



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 5th, 2026

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-None
- VIII. Current Items
 - a. Consideration and possible action on selecting officers of the Election Commission.
 - b. Consideration and possible action on Committees of the Election Commission.
 - c. Consideration and possible action on bank access Resolution.
 - d. Discussion and possible action on additional election equipment.
- IX. Executive Session
 - a. Confidential discussion with attorney on pending litigation, claims, investigations, or protests
 - b. Personnel
 1. Interviews for Clerk I position
 2. Consideration and possible action on filling Clerk I position
 - c. Exit Executive Session
- X. Action from Executive Session
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjourn

POSTED
2/20/26 10:30am

By February 20, 2026, 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

Tuesday, March 5, 2026

9:30 AM

I. Call to order

The Regular Meeting of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission was called to order by Chairperson Rick Doherty at 9:31am.

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

The following Commissioners present:

- Rick Doherty – Chairman**
- Cheryl Cooper – Vice Chairperson**
- Pamela Sellers – Secretary/Treasurer**
- Sherry Reynolds – Commissioner**
- Debra Proctor – Commissioner**

- Election Commission Attorney Harvey Chaffin**

Office Staff –

- Connie Parnell**
- Marcus Fears**

III. Approval of Minutes

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

IV. Administrator's Report

The Administrator reported on voter statistics, attending the Election Code revision work group and discussed meeting with the Policies Committee over various topics. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Administrator's Report. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

(Attachment 1)



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

V. Election Director's Report

The Election Director reported on meeting with the Election Code revision work group, Policies meeting, working on unassigned voters and a new Chronicle build. Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Election Director's Report.

The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (Attachment 2)

VI. Attorney's Report-**Nothing to report. Reminded Administrator and Election Director to bring up during Council Work Group that any new changes to Election Law will go to the BIA.**

VII. Old Business-**None**

VIII. Current Items

a. Consideration and possible action on selecting officers of the Election Commission.

(i) Pam Sellers made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper for Rick Doherty to serve as Chairperson of the Election Commission. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

(ii) Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper for Pamela Sellers to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Election Commission. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

(iii) Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Debra Proctor for Cheryl Cooper to serve as Vice Chairperson/Parliamentarian of the Election Commission. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

b. Consideration and possible action on Committees of the Election Commission.

(i) After brief discussion, Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the CNEC Committees as discussed. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (Attachment 3)

c. Consideration and possible action on bank access Resolution.

(i) The Administrator read the Certificate of Resolution adding Debra Proctor and removing Elizabeth Ballew and Kendal Bishop from accessing the safety deposit box at First State



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

Bank. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Resolution. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (Attachment 4)

- d. Consideration and possible action on additional election equipment.
- (i) Please see "Executive Session", first bullet point.
 - (ii) The Election Director explained the importance of meeting industry standards for the number of machines to cover additional precincts. Discussion was to move forward with the already budgeted purchase of 6 more voting machines. (see second bullet point under "Executive Session")

IX. Executive Session

- Due to the arrival of the first interview, Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to enter Executive Session at 10:09am to begin conducting interviews for the Clerk I position and return to Current Items, letter, "d." at the conclusion of the interviews. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (see first bullet point under "Exit Executive Session")
 - Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to enter back into Executive Session at 12:21pm. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (see second bullet point under "Exit Executive Session")
- a. Confidential discussion with attorney on pending litigation, claims, investigations, or protests
- b. Personnel

-
1. Discussion, review, and possible action regarding resumes for the Clerk I position.
- c. Exit Executive Session
- After the conclusion of the interviews, Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to exit Executive Session at 11:45am. The motion was approved by all



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

Commissioners. Commissioners continued with Current Items, letter, "d."

- **Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to exit Executive Session at 1:00pm.**

X. Action from Executive Session

Interviews were conducted for the Clerk I position and after discussion, Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to select Paige Crow to be the Clerk I as a lateral transfer from her current position at CNOHC. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

XI. Announcements-None

XII. Adjourn

Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to adjourn at 1:08pm. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

Minutes submitted by Pamela Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer

Pamela Sellers



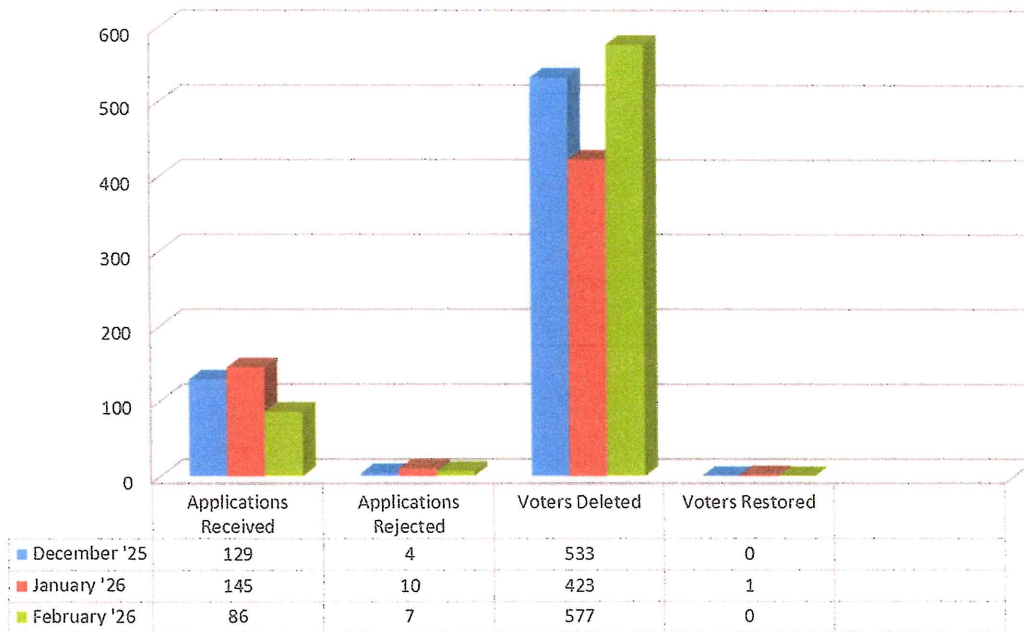
I. OFFICE:

In February we saw Policies continuing to meet and the onboarding of new Commissioner Deb Proctor. Connie and I also went over to meet with the Election Code Council Work Group. Either of us would be happy to go over our notes on the work sessions. Overall, we've had a very positive experience participating in these discussions and feel optimistic about the way their suggested revisions are going.

II. VOTER PROCESSING: As of 03/02/2026

77,963 Total Registered Voters; **42,186** In-District; **35,777** At-Large

Voter Registration Statistics



A. Statistical Report:

*Detailed Data by District and Precinct is attached

III. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- 5 total Requisitions for February.
- FY2026 is on target.

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 1	Hulbert D-1	1,664
	Okay D-1	343
	Tahlequah B D-1	1,379
Total for District		3,386
Dist No. 2	Tahlequah A D-2	1,610
	Tahlequah B D-2	1,099
Total for District		2,709
Dist No. 3	Keys D-3	1,054
	Marble City D-3	1,359
	Tahlequah B D-3	850
Total for District		3,263
Dist No. 4	Ft. Gibson D-4	1,364
	Vian D-4	824
	Warner D-4	920
Total for District		3,108
Dist No. 5	Owasso D-5	581
	Tulsa D-5	1,055
Total for District		1,636
Dist No. 6	Muldrow D-6	1,010
	Roland D-6	363
	Sallisaw D-6	1,442
Total for District		2,815
Dist No. 7	Belfonte D-7	305
	Dahlongah D-7	629
	Stilwell D-7	3,108
Total for District		4,042
Dist No. 8	Briggs D-8	1,420
	Kansas D-8	688
	Westville D-8	1,061
Total for District		3,169
Dist No. 9	Adair D-9	1,063
	Jay D-9	636
	Kenwood D-9	1,574
Total for District		3,273

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 10	Afton D-10	573
	Grove D-10	707
	Jay D-10	945
	West Siloam Springs D-10	265
Total for District		2,490
Dist No. 11	Nowata D-11	936
	S. Coffeyville D-11	619
	Vinita D-11	1,437
	Welch D-11	175
Total for District		3,167
Dist No. 12	Bartlesville D-12	1,584
	Collinsville D12	355
Total for District		1,939
Dist No. 13	Catoosa D-13	457
	Claremore D-13	125
	Owasso D-13	2,010
Total for District		2,592
Dist No. 14	Chelsea D-14	539
	Claremore D-14	1,679
Total for District		2,218
Dist No. 15	Justus Tiawah D-15	462
	Locust Grove D-15	778
	Pryor D-15	1,139
Total for District		2,379
At Large	At Large	35,777
Total for District		35,777
Grand Total		77,963



Cherokee Nation Election Commission

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

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

February 2026 Directors Report

Short month packed with updates:

Policies presented the first updates to the election updates.

Policies Committee are meeting often to discuss upgrades to consider submitting them to the commission for approval.

Marcus and I have been meeting with the Council work group on the

Election Act. We have met twice and will meet again to go over the document before it goes into Rules. They are creating another work group on three items of consideration: 1. Absentee drop box at the precincts to allow the at large voters to drop their absentee ballots. 2. Offer Early voting at the precincts in the reservation for one day or multiple days. 3. Accept electronic signatures for absentee ballot request forms.

At the end of the month working on assigning the voters that are currently unassigned. There are several, the system did most of the work through the evaluation process. The rest must be done manually. Due to the address not being entered correctly. Almost done will finish at the beginning of March.

We have a new build to have entered in the server. The items in this new build are:

Deceased voter consideration that is from the state health department, funeral homes, nursing homes. We had a meeting with Registrar Derick Vann, we showed him the information, and he thought it was a great upgrade, looking forward to receiving the report.

New rejection of absentee voters when received late for the general election they will not have to apply again it will mark them to receive a runoff ballot if there is one for their district.

CNEC Committees

Budget/Contracts:

Debra Proctor
Rick Doherty
Marcus Fears
Connie Parnell

Voter Registration & Education:

Sherry Reynolds
Cheryl Cooper
Marcus Fears
Alli George
Connie Parnell

Rules/Policies:

Rick Doherty
Pamela Sellers
Marcus Fears
Connie Parnell

Equipment:

Cheryl Cooper
Sherry Reynolds
Marcus Fears
Charlene Keys
Connie Parnell

CNEC Committees

Policies:

The Policies Committee is responsible for reviewing and evaluating the Election Commission's governing documents, including but not limited to Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures, Resolutions, and official forms. The committee shall assess the need for new provisions or modifications to existing standards to ensure compliance to the Election Law, clarity, and operational efficiency. Any recommended changes will be formally presented to the full Commission during a scheduled meeting for consideration and possible action.

Budget/Contracts:

The Budget Committee is responsible for conducting a thorough review of all accounts the Election Commission uses and developing the annual budget. The committee ensures that financial resources are planned and managed responsibly for each fiscal year. Because the Election Commission's financial needs vary depending on whether we are preparing for an election year or an off year, the committee must carefully analyze information to anticipate and meet our operational requirements. All budgets and any recommended changes will be formally presented to the full Commission during a scheduled meeting for consideration and possible action.

Voter Registration & Education:

The Voter Registration Committee's primary function is the Voter Registration Form. It will review the layout of the form, the wording, adding any additional polling locations to the form and updating the map on the back of the form. In the event the Election Commission is to attend any voter outreach, this committee may be involved in planning that.

Equipment:

The Equipment Committee is responsible for evaluating the Election Commission's equipment needs and ensuring all assets are properly managed and documented for insurance purposes. We have a diverse inventory that includes aging and soon-to-be-obsolete equipment, the committee will conduct regular assessments to identify necessary replacements, upgrades, and additions to not only our office equipment but our election equipment as well.

Cherokee Nation Election Commission

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

Email: election-commission@cherokee.org

Website: www.cherokee.org/elections.aspx



Phone: 918-458-5899

Toll Free: 1-800-353-2895

Fax: 918-458-6101

Certificate of Resolution

The undersigned being all The Commission of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission hereby certify the following is a resolution of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission adopted at a duly called meeting of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission held on this 5th day of March, 2026.

Resolved that Elizabeth Ballew be removed from the list of current Commissioners allowed to access the Cherokee Nation Election Commission safety deposit box, located at First State Bank, Tahlequah, OK.

Resolved that Kendal Bishop be removed from the list of current Election Commission Staff allowed to access the Cherokee Nation Election Commission safety deposit box, located at First State Bank, Tahlequah, OK.

Resolved that Debra Proctor, an Election Commissioner, be added to the list of current Commissioners allowed to access the Cherokee Nation Election Commission safety deposit box, located at First State Bank, Tahlequah, OK.

Dated the 5th March, 2026.

Cherokee Nation Election Commissioners

Rick Doherty-Chairperson

Cheryl Cooper -Vice Chair

Pamela Sellers -Secretary/Treasurer

Sherry Reynolds-Commissioner

Debra Proctor-Commissioner

CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION ROLL CALL

REGULAR MEETING SPECIAL MEETING

ELECTION COMMISSION PRESIDED BY: Rick Doherty

MEETING DATE: 3/5/26 at 9:31 AM/PM at the CNEC Office

Commission Member: Present/Absent

- Rick Doherty Present/Absent
- Cheryl Cooper Present/Absent
- Pamela Sellers Present/Absent
- Sherry Reynolds Present/Absent
- Debra Proctor Present/Absent

Quorum Established: YES / NO

CNEC Attorney: Harvey Chaffin

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

Visitors:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____