

The January Tribal Council meeting of the Delaware Tribe was held at the Chelsea Senior Center in Chelsea, OK. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chief Jerry Douglas. Members present included Judy Harmon, Raymond Cline, Jerry Douglas, Wayne Stull, Curtis Zunigha and Annette Ketchum. Absent was Verna Crawford. Present in the audience were Chet Brooks, Joanne Burger and Husband, Dee Ketchum, Jan Brown, Donna Adams, Kay Anderson, John Tucker, Todd Thaxton, Linda Boggs, Mike Ellick, Jenan Alderman, Debbie Markle. Invocation was given by Dee Ketchum. Chief Douglas welcomed everyone and invited guests who wished to address the council.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Annette has some written changes she wants to see in the minutes. **Motion to approve the minutes was made by Wayne Stull, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor, Judy Harmon abstained.** Annette gave her written corrections to Marilyn for inclusion in the minutes.

Treasurer's Report was given by Judy Harmon. She reported that the 07 audit is almost done. We have received the fourth quarter fuel tax funds in the amount of \$39,650.52. Discussion of the fuel tax funds followed.

Federal recognition report was given by Jerry Douglas. Annette voiced her opinion on the agreement with the Cherokee Nation. Lengthy discussion of this followed. Wayne stated that we have to work with the Cherokee Nation in order to get our legislation through the system, and that we need our federal recognition in order to proceed forward with the tribe. Further discussion followed on land in trust, Senators and Congressmen who are in support or not of our restoration of recognition. It was stated that we do not have the legislation as promised and that we should re-look our efforts in sixty days. Discussion of Senator Coburn followed. Language in the bill affecting the Cherokees has been taken out by the Department of Interior. Jerry stated that the settlement funds have been sent and the office has been receiving numerous calls about the payments.

Discussion of the Housing Authority and the Elder units followed. Curtis stated that he has spoke with Director Mike Ellick. He then handed out a budget outline regarding the costs to operate the elder units for a year. He stated that the mowing, maintenance, fuel costs, administrative and inspections would cost around \$8,000. He stated the apartments rent for \$200 which would be \$14,400 per year. He stated that he is a former Housing Authority Director and that he can manage the apartments, collect the rents and maintain them. He is proposing this to relieve the Housing Authority of the conflict of maintaining them. The program he is proposing is a tribal housing department limited to the elder housing and he proposes to manage them at no cost to the tribe. He stated he is not in favor of deeding them to the Housing Authority. Discussion of this followed concerning actual rents received, insurance costs, HUD, IHP and NAHASDA funds and a budget for the project. **Motion that the Delaware Tribe of Indians assume management of the Elder units on Lenape Acres and that a startup budget of \$2,000 be authorized and that a budget for the remainder of the year be presented at the February meeting was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Raymond Cline.** Curtis will manage these at no cost to the tribe. **Motion then carried with all in favor.** It was discussed that the guidelines currently used by the Housing Authority could be used. Discussion of the appliances

in the units and the costs of replacing them followed.

Discussion of the Chief salary followed. This needs to be put to a vote of the tribal membership, however a ruling on the lawsuit needs to be done by the tribal courts first. Curtis stated that he has not received any correspondence on his lawsuit. **Motion to table action until a ruling from the court is received was made by Judy Harmon, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried three yes, two no.** Publication of the DIN will be postponed until election is announced. Discussion of this followed at length. The DIN will be sent out on April 1<sup>st</sup>. **Motion to take a ten minute break was made by Judy Harmon, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.** The meeting was called back to order at 8:00 p.m.

Discussion of poll votes taken followed. Curtis stated that poll votes should only be done according to Roberts Rule of Order in an emergency situations. This should be done in an open meeting. Discussion of Roberts Rule of Order followed. Curtis questioned why we don't have reports from economic development, DEA, DEC, election committee, DIN or other committees. Marilyn then read the poll vote taken January 8<sup>th</sup> to allow the utilization and drawdown of a \$50,000. The vote was four yes, one message left and one that does not participate in poll votes. Marilyn was instructed that if Annette cannot be reached by phone or cell phone to notify her by letter as well.

Earnest Tiger gave an update on the Economic Development projects. Geo Tech is doing further testing on the Dewey site, he is finishing up the Business plan concentrating on the cash flow issues and that a meeting has been held with the Dewey City Manager and the Acting Mayor last week. We are also proceeding with financing of the project, there is a March 15 deadline to accomplish this. He then stated that on January 11<sup>th</sup> a contract to purchase Service Equipment International was signed. The company provides backup power sources to companies. With the last ice storm business has been very good. There is so much potential for the tribe to develop this business into a thriving niche. As we will be the only tribe doing this type of business. He is completing the business plan and financing packages now. Discussion of these businesses followed.

Reappointment of Housing Commissioners was discussed. Rick Adair and Jenan Alderman have requested to be reappointed. **Motion to reappoint Rick Adair and Jenan Alderman was made by Wayne Stull, seconded by Judy Harmon. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Discussion that the tribal judges have offered to help with the constitution revision followed. Curtis stated that the judges are not legislators, but judicial and should not be involved in committees. He feels we should thank Art Stull for his good intentions. The work done by the previous constitution committee should be reviewed. It was agreed that the constitution needs to be updated.

A resolution for the Claremore Hospital was discussed. This is similar to one passed last year which was not approved at the Washington DC level. This resolution rewords 'Claremore Indian Hospital to Indian Country' which allows the hospital to utilize the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service for protection. **Motion to approve Resolution 2008-01 for the Claremore Indian Hospital was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Judy Harmon. Motion carried with all**

**in favor.**

The restrooms at the Community Center was discussed by Annette. They are not clean. The child care has the women's restroom cleaned, but as they have no male employees cannot justify expense to clean the mens restroom. It was stated that persons who use the center have vandalized the restrooms and the center. Curtis then stated that the persons who use the facility should be held responsible for making sure tribal property is not vandalized.

Discussion to sell two tribal owned vehicles followed. The 1977 C50 Chevy Dump Truck with a minimum bid is \$4,000 and the 1992 Ford Explorer, no minimum set. The vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder. No warranties or guarantees are offered. Vehicles are sold 'as is'. **Motion to liquidate the two vehicles was made by Annette Ketchum, seconded by Wayne Stull. The staff, council are not eligible to purchase the vehicles. Motion then carried with all in favor.**

**Motion to table the resolution for constitution change was made by Annette Ketchum, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Annette stated that we need to replace Nate Young as tribal judge. Her reason was that he has been disbarred. She then read an article on his disbarment. Jerry stated that he has not been convicted of a felony crime involving dishonesty and he is entitled to due process.

A letter has been received from the insurance company regarding the roof at the community center. They have stated that they cannot pay for damages that was done prior to the ice storm. It was stated that John Hunt was advised to add the architects to the lawsuit and he did not do this. The statue of limitations has run out on this. Gorman will say that the architects need to be sued as well and he will likely win the case. This will be turned over to Vicki for her review.

Wayne stated that he has been in contact with Lesa James with the Cherokee Nation Senior services. They currently operate 14 nutrition sites and are willing to work with us. They will do a MOA. **Motion to approve a MOA with the Cherokee Nation for our nutrition site per Waynes proposal was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Curtis stated that it is with great sadness that he must report the passing of James Allen. He will be buried at the Ft Gibson Veterans Cemetery on Wednesday.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.