

Delaware Tribe of Indians
Tribal Council Meeting
Monday, February 19, 2007

The Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians met Monday, February 19, 2007. The meeting was held at the Harmon Community Center in Nowata, Oklahoma. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chief Jerry Douglas. Council members present at roll call included Chief Douglas, Wayne Stull, Verna Crawford, Judy Harmon, Raymond Cline, Curtis Zunigha and Annette Ketchum. Guests present in the audience were Anita Lewis, Russ Mathis, Levi Randoll, his girlfriend and two kids, Chet Brooks, Bonnie Thaxton, Jean Kirkendall, Titus Frenchman, Johnney Tucker, Todd Thaxton, Linda Boggs, Doyle and Jane Hayes, Marilyn Aaroe, Teri Aaroe and Valarie. Tribal employees present included Earnest Tiger, Vicki Sousa and Marilyn Cole. Invocation was given by Curtis Zunigha. Chief Douglas welcomed the guests. Bonnie Thaxton stated that she has a report from Kay Anderson on how many meals were served for the month of January. A total of 188, with 30 being home delivery, 25 were volunteer lunches and 24 were paid.

Motion to suspend the agenda to allow Chet Brooks three minutes to address the council and his letter of resignation was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor. One abstain, Curtis Zunigha. Chet then presented his letter of resignation as tribal judge. He stated that he has no ill feelings against any Tribal Council members who was calling for his resignation. He wants to do anything he can to help the tribe. He referred to the disk he had given all council members at a previous meeting which contained information concerning the crime he was convicted of. The disk also contained information about a report done by the CIA about the worlds most prosperous countries. He stated that we need to set aside our politics and get busy with the job at hand, achieving our federal recognition and pursue economic development project. **Motion to accept the resignation of Tribal Judge, Chet Brooks was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Annette Ketchum. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Motion to recognize rules 3-9 title 9 concerning filling of vacancies. The tribal council shall appoint a new judge to fill the unexpired term and move that the Tribal Council open for nominations and fill this position within sixty days was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Annette Ketchum. Motion carried with all in favor. Curtis then thanked Chet for making the correct decision.

Motion to return to the agenda was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Verna Crawford. Motion carried with all in favor.

Minutes of the previous meeting was reviewed. **Motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Wayne Stull.** Corrections are as follows. **Motion carried with all in favor.**

Treasurer's report was given by Judy Harmon. She stated that we have received the fuel tax funds. **Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Marilyn Cole gave the office report. She stated that the new website is being worked on and is delawaretribe.org. All the tribal employees are being cross trained to do this and we are working with Louise Virden to complete the website. Currently the Trust Board and Tribal Council minutes are posted, forms for enrollment, tribal cards and address change can be downloaded. Scholarship information and forms are also available. Contact information for elected official and staff are also located on the site. This is currently a work in progress and updates will be done as they are prepared. She then read the names of new tribal members. This resolution for tribal membership is 2007-01. **Motion to approve Resolution 2007-01 regarding Tribal membership was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Chief Douglas then gave an update on our federal recognition efforts. He stated that the bill is currently in John Sullivan's hands. There was discussion with him concerning our health clinic. Our clinic was much better operated than the Cherokee clinic. Curtis questioned which version did Mr. Sullivan have? Jerry stated that the Department of Interior will recommend changes and that Melanie Knight and Tom Peckham has also worked on changes. Lengthy discussion followed on the bill, changes made, the CNO, Freedman and Department of Interior changes. Annette Ketchum stated that she does not favor the current bill for federal recognition. She does favor federal recognition.

New Business:

Wayne Stull stated that the DEC board has voted to place the Chief on the Board of Directors. This was done so he can be directly involved in DEC projects. Lengthy discussion of this followed. This issue will be tabled until the next meeting.

Annette Ketchum stated that she has been in contact with a grant writer from Colorado. She included some of the information received in the packet. It was explained by Verna Crawford that projects need to be identified before funding can be sought. Outlines of what to pursue needs to be done prior to searching for grants. Most non-profit grants require matching funds, at the present time the tribe does not have such funds. Federal recognition is also a requirement for applying for most grant funding. Discussion followed. It was stated that we do not need to hire a grant writer when our current staff could do this. Consensus of the council was to have all committees present ideas and do research for funding sources. Discussion that a grants and compliance officer would need to be hired.

Annette then discussed that Washington County would like to give our cemeteries back to us. She stated that Linda Herndon will meet with us at our next meeting to discuss this. Annette stated that she wants our attorney and Rick Esser to get together and have the deeds to the cemeteries in the Delaware Tribes name. Anita Lewis stated that she is going to get bids for mowing of current tribal property which is the Tuxedo & Madison complex and the Copan cemetery. **Motion that we proceed to acquire the deeds for Silverlake cemetery and the Dewey 'Sam Williams' cemetery was made by Annette Ketchum, seconded by Curtis Zunigha.** Discussion on this followed. It was stated that there are several other cemeteries located in Nowata and other counties that have Delaware's buried there. Do we acquire them as

well? It was also stated that while Dee Ketchum was chief we would not use trust funds to take care of any cemetery that the tribe did not own. This eliminated the Armstrong and Bezion cemeteries. Edna Havens got the Bezion cemetery placed on the Historic Register and got Nowata County to take care of the Bezion and Armstrong cemeteries. She also got Washington County to take care of Silverlake and the Dewey cemetery as the tribe or trust board did not have the funds to do this. **Vote five nay two yes.**

Other Business:

Curtis discussed the personnel committee. He stated that this committee has not met in some time. Discussion of who is on the committee, Raymond Cline is the Chair. There will be a possible meeting in March.

Curtis discussed the last issue of the Delaware Indian News. He stated that he objected to the unofficial survey and stated that he objects to being included in the wording 'Chief Douglas and the Tribal Council' he does not want to be included as the council does not speak for him. He requests that he be consulted on making any 'tribal council' statements. Both he and Annette Ketchum requested the address and contact information for the tribal members who wrote the letter to the editor 'Delawares for Truth'.

Annette Ketchum requested that meeting notices be posted on the front and back door of the community center. She then discussed that a budget and policies be done for operation of the tribe. Lengthy discussion followed. It was explained that the tribe already has policies in place. The chief will prepare a budget.

Motion to take a ten minute break was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Verna Crawford. Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion to contact Tom Peckham for clarification on the bill followed. **Motion to go into executive session was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Verna Crawford. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Motion to come out of executive session was made by Judy Harmon, seconded by Verna Crawford. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned.