

**The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES**

Executive Committee Meeting

MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 1996 MEETING, 9:00 A.M.
HELD IN ARROWHEAD RESORT HOTEL, CANADIAN, OKLAHOMA

Inter-Tribal Council Members Present:

Cherokee Nation: Chief Joe Byrd, Mary Cooksey, Sam Ed Bush, Barbara Starr Scott, Proxy for Harold DeMoss and William Smoke, Proxy for Paula Holder.

Chickasaw Nation: Governor Anoatubby, Lt. Governor David Brown, Rena Duncan, Kennedy Brown, and Pat Woods.

Choctaw Nation: Assistant Chief Greg Pyle, Proxy, for Chief Roberts, Billy Paul Baker, Proxy, for Assistant Chief Greg Pyle, Randle Durant, Rev. Bertram Bobb, and Loyce Bell.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Chief Perry Beaver, Second Chief George Almerigi, Earl Wheeler, and Wilburn Gouge.

Seminole Nation: Chief Jerry Haney, Assistant Chief James Factor, Eula Doonkeen, Terri Springer, and Toby Wise.

Chief Byrd called the meeting to order and asked for the roll call, the above named Council members and their respective proxies answered the roll call. Chief Byrd recognized that there were 24 members of 25 present and announced a quorum and declared that all business conducted today will be official. He then welcomed the members and guests of the Inter-Tribal Council. Chief Byrd introduced Martha Elton, and Ileta Prague, Ida Powell, and Mark Graham Navajo Nation tribal members as special guests in attendance. Chief Byrd then recognized Elmer Manotowa, former Chief of the Sac and Fox Tribe.

OLD BUSINESS: Item A:

Chief Byrd presented the minutes of the last meeting. Randal Durant moved to approve the minutes. Rena Duncan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Council.

Item B:

Chief Byrd then asked for the Treasurer's report.

Terri Springer, Treasurer reported the following:

The beginning cash balance was \$3,833.44 interest earned was \$74.49 for a total of \$3,907.93. Interest earned on the CD's was \$425.46. Stock Dividend interest totaled \$99.66. Total disbursements \$282.32. Total amount in checking account \$4,445.73. Total amount in the treasury is \$40,014.20. At the Executive Committee meeting there were approvals of four requests for reimbursement, one to the Secretary, one for reimbursement for the January banquet, one for the Congressional breakfast in Washington, D.C. and one request for a reception for NCAI. Mrs. Springer thanked the Council for their time.

Chief Byrd asked Rena Duncan for information regarding the funding request for the NCAI reception. Rena Duncan discussed the request, and explained that all the tribes in Oklahoma were asked to contribute money for a welcoming reception for the NCAI meeting to be held in June in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She requested up to \$2,000, perhaps less for the reception.

Gov. Anoatubby moved to allow the Executive Committee to support the reception for as much as \$2,000. Chief Haney seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to approve.

Chief Byrd then asked the Council for consideration of the other requests for reimbursement.

Assistant Chief Pyle moved to approve the other requests for reimbursement, Loyce Bell seconded the motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve.

Gov. Anoatubby moved to accept the treasurer's report, Assistant Chief Pyle seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to approve.

Item C:

Chief Byrd then asked for a report on NCAI by Rena Duncan.

Rena Duncan reported on the February meeting and the upcoming June meeting.

Item D:

Chief Beaver then discussed the appointment of Regina Revard to the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. Board of Directors and moved to appoint her as the Inter-Tribal representative, Gov. Anoatubby seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to approve.

New Business: Item 1:

Chief Byrd then asked Assistant Chief Pyle to present the first resolution.

Assistant Chief Pyle then asked to divert and discuss Senate Resolution #46 which will direct the Governor of the State to negotiate with Indian Tribes in Oklahoma. He then read the resolution, stating that this was very important to the Tribes in regard to motor fuels. He stated that the following State Senators sponsored the bill in support of the Tribal position in the Senate and were instrumental in assisting the tribes those Senators are: Darrell Roberts, Kelly Haney, Wilkenson, Herb Rozell, Horner, Robinson, Bell, and Kenney.

Assistant Chief Pyle then introduced a resolution to support Consolidation of Facilities Management functions pertaining to Indian Schools.

Chief Byrd then asked for action on the resolution. Assistant Chief Pyle moved to approve, Randall Durant seconded the motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Item 2:

Chief Byrd then introduced Cheanna Davis, Creek Nation to present the second resolution.

Cheanna Davis presented Support for adoption of a “Comprehensive Federal Indian Education policy Statement.”

Rena Duncan moved to approve, Sam Ed Bush seconded the motion, the Council voted unanimously to approve.

Item 3:

Chief Byrd then asked Cheanna Davis to present the third resolution.

Cheanna Davis then presented Support for Continuation of Funding for the “National Advisory Council for Indian Education.”

Second Chief George Almerigi amended the resolution to clarify the language regarding continued funding of the Council for Indian Education, Randall Durant seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to approve.

Randall Durant moved to adopt the resolution with amendment, Rena Duncan seconded the motion to approve. The Council voted unanimously to approve.

New Business:

Chief Byrd then called for new business and asked for a report from the Jim Fields, Muskogee Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Mr. Fields then introduced Dennis Wickliffe, Self-Governance Specialist and the following Superintendents: Jimmy Gibson, Okmulgee, Roy Willis, Woweka Agency, Larry Means, Talihina Agency, Trail Glory, Chickasaw Agency.”

MR. Fields discussed the 8th Federal Circuit Court’s ruling that all “Trust Acquisitions” since 1934 were unconstitutional. He mentioned that the Dept. of Justice would be filing an appeal of the 8th Circuit’s decision to the Supreme Court. He added that the Muskogee Area Office is in the 10th Circuit and that the 8th Circuit’s decision is not binding here and they will continue to process 25 CFR § 151 Trust Acquisition applications. Mr. Fields also discussed Congress’s effort to repeal the 1921 Snyder Act. He said the Snyder Act is the authority for most of the BIA’s programs and services to Indians. He also mentioned the effort to reduce funding to tribes whereby the funding formula would be based upon need, and mentioned Congress focus on reducing all areas of funding. Mr. Fields commended the Inter-Tribal Council’s work on Voter Registration and active participation in the electoral process. HE then discussed Tribal Shares, which the Muskogee Area has been working on since 1993. Mr. Fields then thanked the Council for their time.

Chief Byrd then introduced Randy Burnell, Indian Health Service.

Randy Burnell reported that Dr. Harry was in Albuquerque assisting in the HIS restructuring process, he then discussed the proposed FY1997 HIS budget fro \$2.4 Billion of which includes \$220 Million which will be collected from Medicaid and Medicare and private insurance. He mentioned that this would mean about a 9% increase from the 1996 budget, and within that amount is \$80 Million for clinical services; \$46 Million for Self-Determination contracting activities for tribes that are contracting or compacting for services; for sanitation construction water and sewer facilities for Indian homes and communities an increase of \$43 Million. He said over one third of HIS services were under tribal management. HE then mentioned the new initiatives, which include women’s health, children’s health, cancer and diabetes, alcohol and substance abuse {prevention}. HE mentioned the new Choctaw facility request is \$9 Million less than in 1996, which is not good news because in the Oklahoma Area there are three facilities identified for new construction, including the Talihina Hospital, Choctaw Nation, Pawnee, and Clinton (new facilities), these three will not get funding under this new request. He added that the FY 1996 budget had not been finalized and HIS was still operating under a continuing resolution. He then mentioned the Indian Health Design Team, Phase Two restructuring of the Area Offices is taking place now in Oklahoma City. He said Paula Williams has been selected as the new Self-Governance Specialist in the Headquarters Office. MR. Burnell thanked the Council for their time and concluded his remarks.

Chief Byrd then introduced Bluford Miller, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Economic and Community Development.

Mr. Miller discussed Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Water Development, FHA financed home construction, and other programs. He stated that his office is the result of the combination of

previous Farmers Home Administration; housing programs, REA, Land Bank, Rural Development Agency and other smaller programs. He stated his agency has been reduced to approximately 130 employees in Oklahoma, which necessitated the closing of some offices. He added that if current proposals were finalized the offices in Tahlequah, Okmulgee, Anadarko, Madill, Idabel, Pawnee, and others would be closed. He reported that his agency has single family housing direct loans with rates that range from one-percent (1%) on up depending upon the income level of the borrower and guaranteed loans, and that building on restricted or trust property did not adversely affect a borrowers application. Guaranteed loans were generally for borrowers in the higher income brackets. They also have regulations which allow for varied appraisals for scattered tracts of land. He stated there is a §504 program aimed at leveraging financing with HIP programs, and some grants available for persons over age 64. In Tribal Development we have community facilities construction programs, which are loans for constructing tribal buildings, health care facilities, nursing homes, libraries, etc. He then discussed the rural waste water programs, guaranteed business and industrial loans to bring or save jobs in an area, and industrial park development. Mr. Miller emphasized that his position is the only one of its kind in the U.S. and he deals exclusively with tribes on a government to government basis, he added that some consideration has been made to add to his duties. He concluded his report and thanked the Council for their time.

Chief Byrd thanked the representative from the federal agencies for their reports. Chief Byrd then introduced a proposed resolution supporting the Nomination of Mike Haney, Seminole Nation to the Native American Graves and Protection and Repatriation Act Review Committee. Motion by Eula Doonkeen, second by Rena Duncan. The Council voted unanimously to approve. Chief Byrd asked for other business of the Council. There being no further business, Chief Byrd closed the meeting and asked Rev. Bertram Bobb for the benediction. Rev. Bertram Bobb gave the benediction.

Respectfully submitted:

Margrett Oberly Kelley
Recording Secretary
Date

Minutes approved:
With Corrections:
Signed