

**CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING
Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office
208 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
September 13, 2016 – 9:00 AM**

PRESENT:

Commissioner: Dr. Marty Matlock, Chairman
Commissioner: Ed Fite
Commissioner: Jack Spears
Commissioner: J. Blake Fletcher

APPROVED

OCT 19 2016

Cherokee Nation
Environmental Protection Commission

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Tom Elkins, CNEP
Nancy John, CNEP
Salli McLemore, CNEP
Joe Washum, CNB
Laura Adair, CNEP
Butch Garner, NR
Chad Harsha, AG Office
Jackie Woodard, CNEP
Sara Hill, SONR

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Matlock at 9:03 AM.
2. Commissioner Matlock acknowledged and placed into record the Record of Public Notice and Agenda, distributed and posted as appropriate.
3. Commissioner Spears made a Motion to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2016 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, roll call vote, minutes approved.
4. Public Comments – Commissioner Matlock spoke on the issues related to the Dakota Access Pipe Line in North Dakota.
5. Secretary of Natural Resources – Sara Hill
 - A. Water Plan Update – No update provided.
 - B. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill

-Report

Chad Harsha reported that the Landfill is now a department under the administration of the Secretary of Natural Resources. Chairman Matlock requested that an agenda item for the October meeting should include a discussion from the SONR on the organizational structure of the landfill and the process for addressing potential regulatory action items in the future. Chairman Matlock requested a flow chart be provided that identifies staff and responsibilities for the landfill as well as reporting authority.

-Compliance Issues

Jackie Woodward presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Commissioners regarding the compliance issues at the landfill.

C. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments –

- No comments.

6. Reports

A. EPC & Environmental Programs & NEPA projects for Realty, IHS, NAHASDA Roads-Tom Elkins

- Several CNEP employees attended The Tribal Lands Environmental Forum in Connecticut. The conference covered many environmental topics. Tom Elkins attended the self-governance session.
- Mr. Elkins attended the OKRAT on September 1st. Cherokee Nation is part of the wildlife response team. Ferella March from ODEQ has been working with CNEP regarding fish kills.
- CNEP employees volunteered at the Jason Christie Children’s Fishing Day during the Cherokee National Holiday. 600 fishing poles were given away and each child received a tackle box and t-shirt to go with their fishing pole. The event had a really good turnout.
- The CNEP Lab will be replaced soon. A new lab is scheduled to be up and ready by October 31, 2016.
- CNEP’s Ryan Callison is leaving the program. His last day will be September 16, 2016.
- CNEP staff development day will be held in Gore, OK on September 15, 2016.

B. Administration Support- Pat Gwin was not in attendance

- Nothing to report

C. Cherokee Nation Businesses –Joe Washum

- Grove Casino is still on the same timeline. The bridge work for the water and sewer line should start in mid-October.
- Will Rogers Downs has completed the sewer line that runs from the lift station to the road and has started on part of a project that runs from Will Rogers Downs to the City of Claremore. It should be completed in February.

D. Emergency Management – Jeremie Fisher

- Representative was not in attendance to report

E. Natural Resources- Butch Garner attended for G. V. Gulager

- Natural Resources have baled over 1200 bales of hay. The buffalo are pretty much out of grass and have been enjoying some of the hay.
- NR has been assisting different community organizations and individual tribal members by helping them haul gravel and smooth driveways.
- The community garden is winding down. The community garden in Delaware County has assisted many families.
- The Buffalo are doing great. NR is just trying to keep them fed with hay.

7. Environmental Statute Review – Tom Elkins –

- Secretary Hill has spoken with Indian Environmental Law and they have provided a rough draft of the rewrite of the Environmental Codes. A copy of it will be available in the near future.

8. CNE Outpost Convenience Store Remediation- Joe Washum

- Mr. Washum gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the start to finish construction process of the Cherokee Nation Outpost Convenience store.

9. New Business

- No new business

12. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events

- Next EPC will be on October 10, 2016

13. Meeting adjourned