



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Council House
17763 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

Janelle Fullbright, Chair

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain
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Tuesday, November 13, 2012

10:00 AM

Legislative Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fullbright called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Snell gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Buel Anglen; Curtis Snell; David Thornton, Sr. ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Meredith Frailey; Janelle Fullbright; Lee Keener Jr.; Dick Lay; Cara Cowan Watts and Frankie Hargis

Absent 4 - Julia Coates; Jodie Fishinghawk; David Walkingstick and Chuck Hoskin Jr.

Late Arrival 2 - Tina Glory Jordan and Joe Byrd

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Baker moved to approve the October 15th regular session minutes. Councilor Cowan Watts seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere handed out his report along with a report on contract health as requested last month. He gave a brief overview of the report provided and offered to answer questions.

2. Cherokee Nation Health Services - Connie Davis

Ms. Davis provided a binder with all of the joint ventures and businesses the Health Department is involved in. She gave an overview of the documents provided which included the Comprehensive Care Agency also known as Elder Care or the PACE Center, Cherokee Nation Home Health and Hospice, Cherokee Health Partners and

RHINO. Councilor Cowan Watts requested the selection of the two Councilor Advisory Board members be placed on the agenda next month. She requested a flow chart which reflects the structure, who owns what, etc. Ms. Elizabeth O'Dell from the Attorney General's office commented they are reviewing the structures currently. Ms. Thelma Pittman Anderson provided clarification pertaining to the funding for the PACE program. Councilor Lay requested clarification on Cherokee Health Partners in regard to the percentage of ownership, which has control of the board, how the dividends are determined, and who keeps the books. He also inquired about RHINO as to who owns the land, who owns the building, if we are able to purchase the building, he inquired as to what the original intent of the agreement was. Chair Fullbright commented they would like to know when the dialysis center will open. She commented there is some confusion regarding home health and public health. She requested a breakdown of the number of home health workers in each county. Councilor Keener inquired where the next PACE facility locations were anticipated to be. He requested a financial breakdown for PACE. Ms. Davis commented she would for future reporting include the number of patients seen, the number of Cherokee patients, and the monthly financials. Chair Fullbright requested the breakdown also include by county. Councilor Cowan Watts requested a report on how our clinics affect the Claremore Indian Hospital. Councilor Thornton inquired why a clinic hasn't been built in the Tulsa or Rogers County area, if a PACE Center could be built in a rural area, and who the current board members for the Cherokee Health Partners are. Chair Fullbright requested an update next month on the recruiting plan. She inquired about the replacement for the audiologist at Hastings. She also requested clarification on the referrals now all going to Tahlequah instead of Sparks at Ft. Smith. Councilor Lay inquired about the Three Rivers dental clinic. Chair Fullbright requested a report showing the number of dentists at each clinic, the number of chairs at each clinic, the vacancies and the procedure for obtaining an appointment. She requested the same information for optometry. Chair Fullbright also inquired who the private dentist is who has the contract for dentures. Councilor Snell commented he has had complaints on the length of time taken for dentist to receive payment from the tribe.

OLD BUSINESS

1. [TMP-206](#) DISCUSSION - COMPARISON OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SALARIES

Chair Fullbright requested a motion to table due to the absence of Sponsor Fishinghawk. Councilor Cowan Watts moved to table. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [TMP-236](#) DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PACE CENTER, CHEROKEE NATION HOME HEALTH, AND HOSPICE OF THE CHEROKEES

This item was presented during reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Fullbright announced the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 10th at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Cowan Watts moved to adjourn. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion carried at 11:33 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Connie Davis
Ami Sams
Elizabeth O'Dell*

*Biran Hail
Sharon Swebston
Dianna Turtle*

*Steve Jones
Dr. Charles Grim
Thelma Pittman Anderson*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Dianne Barker Harrold
Charles Dry*

*Dr. Roger Montgomery
Raymond Vann*

George Valliere