



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*David Walkingstick, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain*

*Phone: 1-800-995-9465,*

*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Monday, March 20, 2017

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 15 - Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Joe Byrd; Victoria Vazquez; Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Keith Austin

**Absent** 1 - David Thornton, Sr.

**Late Arrival** 1 - Curtis Snell

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Anglen moved to approve the February 21st regular session minutes. Councilor Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed - Diane Kelley

*Ms. Kelley gave an update on the national and state rankings of our Talking Leaves Job Corp center. She announced they are considered a top performing center in the Dallas region. They have just completed the 9th graduating class of our welding program. They are working with the Pipefitter Union Hall 798 and they are going to accept referrals and no expense to us. The Vocational Rehabilitation Program will be having their mid-year conference starting June 26th at Hard Rock Tulsa. An education summit will be held April 5th through the NORA Conference at the Pryor Mid America Industrial Park. They will host a safety fair on April 7th here at the complex. A proclamation signing for the Safety fair will be this Wednesday morning. A proclamation signing will also be held for Professional Assistance Day on the last Wednesday in April. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

*Councilor Jordan inquired about graduation honor cords for Vo-tech.*

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

*Mr. Etheridge announced there are six schools going to the Robotics National meet. He provided an update on Trail of Tears Awards of Excellence with 140 eighth graders and 142 twelfth graders receiving awards. This Friday is the Public School Appreciation Day at Hard Rock where over \$5ml will be given to 107 schools. He provided an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act meeting recently held in Washington D. C. They will have a meeting on the 5th of April on the Every Student Succeeds Act, JOM and Impact Aide with the Creeks hosting. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the amount of JOM funding per child. Councilor Hatfield inquired about obtaining a list of Indian Education Directors in the State. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the process for purchase orders. He inquired about an update on concurrent enrollment next month.*

Head Start - Verna Thompson

*Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from the report provided. She stated they are recruiting pretty heavily for the next school year. They are looking for teacher assistant positions at Wahilia.*

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

*Mr. Qualls gave a brief history of his experiences with the JOM program. He gave an update on the recently held state basketball tournament, other athletic and academic highlights. They have upcoming ACT testing. He provided an update on the Robotics team.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Byrd gave appreciation to Mr. Etheridge for his support at the State games.*

*Councilor Warner gave appreciation to Ms. Kelley for loaning some of her staff to be part of his fundraising team for a donkey basketball game.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 3:45 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Courtney Jordan  
Ron Etheridge

Canaan Duncan  
Jennifer Pigeon

Leroy Qualls  
Diane Kelley

*Verna Thompson*

*Chuck Hoskin, Jr.*

*Bill John Baker*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Teddy Snell*  
*Brian Barlow*

*Dianne Barker Harrold*

*Mary Baker Shaw*