



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Draft

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Joe Byrd, Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke

Phone: 1-800-995-9465

E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Monday, September 14, 2020

5:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd
Speaker of the Council

Speaker Byrd called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Deputy Speaker Vazquez gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain Coke
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Councilor Coates attended remotely.

**Speaker Byrd announced we in the COVID-19 pandemic which allows
Councilors to attend the Council meeting remotely.**

Present 16 - Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Joe Byrd; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; Canaan Duncan ; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Joe Deere; Keith Austin and Julia Coates

Late Arrival 1 - Dora Patzkowski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Duncan made a motion to approve the August 27th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STATE OF THE NATION

Chuck Hoskin, Jr.
Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Warner gave appreciation to the Council for their efforts in the communities during the pandemic. He reported on the food distribution in the

communities and gave appreciation to all involved. Deputy Chief Warner commented on our first virtual Cherokee National Holiday. They continue to monitor the Treasury guidelines in regard to the spending of the CARES Act funding. He gave appreciation to our Veterans and our active military. Appreciation was given to all of the health care workers and the public health group for their long hours and hard work during this time of need. An update was given on the Respond, Recover and Rebuild initiatives. He gave appreciation to all of the hard working employees as we continue to work at a 30% work force each day. Lastly he requested a moment of silence to remember those who have passed since our last meeting.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Chuck Garrett

Mr. Garrett reported remotely giving an update on the July financials. They are still in the process of recovering from the closing of all of their venues. They continue with the health screening of all employees and patrons along with the mask and no smoking requirements at all facilities. The contracting businesses are having a record year. The Film Office hosted the drive-in film nights at the Cherokee National Holiday. The Film Office will be partnering with Oklahoma TV and Film Academy to recruit native talent for the film industry through a scholarship program. The fall racing schedule is now underway at Will Rogers Downs. Cherokee Springs Plaza continues to make advancements in the way of new tenants with the addition of the Tru Hotel and Starbucks. CNB continues to offer free COVID testing to employees and their households. He offered to answer any questions. Councilor Dobbins inquired how long the golf courses were closed. Councilor Shaw requested an update on gaming in Arkansas.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Duncan gave a huge shout out and thank you to the Mail Room staff.

Councilor Duncan requested the family of Clay Mayes be kept in everyone's prayers.

Councilor Crittenden announced he and Councilor Duncan will have a food giveaway in the old Wal-Mart parking lot on Wednesday.

Speaker Byrd announced a food distribution in Salina tomorrow.

Speaker Byrd announced the virtual pow wow was held and gave appreciation to the judges for coming in and for the assistance of the I.T. staff. He commented numerous requests have been made for a spring event.

Councilor Deere announced the Dream Center is still doing food giveaways every Friday through December.

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 5:26 p.m.**

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