

**Delaware Tribe of Indians
Delaware Trust Board Minutes
August 27, 2012
Delaware Community Center
Minutes**

Respectfully submitted by Verna Crawford, Trust Board Secretary

Vice Chairman Chet Brooks called the September Trust Board meeting to order on August 27, 2012 at 4:10 p.m.

TJ Aaroe gave the invocation.

Secretary Verna Crawford called roll. Those present were Vice Chairman Chet Brooks, John Sumpter, Joe Brooks, DeAnn Ketchum, Homer Scott, and Secretary Verna Crawford. Six members were present (one seat unfilled).

Vice Chairman Chet Brooks informed those gathered that earlier in the day Chairman Wayne Stull had submitted a letter of resignation, effective immediately. The letter was sent to Chief Paula Pechonick.

“Dear Chief Pechonick,

I am writing to formally notify you that I am resigning from my positions as Tribal Trust Board Chairman, DEA President, and Tribal Council member effective the tender of this submission of this letter.

It has been my esteemed pleasure and honor to have spent the last twelve years working with tribal colleagues to advance the governmental, cultural, social, and economics causes of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Most importantly, it is for me gratifying to have been able to serve the Delaware people with a personal commitment to make a positive difference for future generations.

Regrettably I must withdraw my candidacy for the upcoming tribal election of November 1012.

If I can be of any assistance during the transitioning of the positions vacated by me, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you Chief Pechonick for working with me during your administration. Sincerely yours, Wayne E. Stull.”

(With the resignation of Chairman Stull, Vice Chairman Brooks automatically assumes the duties and office of Chairman. The Trust Board members will appoint someone to serve out the remaining term of office of Mr. Stull.)

Vice Chairman Brooks greeted the guests and asked if anyone would like to address the Trust Board.

Guests present were Mary Randall, Attorney Vicki Sousa, Nicky Kay Michael, Evelyn Kay Anderson, Teri Jo Aaroe, Dee Ketchum, Annette Ketchum, Nancy Sumpter, Titus Frenchman, Sheena Burnett, Susan Cade, Cy Hughes, and Priscilla Mason.

Tribal officials and employees present were Chief Paula Pechonick, Council Member Jan Brown, Justice Charles Randall, Tribal Manager Chief Curtis Zunigha, Leslie Fall-Leaf, Lesa Steele, Cece Biggoose, Council Member Nate Young, Anita Mathis, Lesa Steele, Michelle Vernon, Justice Don Mason, Jr. and Chris Miller.

Nicky Michael requested to address the Board. She stated she would be presenting a paper on November 7, 2012 to the Society for Ethnohistory Conference in Springfield, MO. She will be presenting a paper on Delaware history, mainly on the relationship of the Delaware Tribe and the Western Delaware. Ms. Michaels requested funding for conference registration, hotel and per-diem. The question was asked if conference presenters were paid by the conference to speak? In many instances they are not and this is one of those.

John Sumpter asked if Ms. Michael was still the Tribal Historian. Nicky responded yes, in about 2005 she had been appointed as ad hoc Historian for the Tribe and still was.

John Sumpter moved to pay for the registration fees from Cultural Preservation Committee for Nicky Kay Michael to attend and present a paper on the Delaware Tribe at the Ethnohistory Conference in Springfield, MO on November 7, 2012. Joe Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes.

Verna Crawford moved to approve the agenda with amendments: 1) Under Treasurer's Report—add to approve 2013 budget, 2) Under Other Business—remove A (it is also listed Under Old Business). Seconded by John Sumpter. Motion carried with five yes.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

John Sumpter moved to approve the minutes of August 6, 2012 with corrections. Homer Scott seconded the motion.

Verna Crawford noted that the Land Management report was presented to attach to the official minutes. She requested to have committee reports emailed to her to be added to the minutes.

Motion carried with five yes.

Treasurer's Report

Verna Crawford moved to accept the Treasurer's report in the packet pending audit. Seconded by Joe Brooks.

Discussion: Chet Brooks noted the Trust Board had met earlier in the day with Jade Johnson, CFO of the Tribe, to review the financials. The current balance of the principal is \$3,800,851.19 plus \$50,000 plus held in Trust by the Office of Trust Fund Management.

Motion carried with five yes.

Verna Crawford moved to approve the proposed estimated budget for 2013. Homer Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes.

Committee Reports:

Economic Development: Chair

The Committee noted projects were underway and had no update at this time.

Community Services: Acting Chair Verna Crawford

The Community Services Committee met on Monday, August 13, 2012. The Committee approved the 2013 budget and five requests for assistance. The Committee is working on revisions and updates to the guidelines for services provided.

Verna Crawford presented TJ Aaroe a plaque commemorating her service on the Trust Board and committees. The next meeting will be Monday, September 10, 2012 following the Education meeting.

Education: Chair Verna Crawford

The Committee regularly meets on the second Monday of each month. The Committee met August 13. The committee approved 34 scholarships, which is more than twice the number awarded last year. We are working on working on revisions and updates to the guidelines and procedures.

The next meeting will be Monday, September 10, 2012 at 1 p.m.

Land Management: Chair DeAnn Ketchum

The Committee has not met since July 18. Brice Obermeyer has identified a company to do the Ground Penetrating Radar at the cemetery. The guidelines for burials are in place, Leslie Fall Leaf is the primary contact at the office and John Sumpter handles the details of the cemetery.

Cultural Preservation: Chair Chet Brooks

The Committee meets the third Tuesday of each month starting at 6 p.m. in the Community Center.

Chet Brooks reminded everyone that September 11 will be the next cultural night gathering. There will be a potluck dinner and cultural activities. September 28 and 29 will be Delaware Days held at the Delaware Powwow grounds. There will be a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. on both nights. Activities will include awards, stomp dance and much more.

Reinvestment: Chair John Sumpter

Meets quarterly. No report was given.

Tribal Operations: Chair Joe Brooks

Meets quarterly. No report was given.

Old Business

Verna Crawford moved to table the Resolution to appoint persons to receive information and disbursements of the funds held in Trust by the OFTM. Joe Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes.

New Business

Joe Brooks moved that Chairman Chet Brooks set up a meeting with Karen Ketcher, BIA Area Director in the Muscogee office on Thursday or Friday (September 30 or 31) for any of the Trust Board members available. John Sumpter seconded the motion.

Discussion: Verna Crawford explained members of the Tribal Council have presented a proposed plan for the restructuring of the Trust Document and master plan. The proposed plan calls for the Trust Board to be changed to an Oversight Commission with five members instead of seven. Tribal Council members could not serve on the Commission. All members of the Trust Board other than those also on Tribal Council would serve out their terms with one year added so that new members will start their terms in conjunction with the Tribal Council elections. This would eliminate the cost of an election every year. The proposed plan would have the Commission members appointed by the Chief with the approval of the Tribal Council instead of electing them.

A town hall meeting will be held on Monday, September 10 to get input from tribal members. The meeting will be live on the Web and the video will be placed on the Tribal website to be available to all tribal members. All comments and concerns are needed.

The stand of some Trust Board members and members of the audience feel that any amendments or changes should be done by a referendum vote of all the people.

Chief Pechonick stated that members of the BIA in both Washington and Muscogee had told her that the Trust Board had served its purpose and should be redefined.

Crawford stated that at a workshop earlier in the afternoon attended by both the Trust Board and Tribal Council a consensus was reached to have Town Hall meetings and put the subject on the web for everyone to see.

DeAnn Ketchum stated she had a problem with that. Chairman Stull had scheduled a workshop for the Trust Board so that accounting could go over and explain the financials giving them a better understanding. "I have a problem with having totally different material presented and I don't think that is the proper way to do things," commented Ms. Ketchum.

The essence of the comments was that material to be discussed at workshops should be presented to expected attendees before the meeting.

Motion carried with four yes and one abstention.

Other Business

Joe Brooks moved to adjourn. John Sumpter seconded the motion. Motion carried with six yes. Chairman Brooks declared the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.