



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,

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Monday, April 12, 2021

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Councilor Smith gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 17 - Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; E. O. "JR." Smith; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Canaan Duncan ; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan; Shawn Crittenden and Wes Nofire

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve the March minutes as submitted.
Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

REPORTS:

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

Ms. Kelley gave an update on the fiber optic and lineman trainings. She reported they are working with Administration on trainings for the meat processing plant. She announced there are more trainings she will be able to share next month some include masonry and septic tank. They are hoping to expand their office services in the northern area. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled for the new Stilwell office in May. The initial walk through for the new Pryor office is this Friday and a ribbon cutting tentatively in June. They are looking for office space in Vinita and expanding into Bartlesville. She reported they are working with the Chief of Staff on the PPE in Stilwell. She offered to answer questions from the report.

Executive Director's Report - Corey Bunch

Mr. Bunch gave appreciation for the Public Schools Appreciation day event where they gave \$6.3ml to 107 public schools within our reservation boundaries. They have contracted with Varsity Tutors to provide one on one online tutoring for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian scholarships applications have been extended to April 16th. He provided an update on the stools for the college scholarship participants. As previously requested the top ten schools of where our scholarship moneys go has been provided in the report. He commented on the Inter Tribal Council Education meeting where they had a resolution in support of public school districts. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Buzzard requested further clarification on the tutoring program.

Sequoyah High School - Corey Bunch

Mr. Bunch announced they are in their spring activities which includes golf and track. They are underway with the state testing. Graduation is scheduled for May 14th at the NSU campus. Councilor Taylor requested clarification on CARES Act funding referred to in the report. Councilor Dobbins acknowledged the accomplishments of SHS graduate Lexi Keys. Councilor Nofire inquired about the search for a boy's basketball coach and superintendent. He also inquired if the letter to the OSSAA had been sent. Councilor Byrd gave appreciation to Mr. Bunch for taking a on the dual role of Education Executive Director and Superintendent.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson announced all of the children have been back for a month now. She gave kudos to all of the teachers. All staff has returned to work. She touched on the two COVID losses in their department. She provided an update on the COVID protocols. Ms. Thompson announced in March she celebrated thirty-seven years in her position.

Cherokee Nation Foundation - Janice Randall

Ms. Montgomery offered to take questions on behalf of Ms. Randall. Councilor Shaw inquired about the number of scholarships from CNF are going to the At Large.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **TMP-391** DISCUSSION ONLY - PRESENTATION ON THE ONLINE CONCURRENT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY AND SPONSORED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION
Presented by: Royal Aills and Clarice Doyle

Mr. Royal Aills and Clarice Doyle gave a presentation on the online concurrent opportunities at Rogers State University. He offered to answer questions. Councilor Byrd commented on the age of the fluent Cherokees. Councilor Shaw inquired if any of the classes are just in Cherokee conversation. Councilor Crittenden requested confirmation that this does count as a foreign language requirement. He requested a list of schools within our boundaries who haven't responded. Councilor Shambaugh commented not all students would go to college. He suggested providing in an afterschool program or as a high school credit.

NEW BUSINESS

None pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Nofire made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Patzkowski seconded the motion. The motion carried at 4:06 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

Taralee Montgomery

Todd Enlow

Corey Bunch

Remote:

Diane Kelley

Verna Thompson

VISITORS PRESENT:

Tim Brown
Royal Aills

Teddye Snell

Clarice Doyle