



# 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*

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Monday, June 14, 2021

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Councilor Buzzard gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 15 - Harley Buzzard; Joe Byrd; Mike Dobbins; Mike Shambaugh; Mary Baker Shaw; Janees Taylor; Victoria Vazquez; Canaan Duncan ; Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan and Wes Nofire

**Late Arrival** 2 - E. O. "JR." Smith and Shawn Crittenden

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Taylor made a motion to approve the May regular session minutes.  
Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REPORTS:

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

*Ms. Kelley provided a picture of a window wrap at the new office in Pryor, the same wrap will be on the trailers and classrooms. The ribbon cutting for the Pryor office is on July 7th at 11:00 a.m. She reported on the digital display, it is one of two, and they to be used for recruitment job fairs, advertise and/or spotlight programs. She gave appreciation to Councilor Taylor for her efforts in getting the Career Services field office moved from Cherokee Heights to the Pryor Industrial Park. Ms. Kelley reported they are working on getting a cement pad, behind CCO west of town, for the CDL Trucking program. This would put the lineman, fiber, buildings trade, CDL trucking, OSHA training, industrial trades all together with the meat processing plant. They are also working on getting a child care center at that location. The industrial trades is a new program that will make cement vaults for caskets, septic tanks and storm shelters. They will be moving the soft skill trades to the offices across from the*

Sequoyah High School water tower. They are working on childcare certification training in Rogers and Sequoyah counties. They are working toward developing a DUI training. They are also working on an EMT or paramedic training. Students have been approved to come back to Job Corp but must complete a My Pace Program. She reported on her departments efforts in assisting on the creation of a call center for the GaDuGi portal registration and questions. She announced Ashlee Fox and some of the Summer Program participants are going into the outlying areas to assist those who are not able to access the portal. Ms. Kelley reported they continue to do job fairs and recruitment fairs. She gave an update on the Summer Youth Program. Councilor Legg requested an update on the Day Work Program. Councilor Buzzard commented on the need for more garden centers, an agriculture business, a concrete business, a marijuana business and a cattle operation. He asked for the call center number.

Executive Director's Report - Corey Bunch

Mr. Bunch announced the scholarship deadline is tomorrow. The Remember the Removal Riders are in Springfield today and will return this Friday. Camp Cherokee is coming up with registration deadline of July 2nd, the camp is July 25th through the 30th at the Heart of the Hills. The application deadline for Miss Cherokee and Jr. Miss Cherokee is July 1st with the competitions to be held in late August. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Shaw inquired how the JOM participants are recruited. Councilor Nofire inquired how long the hotspots provided during the pandemic would remain active.

Sequoyah High School - Corey Bunch

Mr. Bunch reported they have had summer school over the past couple of weeks. They are preparing for the upcoming school year. He offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Dobbins inquired if football is a full go for this fall. Councilor Nofire requested clarification on the mandatory COVID vaccine for the athletes at SHS. Mr. Bunch gave an overview of the vaccine and incentive program.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Ms. Thompson reported on water play for the infants, toddlers and preschoolers. She gave an update on the retention and recruitment initiatives. She reported they have almost twenty men in the program and looking for additional staff. She commented on the childcare certification program Ms. Kelley reported on. They submitted three grant applications and have already heard back on two and will receive an additional \$1.5ml. She offered to answer questions from the report provided.

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 3:50 p.m.**

## STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery*  
*Tina Glory Jordan*

*Todd Enlow*  
*Diane Kelley*

*Corey Bunch*

*Remote:*

*Verna Thompson*

*Cheryl Thompson*

*Sandra Turner*

## VISITORS PRESENT:

*Teddy Snell*

*Tim Brown*