



# 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, June 11, 2018

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Austin gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 14 - Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Harley Buzzard; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor and Victoria Vazquez

**Absent** 1 - Frankie Hargis

**Late Arrival** 2 - Rex Jordan and Joe Byrd

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Warner made a motion to approve the May 14th regular session minutes. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

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

*Ms. Brenda Fitzgerald reported for Ms. Kelley. She stated the shirts provided to the Council are compliments of the Disabilities Awareness Employment Initiative. She introduced the staff from the program. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard requested an overview of the Disability Employment Initiative program. Councilor Buzzard commented on the handicapped ramp issues at the Jay Tag Office. Council members requested contact information and a service map for the program.*

## Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

*Mr. Etheridge gave an update on the Remember the Removal bike riders. A TOSS workshop was held last week. He reported on Camp Cherokee and Heart of the Hills. The college scholarship deadline is this Saturday at midnight. The Youth Council will be traveling to Cherokee, North Carolina on July 6th. He offered to answer questions from the report. Chair Walkingstick inquired about education providing a bus to transport staff who wants to attend the Sovereignty play at the Hard Rock.*

## Head Start - Verna Thompson

*Ms. Thompson reported they need assistance in recruiting five open staff positions. Their enrollment and recruitment is ongoing for children. The staff returns in just five weeks. This upcoming year they will celebrate their 40th anniversary. They are considering expanding their program to add sixteen to twenty-four babies. She offered to answer questions. Councilor Taylor inquired about starting an early head start program at the existing head start center at Cherokee Heights.*

## Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

*Mr. Qualls reported over the summer they are making repairs to the gym, class rooms and dorms. They will have a job coach once school starts which will provide job shadowing and interview preparation. He reported on their ACT scores compared to the State. He reported on the camps and the summer feed program. He gave highlights from a phone conversation with the BIE in regard to our school. He talked about the safety of the school with five entrances. He talked about the safe schools committee they have implemented. Chair Walkingstick requested the Council be included in the next meeting. Councilor Hatfield commented she had heard the military can provide security for schools. Councilor Shambaugh commented one School Resource Officer isn't enough for the Sequoyah campus. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the summer athletic program and the two week dead period.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Byrd announced Dr. Mike Morris, the gentleman that came up with the idea of retracing the Trail of Tears is in New Mexico and would like to come speak to the bike riders. He doesn't have the means to get here. Council funding was suggested and Chair Walkingstick inquired if there would be any opposition. Councilor Byrd requested Mr. Canaan Duncan check to see if he could be placed on the Remember the Removal Bike Ride Return events.*

## ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Warner seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 3:56 p.m.**

## STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Leroy Qualls</i>	<i>Ron Etheridge</i>	<i>Brad Eubanks</i>
<i>Verna Thompson</i>	<i>Brenda Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Marsha White</i>
<i>Josh Drywater</i>	<i>Cheryl Adams</i>	<i>Lindsey Williams</i>
<i>Lucy Washington</i>	<i>Alayna Farris</i>	<i>Canaan Duncan</i>

## VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Teddy Snell</i>	<i>Tahlina Nofire Blakestad</i>
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