



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final RULES COMMITTEE

Joe Byrd, Chair

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

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

10:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

INVOCATION

Chair Byrd gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Councilor Dobbins attended remotely.

Present 17 - Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Harley Buzzard; E. O. "JR." Smith; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Mary Baker Shaw; Canaan Duncan; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Daryl Legg; Shawn Crittenden; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Keith Austin and Julia Coates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Patzkowski moved to approve the June regular session minutes.
Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshall Buhl gave clarification on some information requested during the last meeting. He provided an update on the report submitted along with the status of the new marshal hires. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification on ticket pricing. Councilor Coates inquired if there is still a ranking of law enforcement agencies.

Office of the Attorney General - Sara Hill

Ms. Hill gave an update on the caseload, the municipal memorandums of agreement, and updates on the Court of Criminal Appeals. She offered to answer questions from her report. Councilor Taylor inquired if there is any movement in the Bracken case. Councilor Nofire requested clarification on a case being held up and inquired if there is

options for reform. Councilor Shaw commented on the Supreme Courts recent decision on ballot harvesting and if it would affect the Cherokee Nation. She also inquired about our criminal backlog and the average dollar amount spent on a criminal case. Lastly she inquired if an unbiased jury can be obtained. Councilor Buzzard requested clarification on FOIA extensions. Councilor Nofire inquired if there is a conflict of any type with family members in the first degree working together. Councilor Buzzard inquired where and how charges are filed. Chair Byrd inquired if there is anything pending with the UKB.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported there are thirteen FOIA requests, zero GRA requests and none of these are outstanding. The website has been updated.

Election Commission - Marcus Fears

Mr. Fears offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Coates commented on the very low return rate for absentee ballots for the At Large in comparison to past years, she inquired if there has been any type of analysis performed. She inquired about signature match training. She commented on the quick turnaround of the absentee ballot request deadline and the list available of those requests to candidates, she inquired about the confidence in the accuracy of the list provided. Councilor Shambaugh raised question on the drop box cut off time for early votes and absentee ballots. He also voiced issue with the busy fax lines. Councilor Coates requested clarification if ballots are being faxed in or ballot requests. Mr. Fears stated the cutoff for the absentee ballots was Thursday but the witness amendment followed and reverted the Thursday cut off back to Saturday. Councilor Attorney Brown stated an Attorney General opinion should be requested. He stated the witness change amendment passed prior to the election law amendment, which included the cutoff for the absentees, not vice versa. Councilor Nofire requested clarification on the process and training for the watchers. He inquired if identification is required to vote.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston reported motor vehicles has a significant increase of 32% over last year. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Deere inquired about the extremely long wait time at the Catoosa office.

Self-Governance - Ashlee Fox

Ms. Fox offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Gaming Commission - Janice Purcell

Ms. Purcell reported on the upcoming OIGA Conference. She provided a schedule of the gaming commissions upcoming meetings. She offered to answer questions from the report. Chair Byrd inquired if anyone from the Commission is going to the NIGA Conference.

Human Resources - Alana Casteel

Ms. Brenda Barnes offered to answer questions from Ms. Casteel's report.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [21-065](#) A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FEDERAL INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL INITIATIVE AND ENCOURAGING SIMILAR EFFORTS BY CHEROKEE NATION

 Councilor Deere made a motion to approve. Councilor Legg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. [21-066](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 21 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

 Councilor Duncan moved to approve. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. [21-067](#) AN ACT AMENDING TITLE 57 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

 Councilor Shambaugh moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. [21-068](#) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CHEROKEE NATION STOMP GROUNDS PRESERVATION ACT

 Councilor Nofire made a motion to table. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. [TMP-392](#) SELECTION OF INTERIM RULES COMMITTEE CHAIR

 Chair Byrd stated this is just to start the Rules Committee meeting until the selection of the chair is made. He made a recommendation of Councilor Rex Jordan for Interim Rules Chair. Councilor Duncan made a motion for Councilor Jordan to be the Interim Rules Chair. Councilor Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried at 11:30 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Shannon Buhl</i>	<i>Sharon Swepton</i>	<i>Todd Enlow</i>
<i>Taralee Montgomery</i>	<i>Gwen Terrapin</i>	<i>Sara Hill</i>
<i>Howard Paden</i>	<i>Janice Purcell</i>	<i>Nick Hammons</i>
<i>Tralynna Scott</i>	<i>Wynona Kirk</i>	<i>Ashlee Fox</i>
<i>Brenda Barnes</i>		

Remote:
Marcus Fears

VISITORS PRESENT:

Teddy Snell

Remote:
Tim Brown