



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

David Walkingstick, Chair

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

Monday, July 15, 2019

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Walkingstick gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 15 - Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez and Canaan Duncan

Late Arrival 2 - Shawn Crittenden and Mike Shambaugh

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Shaw moved to approve the June regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Vocational Programs/Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley provided an update on Job Corp, they are still trying to fill jobs in the residential living and safety and security areas. The National Home Builders Institute sent a representative to come and observe the electrical and building/apartment maintenance instructors they provide for our program. The GED Graduation will be held at the ballroom in the new Tahlequah Casino on September 19th. She announced they received to official letter stating they would be receiving \$5.99ml in TANF for the program they will roll out in October. The Day Work Training Program will change and be known as the Tribal Training Services Program with the new fiscal year. They are working on the planning of the new Tribal Council Orientation and tour. Councilor Crittenden requested information about the TANF program. Councilor Shaw inquired if someone goes through a vocational trades program does that deem them ineligible for other vocational trade programs. Councilor Shambaugh inquired if the TANF program

would be like the State where the participants have to job shadow or go through a training program. Councilor Dobbins requested clarification on the orientation dates. Councilor Walkingstick requested clarification on someone being denied for training programs because they are considered employable.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Ms. Jennifer Pigeon reported for Mr. Etheridge. She announced the applications for Miss Cherokee, Jr. Miss Cherokee and the Little Ambassadors are due tomorrow and as of earlier today there haven't been any applications submitted. She provided an update on the higher education scholarship applications. Tomorrow at the Sequoyah gym the BIE is hosting the JOM Tribal Consultation. The final Camp Cherokee will start Monday. She offered to answer any questions. Councilor Warner requested a review of the students who have an associate's degree then go into the allied health program for nursing, which is also an associate's degree but cannot get funding. Councilor Lay inquired if we fund Master's degrees. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the number of scholarship applications received this year as how it compares to last year.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson announced it is the beginning of the 41st year for the Head Start and the 23rd year for Early Head Start. They have submitted a \$750,000 grant for health and safety related projects. They still have positions available so part of the recruitment team, Margie Hagar and Mary Lou Carey, are here to hand out application packets to help in recruitment efforts. She encouraged the Council members to go to any of the sites and read to the children at 10:00 a.m. She reported the grant they submitted if awarded will fund the asphalt driveway and parking lot at the Salina facility. They are also asking for additional grant funding for the other half of the security cameras. Councilor Shaw inquired if the children are taught Cherokee. Ms. Thompson reported they are working diligently with Webber Falls to get their facility back open. She gave appreciation to all the outgoing Councilors and extended an invitation to the November Thanksgiving dinner. Councilor Hatfield requested clarification on the benefits and pay for teachers at the Head Start.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls announced Jeff Turtle will be the new assistant girls basketball coach. They will be advertising for an assistant boys basketball coach and baseball coach. Open House for the Students is on the 30th. Following this meeting today Mr. Qualls will be giving a tour of the school to the Department of Interior. Next week the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior will be here to review our facilities, safety and showcase our school. There have been 102 freshmen accepted to school this fall for a total student count of 384. The CCPI camp through the Cherokee Nation Foundation was held on the school campus. Mr. Qualls reported they have teacher openings for band, math and robotics. Principal Jolyn Choate reported on a comparison of ACT scores from 2005 to 2018. She also compared to the State and National averages. She commented scoring an 18 or below in math on the Act requires a zero level class to be taken. The Oklahoma Promise Scholarship doesn't pay for zero level classes. This year they will have the Southern Region Educational Boards College Readiness Math Course on the schedule. The parents will have to opt out their student from this mandatory course. She reported they are beginning their fourth year of social and emotional learning and gave an overview of what the class provides. Ms. Choate commented on the shortage of education major graduates and the suggested our directed studies program include education. She stated there were

only six secondary math graduates from NSU this year. Councilor Taylor inquired what grade the student at Sequoyah take the ACT. She also inquired about the Princeton Review. Councilor Byrd inquired how Sequoyah ACT scores compare to Cherokee county. Councilor Lay requested clarification on the suggestion for an education degree directed studies program. Councilor Warner inquired about the effects of math pathways. Councilor Shaw inquired if they are ensuring the students are enrolled in the Oklahoma Promise Program. She also inquired about teaching Cherokee. Councilor Shaw asked if we have made it to where we can see how the immersion students will do on the ACT tests.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Lay moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:03 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>	<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>
<i>Patien Qualls</i>	<i>Taryn King</i>	<i>Leroy Qualls</i>
<i>Todd Enlow</i>	<i>Jolyn Choate</i>	<i>Bill John Baker</i>
<i>Margie Haner</i>	<i>Mary Carey</i>	<i>Kevin Stretch</i>

VISITORS PRESENT: