



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Tribal Council Minutes - Final TRIBAL COUNCIL

Joe Byrd, Speaker

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain

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Monday, April 11, 2016

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Joe Byrd
Speaker of the Council

Speaker Byrd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Baker gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Shelli Brittain
Legal & Legislative Coordinator

Present 17 - Joe Byrd; David Thornton, Sr. ; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Curtis Snell; Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Jack D. Baker; Victoria Vazquez; Buel Anglen; Rex Jordan; David Walkingstick; Dick Lay; Bryan Warner ; Shawn Crittenden; Keith Austin and Wanda Hatfield

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**Councilor Hargis moved to approve the March 14th regular session minutes.
Councilor Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

STATE OF THE NATION

Bill John Baker
Principal Chief

Chief Baker announced this is the first meeting since he has been Chief that his mom hasn't been in the audience. All is well as she is now home from the hospital. He gave an update on the new Sam Hider Clinic in Jay and its recently held opening. They broke ground in Vian for a new housing addition which will contain thirty new Cherokee homes. The launch of the ground breaking for the new casino in Grove has taken place. The new Outpost #1 here at the complex is open minus the fuel tanks. Chief Baker announced a Remember the Removal, the rebirth of the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory at the Skelly Mansion on Friday, April 22nd. He requested a moment of silence for those Cherokees who we have lost over the last month.

CHEROKEE WARRIOR VETERAN AWARDS

S. Joe Crittenden
Deputy Principal Chief

Deputy Chief Crittenden recognized and honored Cherokee Warrior Veterans Bruce Lanksford, Junior Ray Phillips and Lewis M. Sutton.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Speaker Byrd requested a moment to do a special recognition on behalf of the Tribal Council. He gave a brief history of the erection of the chapel at Sequoyah High School campus. He recognized Clint Ballew, Wade Tackett and Hominy Littledave for their volunteering to build the chapel once the supplies were provided.

ACTION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monthly Reports:

Housing Authority - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper reported it has just been over a month since the transfer of the rehab program to the Housing Authority. He provided an update on the monthly impact the Housing Authority has on Cherokee families through various programs. Their current employment is 179 with 96% Cherokee and 98% Native American employment. Councilor Walkingstick commended them for the new design and options in the new homeownership program.

Cherokee Nation Business, LLC - Shawn Slaton

Mr. Slaton reported on the financials for the month of February. He provided an update on the all of the clinic and hospital projects. He announced Will Rogers Downs had some minor tornado damage during the recent storm to the barns. They will soon begin a remodel of the WRD facility. An update was given on the new spa at Hard Rock. Cherokee Nation Cultural Tourism and Oklahoma Preservation are partnering to increase awareness for gravestone preservation by holding a two day workshop on the 5th and 6th of May. They currently have 6,469 employees and with the exclusion of the contract and temporary employees there are 4,667. They have a 73% Cherokee and 8.2% other Native American for a total of 81.3% Native American employment. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

Resource Committee

1. [16-032](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION TO LEASE TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO THE KENWOOD RURAL WATER DISTRICT FOR A WATER TREATMENT PLANT, STORAGE TANK, PUMP STATION AND WELLS**

Councilor Snell moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rules Committee

2. [16-035](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF RUFUS KING AS A GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER OF TSUNADELOQUASDI CHEROKEE IMMERSION SCHOOL BOARD**

Councilor Buzzard moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. Mr. King was given a moment to speak before the Council. The motion carried.
3. [16-036](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MELVINA SHOTPOUCH AS A GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER OF TSUNADELOQUASDI CHEROKEE IMMERSION SCHOOL BOARD**

Councilor Hargis moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.
4. [16-037](#) **A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF RUSSELL J. FEELING AS A GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER OF TSUNADELOQUASDI CHEROKEE IMMERSION SCHOOL BOARD**

Councilor Crittenden moved to approve. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.
5. [16-040](#) **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE F-35 LIGHTNING II FIGHTER AIRCRAFT TO THE 138TH FIGHTER WING OF THE OKLAHOMA AIR NATIONAL GUARD LOCATED AT THE TULSA AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE**

Councilor Anglen moved to approve. Councilor Garvin seconded the motion. The motion carried.
6. [16-044](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERVIEWS AND RESEARCH FUNDED BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES/VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN WOMEN WITHIN THE CHEROKEE NATION**

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

Enactment No: R-033-16

7. [16-045](#)

Councilor Thornton moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. Councilor Warner offered a friendly amendment to add "National" in front of Cherokee Nation Park. The friendly was accepted. The motion carried.

8. [16-025](#)

AN ACT AMENDING LA-04-14 REVISING TITLE 26 ("ELECTIONS") OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve with a correction on page 16 in §36 within the filing period to change March to February. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. After discussion was held and concerns were raised regarding the new definition of "term" a motion was made by Councilor Vazquez to table this Act back to Rules Committee. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

9. [16-047](#)

A LEGISLATIVE ACT AMENDING TITLE 12 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED ESTABLISHING THE CHEROKEE NATION JUDGMENT FUND

Councilor Baker moved to approve. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

10. [16-048](#)

A LEGISLATIVE ACT AMENDING TITLE 21 OF THE CHEROKEE NATION CODE ANNOTATED; RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY

Councilor Walkingstick moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

Executive and Finance Committee

11. [16-041](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHEROKEE NATION TO INCUR INDEBTEDNESS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY AS PART OF THE UNITED STATES INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE JOINT VENTURE EXPANSION OF THE CHEROKEE NATION TAHLEQUAH OUTPATIENT FACILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Taylor moved to approve. Councilor Warner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

12. [16-042](#)

AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #16-15 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 - MOD. 2; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Taylor moved to approve. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

13. [16-043](#)

AN ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ACT #17-15 AUTHORIZING THE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 -

MOD. 6; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilor Warner moved to approve. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Councilor Hargis moved to amend the agenda to include a resolution passed out of Health committee earlier today. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

14. [16-050](#)**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEGAL AID SERVICES OF OKLAHOMA, INC., TO PURSUE AMERICORPS FUNDING ON BEHALF OF CHEROKEE NATION TO DEVELOP A MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP WITH CHEROKEE NATION**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Austin announced the Verdigris boys basketball team was presented with a proclamation for being the 2016 State Champions.

Councilor Crittenden announced a community meeting at the Westville Pentecostal Church on the 26th of April.

Councilor Hargis announced a community meeting at the Chewey community building on the 16th of April.

Councilor Vazquez announced two meetings in April. The first on the 21st at Vinita in the Cherokee Nation Health Clinic and the second on the 26th in South Coffeyville.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Walkingstick seconded the motion. The motion carried at 7:00 p.m.

Next Tribal Council meeting will be held on May 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the tribal headquarters, W.W. Keeler Complex.