

**Delaware Tribe of Indians**  
**Delaware Trust Board Minutes**  
**April 1, 2013**  
**Delaware Community Center**  
**Respectfully submitted by Verna Crawford, Trust Board Secretary**

Chairman Chet Brooks called the April 1, 2013 Trust Board meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.  
Homer Scott gave the invocation.

Secretary called the roll; those present were Chairman Chet Brooks, John Sumpter, Joe Brooks, Homer Scott and Secretary Verna Crawford. DeAnn Ketchum was absent.

Chairman Chet Brooks welcomed guest. He invited anyone who would like to address the Board to do so.

Guests, Tribal officials and employees present included Rick L Barnes, Chief Paula Pechonick, Dee Ketchum, Councilman Nathan H. Young, Jana Roth, Nicky Kay Michael, Mr. Michael, Judge Charles Randall, Mary Randall, Councilwoman Janifer Brown, Jean Lewis, Bruce Martin, Bonnie Jo Griffith, Cece Biggoose, Councilwoman Annette Ketchum, Greg Brown and Business Manager Curtis Zunigha.

**Verna Crawford** moved to approve the agenda with amendment to fill the Trust Board vacancy after approval of minutes. Homer Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried with four yes.

**Minutes of previous meeting:**

**Joe Brooks** moved to approve the minutes of March 4, 2013 with corrections. Homer Scott seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** Chairman Brooks stated the only mistake he had noticed was in approving motions. He said that since the Chairman only votes in the case of a tie so the correct motion approvals should read four yes not five.

**Motion** carried with three yes and one abstention (Verna Crawford).

Chairman Brooks stated that there was a vacancy on the Board with the resignation of Cass Smith and according to the Trust Document requires the seat to be filled at the next Board meeting after the seat becomes vacant. He announced that he had received four requests to be considered for the vacancy, Nicky Michael, Bonnie Jo Griffith, Mary Longhorn and Phil Oyler. Nicky Michael and Bonnie Jo Griffith were present. Candidates are required to send a letter of request to be considered and to be present at the meeting to be considered for vacant positions. Therefore only Ms. Michael and Ms. Griffith could be considered.

**Chairman Brooks** asked the two candidates if they would like to address the Board. He called on Nicky Michael first.

**Ms. Michael** introduced herself as a mother having a PHD and teaching at Rogers and several other hats. She stated that she came to the Board to address her interest in the vacant seat and why she felt she was qualified for the position. She stated that she has worked for several other tribes and handles the Lenapeowski Foundation. This foundation is geared for the benefit children. She said felt she has the experience to manage our trust money. She said

she had ideas how to use them, grow them, address them with more professionalism; there are numerous ways to do that. She mentioned a new Tribal program called 7871. Tribes are putting some of their assets in. She said this program is kind of like non-profits for Tribes and to her the trust monies are non-profit, because we are serving Tribal members with them. Other things we could be doing are student and youth programs. She felt like she could bring a lot to the table in this area. She stated she also has a PHD in History, which included research with the Tribe and our relationship with the Cherokee Nation.

She assured the Board she would be able to attend most of the meetings including committee meetings and workshop.

**Ms. Griffith** told the Board that she was retired. She is a mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She stated that she has thirty years experience in the corporate world. She spent sometime in accounting, took care of accounts payable, but most of the time she worked in marketing and was in charge of about a million dollar budget. She prepared and submitted reports, traveled extensively across the US. She stated she knows the importance of return on investments. She said she could attend any meetings required. She commented that she has the time, energy and desire to serve the Tribe. She felt she had experience that would balance the lack of the formal education possessed by Ms. Michael.

**Chairman Brooks** called for the Board members to vote on paper distributed by the Secretary. There were two votes for each person and Chairman Brooks had to break the tie. He thanked both for their interest in serving the Tribe and stated it was very difficult for him to vote, because both ladies were equally qualified. Brooks broke the tie by voting for Bonnie Jo Griffith, the elder.

**Chairman Brooks** gave Ms. Griffith the oath of office and she took her seat at the table.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

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

**Discussion:** Chairman Brooks commented that the balance has increased by \$29,000.

Joe Brooks stated, for the benefit of the audience, that the principal is at \$3,902,151.80.

**Motion** carried with four yes and one abstention, (Bonnie Jo Griffith).

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Economic Development: Chair Joe Brooks**

Joe Brooks stated that Economic Development had not had a meeting since Delaware Economic Authority now handles the Tribes Economic Development. Brooks said that eliminating the committee was being considered in the November election.

##### **Community Services: Chair Verna Crawford**

The Community Services Committee met on Monday, March 8, 2013. Chairman Crawford was not at the March meeting due to illness. Co-chair Homer Scott reported that the Committee approved 17 requests for service.

##### **Land Management: Chair DeAnn Ketchum**

Chairman Brooks reported that the Committee Chair was absent and no report was presented.

**Cultural Preservation: Chair Chet Brooks**

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

Chairman Brooks thanked Bruce Martin for his work coordinating a Stomp Dance at the Boys and Girls Club in Chelsea. The dance was well attended and additional dances are being considered.

**Education: Chair Verna Crawford**

The Education Committee met on Monday, March 8, 2013. Chairman Crawford was not at the March meeting due to illness. No report was presented.

Joe Brooks brought a problem to the floor regarding students attending college year round. He requested the Committee look at this because students doing this will have a degree equal to four years and are losing out.

Crawford stated that the Committee would review and consider this situation.

**Reinvestment: Chair John Sumpter**

The committee meets quarterly. Committee Chair John Sumpter asked the Trust Board to consider having an attorney review the current process and give the Board direction on the status and possibilities that are available. Verna Crawford suggested inviting Mr. Thompson from Arvest Bank to a Trust Board Workshop Monday, April 8, 2013.

Joe Brooks suggested hiring Amanda Proctor, the Tribal Attorney, to give a legal opinion on the status of the safety of the Trust Money.

**Verna Crawford** moved to direct Chairman Brooks to hire Attorney Amanda Proctor for up to six hours to review the Trust Document and structure and advise the Board of our possibilities open to the Board, the cost to be divided among the Committees based on percent allocated to them. With a contract if needed, Joe Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with four yes.

**Tribal Operations: Chair Joe Brooks**

Meets quarterly. No report was given due to no meeting being held.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Joe Brooks** moved to eliminate Economic Development and Land Management and replace them with an Elder's Committee and Veterans Committee. Change the percentage allocated to the Committee's as follows:

Tribal Operations—15%; Education—25%; Community Service—30%; Cultural Preservation—10%; Reinvestment—10%; Elders Committee—5% and Veteran's Committee—5%. To be confirmed by a referendum vote of the Delaware people in November. Bonnie Jo Griffith seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes.

**New Business:**

Judge Rick Barnes addressed the Board with the suggestion to hold at least one meeting in Caney, Kansas. He felt it would be appropriate since Caney is designated as our Kansas Tribal headquarters.

Joe Brooks said that would be fine if we hold one in Chelsea also. Comments from others that to be fair, a meeting should also be held in Nowata.

**Bonnie Jo Griffith** moved to hold the May 6, 2013 Trust Board meeting at the Caney, Kansas building at 3 pm. Joe Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes.

Joe Brooks stated that he would not be at the May meeting. He would be on vacation and that his absence should be unexcused.

**Joe Brooks** moved that the absence of DeAnn Ketchum be unexcused. John Sumpter seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** Chairman Brooks told the Board that DeAnn had sent him an email that she would not be at the meeting do to work. She also suggested that the Board meet quarterly, not monthly.

Chairman Brooks stated that is not a possibility, because the Trust Document requires the Board to meet on the first Monday every month.

**Motion** carried with five yes.

**Verna Crawford moved to adjourn.** Joe Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with five yes. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm