



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
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
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Thursday, March 26, 2015

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Byrd called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Snell gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Tina Glory Jordan; Dick Lay; Lee Keener Jr.; Julia Coates; Jack D. Baker; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Don Garvin; Frankie Hargis ; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor and Victoria Vazquez

Absent 3 - Cara Cowan Watts; Jodie Fishinghawk and David Walkingstick

Late Arrival 2 - Janelle Fullbright and David Thornton, Sr.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the February 26th regular session minutes. Councilor Keener seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Marshal Service - Shannon Buhl

Marshal Buhl reported they received the Taser videos in for all of the officers and have implemented their use. This coming Monday in Claremore they will celebrate their cross deputation with the Claremore Police Department. They are in the process of searching for a Marshal to fill one vacancy. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the experience requirement for new Marshal's. He requested clarification on the unattended deaths listed in the report. Councilor Keener inquired about the 3 smoke shop raids in Rogers County.

Office of the Attorney General - Todd Hembree

Attorney General Hembree reported on the major highlights of the month. The administrative record in the 76 acre UKB case has been completed in the Eastern District. They still await the rulings in the 2 acre gaming case with the UKB and the Freedman citizenship case. They continue to have fruitful negotiations with the State of Oklahoma in regard to hunting and fishing. Councilor Lay inquired about the notification process of the DEA raids.

FOIA-GRA - Gwen Terrapin

Ms. Terrapin reported on the FOIA and GRA requests submitted over the past month. She stated by the end of April the requests submitted from 2002 to 2013 will be available on the website.

Tax Commission - Sharon Swepston

Ms. Swepston offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the Veteran tax exemptions.

Self-Governance - Vickie Hanvey

Ms. Hanvey gave an update on the Roads Appeal as previously requested. They met with the Department of Veteran's Affairs regarding our MOU and its upcoming renewal. She provided an update on the Contract Support Cost. Councilor Keener inquired about attendance at the Interior budget committee.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Mr. Hummingbird briefed the Council on some items pending within Indian gaming. First is a report being compiled by the Government Accounting Office regarding regulations for Indian gaming and second is a proposed rule being issued by the Internal Revenue Service to change the reporting amounts required by all casinos. They took a tour of the South Coffeyville casino with the NIGC yesterday. There was no compliance issues found during the Ramona visit of the NIGC back in January. They have met the 120 day notice requirement for the Roland facility by NIGC. There have been some recent water issues at both the Roland and South Coffeyville facilities. An evacuation took place at the Hard Rock and West Siloam facilities due to bad weather and possible tornados. Chair Byrd inquired where the closest shelters are to those facilities. Councilor Vazquez inquired how the patrons in the rooms are notified. Councilor Thornton requested clarification on the payout process. He also inquired about the need for additional staffing at the new Roland facility. Councilor Taylor inquired when the comment period would end on the IRS report change and once it ends how long before a decision is announced.

Human Resources - Nason Morton

Mr. Morton announced the open enrollment for employee benefits will be in April again this year. He reported they are going to do a follow up with new employees a couple of weeks following their orientation.

Gaming Commission - Jamie Hummingbird

Councilor Thornton inquired about the possible hiring issues and timeline for Roland.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

15-037

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF EDDIE MORRISON AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER OF CHEROKEE NATIONAL TREASURES PROGRAM

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve. Councilor Thornton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Thornton moved to adjourn. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:58 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Shannon Buhl
Jamie Hummingbird
Gwen Terrapin
Vickie Hanvey*

*Sharon Swepston
Rhonda Trumbla
Sara Hill
Todd Hembree*

*Canaan Duncan
Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Nason Morton*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Teddy Snell
Eddie Morrison*

Natalie Fullbright

Gina Olaya