



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, October 15, 2018

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Austin gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 16 - Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; 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

Late Arrival 1 - Bryan Warner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the September 10th regular session minutes. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

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

Ms. Kelley announced tomorrow is the 40th Anniversary for the Talking Leaves Job Corp Center. She reported on the National Manufacturing Month and the chili cook-off in the Pryor industrial park. She gave appreciation to Councilor Warner for being the keynote speaker at the GED graduation. She reported on the competitive employment training grant we received. They are in the process of applying for an opioid counseling training grant. She provided an update on the TANIF program. The job corp center is at full capacity.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Mr. Etheridge gave new staff updates. The College and Career Fair is October 23rd in Tahlequah and in Vinita on November 8th. The JOM Challenge bowl is scheduled next

week at Park Hill. As of now Remember the Removal Bike Ride has forty-four applicants and fifteen mentor riders with the interviews starting tomorrow. The Youth Council were sworn in last week. The little Cherokee Ambassadors will be at the Council meeting tonight. Councilor Shaw commented on the At Large Youth Council member. Chair Walkingstick requested Mr. Mark Vance provide JOM participants by district.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard commented on the age of the Head Start building in Jay and suggested consideration for a new building near the new clinic. Ms. Thompson gave appreciation to Councilors Warner and Jordan for their participation during the annual review process. This is the last month of the fiscal year for the Head Start. The safe rooms are being constructed at Redbud and Cherry Tree. The safe room construction is scheduled at Nowata next. A cook has been hired at the Nowata facility. She announced the grant has been funded for security cameras in the classrooms. They have also been funded for some playground equipment and roof repairs. The Head Start will provide the annual Thanksgiving lunch for the Council on November 13th.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls announced the annual Thanksgiving lunch at the school will be on the 16th. He announced David Stand retired. He provided highlights from the BIE audit recently conducted. The dorm count is currently at ninety-four. PSAT testing was held last week. They will once again hold several ACT test days this year. There are currently sixty-six students concurrently enrolled. An ACT prep class will be held on December 1st. They won the 3A State softball championship. He provided other academic and athletic highlights. This is bullying prevention month. The Immersion school has parent/teacher conferences tomorrow night and Wednesday morning. Councilor Byrd inquired about the dorm count this year compared to last year.

Cherokee Nation Foundation - Janice Randall

Ms. Randall gave highlights of the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [18-075](#) DISCUSSION - TERMINATION OF CHARTER STATUS WITH THE OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chair Walkingstick requested a briefing on the process for the termination and the reason for the termination from Mr. Etheridge. Councilor Byrd inquired about the accreditation and the State standards. Questions were raised on the legislative process for termination. Councilor Crittenden inquired about other options. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the grading system with the State. He also inquired about the ability to exit the contract with OCAST. The Chair stated the Council legislated the start of this charter ten years ago, will it come back to this Council to terminate. Discussion was held regarding the termination of the charter and the contract and the

process. Councilor Byrd stated we need to legislatively get out of the agreement like we go in. Chair Walkingstick requested Council Attorney Blakestad draft a resolution to terminate for consideration at the next Rules committee. Assistant Attorney General Nimmo requested they wait on the resolution until the board determines a cease date. Councilor Byrd requested Mr. Etheridge provide notification to this Council when they are ready to proceed. Councilor Crittenden inquired who has the ultimate say. Council Attorney Blakestad stated it should come back to this Council as a formality.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Warner announced he had met with Chancellor Glen Johnson in Oklahoma City. He provided highlights from the report given regarding higher education. On November 8th they begin looking at the budget for FY2019 and the fall legislative session begins November 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Byrd moved for adjournment. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:24 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Todd Hembree</i>	<i>Chrissi Nimmo</i>	<i>Courtney Jordan</i>
<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Ron Etheridge</i>	<i>Jody Reece</i>
<i>Roy Boney</i>	<i>Mark Vance</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>
<i>Leroy Qualls</i>	<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>	<i>Billy Hix</i>
<i>Holly Davis</i>	<i>Stephanie Isaacs</i>	<i>Chuck Hoskin Jr.</i>
<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Derrick Vann</i>	<i>Rob Daugherty</i>
<i>Tammy Miller</i>	<i>Nikki Limore</i>	<i>Martha Ketcher</i>

VISITORS PRESENT:

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