

# **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, April 15, 2019 4:00 PM Tribal Council Offices

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lay called the meeting to order at 4:29 p.m.

#### INVOCATION

Councilor Vazquez gave the invocation.

#### ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Dick Lay; Rex Jordan; Shawn Crittenden; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner;
 Harley Buzzard; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E.
 O. "JR." Smith and Victoria Vazquez

Absent 1 - Wanda Hatfield

**Late Arrival** 5 - David Walkingstick; Keith Austin; Joe Byrd; Janees Taylor and Canaan Duncan

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Anglen moved to approve the March minutes as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **REPORTS:**

Human Services Department - Marsha Lamb

Ms. Lamb offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Shaw inquired if there is a registered dietitian who assists with the food pantry meals. She suggested posting notification at the various sites that the menu is not diabetic friendly. Councilor Crittenden inquired about a second advocate at the Stilwell office.

Community Services - Martha Ketcher

Ms. Ketcher gave highlights from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard inquired about CHR program slots.

Housing Services - Gary Cooper

Mr. Cooper announced today starts the Regional Housing Association Annual meeting. HUD is looking to have the estimates for the FY2020 budget used for the IHP preparation available after June 1st. NOFA grants should be available for application in mid-summer. He provided an update on the HUD VASH Program. Mr. Cooper commented on the loss of long time employee Arlene Chambers. Councilor Crittenden inquired if the ability to go to someone for assistance is available. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the process to find out the amount owed on a home. Councilor Shambaugh voiced concerns with the application process and missing documents. Councilor Walkingstick inquired about the average mortgage on the new homes.

Roads & Transportation - Michael Lynn

Mr. Lynn gave an update on the current road projects. He provided an update on Councilor Buzzard earlier question about the CHR positions. Councilor Vazquez requested an update on the NS Vinita 4410 road. Councilors Buzzard and Shambaugh voiced concern and requested clarification on the Leach Kenwood road liquidated damages. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the funding for the parking lot in Hulbert. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the super highway in Adair County. Councilor Taylor requested an explanation of how the bid and contracting process works for road projects.

Public Comments: Road Issues - Michael Lynn

Commerce Housing Report - Anna Knight

Ms. Knight gave an update on income tax filing and information for those last minute filers. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

Indian Child Welfare - Nikki Baker Limore

Ms. Limore provided information on child abuse awareness month and sexual assault awareness month. She encouraged everyone to wear jeans on April 24th for Denim Day. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the number of employees at One Fire. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about the ICWA cases in Arkansas and Texas.

Community & Cultural Outreach - Kevin Stretch

Mr. Stretch reported an upcoming event schedule has been provided along with the cemetery application. He provided highlights from the digital outreach program. Councilor Byrd inquired if Belfonte has participated in the community organization funding. Councilor Buzzard gave appreciation for the resources pamphlet provided. He inquired about approval of equipment for the cemeteries. Councilor Crittenden inquired about the number of employees they send to the At Large community meetings.

Veterans Center - Barbara Foreman

Ms. Foreman offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Warner commented on the Vietnam Veteran's Ceremony recently held. Councilor Vazquez gave appreciation for the assistance with getting the Vinita food pantry open.

Councilor Crittenden inquired about the number of employees at the Veteran's Center. Ms. Foreman announced they will be receiving a vehicle for the Veteran's Center. She gave an update on the veteran memorial bricks. They have purchased a kiosk to be able to look up and locate their brick. The welcome home ceremony will be held on the 23rd of April in Claremore. In the partnership with the Eastern Oklahoma Food Bank they will be able to serve veterans and their widows in the Coffeyville and Nowata area. She gave details on how the area was determined. The veterans were given surveys of needs and what they would like to see. Councilor Buzzard commented on the need for a Cherokee cemetery for veterans.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None pending.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

None pending.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Smith invited everyone to the run in Vian this weekend.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried at 5:43 p.m.

### STAFF PRESENT:

Barbara Foreman Nikki Limore Kevin Stretch
Anna Knight Marsha Lamb Michael Lynn
Martha Ketcher Todd Enlow Paiten Qualls

## VISITORS PRESENT:

Gary Cooper Teddye Snell Tahlina Nofire Blakestad