



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Tribal
Council
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE - TERO

Thursday, January 26, 2012

11:00 AM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cowan Watts called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m.

INVOCATION

No invocation was given.

ROLL CALL

Chair Cowan Watts requested those in attendance introduce themselves.

Mr. Hembree suggested the Council members present announced their name and declare themselves a member of this subcommittee.

Present 4 - Buel Anglen; Cara Cowan Watts; Lee Keener Jr. and Don Garvin

TMP-180

DISCUSSION ON TERO LAW REFORM

Chair Cowan Watts gave an introduction and a brief history of the TERO law. Handouts of proposed amendments prepared by Councilor Chuck Hoskin Jr. were provided. She requested input from the audience. Mr. Hembree suggested the Council should solicit comments and concerns from not only the Administration staff, TERO staff, TERO vendors and constituents but possibly even go out into the communities. He stated he would assist in either role he is in as TERO is important. Councilor Keener inquired as to how to go about a public forum throughout the fourteen counties. Chair Cowan Watts commented she has written policies for public participation and how a forum would be conducted. She suggested improving those base documents. She recommended holding a public forum here in the Council chambers, one in each of the five districts and one At Large with a budget for refreshments and the recording of the meetings. Mr. Hembree suggested the consideration of a social network site.

Councilor Keener made a motion to hold the seven public meetings discussed and to determine a budget at the February Executive & Finance meeting. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Cowan Watts requested information from Chief Baker's Administration on how TERO is being implemented today and the departments dealing with TERO compliance come forward with recommendations. She recommended allowing the employees to provide feedback as well. She also requested the Attorney General's office review the current law to determine if there are any current technical issues that need to be addressed. She suggested this all be done within in six months.

Councilor Keener moved to accept Chair Cowan Watts suggestions and recommendations. Councilor Anglen seconded the motion. Chair Cowan Watts commented she would be recommending the current executive order become part of the law. She asked the Attorney General's office how we can make the tribal government compliant with TERO without giving up tribal sovereignty. She commented it has been brought to her attention there are integrity issues within the TERO office in regard to certifications. Chair Cowan Watts also requested the Attorney General's office to look at Cherokee preference first not just Indian preference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Anglen moved to hold the next meeting on the 23rd of February at 11:00 a.m. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cowan Watts announced the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

Rebecca Mitchell

Anna Knight

VISITORS PRESENT:

Todd Hembree

Larry Horn

Patricia Carpenter