



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Dr. Mike Dobbins, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke*

*Phone: 1-800-995-9465,*

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

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Monday, June 6, 2022

12:30 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dobbins called the meeting to order at 12:41 p.m.

### INVOCATION

Chair Dobbins gave the invocation.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 12 - Keith Austin; Julia Coates; Shawn Crittenden; Joe Deere; Dora Patzkowski; Mike Shambaugh; Mike Dobbins; Candessa Tehee; Victoria Vazquez; E. O. "JR." Smith; Danny Callison and Johnny Kidwell

**Absent** 2 - Wes Nofire and Joshua Sam

**Late Arrival** 3 - Rex Jordan; Daryl Legg and Melvina Shotpouch

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Vazquez moved to approve the May regular session minutes.**  
**Councilor Deere seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Claremore Service Unit - George Valliere

*Mr. Valliere gave highlights from the report provided. He announced they have an increase in positive COVID cases. He provided a handout on their Patient Referral Program for contract health and then gave an overview of the packet. Councilor Callison requested clarification on the denial process for contract health and where if any relief is provided once denied. Councilor Shambaugh inquired if there is no success through the appeal process, what is the percentage of help after denial. Councilor Deere inquired if they still had employees working remotely. He inquired how they pay for emergency care if no insurance or tribal backup. Chair Dobbins inquired how the managed care model has affected them. Councilor Callison inquired about the process for conditions such as fractures and cancer that don't wait for the appeal process.*

## Cherokee Nation Health Services - Dr. Steve Jones

*Dr. Jones gave highlights from the report provided. He announced the grand opening at Stilwell would be held on the 20th. He provided a construction update. He gave a brief overview of issues with contract health and inquired about a couple of dates the Council would be available for a more in-depth discussion over contract health. He announced in light of recent events they are providing active shooter training and have activated a no tolerance policy. He offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Deere inquired as to the status of changing the name of the outpatient clinic to Nvwotii. Councilor Kidwell requested clarification as to the process for an At Large citizen who coming within the reservation for health related services. Councilor Callison requested clarification on responsibility of unpaid health procedures when the patient has to sign documents accepting responsibility. Councilor Shambaugh inquired if the Claremore Police Department is able to work calls at the Claremore Indian Hospital. Chair Dobbins requested clarification on medications given for COVID. Councilor Callison inquired about how to move forward with treating patients with acute long term pain with the current opioid issues.*

## Cherokee Nation Public Health - Lisa Pivec &amp; Dr. David Gahn

*Ms. Pivec announced they have completed the Tribal Health Assessment and should be available on their Public Health website([cherokeepublichealth.org](http://cherokeepublichealth.org)) within a few days. She gave an overview of what the assessment tells them and allows them to do moving forward. They continue to work on their Performance Management Plan. She provided an update on their cross-collaborative efforts. A team from CDC came and met to assist in planning the August 3rd and 4th meetings here at the Echota Center. Ms. Pivec called attention to the WIC numbers in the report and gave an update on the infant formula shortage. The summer EBTC program for kids is ongoing. Lastly she highlighted the Wings numbers in the report both in person and virtually. She offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Deere inquired about a WIC office on Peoria. Chair Dobbins inquired if there is a healthy substitute for formula. He inquired about the current masking policy and referred to the masking requirement at the Wilma P. Mankiller Quarter reveal today. Mr. Ross Ogden reported on the current COVID numbers in the absence of Dr. Gahn.*

## OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Councilor Kidwell announced the innovative readiness training health mission 2022 kicking off this week; for the next two weeks free medical and dental exams at the Sequoyah gym, first come first serve, adults only, no questions asked, tribal affiliation not required.*

*Chair Dobbins announced the Nowata Dental Clinic will have two dentists and two hygienists.*

## ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Austin moved to adjourn. Councilor Deere seconded the motion.  
The motion carried at 1:42 p.m.**

## STAFF PRESENT:

*Steve Jones  
Steve Carey  
Ross Ogden  
Brandon Scott*

*Roger Montgomery  
Taralee Montgomery  
Camerin Fite James*

*Lisa Pivec  
Albany Adair  
David Moore*

## VISITORS PRESENT:

*George Valliere*

*John Young*

*Teddye Snell*