



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,

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Monday, April 16, 2018

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Hargis gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Rex Jordan; Buel Anglen; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Frankie Hargis ; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor and Victoria Vazquez

Absent 2 - Wanda Hatfield and Bryan Warner

Late Arrival 1 - Shawn Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the March 12th regular session minutes. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Vocational Programs/Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley announced they were recognized at the National Indian Native American Employment Conference in Louisiana this past week. They did a market analysis on their adult education teachers and they did receive the 5% increase or are on the new pay range. They are hiring a new adult education teacher who is proficient in math in the Sallisaw area. Professional Assistants Day is scheduled at Talking Leaves Job Corp on the 25th. A Safety Fair is scheduled at the One Fire Field this Friday. They are preparing their five-year plan for the Job Corp. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Byrd inquired about pool tables at the recreation hall at Talking Leaves. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the recruitment status at Job Corp. Councilor Hargis inquired if there are staffing issues at the Job Corp.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Mr. Etheridge offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Byrd gave appreciation for his presence at the National JOM Conference. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the Deputy Director of Education position. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the Salutatorian and Valedictorian numbers for this year versus the last couple of years.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Mr. Etheridge offered to answer questions for Ms. Thompson.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls presented the Council with a card of appreciation from the Sequoyah teachers for their raise. They are State testing this week and will have BIE testing in a couple of weeks. The State Accreditation Officer will be visiting the school next week. The State Department of Oklahoma Child Nutrition Review Team visited the first week of April to look at the cafeteria, menus, food preparation and food service. The ACT Prep Workshop was recently held for the sophomores and juniors. He announced they have had at least one student over the last four years score a 30 or better on their ACT. The Immersion School dominated 16th Annual All American Indian Youth Language Fair in Norman. They held athletic signings on April 11th. He also reported on the Speech and Drama meet recently held. Mr. Qualls gave an update on all athletic events. Graduation is scheduled for May 18th at 6:30. Councilor Dobbins inquired if the 3.75 GPA is school wide or seniors. Councilor Smith inquired as to the number of seniors in this year's class. Councilor Buzzard asked about Gates Scholars. He also inquired about the school getting storm shelters. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the dates for the Sequoyah Alumni Banquet. Councilor Byrd commented on the consideration of a joint venture with the school. Mr. Qualls reported on their safe schools committee meeting. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the student capacity at Sequoyah.

Cherokee Nation Foundation - Janice Randall

Ms. Randall reported on the different ACT Preparation classes they offer. She provided highlights from the report provided. She provided a handout showing how they chose the schools for the STEM program. She provided an update on the scholarships and gave an overview of the selection process. She announced the upcoming camps are online. The next ACT prep residential camp is in June at NSU. In July they will have the Cherokee College Preparatory Institute at NSU. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on information provided in the report. Councilor Anglen requested the camp information be emailed to the Council. Councilor Vazquez commented on the award of the Anna Mitchell Scholarship. Councilor Baker Shaw commented on the At Large scholarships. Discussion was held in regard to the At Large students' eligibility to receive the Cherokee Nation Scholarship.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. [18-028](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR A NATIVE AMERICAN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Councilor Hargis moved to approve and forward to Council this evening. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 2. [TMP-368](#) DISCUSSION ONLY - OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TEACHER CERTIFICATION THROUGH CHEROKEE NATION

Chair Walkingstick requested Mr. Etheridge provide an overview of the process for a tribal citizen who speaks the language to become a state certified teacher through the Cherokee Nation. Concerns were voiced for fluent Cherokees having difficulty passing the state certification in Cherokee language. Chair Walkingstick referred to a law passed in 2013 in regard to tribal language certification. He requested to see our certification process in writing and also the qualification to be qualified with the state. Councilor Byrd requested to review our certification test and suggested forming a group to make changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Hargis moved to adjourn. Councilor Baker Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:03 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Leroy Qualls</i>	<i>Alayna Farris</i>
<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Ron Etheridge</i>	<i>Marsha Lamb</i>
<i>Rob Daugherty</i>	<i>Tammy Miller</i>	<i>Jody Reece</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

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