



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

*Johnny Jack Kidwell, Chair  
Kevin Easley, Jr., Co-Chair*

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

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Thursday, October 30, 2025

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Kidwell called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Callison gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Daniel Mead

*Marshal Mead offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Poindexter commented on the fast reaction and training to assist and save an elder coking at the Elder Summit. Councilor Callison gave appreciation for the robotic dog assistance provided in his district recently.*

Office of the Attorney General - Chad Harsha

*Attorney General Harsha provided updates on pending litigation. He provided information on the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation news that they aren't going to honor our citizenship cards for hunting and/or fishing. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Callison inquired what to do if a citizen is issued a citation for hunting and/or fishing. Chair Kidwell inquired about discussions on hunting*

*and fishing during the recent Inter-Tribal meetings. He requested clarification on At Large citizens still being able to hunt and/or fish within the reservation with their cards.*

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

*Mr. Duncan offered to take questions in the absence of Ms. Terrapin.*

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

*Mr. Fears offered to answer questions from the report provided. Chair Kidwell gave appreciation for the list of suggested revisions to the Election Code.*

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

*Ms. Swepston gave highlights from the report and provided a follow-up to the rebates question from last month. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Tehee inquired about the status of the issue with the signage at the Tahlequah tag office. Councilor Callison requested clarification on the new car tag process. Chair Kidwell inquired as to how many of the rebates were from outside the enhanced area.*

Self-Governance - Ashawna Miles

*Ms. Miles offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

Gaming Commission - Audra Imhoff

*Ms. Imhoff announced the upcoming board meetings on November 14th at Hard Rock and December 12th at the Choeta Center. She gave appreciation for the re-appointment of Commissioner Sparks. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Legg inquired about the process for playing bingo at community buildings. Councilor Grass inquired if playing bingo at a location once is a different process that when playing on a regular basis.*

Human Resources - Samantha Hendricks

*Chief Hoskin commented that the 2022 Executive Order raising the minimum wage for all employees to \$15.00 per hour is complete along with the competitive market value research. He stated he is proud of the work performed by the Human Resources Department as a result of the Executive Order.*

*Ms. Hendricks announced the Cherokee Nation has been named as one of the Best Large Employers in 2025 by Forbes. She offered to answer questions from the report. Chair Kidwell inquired as to the status of the new Tribal Council staff positions.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

## AMEND THE AGENDA

**Councilor Tehee moved to amend the agenda to include items A - E passed out of committees earlier today. Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**A. [25-106](#)**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE NATION WAREHOUSE TO DONATE SURPLUS ITEMS TO WESTVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

**Councilor Poindexter moved to approve. Councilor Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**[25-103](#)**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN SPARKS AS A COMMISSIONER OF THE CHEROKEE NATION GAMING COMMISSION

**Co-Chair Easley moved to approve. Councilor McGeady seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**[25-104](#)**

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LYNDON EMBERTON TO THE CITIZEN COMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION

**Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**[25-105](#)**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CLARICE DOYLE AS A COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO A BOARD SEAT AS AN EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE CHEROKEE PHOENIX

**Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve. Councilor McGeady seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**[25-107](#)**

AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 68 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED

**Councilor McGeady moved to approve. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. Chair Kidwell stated for the record that this prepares us for the new compact. He commented on the effect to the At Large citizens in the enhanced jurisdiction. Chief Hoskin was given a moment for comments. The motion to approve carried with the following roll call vote:**

**Yea:** 17 - Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Candessa Tehee; Uriah Grass; Ashley Grant ; Joshua Sam; Clifton Hughes; Melvina Shotpouch; Kendra McGeady; Danny Callison; Johnny Kidwell and Kevin Easley Jr.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Chair Kidwell announced the November meeting would be chaired by Co-Chair Easley.*

## ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Tehee seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 3:40 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Samantha Hendricks*  
*Marcus Fears*  
*Sharon Swepston*  
*Chuck Hoskin Jr.*

*Chad Harsha*  
*Daniel Mead*  
*Ashawna Miles*  
*Canaan Duncan*

*Audra Imhoff*  
*Sheila Bowlin*  
*Todd Enlow*  
*Anna Knight*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Ollie Starr*

*John Young*