



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 Coke
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
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Monday, March 11, 2019

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shaw called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Lay gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 13 - Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Shawn Crittenden; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; Mary Baker Shaw; Mike Dobbins; Joe Byrd; Mike Shambaugh; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez and Canaan Duncan

Absent 1 - Buel Anglen

Late Arrival 3 - David Walkingstick; Keith Austin and Harley Buzzard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the February minutes as submitted.
Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

Mr. Valliere gave an overview of the report. He offered to answer questions. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the number of dentist and hygienist at the facility. Councilor Buzzard commented on the orthopedic contract now in Tulsa.

Cherokee Nation Health Services - Dr. Steve Jones

Mr. Jones gave a brief overview of the report. He gave an update on the flu vaccines. Councilor Crittenden requested contact information for someone if Mr. Jones isn't available. Councilor Byrd requested to revisit the Baylor University opportunity in regard to amputees. Councilor Lay requested clarification contract health referral collections. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about a point system to get into the

medical classes at the vo-tech. He also asked about open wound care for diabetic patients. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the difficulty of getting a dental appointment. He asked about the hiring for the new Tahlequah clinic. He inquired about the requirement to see a certain number of patients in a day. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the status of the \$25,000 state income tax exemption for rural physicians. Councilor Shaw inquired about our treatment for Alzheimer's patients. She asked about prescriptions be all mailed at once instead of multiple times. She also voiced concern for the phones being answered in the dental clinic. She inquired about optometry and audiology appointments.

Cherokee Nation Hospice - Pamela Eastman

Ms. April Moore, the Administrator for Cherokee Nation Home Health Hospice and Outreach, gave an overview of the departments and the report provided. Councilor Lay inquired about how to expand fifty-mile radius requirement to reach other counties currently not included. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the process for establishing additional offices. He requested an estimate of the cost to purchase an existing agency in areas which are needed. Chair Shaw inquired about the number of elders in the area.

Cherokee Nation Home Health - April Moore

Ms. April Moore report is included in the Home Health report.

PACE - Thelma Pittman

Ms. Thelma Pittman provided a newsletter for PACE. She gave an overview of the PACE program. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the process for hiring the director of Elder Care. Chair Shaw inquired if Ms. Pittman was the interim director. Councilor Walkingstick inquired when the determination was made for the current interim director. He questioned information given at the last Health Committee meeting and an email that was sent to the Tribal Council. The Ethics law was questioned in regard to contracts with the spouses of employees. Chair Shaw inquired if the benefits and processes are explained to the participants. Councilor Crittenden inquired if the board meetings are available. He inquired how the board is appointed. He last inquired how before they hire an executive director. Councilor Shambaugh commented the employee name should not have been said out loud. Chair Shaw inquired if there were other applicants for the interim director position. She questioned the length of the interim director contract.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dobbins announced a reception for the medical school dean is this evening from 6:00 to 8:00.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Walkingstick moved to adjourn. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 2:12 P.M.

STAFF PRESENT:

*Chrissi Nimmo
Todd Enlow
April Moore*

*Steve Jones
Bill John Baker
Thelma Pittman*

*Steve Carey
Tom Elkins
Matthew Rucker*

VISITORS PRESENT:

*George Valliere
Cheryl Brown*

*Teddy Snell
Robin Mayes*

*Tahlina Nofire Blakestad
Jack Kidwell*