

Delaware Tribe of Indians
Delaware Tribal Council
Monday, September 17, 2007

The Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians met Monday, September 17, 2007. The meeting was called to order by Chief Jerry Douglas at 6:05 p.m. Present at roll call were Councilwoman Verna Crawford, Councilman Curtis Zunigha, Chief Douglas, Assistant Chief Wayne Stull and Councilwoman Judy Harmon. Absent was Councilwoman Annette Ketchum who was ill. Present in the audience were Chet Brooks, Johnney Tucker and Donna Adams. Arriving at 6:15 was Evelyn Thomas, Debbie Miller and guest. Tribal employees present included Earnest Tiger, Marilyn Cole and Tribal Attorney Ms. Vicki Sousa.

Invocation was given by Councilman Zunigha. Guests were welcomed by the Chief.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. **Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Assistant Chief Wayne Stull, seconded by Councilwoman Judy Harmon.** Discussion by Councilman Zunigha that he wishes to be addressed as Councilman Zunigha in the minutes. **Motion then carried with all in favor.** One abstain from vote, Councilman Raymond Cline.

Treasurer's Report was given and reviewed by Councilwoman Judy Harmon. Discussion of the National Science Foundation grant followed. We need to pursue another language grant as we do not need federal recognition to be eligible for this.

Old Business:

Chief Douglas gave the Federal Recognition report. He stated that there has been daily conference calls with the lobbyist, Attorney Tom Peckham, Assistant Chief and others. The council members then discussed the Oklahoma delegation and their stand on our issue. Councilman Zunigha questioned if Chief Douglas has talked with Chad Smith. Chief Douglas indicated that he had at Chad's swearing in ceremony. Assistant Chief Stull discussed the problems we are having with Senator Coburn and that we are still trying to work with his office. Discussion also was held on the BIA administrative process and the length of time this would take.

The Elder Housing Units were discussed. The Housing Authority had a bad write up in their audit because they do not own them. Discussion of signing the units to the Housing Authority, NAHASDA funds and the HUD rules followed. Councilman Zunigha stated he is opposed to giving property away to the Housing Authority. Councilwoman Harmon stated she would like to see more details before a decision is made.

The Silverlake cemetery was discussed. Vicki Sousa has checked this out and the property can be deeded to us. The council had voted at a prior meeting to not proceed with this.

Councilman Zunigha gave an update on the Elder Nutrition committee. The committee has not had a face to face meeting as schedules have not permitted. They have been meeting by phone.

He stated that Councilwoman Ketchum has done a report on accountability and inventory. This is a start and they are not ready to vote on this yet. A budget, program description and funds for the program need to be done. Council persons Crawford, Cline and Harmon stated that for clarification the nutrition program has been terminated. The program is being run by individuals on a voluntary basis on their own and this is not sanctioned by the Tribal Council. The Tribal Council is not going to shut them down, but is not responsible for it. If available funding is authorized by the Tribal Council program guidelines and employment policies will need to be followed. Discussion followed on requesting funding from the Cherokee Nation to operate the program. This will need to be formally done by the Tribal Council. Further discussion on this followed as the Cherokee's have offered food for the program.

Reports are in the packet for members review.

Councilwoman Crawford discussed the next issue of the DIN. The deadline for candidate bio's is Sept. 21st these can be one page at 10 pt. type and a good jpeg picture. Councilman Zunigha expressed his indignation that his article to tribal members was not included in the last issue. Councilman Cline stated that it was a committee decision not to include outside articles or ad's.

New Business:

Councilman Cline stated that the personnel committee has met today and discussed current personnel and the elder nutrition program. Currently the committee members include Councilman Cline who serves as Chair, Councilwoman Verna Crawford is representative of Trust Board as is Ms. Jenifer Pechonick and Councilman Zunigha and Councilwoman Harmon are Council representatives. The committee would like to add Assistant Chief Stull to the committee as Vice Chair. Councilman Cline also stated that the committee will not be meeting on a monthly basis but instead on a as needed basis. **Motion to appoint Assistant Chief Stull to the committee and change the committee number to six was made by Councilman Cline, seconded by Council woman Harmon. Motion carried with all in favor. One abstain, Assistant Chief Stull.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.