

**CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
David Stout Building
Ada, Oklahoma
September 19, 2003**

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Wanda Blackwood Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander
 Linda Briggs
 Melvin Burris
 Scott Colbert
 Tim Colbert
 Mary Jo Green
 Donna Hartman
 Mooniene Ogee
 Judy Goforth Parker
 Wanda Blackwood Scott
 Wilson Seawright
 Steve Woods

Member absent: Dean McManus

Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
 Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms
 Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel

Guests present: Sandi Sanders, Allen Black, James A. Humes, Wayne Scribner, Brian Campbell, Frank S. Johnson, Jay B. Johnson, Cindy A. Johnson, Sherri Waters, Steve Dunnigan, Leslie Rodgers, Buck Cheadle, Joni Nail, Linda Wells, Carolyn Boyles, Sherri Ellis, Tracy Smith-Jones, Melvin and Kathleen Stone, Rachel Wedlow, Ramona McKee, Jerry Imotichey, Summer Stick, Kay Perry, Robert Cole, Ruth Cole, Linda Pickens, Gina Brown, Misty Barker, Georgia Malone, Sue Simmons, Marcy Old Crow, Charley Russell, Wes Brantley, Danny Key, Tony Choate, Mike Watson, Wilma Watson, Josie Crow, Jessie Kemp, Barbara Smith, Marlene Tims, Don Tims, Carolee Maxwell, Lisa Johnson-Billy, Sarah J. Lea, Delilah Arteberry, Deborah Moss, Shannon Campbell, Deanna Hartley

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Mr. Seawright proposed an amendment to the Clothing Grant line item. He stated the proposed budget was \$250,000. Based on the information the Legislators received that morning, the total amount allocated for FY '03 has already been expended. He suggested to amend the budget to include \$50,000 to the Clothing Grant line item which would make a total of \$300,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Seawright to amend the Clothing Grant line item by adding \$50,000, making a total of \$300,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alexander.

Members voting yes:

Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Mary Jo Green,
Donna Hartman, Mooniene Ogee,
Wilson Seawright, Steve Woods
7 yes votes

Members voting no:

Linda Briggs, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott
5 no votes

The motion carried.

Mr. Seawright proposed to amend the Health Care line item by adding \$1 million, making a total line item budget of \$3,575,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Seawright to add \$1 million to the Health Care line item. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hartman.

Dr. Goforth Parker stated the budget was presented with a great deal of study and consideration.

Chairperson Scott stated the budget is carefully gone through. If one puts money in it from somewhere, one has to show where the money is taken from.

Members voting yes:

Beth Alexander, Donna Hartman,
Mooniene Ogee, Wilson Seawright
4 yes votes

Members voting no:

Linda Briggs Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Tim Colbert, Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker,

Steve Woods, Wanda Blackwood Scott
8 no votes

The motion to to add \$1 million to the Health Care line item failed.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Briggs to approve the budget with the amendment.
The motion was seconded by Mrs. Green.**

Mrs. Alexander recommended adding \$50,000 to the Aging Senior Services line item for the Achille Senior Site to go from 3 days to 5 days a week serving meals to Senior Citizens.

Mrs. Briggs noted the Legislators had this budget for 6 months in which these items could have been discussed. It was still possible to amend the budget at a later date. She suggested to proceed with the motion as presented.

Mrs. Hartman stated other than the four budget hearings, there have not been any committee meetings where the budget was on the agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander to add \$50,000 to the Aging Senior Services line item for the Achille Senior Citizen site. The motion was seconded by Mr. Seawright.

Members voting yes:

Beth Alexander, Donna Hartman,
Mooniene Ogee, Wilson Seawright
4 yes votes

Members voting no:

Linda Briggs, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Tim Colbert Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker,
Steve Woods, Wanda Blackwood Scott
8 no votes

The motion failed.

Mr. Seawright requested to be recognized for the purpose of submitting an amendment to the budget. His request was denied by Chairperson Scott.

A roll call vote was taken on GR20-076, as amended.

Members voting yes:

Linda Briggs, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker,
Steve Woods, Wanda Blackwood Scott

7 yes votes

Members voting no:

Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Donna Hartman,
Mooniene Ogee, Wilson Seawright

5 no votes

The motion to approve GR20-076, as amended, carried.

Permanent Resolution Number 20-027, Amendments to Title 2, Chapter 4, Article B, Section 2-426 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Legislative Department Salaries)

The intent of this resolution is to establish starting salary levels for the elected officials of the Legislative Department, to keep those salaries competitive and reasonable by establishing a system of timely compensation increases and to reward long term commitments to public service.

A motion was made by Mrs Briggs to approve PR20-027. The motion was seconded by Dr. Goforth Parker.

Mrs. Hartman noted the suggested increase to the budget for the Legislative Branch would be \$449,625. In passing the budget some felt that money could not be reallocated for services.

Mrs. Ogee stated she has constantly asked for people who work for the tribe for several year at \$6.00 per hour a raise. She felt the faithful employees should receive raises.

Mrs. Briggs noted the tribal budget can be amended at anytime, and any Legislator has the right to decline any or all of their salary. It was published how the Legislators vote, and she felt it would be interesting to publish whether or not Legislators accept the salary increase if it should pass.

Mr. Seawright suggested amending PR20-027 under Section 2-426,B. by changing the wording from “The salary of the Legislators shall be the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) per month, plus a three and one half percent (3.5%) increase to the salary for each year of service which has been completed as a Tribal Legislator under the Constitution of 1983” to “The salary of the Legislators shall be the sum of two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800) per month.” The second amendment was to change the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Legislator’s total annual salary to a retirement/investment plan to ten percent (10%). The third amendment was to reinstate the original language of Section 2-426, B.1., regarding additional pay to the Chairperson or the Chairperson Pro Tempore of the Legislature for the duration of the time in which he serves in that capacity, to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per month instead of five hundred (\$500) per month. The final amendment was to reinstate the original language of Section 2-426,B.2. for the Secretary or the Secretary Pro Tempore for the duration of the time in which he serves in that capacity from two hundred

dollars (\$200) per month back to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per month.

A motion was made by Mr. Seawright to amend PR20-027 with the amendments listed above. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alexander.

Members voting yes:

Beth Alexander, Donna Hartman,
Mooniene Ogee, Wilson Seawright
4 yes votes

Members voting no:

Linda Briggs, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Tim Colbert, Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker,
Steve Woods, Wanda Blackwood Scott
8 no votes

The motion to amend failed.

A roll call vote was taken on PR20-027 as presented.

Members voting yes:

Linda Briggs, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert,
Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker,
Steve Woods, Wanda Blackwood Scott
7 yes votes

Members voting no:

Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Donna Hartman,
Mooniene Ogee, Wilson Seawright
5 no votes

The motion to approve PR20-027 carried.

Permanent Resolution Number 20-028, Amendments to Title 2, Chapter 4, Article B, Section 2-425 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Judicial Department Salaries)

The intent of this resolution is to establish starting salary levels for the elected officials of the Judicial Department, to keep those salaries competitive and reasonable by establishing a system of timely compensation increases and to reward long term commitments to public

service.

A motion was made by Dr. Goforth Parker to approve PR20-028. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Briggs.

Mr. Seawright proposed to amend the language in Section 2-425,A. to state the salaries each of the Justices be Twelve Hundred Dollars per month with a period after the word month.

- (C) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Steve Woods
- (D) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Judy Goforth Parker
- (E) EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Mooniene Ogee
- (F) HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Mary Jo Green
- (G) HISTORICAL AN CULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Dean McManus
- (H) ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman Steve Woods
- (I) COURT DEVELOPMENT AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT** by Chairman D. Scott Colbert

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT