clarification that this amendment doesn't repeal or amend LA-02-11 which states that the Cherokee Nation Higher Education Scholarship program will be administered by the Education Group. Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve with the following amendments. In Section 2 at the end of the last sentence add "inside the higher education scholarship boundary map and Pell eligible students that are At Large." Section 5 following eligible for Pell add "and non-Pell" and in the same section following per academic year add "or equal distribution pending the allocation of the Council's budget". Councilor Fishinghawk seconded the motion. Councilor Fishinghawk requested clarification that this amendment would take us back prior to the last amendment of this legislation. Chair Coates agreed and voiced concern that the previous amendments were made to allow students to receive the max federal dollars prior to tribal dollars being spent.

The motion to approve as amended carried with the following roll call vote:

Yea: 9 - Chuck Hoskin Jr. ; Curtis Snell; David Thornton, Sr. ; Jodie Fishinghawk; Janelle Fullbright; Tina Glory Jordan; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Frankie Hargis

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

2. **TMP-189** SEQUOYAH JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT BUSINESS PRESENTATION

Chair Coates withdrew this item as it will be presented during the Tribal Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:45 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Patrick Hill</i>	<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>
<i>Dr. Neil Morton</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>	<i>Mark Skinner</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Raymond Vann</i>	<i>Farrell Prater</i>	<i>Todd Hembree</i>
---------------------	-----------------------	---------------------