



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Dick Lay, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Monday, February 18, 2019

4:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lay called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Duncan gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Councilor Duncan requested to become a member of this committee.

Present 15 - Dick Lay; Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner; David Walkingstick; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez and Canaan Duncan

Absent 2 - Keith Austin and Harley Buzzard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the January minutes as submitted.
Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Human Services Department - Marsha Lamb

Ms. Jennifer Kirby reported for Ms. Lamb. She reported the field offices in Sallisaw and Locust Grove have moved. The Locust Grove office has moved to Pryor and will be open next Monday, the Sallisaw location has just changed to a different location there in Sallisaw. She reported on LIHEAP payments and the ability to provide supplemental payments. The Crisis payments are open to the end of February. The urban waiver for food distribution in Bartlesville has been completed and will be submitted this week. Three staff member have completed the Oklahoma Department of Human Services Adult Protective Services training. Chair Lay inquired about the stage of the waiver for Bartlesville food distribution. Councilor Taylor inquired if the field office moving to Pryor would combine with the child support office. Councilor

Shambaugh inquired if this is the first time for Adult Protective Services in house. Ms. Kirby reported this year the clothing voucher program will provide convenience cards to allow them to shop at any clothing store. Councilor Shaw requested clarification on items in the report. She also requested clarification on the ability to deliver meals to someone who is homebound. She requested the website be clarified where the report states home delivery. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the process for the Adult Protective Services. He inquired if the clothing voucher applications would be offered online. He reiterated the need for an additional advocate in Stilwell. Councilor Hatfield inquired about the employment vacancies listed in the report.

Community Services - Martha Ketcher

Ms. Ketcher gave highlights from the report provided. She reported on the government shutdown. Councilor Hatfield inquired about the youth activities.

Housing Services - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper announced the Acting Regional HUD Administrator in the Oklahoma City office is David Southerland. He gave an update on the deadline extension for the ICDBG grant. Along with the approval of the appropriations bill signed into law last Friday it includes funds for Indian housing with similar amounts as received in 2018.

Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Lynn announced they have received from the Federal Transit Administration a grant award for replacement vehicles in the amount of \$281k. This award will allow the purchase of five new transit vehicles, three will replace worn out vehicles and the other two will be to expand routes. He provided an update on the road projects. He provided some information on the road to nowhere in the Fairfield housing addition. Councilor Crittenden inquired if one of the old transit vehicles could be considered for an immersion school bus route. Councilor Shaw requested clarification on the report.

Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight reported they are in the middle of tax season. She reported on the creation of financial empowerment classes to teach to our employees. She provided an update in families assisted with the self-sufficiency program. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about being able to assist our employees who were affected through the federal shutdown. Councilor Shaw inquired about how to determine the number of low income families who are our employees. Councilor Smith inquired about the VITA program.

Indian Child Welfare - Nikki Baker Limore

Ms. Limore announced they rolled out the care portal in Sallisaw. This care portal is now available in ten of our fourteen counties and it allows churches to assist foster care agencies with their needs. Councilor Shaw inquired about communication to an adoptive family during the waiting process just for status updates. Councilor Duncan suggested keeping a yearly record of the churches and how they assisted with needs met through the care portal. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on the report. Councilor Hatfield inquired if there are enough workers within ICW to cover the demand. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the reason for the increase in children in custody.

Community & Cultural Outreach - Kevin Stretch

Mr. Stretch offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Byrd asked when the next At Large meeting is scheduled. Councilor Shaw inquired about ways to expedite the food line and menus for the At Large meetings to allow the groups more time to visit. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about attendance invites to all meetings and if the groups have access to the sign in sheets.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Taylor announced the packets for the February 28th meetings have been placed on your desk and will not be mailed out.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Walkingstick moved to adjourn. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:22 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Martha Ketcher</i>	<i>Billy Hix</i>	<i>Taryn King</i>
<i>Todd Enlow</i>	<i>Anna Knight</i>	<i>Michael Lynn</i>
<i>Jennifer Kirby</i>	<i>Kevin Stretch</i>	<i>Nikki Limore</i>
<i>Taylor Edwards</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>Gary Cooper</i>	<i>Tahlina Nofire Blakestad</i>
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