

Delaware Tribal Council
Delaware Tribe of Indians
Monday, May 27, 2008
Hospitality Room-Vinita Chamber of Commerce
Vinita OK

The Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians met Monday, May 27, 2008 in the Hospitality Room of the Vinita Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce. Council members present at roll call included Chief Douglas, Judy Harmon, Verna Crawford, Curtis Zunigha and Wayne Stull. Absent were Raymond Cline and Annette Ketchum. Present in the audience was Chet Brooks. Tribal employees Marilyn Cole and Earnest Tiger and Tribal Attorney Vicki Sousa were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. and the invocation was given by Earnest Tiger.

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

Treasurer's Report was given by Judy Harmon. She stated that we had received the first quarter of fuel tax funding in the amount of \$37,134.54. The audit for 2006 is done but we have not received the final report. Discussion with members followed. Motion to take the April Treasurer's Report off the table and to approve the report as presented was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.

Curtis then gave an update on the elder units. He stated that there was a water leak at unit 204 and was repaired. The bill is \$190 and this will be taken from the designated housing monies. He has also spoke with Mike Ellick and Debbie Markle on getting the deposits and remaining rents that the Housing Authority has turned over to the tribe. The check policy was discussed.

The current Economic Development projects were discussed. We are at a point of finalizing these projects. A couple of funding sources are in the works. One is a bank consortium that is willing to lend money for the total project and thru USDA loan application. Both the City of Dewey and **SEI** have asked for additional funding, our contracts with them have expired. Each is asking for \$10,000. Earnest has met with the **NABS** in Tulsa and has started the paperwork for the USDA loan, with this loan the tribe will need to put up 10 to 20% for loan guarantee. For the Dewey project this would be \$250,000. The City of Dewey has requested that we put a sign up for the project. For the SEI acquisition the amount would be \$170,000. We have already invested considerable amounts in both projects which would be lost if we do not proceed. Lengthy discussion of this followed. The monies the tribe has available are the judgement funds currently owed to the tribe. Discussion also followed on how to get these monies released to the tribe. Motion that the Chief and Tribal Attorney write a letter to request the release of \$567,000 judgement funds due to the Delaware Tribe from the BIA was made by Wayne Stull, seconded by Judy Harmon. Motion carried with all in favor. Earnest stated that he needs a commitment from the Tribal Council so that he may proceed forward with the projects. Discussion of this and the projects followed. Motion that the Tribal Council makes the commitment to move forward with the Economic Development projects with 10% on both projects, contingent on the release of the judgement funds was made by Wayne Stull, seconded by Judy Harmon. Discussion followed.

Earnest will meet with the City of Dewey and SEI on the requested \$10,000. Motion then carried with all in favor.

Discussion of the 638 funds that are held for the tribe by the CNO. Chief Douglas stated that if Tom Peckham cannot get these funds released to us he, Wayne and Vicki will. Motion that the Chief, Assistant Chief and Tribal Attorney do what is necessary to get the ATG 638 funds released to us was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Curtis Zunigha. Discussion of the approved use of the funds followed. Motion then carried with all in favor.

Discussion of the new **HUD housing** income guidelines received was held. **These are the guidelines used to determine eligibility for the Tribes Elder units in Bartlesville.**

The current expenditure of the fuel tax funds was also discussed.

Resolution for the approval of new tribal members was presented. Motion Resolution 2008-03 approving new members was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Judy Harmon. Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion of resolution approving Verna Crawford as the tribal delegate at the mid-year NCAI meeting. Motion to approve Resolution 2008-04 approving Verna Crawford as NCAI delegate was made by Curtis Zunigha, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.

Wayne stated that the annual Sovereignty Symposium will be held next week in Oklahoma City and feels that the tribe should be represented as this is an important meeting. Discussion of followed.

It was agreed that an election committee needs to be appointed. Names of potential members will be presented at the next meeting.

Motion to take a ten minute break was made.

Upon reconvening federal recognition was discussed. A conference call between Chief Jerry Douglas, Wayne Stull, Tom Peckham and Carl Artman was discussed. Mr. Artman gave the tribe three options to pursue. Curtis stated his feelings on the hybrid language presented by Tom Peckham. Discussion followed on the OIWA (Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act) process and Tom Peckham was called for his input. He said that there is a July 4 deadline to move us through the house with a technical amendment bill. Further lengthy discussion of how to proceed and the pros and cons of each option was held.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.