



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Keith Austin, Chair*

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

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Tuesday, October 15, 2019

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Patzkowski gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 13 - Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan and Wes Nofire

**Absent** 1 - Julia Coates

**Late Arrival** 3 - Canaan Duncan ; Joe Deere and Shawn Crittenden

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Shaw moved to approve the September minutes as submitted.**  
**Councilor Nofire seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

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

*Ms. Kelley announced this is National Manufacturing Month and this past week they participated in the chili cookoff in Pryor at the industrial park. This year they won two of the three trophies awarded. Chief Hoskin will be signing a Proclamation tomorrow at the Ray Corporation for putting the most Re-Entry participants to work. They will be visiting the Northeast Tech Construction Program as part of the Career Readiness Act. They will be rolling out some medical training programs with the Indian Capitol Technology including nursing, medical lab tech, medical assistant, and more. They will also be contacting some of the schools to provide training for biomedical engineering and medical coding. Ms. Kelley stated they plan to mirror the classes up North in the Spring. They have received the approval from the Department of Interior to combine the Department of Labor and Department of Education programs into the PL*

102-477 program. She reported on their part of the way finder volunteers at the new outpatient clinic. An office will be opened in Muskogee within the next couple of weeks. Job Corp remains number one. Our fire program was notified they will receive additional staff due to the work they are doing for the Bureau and the State. She commented on the upcoming NCAI Conference and the many staff going to work.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Ms. Jennifer Pigeon report for Mr. Etheridge. She announced on October 22nd the College fair will be held here in Tahlequah. Applications for concurrent enrollment is open until December for Spring 2020. The Remember the Removal Bike Ride applications closed on Friday. She gave appreciation for allowing the use of the Council Chambers for the challenge bowl. She reminded the Council of the annual Thanksgiving dinner at the Head Start in November. She provided a handout showing the dropout rates for the college scholarships. Councilor Nofire inquired if we get transcripts after participants graduate. He suggested an incentive to get those graduates to come work for the tribe.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Pigeon announced Ms. Thompson isn't available to report today.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls reported they provided a vision screening for all the students last Friday. He provided an update on the athletic programs. They held activities in relation to Domestic Abuse Awareness and Red Ribbon week. The 25th of this month they are offering their teachers training in ACT Prep. He reminded everyone of their Thanksgiving meal on November 21st. He announced SHS Alumni, Ryan Helsey, pitched in the MLB Playoffs for the St. Louis Cardinals.

Cherokee Nation Foundation - Janice Randall

Ms. Randall gave an overview of the report provided. She provided an update on the ACT CAMP held in June. Councilor Shaw inquired if the mastery prep could be where someone could go after the fact and take to help themselves.

## OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. [19-082](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE SUPPORT FOR JOE BYRD AS CANDIDATE FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS  
**Councilor Deere moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. Councilor Duncan confirmed it was the revised version to be approved and requested it be forward to Council this evening. All Councilors requested to be added as sponsors.**

2. [19-083](#) A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SUPPORT FOR BRYAN WARNER AS CANDIDATE FOR EASTERN OKLAHOMA REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

**Councilor Duncan moved to approve the revised version and forward to Council this evening. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. All Councilors requested to be added as sponsors.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:57 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery  
Diane Kelley  
Tina Glory Jordan*

*Jennifer Pigeon  
Paiten Qualls*

*Leroy Qualls  
Chuck Hoskin Jr.*

#### VISITORS PRESENT:

*Tim Brown*

*Janice Randall*