The Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians met Monday, January 5, 2009 in the East Room of the Nowata Public Library.

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Chief Jerry Douglas. Members present at roll call were Chief Douglas, Annette Ketchum, Chet Brooks, Bill Hatch, Wayne Stull, Raymond Cline and Verna Crawford. Present in the audience were Jan Brown, Titus Frenchman, Andy Hudson Jr and daughter, Andy Hudson Sr, Tom Merrill, Karen Barnes, Paula Pechonick, Russ Mathis, Dee Ketchum, Curtis Zunigha, Jenifer Pechonick, Nathan Young and wife Carol, Gloria Hatch. Tribal employees Marilyn Cole and Earnest Tiger were also present as was Tribal Attorney Vicki Sousa.

Chief Douglas welcomed the guests and invited them to address the council. Dee Ketchum stated that he appreciated the council’s service to the tribe and endorses their actions. He stated that it was untrue that Chad Smith offered to drop the lawsuit against us during his term as chief. The only offer received was to drop the suit without prejudice meaning that the CNO could bring it up at any time.

Curtis Zunigha then turned in a mileage form to the treasurer for trips he made during his time as councilman. He then stated that he was part of an effort in 1999 to work with the CNO to establish a MOA with them. He stated that they (CNO) refused to work with him, Mike Pace and Martin Thomas. He stated that all references about him being against federal recognition are not true.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Annette stated that she wanted Curtis’ opposition to the selection of council treasurer in the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Bill Hatch. Curtis again expressed his objection to the selection of the council treasurer. Motion carry with all in favor, one no, Chet Brooks and one abstain, Raymond Cline.

The decorum of certain audience members then warranted a warning from the board to be professional and adult.

Treasurer’s Report was asked to be tabled until next month. Motion to table the report until next month was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Verna Crawford. Motion carried with all in favor. Annette discussed her take on the provided financials and questioned the funding for the DIN.

Appointment of the Housing Commissioner was discussed. Titus Frenchmen turned in a resume for review. Motion to postpone the selection until the February meeting was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Chet Brooks. Discussion that this was done at the last meeting and all interested applicants were to have their resumes to the council for the December meeting. Inclement weather postponed the December meeting. The motion and second were then
withdrawn. Motion to reappoint Billie James to the Housing Commission was made by Bill Hatch, seconded by Raymond Cline. Discussion followed that Ms. James has spent many years in this position and is willing to continue. Motion then carried with all in favor. Four yes and two no, Wayne Stull and Annette Ketchum. Curtis stated that the chief makes the appointment and the council affirms.

The elder units were discussed by Chief Douglas. He stated that it is with great sadness that we lost an elder. He also stated that he has been in contact with the housing authority and that they are willing to manage them for us. Vicki Sousa is working on a lease that will be presented to the housing authority at their next meeting.

Office report was included in the packet. The resolution approving new members 2009-01 was read. There are fourteen new members. Motion to approve the new member resolution was made by Wayne Stull, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor. A poll vote was read into the minutes. This was to pay the parliamentarian for general council, the election committee members and to have the council meeting in Nowata.

New Business:

A resolution was presented to move the meeting date to the first Monday of the month. Motion to approve resolution 2009-02 to move the Tribal Council meeting to the first Monday of the month was made by Bill Hatch, seconded by Raymond Cline. Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion that our tribal seal is not registered or trademarked was held. Motion to proceed with the trademark and registration of the Delaware Tribal Seal was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor with one abstain, Annette Ketchum.

Discussion of our federal recognition was held. George Skibine has sent a directive to the Muskogee Office to proceed with a secretarial election to approve the tribe’s constitution and restore our recognition and place us back on the list of federally recognized tribe’s.

Motion to go into executive session was made by Verna Crawford seconded by Chet Brooks. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion to go out of executive session was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Wayne Stull. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion to hire Mary Jo Peterson as part time CPA for the Delaware Tribe was made by Verna Crawford, seconded by Bill Hatch. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Raymond Cline, seconded by Bill Hatch. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.