

Minutes

Quapaw Nation Business Committee Quapaw Nation Title VI Building & Zoom Saturday, March 18, 2023

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:02 AM.
- II. **Invocation:** Michelle Newton, Member.
- III. **Roll Call by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.**
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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| • Joseph Byrd, Chairman | Absent |
| • Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair | Present |
| • Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer | Present |
| • Michelle Newton, Member | Present |
| • Larry Mercer, Member | Present |
| • Member | Vacant |
| • Member | Vacant |
- Declaration of Quorum:** Announced by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- IV. **Reading, Correction & Approval of Minutes:** February 18, 2023, BC Meeting minutes were presented for approval.
- Motion to approve February 18, 2023, meeting minutes by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes approving February 18, 2023, BC Meeting minutes.
- V. **Reading, Correction & Approval of Electronic Polls:** The following electronic polls were presented for approval.
- Poll11537_Bison / Ground Beef for Powwow Rations and Beef Sticks for General Counsel 2023
 - Poll11552_Max of \$3000 to cover the Vice-Chairs' response Letter to the Chairmans' Letter that was published in January 2023 Quapaw Post
 - Poll11590_Attorney_Agreement Approval
 - Poll11681_Braden Racing
 - Poll11552 Max of \$3000 was never acted on and was a void.
 - Motion to approve the reading correction and approval of electronic phone polls by Michelle Newton, member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes approving reading correction and electronic polls.
- VI. **Approval/Disapproval of Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 28, 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: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes approving the Treasurer's Report.

VII. Approval/Disapproval of Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports submitted: The Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports for the period ending February 28, 2023, were submitted to the Quapaw Nation Business Committee.

- Motion to approve the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
- Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
- Motion passes approving the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports.

VIII. Chairman's Report:

- Moment of reverence for those who have passed.
- Vice-Chair Callie Bowden discussed her trip to Oklahoma City, which was to discuss the sports betting bill that is being presented. It will go in correlation with the current gaming pact that the Nation has with the State of Oklahoma. This will be discussed in the next Business Committee in April.
- Secretary-Treasurer Wena Supernaw began presenting Chairmans' Report.
- Business Committee has decided to limit electronic polls to emergency requests only. This will become effect April the 1st.
- There will be announcements of additional Business Committee meetings which will start late April or early May.
- List of upcoming events:
- Week of March 25th - Saracen will host a panel discussion called, "Walking in Two Worlds Operating Commercially with Tribal Roots at Niga, in San Diego, CA
- March 22nd & 29th - Budgeting Finance 101 at the Tribal Museum Classroom
- March 26th - Shaw Making Class with Carolyn Nott & Laural Rollins at the Tribal Library.
- A Small Quapaw Contingent will be in France the first week of April, including Carrie V Wilson and Everett Bandy for an initial consultation with Musee-Du-Quai – Jacques Chirac where the Quapaw Robes are housed.
- April 5th & 12th – Senior Farmer Market Nutrition program sign-up. It is from 9am-3pm at the Quapaw Farmers Market and Food Hub.
- Starting April 5th, every Wednesday until May 17th, Drum and Singing Circle from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Ki Ho Ta Center.
- April 8, 2023 - Easter Egg Hunt at Quapaw Nation Powwow grounds, volunteers are needed at 9:30 AM with event starting at 1:00 PM. Will gather at the Long House. Lunch will be provided. For more information call 918-542-1853.
- April 11, 2023 - Honoring and Protecting Our Children Event at Ki Ho Ta
- April 12th – Pow Wow etiquette at 6:00 pm.
- April 28, 2023 - 6:00-11:00 PM & April 29, 2023 – 9:00 AM-3:00 PM – Re-energize and Revive – Northeastern Tribal CCF Programs at Riverbend Casino.
- May 5, 2023 – First day of the Farmers Market.
- May 2nd through the 4th – 5:00-8:00 PM - Quapaw Nation Youth programs present shaw making class in partnership with Carolyn Nott at the Ki Ho ta Conference Center and is open to 5th through 12th graders and limited to the first 15 people. Contact Heather Dismuke to sign-up.
- May 8-9, & 16-18, 2023 5:00-8:00 PM– Quapaw Nation Youth programs Presents Ribbon Skirt Making class at the Ki Ho Ta Conference Center. Open to 5th through 12th graders and is limited to the first 10 people. Contact Heather Dismuke to sign-up.

- May 19, 2023, Native Youth Powwow Dinner, Dinner starts at 5:00 PM and Grand Entry is at 6:00 PM at the Quapaw Nation Fitness Center.
- May 24-25 – 5:00-7:00 PM, Shield Pottery Class with Berry Gaedkt in Quapaw Pottery Studio
- June 10, 2023 Annual Education Banquet at Downstream Casino in the Pavilion. Times to be determined at a later date.
- Effective the beginning in April, Trenton Stand will become the new Executive Director of Resource Management.
- The new Director of the Quapaw Facility Authority will begin in April.
- Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer gave an update on their Trip to Washington, DC February 27-29, 2023. Four BC members were in Washington for the purpose of reintroducing the Bear Settlement Authorization Legislation to the new Congressional session. In order to achieve this, they needed to secure sponsorships and co-sponsorships in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. They were able to meet with five Senators from three states; Senator John Boozman of Arkansas, Tom Cotton of Arkansas, Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma, Senator Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma, Senator Jerry Moran of Kansas. In addition, they met with five Representatives from four states; Representative Bruce Westerman of Arkansas, Representative Eric Burlison of Missouri, Representative Dianna DeGette of Colorado, Representative Tom Cole of Oklahoma, Representative Josh Brecheen of Oklahoma. They met with individuals to garner support and give them an updated copy of the recommend authorization and bill language. They secured strong Senate support and sponsorship from Senator Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma and co-sponsorship from multiple others. Along with this, they collected strong sponsorship in the House of Representatives. They still have work to do and especially with Representative Brecheen of Oklahoma, who they are pushing to be the primary sponsor of the Bill in the House of Representatives. While in Washington, they met with the Smithsonian National Museum of American Indian's Director Cynthia Chavez Lamar and her team. Along with this they were able to have a goodwill visit with The Principle Deputy Assistant Administrator of the EPA, Barry Breen.
- The Quapaw Nation had the honor of co-hosting the 22nd annual Bridge the Gap Conference on March 6-9. This was a conference that was established to meet face-to-face annually with nearby National Forest in Oklahoma and Arkansas to bridge the gap between Tribal Nations and Forest Service to have a better Government-to-Government relationship. This year was the first year that the Quapaw Nation had the opportunity to host this conference. Over 290 people attended the conference with 78 of them being representatives of Tribal Government from across the United States, 65 were from the US Forest Service, 80 from other Federally agencies, and the remainder were from state and local agencies. Secretary-Treasurer thank the entire staff of THPO for their efforts, Carrie V Wilson, Director of Quapaw Nation NAGPRA, the Chair of the Cultural Committee, Joey Giveswater, Fire Department, Billy Proctor for the blessing in Quapaw language, Betty Gadtke for the gift bag pottery medallions, DCR employees, and all other volunteers who made the event a success.

- **Quapaw Casino:** - Their February results will not become available until next week. For the month ending January 31, 2023, EBITDA totaled \$225,000, with a margin of 12.1%. January's result is below our budgeted expectation by \$123,000 and represents a decrease of \$142,000 from January 2022. The decrease in EBITDA from last year is primarily the result of an increase in labor costs, cost of goods sold, advertising expense, promotional allowances, maintenance, and credit card fees. Total net revenue increased from January 2022 \$99,000 or 5.6%. The increase is the result of an increase in gaming revenue year-over-year, food and beverage and gasoline revenues increased over the previous January. All other revenue lines were consistent with the previous year. The revenue improvement is encouraging. Net income for the month totaled \$207,000 with a margin of 11.1%. This represents a negative budget variance of \$106,000. Net income compared to January 2022 reduced \$120,000.
- **Downstream Casino:** – For the month ending February 28, 2023, EBITDA totaled \$8.6MM, with a margin of 48.9%. February's result exceeded February 2022 and our budgeted expectations. The current month's EBITDA is the first year-over-year EBITDA increase in fiscal year 2023. Total net revenue for the month was \$17.6MM. This represents an increase from February 2022 of \$742,000 or 4.4%. On a revenue basis, February 2023 was the best February in Downstream's history. The revenue increase is a continuation of the year-over-year improvement experienced in January. Economic conditions did not materially change from the previous month but increases in player reinvestment in the form of complimentary offers, promotional giveaways, and live entertainment in the Pavilion and Legends produced outsized returns. EBITDA totals \$39.2MM with a margin of 45.7% through the first five months of the fiscal year. This represents a \$5.6MM positive budget variance, but a \$4.3MM decrease from fiscal year 2022. The year-to-date year-over-year decrease is the result of lower gaming revenue experienced in the first quarter, higher labor costs, as well as an increase in live entertainment costs.
- **Saracen:** – January and February gaming revenue is up YOY and mobile sports gambling continues to strengthen. Regarding Phase II development of the hotel and conference center, concrete remediation work has commenced. The BC approved the Gross Maximum Price for the full development, although some additional approvals are required. We are going to Pine Bluff next week to smoke off the property.
- Secretary-Treasurer Supernaw addressed the Nation about the results of the Special General Council held last Saturday March 11, 2023 and also raised concerns about several issues that are very concerning.

IX. Accounting Report by Eric Bohn: – Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

- February General Funds: received 2.14 Million with a Fiscal Year total of 10.2 million in revenue. Total expenses for February were 2.6 Million bringing the total for the year at 12.2 million
- Tribal Health Benefit expenses for February was \$476,000 bringing the total for the fiscal year to 2.1 million.
- Social Service expenses for February was \$463,000 bringing the total for the fiscal year to 1.26 million.
- Education expenses for February was \$169,000 bringing the total for the fiscal year to 546,000.

X. Subcommittees' Reports:

- **Constitution Committee** – Roman Kihega.
 - First Open meeting to be held April 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Community Building hopefully and via Zoom. This will be a pot luck. Agenda will be available about one week out
 - Other meetings that are set are June 26, Aug 28, Oct 23, Dec 18.
 - These meetings will be sent for publication on website.
- **Elder's Committee** – Grace Goodeagle.
 - Elder Housing is still pending
 - CHR has a lot of classes for health
 - Working on dates for a 2 day Elder's trip in May possibly.
 - AARP Oklahoma has their annual honors night where they honor Elder's in Oklahoma. Nomination forms are available and ready. If you want to nominate someone you need to get the nomination in by the end of the month. This is being held in November at the First Americans Museum.
- **Election Committee** – Frank Frazier.
 - The first Special Election for the unexpired Turley term is April 15, 2023 at the Community Building from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. The absentee Ballot have been sent out. The 2nd Special Election is on June 3, 2023 at 9:00 AM-5:00 PM at the Community Building for the unexpired seat Shawnee term. Last day to file for seat is March 27, 2023, The regular Election will be on July 22, 2023 at 9:00 AM-5:00 PM at the Community Building 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. If you have requested an absentee ballot and decide to vote in person, you have to bring your absentee ballot in with you or you will not be able to vote in person.

XI. Directors Reports:

- **Quapaw Counseling Service (CSR) – Jacob White.**
 - Described services available, patients served, the transportation services, hours of operation and challenges in hiring certified counselors. Discussion on additional services needed in the community and ways to advertise services available. The Transport Services that were implemented in the middle of the year last year are performing as expected and transporting an average of 5 patients per day.
- **Roads / Construction – John Jackson Jr.**
 - Discussed the upcoming and status of projects such as the Powwow Grounds Construction Project: Split into two phases. One being Electrical and the other being civil. Administration building renovation: which saw many upgrades and improvements, Food Sovereignty Complex, Splashpad, old OLC building, Ray property housing infrastructure, Lincolnville Sewer project: - which will eliminate the use of a lagoon. Also, addressed the strategy and procedures for known potential mold issues, and proactive maintenance. Any concern about any project, but especially the Pow Wow Grounds contact him.

XII. New Business:

- **Resolutions -**
 - **031823-A Bird Dog Chat Sale.**
 - Motion to approve Resolution 031823-A Bird Dog Chat Sale by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
 - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 absent, 2 vacant.
 - Motion passes approving Resolution 031823-A Bird Dog Chat Sale.
 - **031823-B Department of Energy Grid Allocation.**
 - Motion to approve Resolution 021823-B Department of Energy Grid Allocation by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 absent, 2 vacant.
 - Motion passes approving Resolution 021823-B Department of Energy Grid Allocation.
 - **Les Whitaker** of Biosafe Global Technologies LLC discussed the importance of preparing and submitting paperwork for grants.
 - **031823-C May 1 Proclamation Anti-Violence Day.**
 - Motion to approve Resolution 031823-C May 1 Proclamation Anti-Violence Day by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 absent, 2 vacant.
 - Motion passes approving Resolution 021823- C 031823-C May 1 Proclamation Anti-Violence Day.
 - **031823-D Open Quapaw Nation Powow Grounds.**
 - Motion to table Resolution 031823-D Open Quapaw Nation Powow Grounds by Wena Supernaw, Secretary-Treasurer.
 - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion tabled Resolution 031823-D Open Quapaw Nation Powow Grounds.
- Vice-Chair, I appoint Secretary-Treasurer Supernaw the Chair Pro Tem by unanimous consent, as long as there are no objections. Are there any objections? Hearing none, Secretary-Treasurer Supernaw, you are the Chair Pro Tem and may proceed with the meeting. Vice Chair then connected via telephone.

XIII. Donations:

- **Nate Harkins** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist with a donation to help promote Ag Education for 4H & FFA and sale of animals.
 - Motion to approve \$400 donation request by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes to approve the Nate Harkins \$400 donation request.

- **Macs Harkins** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist with a donation to help promote Ag Education for 4H & FFA and sale of animals.
 - Motion to approve \$500 donation request by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes to approve Mac Harkins \$400 donation request.
- **Brandon Bell** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist in expenditures for him to represent Team Oklahoma at Reno World Wrestling tournament.
 - Motion to approve \$500 donation request by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes to approve \$400 donation request.
- **Brittney Bell** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist in expenditures for her to attend and assist Brandon at the Reno World Wrestling tournament.
 - Motion to table this by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Seconded by Larry Mercer, Member
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion was Tabled for Brittney Bells \$500 donation request.
- **Ottawa County Fair Board** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist with a donation to help with the purchasing of awards and items for Fair.
 - Motion to approve \$500 donation request by Larry Mercer, Member.
 - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion passes to approve Ottawa County Fair Board \$500 donation request.
- **MPS Baseball Sponsorship** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation assist in sponsoring Miami Baseball Booster Club for \$550 first year and \$400 yearly renewal.
 - Motion to table this by Larry Mercer, Member.
 - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member
 - Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
 - Motion was Tabled for the MPS sponsorship.

XIV. Candidate Forum (4/15/23 Election):

- **Beth Blalock** -
 - Discussed her goals, personal & professional background, culture & stories, her Business Committee experience, and what she has to offer.
- **Linda Davis** -
 - Discussed her lineage, qualities & philosophy, Quapaw Nation committee experience, tribal service, and qualifications to serve the Nation.
- **Abigail Logan** -
 - Discussed her tribal affinity and commitment as a servant leader to the Quapaw people. How important the people of the Nation are.

XV. 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 Michelle Newton, Member.
- Seconded by Larry Mercer, 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 Absent
 - Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair Yes vote
 - Larry Mercer, Member Yes vote
- Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 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.

XVI. Benediction: Larry Mercer, Member.

XVII. Adjournment: 1:04 PM.

- Motion to adjourn by Michelle Newton, Member.
- Second by Larry Mercer, Member.
- Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 2 vacant, and 1 absent.
- Motion passes to adjourn.

/s/ Wena Supernaw

Wena Supernaw, BC Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes Prepared in Accordance
with Robert's Rules of Order

By: /s/ Brent Divine |

BC Executive Secretary

CERTIFICATION

Approved by the Quapaw Nation Business Committee on April 15, 2023, with a vote reflecting 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.