



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
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org

Monday, July 20, 2020

11:00 AM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Nofire gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Harley Buzzard; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Canaan Duncan ; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan; Shawn Crittenden and Wes Nofire

Absent 1 - Julia Coates

Late Arrival 4 - Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh and Joe Deere

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor moved to approve the June 25th regular session minutes as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

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

Ms. Kelley gave an update on all of the upcoming job trainings including information systems, culinary, welding, lineman and many others in the health fields. She provided an update on the Business Tech Program, the Summer Youth Program, and The Talking Leaves Job Corp. She reported the payroll staff and TANF staff made sure all clients received pay since March. Councilor Vazquez inquired about applying for the lineman training and when the next training will begin. Councilor Deere stated he is always receiving calls from vendors looking for electrical apprentices.

Executive Director's Report - Corey Bunch

Mr. Bunch provided an Education Department organizational chart as requested. He gave appreciation to the Administration and the Council for the \$40m Education Initiative. He provided an update on the applications for the \$400 technology stipend. The \$10,000 will go out to the 107 schools this week. Notice of the \$1.25m competitive grant should go out to the school superintendents this week. They have approximately 5,500 scholarship applications, once those are processed the \$750 technology stipend will follow. Chair Austin inquired how the \$750 will be disbursed. Councilor Nofire voiced concern for the issuance of the \$400 to the K-12 students with some not knowing what to purchase and other having the school already issuing. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on the language children's program referred to in the report and also community service requirements for the scholarships. Councilor Shambaugh inquired about reimbursing the schools that have already purchased computers for the students. Councilor Buzzard requested an estimated number of applicants for the \$400 stipend. Councilor Shaw inquired if any funds have been set aside for JOM. She also requested the information regarding the \$400 stipend be given to all of the JOM Programs nationally. Chair Austin requested an update on the vacancy in the leadership at the Immersion School. Councilor Byrd commented on the Joint Venture Resolution passed recently.

Sequoyah High School -

Mr. Bunch introduced Mr. Patrick Moore the new Superintendent of Sequoyah Schools. Mr. Moore gave an overview of his background. Chair Austin inquired about what the upcoming school will look like in regard for attendance options for the students. He provided the precautionary measures being taken in the dorms. Councilor Crittenden requested clarification if virtual is selected. Councilor Nofire inquired if masks are required for the students.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson reported they are trying to determine how to social distance in the Head Start facilities. They have been approved for six additional staff members. They have received a generous amount of COVID funding to assist in keeping the children safe.

Language Program - Howard Paden

Chair Austin requested Mr. Howard Paden the new Executive Director of Language give a brief report.

Cherokee Nation Registry of Historic Places - Chad Harsha

Chad Harsha gave a brief overview of the initial list for the Cherokee Nation Registry of Historic Places. He gave a brief background on the list submitted and the process for locations both on private and public land. Councilor Duncan suggested the Ned Christie Gravesite and the Flint District Courthouse in Adair County for consideration. Councilor Vazquez inquired if the registry list would be available on the website.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Vazquez moved to adjourn. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 12:04 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

*Todd Enlow
Patrick Moore*

*Taralee Montgomery
Joe Rainwater*

Corey Bunch

*Remote:
Diane Kelley
Howard Paden*

Chad Harsha

Verna Thompson

VISITORS PRESENT:

Teddy Snell

Tim Brown