



# 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,*

*E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

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Monday, January 13, 2020

1:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shaw called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Legg gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 16 - Mary Baker Shaw; Mike Dobbins; Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Shambaugh; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Canaan Duncan ; Julia Coates; Shawn Crittenden; Joe Deere; Rex Jordan; Daryl Legg; Dora Patzkowski and Wes Nofire

**Late Arrival** 1 - Keith Austin

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the December 2019 regular session minutes and the Public Health sub minutes. Councilor Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

*Mr. Valliere gave an update from the report provided. Chair Shaw requested clarification on the occupancy rate. Councilor Deere inquired if a patient has been contacted their conversation. Councilor Byrd inquired about the flu vaccine. Councilor Duncan inquired about statistics on denial versus referrals on contract health. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about patients being scheduled through contract health then receiving a denial notice a few days prior to the procedure. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the medicare/medicade billing. Chair Shaw inquired about the amount of funding spent on referrals. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification on the change denied to the deferment paperwork. Councilor Byrd inquired if the inpatient employees are all IHS.*

Cherokee Nation Health Services - Dr. Steve Jones

*Mr. Jones gave highlights from the report provided. He provided an update on the Northeastern State University PA School. The OSU Medical School has accepted forty-two of the fifty seats for students available. An update was given for the Stilwell clinic construction. He provided an update to Councilor Buzzard on the TV's in the Jay clinic. They are developing health care teams to be more centered around providers. The Clinic in the Woods will be the home to Public Health, Diabetes, and WIC administration following a minor renovation. They are working to get the outpatient surgery clinic open in the new outpatient facility. Dr. Roger Montgomery provided an update on the tramadol medication shortage. Councilor Dobbins inquired if there is a pain management specialist on staff. Councilor Legg inquired about a cannabis alternative. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about looking outside of the U.S. to cover the shortage. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on the process for patients, who use this drug daily, to get an alternative. She also inquired how the patients are being notified. Councilor Nofire inquired if the manufacturer would send alternative medications during the shortage. Councilor Deere inquired if alternative medications would be covered by insurance as a special circumstance during this shortage. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about the level of pain this drug is used. Councilor Byrd inquired about the possibility of the NSU optometry having the same working hours as the clinic. He also inquired if the way-finders volunteers would continue. Councilor Buzzard inquired about the release of medical records by electronic signature. Chair Shaw inquired about the Muskogee Clinic having more top diagnosis than Hastings in the report provided, she inquired about an issue with the wheelchair scales, patients being required to go into the clinic instead of being able to drive through or call in, and if patient pharmacy counseling is required again after the first issuance.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Chair Shaw announced a meeting was held last Thursday to explore the viability of forming a medical insurance company for indigenous Oklahomans.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Jordan moved to adjourn. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried at 1:52 p.m.**

#### STAFF PRESENT:

|                        |                          |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Elizabeth Odell</i> | <i>Steve Carey</i>       | <i>Steve Jones</i> |
| <i>Nikki Limore</i>    | <i>Roger Montgomery</i>  | <i>Todd Enlow</i>  |
| <i>Londa Cox</i>       | <i>Tina Glory Jordan</i> |                    |

VISITORS PRESENT:

*Teddye Snell*

*George Valliere*

*Tim Brown*