

# Minutes

## Quapaw Nation Business Committee Quapaw Nation Museum & Zoom Saturday, February 18, 2023

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:22 AM.
- II. **Invocation:** Michelle Newton, Member.
- III. **Roll Call by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.**
- |                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| • Joseph Byrd, Chairman              | Present |
| • Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair          | Present |
| • Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer | Present |
| • Michelle Newton, Member            | Present |
| • Larry Mercer, Member               | Present |
| • Member                             | Vacant  |
| • Member                             | Vacant  |
- IV. **Declaration of Quorum:** Announced by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- V. **Reading, Correction & Approval of Minutes:** January 21, 2023, BC Meeting minutes were presented for approval.
- Motion to approve January 21, 2023, meeting minutes by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Seconded by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving January 21, 2023, BC Meeting minutes.
- VI. **Reading, Correction & Approval of Electronic Polls:** The following electronic polls were presented for approval.
- Poll10238\_Public Defender Contract: Bennett and Gallon
  - Poll11332\_OGahPah Coffee LLC
  - Poll11358\_QCC Feed Yard Office Expansion
  - Poll11375\_Title VI Car Port Procurement
  - Poll11381\_NEO A&M College - American Indian Center for Excellence
  - Poll11384\_Lincolnvill Sewer Project Procurement
  - Poll11388\_Miami High School After Prom
  - Poll11389\_Miami High School After Prom Committee - Meat Donation
  - Poll11395\_APPROVAL OF FY 2023 - 2025 CCDF TRIBAL PLAN AND FUNDING
  - Poll11396\_Approve an Updated Schedule of Fees and Other Matters related to fees with the QN Court
  - Poll11397\_RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE - DISTANCE LEARNING & TELEMEDICINE
  - Poll11399\_Criminal Law Fill in Resolution
  - Poll11419\_Opioid Settlement Authorization Resolution
  - Poll11420\_ITBC Oklahoma Membership Tribes - IBMA Submission Letter
  - Poll11429\_NCAI Membership and Resolution
  - Poll11445\_Generators for Elder Housing Units
  - Poll11446\_Initial Consultation Request from Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac
  - Poll11467\_Administrative Building Restoration and Renovation
  - Poll11469\_ITBC FY 2022 Herd Development Grant Proposal Resolution
  - Poll2875\_2nd Opinion Invoice Payment\_Quapaw Nation Vice-Chair (CORRECTED)

- Motion to amend decision summary to 1 abstain instead of 1 absent on Poll10238\_Public Defender Contract: Bennett and Gallon and approve electronic polls by Michelle Newton, Member.
- Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
- Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes amending Poll10238\_Public Defender Contract: Bennett and Gallon and approving all the electronic polls.

**VII. Approval/Disapproval of Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2023, was submitted to the Quapaw Nation Business Committee by standard accounting procedures.

- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
- Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes approving the Treasurer's Report.

**VIII. Approval/Disapproval of Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports submitted:** The Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports for the period ending January 31, 2023, were submitted to the Quapaw Nation Business Committee.

- Motion to approve the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
- Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes approving the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports.

**IX. Chairman's Report**

- Moment of reverence for those who have passed.
- The Business Committee will travel to Washington, DC, at the end of February to push for the Bear Settlement. The Bill will be introduced in this legislative session with the US Congressional members favorable to Indian issues. There will be meetings with the Oklahoma and Arkansas Delegates in the House and the Senate.
- Saracen had strong results in December. EBITA has exceeded the budget by 15.2% from the following year. Saracen has saved \$31.5 million in interest expenses. The slots and table games decrease offset by the Sports Book revenue that continues to outperform expectations. Phase II development has commenced with the foundation remediation. Hotel & Convention Center construction is expected to begin in this year's 2nd or 3rd quarter.
- Downstream Casino & Resort had a January EBITA margin of 47%, exceeding the budget. This is the first time in six months that the revenue has increased. People are still gaming, and they are gaming at Downstream. As long as the labor market stays strong, we expect strong results in our gaming properties. Yesterday, Downstream made a principal prepayment of \$5 million, bringing the total debt elimination to \$122 million, 40% of the outstanding balance since December 2021. The Chairman thanked everyone at Downstream and the Quapaw Nation. The Chairman also thanked everyone for their gracious hospitality as a farewell was said to fellow Business Committee Member Mike Shawnee.
- The Chairman gave a statement regarding his candidacy declaration for the Cherokee Nation Council. The Chairman spoke on his accomplishments as Chairman of the Quapaw Nation in his first term, but due to increased opposition by some Business Committee Members, he has become less effective during his

second term. Despite these circumstances, he stated that he had completed as much work as he could. He spoke regarding his grandmother and the importance of family, who was the greatest piece of his Quapaw and Osage identity and the cornerstone of the Quapaw Nation. Leadership is in the Chairman's blood on both sides of his lineage. His passion for serving Indian communities is what has sustained him, which was the driving force for declaring his candidacy in the Cherokee Nation Council race. The Chairman will always be Quapaw, just like he will always be Osage and Cherokee. The Chairman will always be Joseph Byrd and will always be a tribal leader regardless of whether he is elected.

- The Grievance Committee requested the Chairman call a Special General Council to act upon misconduct complaints by the Vice-Chair. Once the allegations have been reviewed by the Quapaw People, removal could be a likely outcome. The Chairman stated he is only 1 of 5 Business Committee Members, and the Vice-Chair could be removed this March. Four new members will be elected this July, urging all Tribal Members to vote. For these reasons, the Chairman will not resign his seat immediately and will always be committed to a functioning government. The Chairman thanked those who voted for him, supported him, and believed in his leadership. The Chairman hopes he is still welcome at everyone's camp because everyone will be welcome at his.

**X. Accounting Report by Eric Bohn – Chief Financial Officer (CFO).**

- He corrected the Tribal Member Services Health Benefit reported last month to reflect \$485,000 expended in December, totaling \$1.2 million for the first quarter.
- January 2023, we received \$2.3 million in revenue in our general fund and \$8.2 million for the year. Actual expenses for January were \$2.1 million.
- The Tribal Member Health Benefit expenses for January were \$405,000, bringing the year's total for the fiscal year to \$1.6 million.
- Social Services expenses for January were \$323,000 and \$800,000 for the year.
- Education expenses were \$173,000 in January, bringing the total for the year to \$376,000.
- The enterprises distributed \$0 in January and \$700,000 for the year.

**XI. Subcommittee Appointments.**

- Julia Pebeahsy was appointed to the Election Committee.
- Todd Weaver was appointed to the EFA Committee.

**XII. Subcommittees' Reports.**

- **Constitution Committee – Roman Kihega.**
  - There will be some open meetings announced next month.
  - The committee will be working on the next group of changes, including Business Committee roles along with the rights and responsibilities of the Quapaw Indian Council.
- **Cancer Awareness Committee – Jamie McNeely.**
  - On March 17, 2023, there will be a Biscuits & Gravy fundraiser from 6 AM at the Farmers Market.
  - On April 30, 2023, Eagle Creek Golf Course will have a golf scramble.
  - On May 5, 2023, a garage sale will be at the red building across from the new OLC.
  - Donations are welcome, and anyone who needs assistance, please contact Misty Scott at [miscott@qupaawnation.com](mailto:miscott@qupaawnation.com).
- **Grievance Committee – Laura Rawlins.**

- The Special General Council meeting will be on March 11, 2023.
- The document was posted on the Tribal website on February 17, 2023.
- Please avoid preconceived ideas.
- The Grievance Committee will not be answering any questions until the meeting.
- The Grievance Committee wants everyone to hear the facts on March 11, 2023.
- All grievances are independent of one another and are looked at separately; two are still outstanding.
- Chairman stated that the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will not be live-streamed and urged everyone to attend. The meeting will be at the Downstream Pavilion at 9 AM.
- **Cemetery Committee** – Linda Davis.
  - For any family members or others not on the Veterans Wall, please contact Linda Davis at [ldavis@quapawnation.com](mailto:ldavis@quapawnation.com). Also, contact Linda or Lloyd Buffalo if family members' graves are without headstones.
- **Election Committee** – Frank Frazier.
  - The first Special Election for the unexpired Turley term is April 15, 2023. The absentee Ballot is at the printer; none have been sent out yet. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Election is on June 3 for the unexpired Shawnee term. The regular Election will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup> with four seats (Vice-Chair and three members). Please bring your red card plus photo ID or your Tribal photo ID that indicates you are a Registered Voter at the bottom of the card. July 22, 2023, will be voting on each of the 16 Governing Resolution amendments, which were finalized on January 29, 2023.

### XIII. Directors Reports.

- **Community Health Rep (CHR) – Dewayne Chuckluck.**
  - Dewayne reported on both the CHR and the Community Paramedic.
  - They hold monthly health screenings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Title VI.
  - Home visits, patient transports, medication pickups, and emergency responses were handled throughout the last month.
- **Grants Dept – Brian Ross.**
  - Grants Dept has one pending grant application for the new Family Services Building.
  - The Grants Dept is actively working jointly with the departments seeking grant funding.
- **QSA Remediation – Maria Dam.**
  - Maria Dam reported jointly with the Environmental Office.
  - Fieldwork on environmental remediation grants.
  - Advocates for alternative use of chat to facilitate future sales.
  - Cleanup of the Quapaw Strip near Elm Creek in Kansas is the focus. Reported on tonnage moved by remediation was impacted by the weather.
  - The discussion on tonnage and loads moved per day depended on the site.
  - Cooperative agreements define the expectations.
  - Contaminated source material and unmarketable chat go to the repository, and marketable chat goes to the processors.
- **DPS (Fire/EMS) – Leon Crow.**

- Guardians Conference at Downstream starting February 20, 2023, for three days. There were 287 calls in January. 218 medical and 69 fire of fire calls, 25 were structures. The service area is Quapaw, Commerce, and Miami.
- **New Business.**
  - **Resolutions.**
    - **021823-A ARPA Tribal Member Distribution, DV Tiny Homes, and Food Sovereignty.**
      - Motion to approve Resolution 021823-A ARPA Tribal Member Distribution, DV Tiny Homes, and Food Sovereignty by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
      - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
      - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
      - Motion passes approving Resolution 021823-A ARPA Tribal Member Distribution, DV Tiny Homes, and Food Sovereignty.
    - **021823-B Final Language to be Placed on the Ballot.**
      - Motion to approve Resolution 021823-B Final Language to be Placed on the Ballot by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
      - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
      - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
      - Motion passes approving Resolution 021823-B Final Language to be Placed on the Ballot.
    - **021823-C Hazard Mitigation Plan.**
      - Motion to approve Resolution 021823-C Hazard Mitigation Plan by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
      - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
      - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
      - Motion passes approving Resolution 021823- C Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - **Donations**
    - **Commerce School After Prom** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation to assist with a donation.
      - Motion to request a \$1000 donation request for the Commerce School After Prom by Michelle Newton, Member.
      - Seconded by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
      - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
      - Motion passes to approve the Commerce School After Prom for \$1000 donation request.
    - **Kaiden Hartley** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation to assist with a donation for National Youth Leadership Forum National Security.
      - Motion to approve \$500 donation request by Michelle Newton, Member.
      - Seconded by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
      - Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
      - Motion passes to approve the \$500 donation for Kaiden Hartley.
    - **Heather Dismuke** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation to donate \$500 or Teton blankets for Heather and her son Marcus.

- Heather was instructed to submit requests separately via email and have it polled.

**XIV. Open Forum:**

- Motion to suspend the Open Forum rules to remove the five minutes limit and the necessity to pertain to the agenda; however, only one trip to the podium per Tribal Member by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Michelle Newton, Members.
- This motion is not debatable and requires a 2/3 (4 members) approval.
  - Michelle Newton, Member Yes vote
  - Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer Yes vote
  - Joseph Byrd, Chairman Abstain vote
  - Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair Yes vote
  - Larry Mercer, Member Yes vote
- Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 1 abstaining, 0 absent, 2 vacant.
- Motion passes to suspend the Open Forum rules to remove the five minutes limit and the necessity to pertain to the agenda; however, only one trip to the podium per Tribal Member.
- Discussion from the floor and Zoom.

**XV. Benediction:** Jodi Whitecrow, Tribal Member.

**XVI. Adjournment:** 11:39 AM.

- Motion to adjourn by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
- Second by Larry Mercer, Member.
- Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.
- Motion passes to adjourn.

/s/ Wena Supernaw  
Wena Supernaw, BC Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes Prepared in Accordance  
with Robert's Rules of Order  
By: /s/ Steva Stand  
Interim BC Executive Secretary

**CERTIFICATION**

Approved by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee on Marh 18, 2023, with a vote reflecting 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 absent, and 2 vacant.