

Delaware Tribe of Indians  
Tribal Council Meeting  
Monday, April 21, 2008

The Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians met Monday, April 21, 2008. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chief Jerry Douglas. Members present at roll call were: Chief Jerry Douglas, Council Members -- Verna Crawford, Annette Ketchum, Curtis Zunigha, Raymond Cline and Wayne Stull. Absent was Judy Harmon due to work obligations.

Present in the audience were Nate Young and his wife, Art Stull, Chet Brooks, Donna Adams, Evelyn Thomas, LuAnn Hainline, JoAnn Markley, Bonnie Thaxton, Benny Thaxton, James Hammon, Kay Anderson, John Tucker, Levi Randoll, Todd Thaxton, Bucky Buck, Linda Boggs, Marilyn & James Coffey, Jean Kirkendall, Titus Frenchman. Tribal Employees present were Earnest Tiger, Marilyn Cole and Tribal Attorney Vicki Sousa.

Invocation was given by Earnest Tiger.

Guests were welcomed by Chief Douglas. He asked the guests if anyone would like to address the Council. At which time Art Stull made a presentation to the Tribal Council as a tribal member not as Chief Justice. He stated that he has a plan for federal recognition. He knows that the council has a hard job and that they have to follow a path guided by the BIA and senator's and congress. He feels that we need to do a march from the community center to Tulsa. He feels that we have a great story to tell and that we need to come together as a people or we will fail. The tribe needs to come together for a common goal and go forward. We need to ask for our freedom, his plan for the march is to take 12 days to represent the 7 times the government has moved our tribe. We could eat, sing and dance nightly. His other option is to get the story of our tribe together and ask for a presidential pardon. Nate Young stated that Kevin Gover had recognized tribes when he was in the Department of Interior. Lengthy discussion of these ideas was held with the audience and council members. Newspaper articles to garner support should be done.

Annette Ketchum stated that repairs are needed to the community center. This has been turned over to Land Management.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilman Curtis Zunigha presented an American flag to the Council. Discussion followed regarding the need to replace the flags flown at the center due to their poor condition. Due to the high cost of the production of the Delaware flags alternate suppliers are being looked into. Raymond stated he has contacted a company in Nowata. It was discussed that the Lenape Color Guard could possibly conduct a ceremony to put new flags up when they are obtained.

Motion to table the Treasurer's Report was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.

## Old Business:

A report on Federal Recognition was presented by the Chief. He stated that Tom Peckham's report to the council gives the status as discussed in conference calls. One option, besides a congressional bill, could be the possibility of OIWA reorganization. Each option requires a MOA with the Cherokee Nation. Further discussion of this followed. An executive session on this issue following the rest of the agenda items was suggested to further discussion of this issue.

Councilman Curtis Zunigha then gave an update on the elder housing units. He stated that all units are now occupied. He has spent \$400 so far to have the carpets cleaned and stretched. He met with Judy Harmon and Marilyn Cole on Friday to review procedures on hiring contractors for maintenance and inspections. He would like to do a full inspection of all units to determine what the repair list will be. At that time he would like to put this out for bid. Money is needed for the maintenance, replacements and grounds keeping. He plans to go to the Cherokee Nation to ask for monies to assist with the costs of the units. He has had discussions with Dr. Brad Cobb on this issue. Discussion of the units, inspections and money from the CNO followed. It was determined that a letter to the Delaware Housing Authority needs to be sent requesting the deposits made by the tenants be turned over to the Tribe. Councilman Raymond Cline suggested it would be helpful to have the tenants be asked to make a list of items needing maintenance.

Motion to take a 10 minute break was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting was called back to order at 7:25 p.m.

Chief Douglas presented a tribal budget to council members. He stated that bearing no major unexpected expenses we have enough funds to make it one more year. This budget does not include fuel tax funds which is currently used to pay for insurance, utilities, lobbyist and attorney fees. Lengthy discussion of this followed. Curtis thanked Chief for the budget.

The DIN was discussed. It was stated that the judges will meet on Friday to render their decision, this should allow for a May 15 deadline. Discussion of the costs of publication for the DIN, significant news, the rally/march for sovereignty, court case, and federal recognition followed. It was determined to put out an issue with the news already received. Possible alternative routes of printing for next issues were discussed.

## New Business:

Discussion of the lawn equipment that had to be moved outside was held.

Discussion of the ATG (Aid to Tribal Government) funds and the CNO was held. A letter has been received from the Cherokees willingness to help us obtain our funds.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.