

# Minutes

## Quapaw Nation Business Committee

### Community Building & Zoom

Saturday, July 17, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:14 A.M.
- II. **Invocation:** Lloyd Buffalo, Member.
- III. **Roll Call:**
- |                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| • Joseph Byrd, Chairman           | Present via Zoom |
| • Callie Bowden, Vice-Chairwoman  | Present          |
| • Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer | Present          |
| • Michelle Newton, Member         | Present          |
| • Zack Turley, Member             | Present          |
| • Lloyd Buffalo, Member           | Present          |
| • Jeremy Olsen, Member            | Present          |
- IV. **Declaration of Quorum:** Announced by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
- V. **Reading, Correction & Approval of Minutes & Phone Polls:** The minutes of June 19, 2021, BC Meeting, and the June electronic polls were presented for approval.
- Motion to approve the June 19, 2021, minutes and the June electronic polls by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Seconded by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - *Amend the motion of June 1, 2021, Poll to motion denied.*
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving the June 19, 2021, minutes and the June electronic polls with the amended June 1, 2021, electronic poll.
- VI. **Approval/Disapproval of Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report for the period ending June 30, 2021, was submitted to the Quapaw Nation Business Committee by standard accounting procedures.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 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 June 30, 2021, were submitted to the Quapaw Nation Business Committee.
- Motion to approve the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports by Zack Turley, Member.
  - Seconded by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - *Lloyd requested to list the details of what the others are in the DPS Law Marshals report if it is allowable.*

- Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes approving the Directors' and Subcommittees' Reports.

#### VIII. Directors' Reports.

- **Susie Jackson** – Human Resource Director (HR).
  - There are currently four Human Resource Department (HR) employees, Jamie McNeely, Carrie Rodgers, and Alyssa Petree.
  - There are three hundred eighteen employees with three hundred full-time, seven part-time, and eleven temporary employees.
  - There are currently one hundred sixty-one Native American employees, and ninety-eight of those are Quapaw Tribal Members.
  - There are twenty-two spouses or caregivers of Quapaw Tribal Members and thirty-five veterans.
  - There are sixty-nine employees that were hired within the Quapaw Nation Preference Policy.
  - The Human Resource Department was the first department to move towards the new document management software call Laserfiche.
  - The Employee Appreciation Luncheon was held on June 11, 2021, and we recognized sixty-four employees for three years of employment, twenty-six employees for five years of employment, twenty-six employees for ten years of employment, one employee for fifteen years of employment, and two employees for twenty-five years of employment with the Quapaw Nation.
- **Karen Hildreth** – Quapaw Nation Museum.
  - The gift shop had total sales of \$3,797.31 for the month of June.
  - There has been an increase in visitors in June.
  - There are two new exhibits in the museum; one is a full-length headdress, and the other is an eagle dancer. The museum received a case from Downstream Casino & Resort that was perfect for displaying the eagle dancer.
  - The Pendleton's are on back-order for the gift shop.
  - The first shawl class taught by Carolyn Nott since COVID-19 will be held at the museum.
  - The Dhegiha Language Conference will be on July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Downstream Casino & Resort, and there are twenty signed up.
- **Everett Bandy** – Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO).
  - The month of June was spent reviewing federal projects.
  - Three hundred fifty-four undertakings were reviewed in June.
  - The Maumelle Ecosystem Restoration Project aims to restore the Maumelle River to a more natural alignment and restore the watershed and tributary network to a more natural condition.
  - The Bradley Site adverse effect is owned privately by a farmer. The farmer has become disinterested in continuing to work with us. The THPO office discussed with NRCS a potential option. If the option is viable, the THPO will bring it to the BC for review, comment, and approval as a potential alternative.

- **Debbie Wray** – Tax Commission.
  - The June Tribal sales tax rate is seven percent.
  - The total remittance collected was \$72,758.15.
  - The safety sales tax at one percent for June was \$10,394.00.
  - The hotel tax at ten percent for June was \$36,363.44.
  - The liquor and beer tax at one percent for June was \$3,128.73.
  - We need to take a look at the structure of how the Tax Commission and the Tag Department fall together and how they should flow and operate.
  - There were no reporting errors on the tax forms and no returned checks for June.
- **Rhonda Weaver** – Title VI and Caregiver Director.
  - The Title VI Program is doing great.
  - The Title VI Program is currently having eighteen to twenty daily coming inside to eat.
  - There were 2,717 meals delivered, 92 staff, 542 congregated meals, 191 volunteers, and walk-ins for a total of 3,542 total meals served in the month of June.
  - The Elders seem like the new software and the card swipe. If they do not have their card, they can enter their phone number.
  - The Title VI Program wanted to *thank* Downstream Casino & Resort for the gifts.
  - There are six in the Caregiver Program.
  - There was an elder that received a lift chair and was very happy.
- **Eric Bohn** – Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
  - There was \$1.67 million in revenue received in June for a total for the year of \$20 million, in which \$26.2 million was budgeted.
  - Actual expenses were \$1.8 million for June for a total of \$16.8 million for the year in which \$26.2 was budgeted.
  - The Tribal Member Health Benefit expenses for June were \$363 thousand for a total for the year of \$3.9 million.
  - The Social Services Department expenses were \$178 thousand for June and \$1.7 million for the year.
  - The Higher Education Department expenses for June were \$31 thousand and \$513 thousand for the year.
  - There have been 4,576 relief payments processed for a total of \$10,948,000. All ARP applications will be accepted as long as they are postmarked by July 31, 2021.

**IX. Subcommittees' Reports.**

- **Elders' Committee** – Grace Goodeagle.
  - The Quapaw Powwow was well attended, and on July 4th, there was the General Council Meeting.
  - There were cards available, but there needs to be some clarification regarding the cards. The thought was to get more

information from people as far as the Quapaw Ways because we do not want to neglect them.

- The cards are an ongoing thing that does not have a deadline to continue collecting information.
- The Elders' Committee was invited to visit the Quapaw Nation Court, so we had our Elders' meeting at the Quapaw Nation Court.
- Corissa, the Court Clerk, informed the Elders' Committee on what the court does and give the committee a tour.
- The Elders' Committee is not planning an Elders' trip due to COVID-19.

**X. New Business.**

- **Resolutions**

- **Resolution 071721-A:** RESTRUCTURING THE QUAPAW NATION COURT.
  - Motion to approve Resolution 071721-A by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Seconded by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving Resolution 071721-A.

- **Purchases**

- **Ford F-150 and Upfit** – Dept of Public Safety (DPS) – Paid for from CARES Act funds.
  - Motion to approve the Ford F-150 and Upfit by Zack Turley, Member.
  - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving the Ford F-150 and Upfit.
- **Vehicle Upfit** – Dept of Public Safety (DPS) – Paid for from Burlington Northern Grant.
  - Motion to approve the Vehicle Upfit by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Seconded by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving the Vehicle Upfit.
- **Hovertech** – Dept of Public Safety (DPS) – Patient moving device paid for from CARES Act funds.
  - Motion to approve the Hovertech by Zack Turley, Member.
  - Seconded by Lloyd Buffalo, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving the Hovertech.
- **Monitor/Defibrillator** – Dept of Public Safety (DPS) – Paid for from CARES Act funds.
  - Motion to approve the monitor/defibrillator by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Seconded by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.

- Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes approving the monitor/defibrillator.
- **Ruggedized Laptops** – Law Marshals – Fifteen laptops for a total of \$34,308.00 paid for from general funds.
  - Motion to approve fifteen Ruggedized laptops for \$34,308.00 by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - Seconded by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes approving fifteen Ruggedized laptops for \$34,308.00.

**XI. Donation Request:**

- **American Indian Center of Springfield, Missouri** – Requesting the Quapaw Nation to assist in helping with future endeavors of the American Indian Center of Springfield, Missouri.
  - Motion to table the American Indian Center request by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes to table the request of the American Indian Center until a future meeting is held.
- **Benefit Gourd/Stomp Dance (Blakelynn Ellick)** – Requesting \$750 to hold a benefit gourd/stomp dance for granddaughter Blakelynn Ellick.
  - Motion to donate \$750 by Callie Bowden, Vice-Chair.
  - Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes to donate \$750 towards the benefit gourd/stomp dance for Blakelynn Ellick.
- **Murrow Indian Children's Home** – Requesting a one-time donation of \$5,000.
  - Motion to table the \$5,000 one-time donation request pending further discussion of the program by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
  - Seconded by Lloyd Buffalo, Member.
  - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
  - Motion passes to table the \$5,000 request by Murrow Indian Children's Home pending further discussion of the program.

**XII. Open Forum:**

- **Joseph Byrd.**
  - Moment of silence to acknowledge our Tribal Citizens who are no longer with us, and this month it was Albert Clark and Bob Kropp.
  - The 2021 Dhegiha Language Conference will be hosted at Downstream Casino & Resort on July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There are currently 20 participants, and it is a free program for individuals that want to attend and learn.
  - The phone/electronic polls will start being included with the

- minutes at all BC Meetings.
- The Powwow Grounds renovation is still at the conceptual phase meaning nothing is set in stone.
  - The Powwow Committee was not at the first renovation meeting, but they will definitely be kept in the loop as the renovation project moves forward.
  - This renovation will be done in a respectful manner. The flooding is being taken into consideration by the engineers and architects.
- **Henry Ellick.**
    - There are some graves along the hillside, so that needs to be evaluated and checked out because that is the desecration of graves.
    - Those will not be touched, and it has been made perfectly clear the details around such graves.
  - **Kelly Flanagan (Zoom).**
    - The grade of the hill where the new arena would be looks steep, and the way kids like to roll down the hill, will that be kid-safe?
    - **Guy Barker.**
      - We are trying to shallow that pitch out but shortening the distance between the steps; that way, there is a better viewing area for everybody within the arena.
      - The canopies were provided because there was a request for shade, yet they could be put up or taken down depending on the weather.
  - **Sara (Zoom).**
    - What are the plans for the relief money that is not being collected by Quapaw Nation Tribal Members after the program ends on July 31, 2021?
    - **Guy Barker.**
      - We are in the early stages of figuring out what we are going to do for allocation.
      - We will have to figure out something safe that will keep us within compliance with ARP. This also comes back to the Powwow Grounds because there are certain earmarked categories within the ARP regarding how funds can be spent.
      - One category earmarked is cultural expense infrastructure and construction. There is no better physical manifestation of our cultural tradition than the event we have every summer.
      - A cultural village has been discussed like a museum structure Cahokia and representations of traditional dwellings and townships.
      - The broadband expansion has also been one of the ARP categories and increased software.

- **Mary McCarty (Zoom).**
  - Is there a way for Quapaw Nation Members on SSDI on a fixed income and cannot be employed but under the elder's age limits to having their medical limit raised to the elder's limit?
  - **Guy Barker.**
    - This enrollment period already has the plan built, but looking forward to the future, we might be able to take that suggestion into consideration.
    - Thank you for the suggestion, and we will be happy to look into that suggestion.
  - **Joseph Byrd.**
    - We recognize that there is a gap in the program services for those individuals, and we are considering trying and finding a way to help fill that gap.
- **Kelly (Zoom).**
  - Will, there be any further renderings to be done, and can they vote on the final drawings?
  - **Joseph Byrd.**
    - The colors will likely change based on what has been heard in the community.
    - This project is still in the works, and there is not even a dollar amount to what the project will cost.
    - There will be a town hall or maybe a separate meeting to have all of the feedback from our Nation's citizens.
- **Mike Shawnee.**
  - My suggestions regarding the renovation of the Powwow Grounds, which was mainly the bathhouse and the concession stand. Maybe the electric as well as the water and the awnings that we discussed putting over the bleachers.
  - There were some concerns about the renderings with the shrinkage of the arena size.
  - The removal of the speed bumps and needing more golf carts with headlights for next year.
  - The light over the low water bridge was installed, so the Powwow Committee was appreciative of that.
  - We had a good Powwow this year.
  - **Joseph Byrd.**
    - Thanked Mike and the rest of the Powwow Committee for a successful Powwow this year due to exceptional planning and preparation for the four days.
    - Thanked those individuals that volunteer and our employees who volunteer from the Tribe to make the event what it is.
    - The development for the renovation project will take many meetings moving forward to get it completed in time for the

150<sup>th</sup> Powwow.

- It is a great time to be Quapaw, and it will be exciting to work with everyone participating in this project.

**XIII. Closed Session: 10:58 A.M. – 11:38 A.M.**

- **Donna Mercer.**

- Motion to move into closed session by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
- Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes to move into closed session.
- *The Business Committee met with the Tribal Administrator regarding several human resource issues and some equipment needs around various administrative offices for the Tribe.*
- *There was an incentive plan for the Tribal employees that will pay a \$100 bonus per employee when they show proof of being fully vaccinated; then, their names will be entered into a raffle where ten names will be drawn, and each winner will receive \$1,000. Any employee with a vaccination card showing proof that they have been vaccinated will receive the \$100 and get put into the raffle for the \$1,000.*
  - **COVID Vaccination Incentive Plan.**
    - Motion to approve the COVID Vaccination Incentive Plan by Lloyd Buffalo, Member.
    - Seconded by Zack Turley, Member.
    - Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
    - Motion passes approving the COVID Vaccination Incentive Plan.

**XIV. Benediction: Jeremy Olsen, Member.**

**XV. Adjournment: 11:43 A.M.**

- Motion to adjourn by Guy Barker, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Seconded by Michelle Newton, Member.
- Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.
- Motion passes to adjourn.

/s/ Guy Barker

Guy Barker, 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 August 21, 2021, with a vote  
reflecting 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent.