



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Mary Baker Shaw, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain*

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

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

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Monday, October 23, 2017

2:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Baker Shaw called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Lay gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 16 - Rex Jordan; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay;  
David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Mary Baker Shaw; Mike Dobbins;  
Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Frankie Hargis ; Mike Shambaugh; E. O.  
"JR." Smith; Janees Taylor and Victoria Vazquez

**Absent** 1 - Wanda Hatfield

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

1. Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

*Mr. Valliere provided a hard copy of his report. He provided an update on the current construction projects. He gave an update on the air handler situation. They have partnered with the OU School of Nursing and Rogers State. He followed up with information on the number of outpatient visits for last year for Councilor Buzzard. Councilor Buzzard requested the contact information to send a letter in regard to the orthopedic contract. He also inquired how they handle freedmen at the Claremore Indian Hospital. Councilor Austin requested clarification on the nursing program. He also requested a brief overview of the contract health delivery areas. Councilor Walkingstick inquired if there is anything that constitutes who the Claremore Indian Hospital can or cannot serve. Councilor Taylor inquired if they are doing surgeries at Claremore. She requested clarification on a patient living in Broken Arrow and comes to Hastings then is referred out and that same patient going to Claremore and being*

referred out. She inquired if a patient could be transferred from Claremore to Hastings. Councilor Anglen inquired if a letter could be given while in the hospital that the services may not be paid by the Cherokee Nation. Chair Baker Shaw requested clarification on a specific instance at Claremore Hospital.

2. Cherokee Nation Health Services - Connie Davis

Dr. Charles Grim provided some clarification on eligibility of services. He also touched on their meeting with Indian Health Services and having notification provided to all facilities within the area of the freedmen ruling. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Byrd inquired about flu shot and the age requirements. He commented the recommendation for the IHS representative at NCAI didn't go over very well in committee. Councilor Taylor inquired about a library at Hastings. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the number of outpatient services at the Salina Clinic versus the other clinics. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the cardiologist at Hastings, home visits from the Wilma P. Mankiller clinic, the need for a handicapped equipped van at the Mankiller clinic, and if there is any data or analysis of the reasons for providers leaving when they do the exit interviews. Chair Baker Shaw inquired if they are intentionally trying to make the providers leave, if everyone were given conditions with the new raises or just the providers, is the experience pay stopping with the new raises, how close are our doctors to the MGMA National standards, and why with the contract changes were there additional duties and leave changes. She also requested the policy for personal belongings after leaving employment. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about service to non-tribal members at IHS facilities.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [TMP-360](#) DISCUSSION ONLY - LOSS OF PROVIDERS IN CHEROKEE NATION HEALTH

Councilor Lay made a motion to bring forward for discussion only. Councilor Crittenden seconded the motion. Councilor Lay commented on the shortage of providers at almost all clinics and the loss of the compensation committee members. He voiced concern over the exit interviews. He made comment on the staff at the clinic in his district being threatened if they spoke to him. Councilor Dobbins suggested a study group being formed to research the data and determine a solution. Chair Baker Shaw requested those interested in participating in the work group contact her or Councilor Dobbins. Chair Baker Shaw voiced concern for phone calls received that someone in Health Administration is known to lose their temper with our employees in front of patients and staff. Councilor Walkingstick commented on the treatment of the physicians and staff at Hastings. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about an appropriate number of patients for a doctor to see on a shift.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Warner made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Hargis seconded the

**motion. The motion carried at 3:25 p.m.**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

<i>Bret Hayes</i>	<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Chad Harsha</i>
<i>Charles Grim</i>	<i>Elizabeth Odell</i>	<i>James Stallcup</i>
<i>Stephanie Wickliffe</i>	<i>Steve Jones</i>	<i>Todd Hembree</i>
<i>Darryl Legg</i>	<i>Diane Kelley</i>	

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

<i>George Valliere</i>	<i>Janice Randall</i>	<i>Teddye Snell</i>
<i>Tahlina Nofire Blakestad</i>		