



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

Ph: 918-458-5899 | TF: 800.353.2895 | F: 918.458.6101

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 6th, 2025

9:30 AM

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call/Approval of absent members to attend by phone if necessary
- III. Approval of Minutes from the February 24th Special Meeting
- IV. Administrator's Report
- V. Election Director's Report
- VI. Attorney's Report
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the February 24th Special Meeting-Hearing
- VIII. Current Items
 - a. Consideration and possible action regarding 2025 General Election
- IX. Executive Session
 - a. Confidential discussion with attorney on pending litigation, claims, investigations, or protests
 - b. Personnel
 - c. Exit Executive Session
- X. Action from Executive Session
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjourn

POSTED
2/21/25

By February 21, 2025, 5:00 PM
Cherokee Nation Election Office
17763 S. Muskogee Ave
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Chairperson: Rick Doherty

Posted by: _____



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

Ph: 918-458-5899 | TF: 800.353.2895 | F: 918.458.6101

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 6th, 2025, 9:30am

I. Call to order

- a. The Regular Meeting of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission was called to order by Chairperson Rick Doherty at 9:30am

II. Roll call/Approval of absent members to attend by phone if necessary

- a. Election Commission Secretary, Pamela Sellers, called roll and a quorum was established with the following Commissioners present:

Rick Doherty – Chairperson

Cheryl Cooper – Vice Chairperson

Pamela Sellers – Secretary/Treasurer

Elizabeth Ballew – Commissioner

Sherry Reynolds – Commissioner

Office Staff – Connie Parnell & Marcus Fears

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Chairperson Rick Doherty asked for approval and/or discussion regarding the minutes of the February 24th Special Meeting. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the February 24th Special Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.

IV. Administrator's Report

- a. Marcus reported on Candidate Filing and incoming Absentee Ballot Request forms. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Administrator's Report. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 1)**

V. Election Director's Report

- a. Connie gave an update on precinct officials, precinct official training and starting election setup. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

Ph: 918-458-5899 | TF: 800.353.2895 | F: 918.458.6101

seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Election Director's Report. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 2)**

VI. Attorney's Report

- a. N/A

VII. Old Business

- a. Chairperson Rick Doherty asked for approval and/or discussion regarding the minutes of the February 24th Special Meeting-Hearing. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Sherry Reynolds to approve the February 24th Special Meeting-Hearing Minutes. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.

VIII. Current Items

- a. Consideration and possible action regarding 2025 General Election
 - i. Certificate of Vote/Consolidated Returns Procedure - Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Sherry Reynolds to approve with the mentioned changes. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 3)**
 - ii. Press Release with Polling Locations – Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Press Release. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 4)**
 - iii. Press Release - Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Sherry Reynolds to approve the next two press releases for the Cherokee Phoenix. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 5)**
 - iv. Ballot Styles - Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the ballot style for the 2025 General Election cycle. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.

IX. Executive Session

- a. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to go enter Executive Session at 9:58am.

X. Action from Executive Session

- a. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to exit Executive Session at 10:14am.



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

Ph: 918-458-5899 | TF: 800.353.2895 | F: 918.458.6101

- i. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Sherry Reynolds to authorize the Election Commission Attorney to file a response to the Walkingstick appeal. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.
- ii. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper for Election Commission Attorney to request a formal Attorney General Opinion on the matter of a refund for Steven Carter. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.

XI. Announcements

- a. Connie announced that she secured a Claremore location for the 2027 election. Marcus reminded the Commission to watch for upcoming meetings to draw Candidate order on the ballots and draw for Watchers depending on scheduling of the appeal hearing.

XII. Adjourn

- a. Elizabeth Ballew made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to adjourn at 10:16am. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners.

Minutes submitted by Pamela Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer

Pamela Sellers



I. OFFICE:

February brought our Election Cycle into full swing with the filing of 33 Candidates. The staff are staying caught up on data entry of forms. An At Large Candidate has mailed ABRF's to At Large voters with a return envelope that sends it directly to our PO Box. This is one of the reasons you see the large number of applications processed. The other contributing factor is mailing the Voter ID cards to At Large voters this cycle. We believe the cards are a reminder of the upcoming election causing voters to reach out, inquire more about the election and request a ballot.

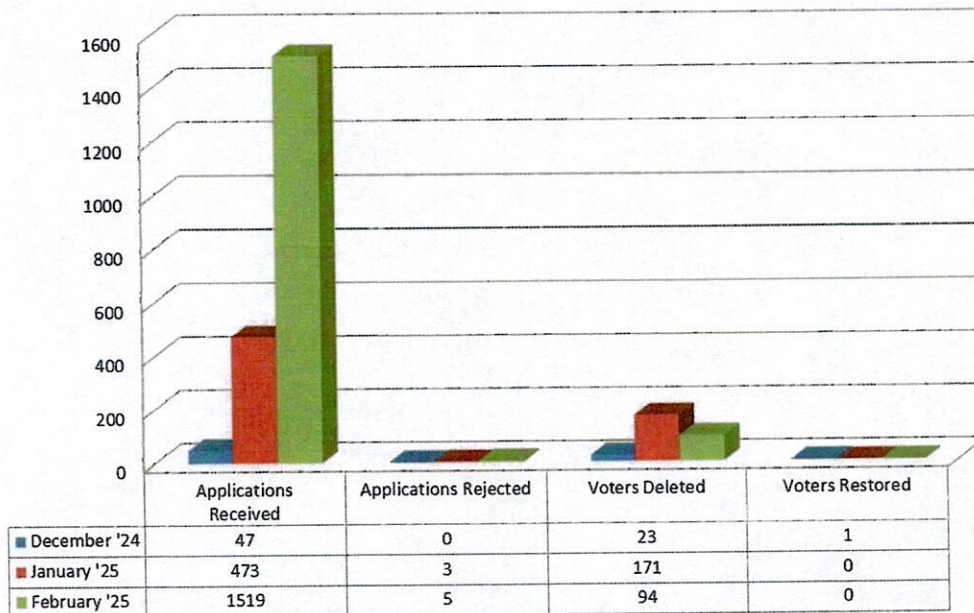
The next things we will be doing are drawings for Candidate order on the ballots and Watchers. This Special Meeting will be discussed after the appeal process is complete.

We have also created a new email specifically for VR & AB forms, election-forms@cherokee.org

II. VOTER PROCESSING: As of 03/03/2025

79,150 Total Registered Voters; 42,110 In-District; 37,040 At-Large
Total Applications: 1519; 220-Voter Registrations & 1299-Absentee Requests

Voter Registration Statistics



A. Statistical Report:

*Detailed Data by District and Precinct is attached

III. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- 14 total Requisitions for January
- FY2025 is on target

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 1	Hulbert D-1	1,694
	Okay D-1	335
	Tahlequah B D-1 Seq. Cafeteria	1,404
Total for District		3,433
Dist No. 2	Tahlequah A D-2 west Comm Bldg	1,545
	Tahlequah B D-2 Seq Cafeteria	1,138
Total for District		2,683
Dist No. 3	Keys D-3	1,036
	Marble City D-3	1,401
	Tahlequah B D-3 Seq Cafeteria	851
Total for District		3,288
Dist No. 4	Ft. Gibson D-4	1,379
	Vian D-4	763
	Warner D-4	858
Total for District		3,000
Dist No. 5	Owasso D-5	524
	Tulsa D-5	1,039
Total for District		1,563
Dist No. 6	Muldrow D-6	1,047
	Roland D-6	373
	Sallisaw D-6	1,481
Total for District		2,901
Dist No. 7	Belfonte D-7	310
	Dahlongah D-7	635
	Stilwell D-7	3,127
Total for District		4,072
Dist No. 8	Briggs D-8	1,469
	Kansas D-8	689
	Westville D-8	1,101
Total for District		3,259
Dist No. 9	Adair D-9	983
	Jay D-9	618
	Kenwood D-9	1,567
Total for District		3,168

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 10	Afton D-10	575
	Grove D-10	688
	Jay D-10	904
	West Siloam Springs D-10	254
Total for District		2,421
Dist No. 11	Nowata D-11	924
	S. Coffeyville D-11	614
	Vinita D-11	1,273
	Welch D-11	164
Total for District		2,975
Dist No. 12	Bartlesville D-12	1,651
	Collinsville D12	359
Total for District		2,010
Dist No. 13	Catoosa D-13	461
	Claremore D-13	88
	Owasso D-13	2,131
Total for District		2,680
Dist No. 14	Chelsea D-14	565
	Claremore D-14	1,730
Total for District		2,295
Dist No. 15	Justus Tiawah D-15	469
	Locust Grove D-15	772
	Pryor D-15	1,121
Total for District		2,362
At Large	At Large	37,040
Total for District		37,040
Grand Total		79,150



Cherokee Nation Election Commission

P.O. Box 1188, Tahlequah, OK 74465-1188
Phone: 918-458-5899 Fax: 918-458-6101

February - 2025 Directors Report

Working on the precinct officials supplies for the 2025 elections.

Checked on the contracts and they will all be in very soon. I have talked to the 3 that are not back, and all is good.

Precinct officials are all in for Rick, Cheryl, Sherry, Pam and Elizabeth has a few blanks that need to be filled before training starts on the 5th of April, but she still has time to get them filled. Remember we need your absentee stuffer workers. In a council only election we usually have at least 6000 requests to stuff. So, we are still asking for 5 people from each commissioner to stuff absentees. So be thinking on who you want to bring in to work.

Working on the precinct official training documents.

All the forms and documents for the elections are approved and the copies that Midwest does are in process of being completed.

Still working with CSA on the street segments that needed to be added. 7 out of 14 counties have been done. It's going well.

Working with Maxim on updates and our new build to promote easy usage and easier to navigate. We have updated requested reports to prevent the sending out of personal information IE: citizenship number, DOB, and registration date. This is to protect the voters.

Started the election setup and have the ballot proofs for you. Not with names till we are past the appeal of a contest period and a decision from the supreme court if one is filed.

Brought the three data entry girls to review what they are going to be doing very soon. Due to the high volume of at-large absentee requests we may bring them in



Cherokee Nation Election Commission

P.O. Box 1188, Tahlequah, OK 74465-1188

Phone: 918-458-5899 Fax: 918-458-6101

sooner than later. They will be doing data entry, assemble precinct official training packets and precinct supplies.

I will be writing the script for training the precinct officials will be voters of various problems this way the precinct official that is a voter will also be the same precinct official to see just how to handle each problem. I will be the inspector at the trainings with the other precinct officials. I think roll playing will be better with us having some new and experienced officials.

One thing we are working on is an email for the voters to submit their forms to so that they don't go to everyone. The other email will still come to me and Marcus.

This is an e-mail that will be printed on the voter registration forms and on the absentee ballot request form. This is a work in progress, almost ready to move forward but still testing currently.

Precinct Certificate of Vote/ Consolidated Returns Procedure for 2025 General Election

1. At all precincts, Early Walk-in Absentee and Mail Absentee ballots will be counted and tabulated through a Verity Scanner and a high-speed counter.
2. The number of total printouts at the precinct is as follows:
Certificate of Vote form provided by CNEC and filled in with the information of the election results by the precinct officials (4 Copy form).
White copy: returned to the CNEC office with election reports in the Election Returns Envelope.
Goldenrod copy: placed in the Gray Bag for voted ballots.
Pink copy: is posted on the precinct door at the end of the day.
Canary copy: is returned to the CNEC office with reports to post on the CNEC window for the public to view. Posted on the CNEC website.
3. Tally reports from the Verity Scanner: Total of five copies
 - a. First total report along with the Zero printout (When the precinct was opened) attached and signed by the precinct officials is placed in the Election Returns Envelope with the reports.
 - b. Second Total report from the Verity Scanner is placed on the precinct door at the end of the day.
 - c. The third copy from the Verity Scanner will be placed in the Gray Bag for voted ballots.
 - d. The fourth copy from the Verity Scanner total tape will be placed in the Elections Return Envelope. For verification of Certificate of vote for the web posting.
 - e. The fifth copy is placed in the Election Return Envelope for the Tabulation Watchers
4. Consolidated Returns of election results and posting of such reports: 3 copies of each report will be generated, and 1 copy will be placed in the minutes, one copy for the public to view and one copy to be placed in the vault with the election ballots, reports, and other election related material that is permanent record.
 - a. Precinct report information: UNOFFICIAL till certified
Precinct name and district(s)
Mail absentee totals/percentages.
Early absentee totals/percentages
Election Day totals/percentages
Numbers of voters that voted and the percentages.
 - b. Canvass Report Unofficial and Official contains:
Totals for the General Election/General run-off if needed and the percentage of the turnout of voters.
 - c. Cumulative Report Unofficial before certified, Official Results to certify:
Totals, and percentages for General Election/ General Run-off if necessary, and voters. This is the report that the Commission will certify the results in a meeting.

Approval Date: 3-6-25

Commission Chairperson: 

FOR RELEASE April 2025

Precincts will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 7, 2025 for the Cherokee Nation General Election. Cherokee Nation Election Commission offered voters some tips on how to make their vote count; a valid marking, a filled-in box, as shown on posters at the precinct and inside the voting booths. If a voter makes mistakes marking their ballot, the voter should not try to correct those errors. Instead, the voter should follow the spoiled ballot procedure. The precinct official will issue a new ballot to the voter.

Voters are urged to take their voter identification cards with them to the polls. Your voter identification card can help Precinct Officials find your name in the Precinct Signature Book, and it may also help them resolve the problem if you are not listed in the Precinct Signature Book.

Voters whose names are not found in the Precinct Signature Book or a voter who disagrees with the information shown in the Signature Book may cast a Challenged ballot. A Challenged Ballot is sealed in a special envelope and counted after the Challenged Ballots are returned to the CNEC office if the voter's information can be verified by the Cherokee Nation Election Commission.

List of the precincts and their location for the June
7th, 2025, General Election.

District 2

Tahlequah 2 A West Community Building

1475 W. Douglas Ave Tahlequah Ok 74464

Tahlequah 2 B Sequoyah High School Cafeteria

17091 S Muskogee Ave Tahlequah, OK 74464

District 4

Fort Gibson 4 Community Gospel Center

105 N 4 Mile Rd Fort Gibson, OK 74434

Warner Public School 4 (Event Center)

1012 5th Ave Warner, Ok 74469

Vian Public School 4 (BJ Traw Gym)

203 W Hunter Vian, Ok 74962

District 5 NEW DISTRICT

Tulsa 5 Rudisill Regional Library

1520 N Hartford Ave Tulsa OK 74106

Owasso 5 Faith Lutheran Church

9222 N Garnett Rd Owasso, Ok 74055

District 7

Stilwell 7 Maryetta Eagleton Activity Bldg.

470819 E 810 Rd Stilwell, Ok 74960

Belfonte 7 Sallie Byrd Sevenstar

474894 State Hwy 101 Muldrow, OK 74948

Dahlongeah School 7

468739 E 878 Rd Stilwell, OK 74464

District 9

Jay 9 Jay First Assembly of God Church

908 N Main St Jay, Ok 74346

Kenwood 9 Woody Hair Community Bldg.

1210 CR 487 Salina, OK 74365

Adair School 9 Cafeteria

202 Gen Harley Hughes Ave Adair, Ok 74330

District 10

Jay 10 Jay First Assembly of God Church

908 N Main St Jay, Ok 74346

Afton 10 Afton Trinity Baptist Church

108 S Elm ST Afton, Ok 74331

Grove 10 Grove United Methodist Church

1005 Leisure Rd Grove, Ok 74344

West Siloam D-10 Cedar Park Event Center

4880 Cedar Dr Colcord, OK 74338

District 11

Vinita 11 Vinita Health Clinic

27371 S 4410 Rd Vinita, Ok 74301

Welch 11 Welch Civic Auditorium

610 S Curtis St Welch, Ok 74369

So. Coffeyville 11 Native American Fellowship Inc.

215 Oklahoma St So Coffeyville, OK 74072

Nowata 11 NO WE TA CN Community Center

1020 Lenape Dr. Nowata, Ok 74048

District 15

Locust Grove 15 Cherokee Elder Rainbow House

101 Market Pl Locust Grove, Ok 74352

Pryor 15 Pryor Graham Community Bldg.

6 N Adair Pryor, Ok 74361

Justus Tiawah School 15 N Campus Gym

14902 E School Rd Claremore, Ok 74019

NEWS RELEASE

April 2024 (last half of the Month)

Early Voting for the General Election Begins

If you missed the deadline to request an Absentee Ballot for the General Election and would like to vote an Absentee Ballot, Early Voting dates are available.

Early Voting for the General Election is available at the Cherokee Nation Election Commission Office located at 17763 S Muskogee Ave Tahlequah Oklahoma. **Early Voting will be held on Saturday May 31, 2025, Tuesday June 3, Wednesday June 4, and Thursday June 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Voters that requested an Absentee Ballot can hand deliver their Absentee Ballot Return Packet the drop box available May 31, June 3, 4, 5, 6 and June 7 Election Day at the Cherokee Nation Election Commission office 17763 S Muskogee Ave Tahlequah Oklahoma. The Absentee Ballot Return Packet must be here in the Election Commission office on June 7 by 7:00 p.m. for them to be considered for this General Election.

2nd release 2025 NOW

The Cherokee Nation Election Commission will be conducting the 2025 General Election of the Cherokee Nation on Saturday June 7, 2025.

Request forms for voter registration and Absentee Ballots are available on our website <https://election.cherokee.org> or by e-mail or by calling the office asking for the forms to be mailed to you address. The contact information is listed below.

The closing date of Voter Registration Applications will be March 28, 2025. Voter Registration Applications will be available from the Election Commission Office and online at <https://election.cherokee.org>. Voters will need to submit a new Voter Registration if they have changed their address, name or any other information. Persons who are Citizens of the Cherokee Nation and at least 18 years of age prior to or on the Election Day may apply to become a registered voter. Provided that Tribal Citizens that are seventeen (17) years old and can show that their birthdate is prior to the date of the election shall be allowed to register to vote.

The exception is "New applicants under the age of 25 who reside outside the boundaries may select to register at-large or in a district of their choice. This this selection must be made at the time of the applicants signing of their first Voter Registration Form." It is very important to check your voter registration information that the Election Commission has on file to establish your district assignment for voting purposes.

The Cherokee Nation Election Commission office hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. The office is located 17763 S. Muskogee Ave, Tahlequah, OK 74464. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1188, Tahlequah, OK 74465. You can reach us by phone at 918.458.5899 or toll free at 800.353.2895, by fax at 918.458.6101, or e-mail at: election-commission@cherokee.org.

CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

SPECIAL MEETING

ELECTION COMMISSION PRESIDED BY: Rick Doherty

MEETING DATE: 3/6/25 at 9:30 AM/PM at the CNEC Office

Commission Member: Present/Absent

Rick Doherty Present Absent

Pamela Sellers Present Absent

Elizabeth Ballew Present Absent

Cheryl Cooper Present Absent

Sherry Reynolds Present Absent

Quorum Established: YES NO

CNEC Attorney: Harvey Chaffin

Staff Present: Marcus Fears, Connie Parnell, Kendal Bishop, Charlene Keys,
 Allison George

Visitors:



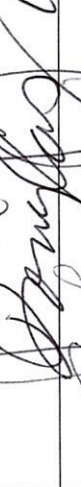
Chad Hunter _____

John Young _____

Robin Mayes _____

Doug Wu _____

Cherokee Nation Election Commission
Regular Meeting Sign-in Sheet
Thursday, March 6, 2025 9:30 AM

Print Name	Signature
Chad Hester	
John Young	
Douglas We	
Robin Meyer	