



Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Keith Austin, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke
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Tuesday, November 12, 2019

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Nofire gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan and Wes Nofire

Absent 1 - E. O. "JR." Smith

Late Arrival 2 - Canaan Duncan and Shawn Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Shaw made a motion to approve the October regular session minutes. Councilor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

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

Ms. Kelley gave an update on the Career Readiness Act programs including lineman training, certified medical assistance program, phlebotomy, and medical coding classes. An event will be held tomorrow at the Hard Rock to discuss career pathways in the entertainment industry. A sample of the Career Readiness Program t-shirt to be given to each participant was shown to the Council. Ms. Kelley gave an update on the Way Finders Program at the new clinic. An update was given on the Talking Leaves Job Corp. She provided a reminder about the upcoming TERO Vendor Fair and Banquet. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Deere gave appreciation for their attendance at his community event. Councilor Crittenden inquired if the way finder program could continue after the first of the year. Councilor Buzzard inquired as to what is offered at the Job Corp in regard to vocational training. He also

inquired how the specified trainings offered through the Career Readiness Program were determined. Councilor Deere inquired if a plumbing apprenticeship could be provided through some of our TERO plumbing vendors. Councilor Shaw commented on the lead based training referred to in the report. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about a welding program.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Mr. Etheridge reported the Public School Appreciation day would be held on March 5th. He gave some background of the funding and the numbers for this year. There were 378 stoles given out last spring, a breakdown was given of those given. Councilor Byrd suggested recognizing the schools who are honoring our culture and traditions. Mr. Etheridge recognized Mr. Dylan Hedden Niceley, the Native American Director of Law at the University of Idaho. He requested he be allowed to speak a few moments about their program and scholarship opportunities. Councilor Crittenden made comment on the shortage of teachers and inquired about a directed study program for teachers. Councilor Byrd requested clarification if a resolution would need to be presented to the SHS Board to pursue a joint venture through the BIE for Sequoyah High School prior to coming before the Council.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson was not present at the committee meeting but provided the Council a Thanksgiving lunch at the Head Start where the annual report was given.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls reported on the busy activities for the HOPE Club. He commented on the teacher shortage. Mr. Qualls reported on the softball playoffs, the basketball teams, drama team, nine All State players from the fall sports, and five student athletes signing this week. The annual Thanksgiving meal will be on the 22nd from 10:00 to 2:00. Councilor Shaw applauded the HOPE Club. Councilor Nofire commented on the Drama play.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Austin announced everyone should of received an email from Taralee regarding a proposed changes to the Motor Vehicle Tax legislation on the Council agenda this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Dobbins moved to adjourn. Councilor Shaw seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 3:57 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Diane Kelley
Elizabeth Odell
Todd Enlow*

*Taralee Montgomery
Ron Etheridge*

*Leroy Qualls
Holly Davis*

VISITORS PRESENT:

Teddye Snell

Tim Brown

Dylan Niceley Heddon