

**CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING**
Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office
208 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
February 6, 2017 – 1:00 PM

APPROVED

MAR 13 2017

Cherokee Nation
Environmental Protection Commission

PRESENT:

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

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Tom Elkins, CNEP
Salli McLemore, CNEP
Joe Washum, CNB
Laura Adair, CNEP
Jackie Woodward, CNEP
Sheila Sevenstar-Horn, CNEP
Shaun West, CNEP
Butch Garner, CNNR
Nancy John, CNEP
Pat Gwin, CN Admin Support

1. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Matlock at 1:00 PM.
2. Commissioner Matlock acknowledged the Record of Public Notice that was posted on January 25, 2017.
3. Commissioner Fite made a Motion to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2017 meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Spears. A roll call vote was conducted and the minutes were approved.
4. Public Comments – Commissioner Fletcher made a comment about the trash being dumped on the Arkansas River in Tulsa, OK. He stated that the Oklahoma Wildlife Commission is the agency working on clean-up.
5. Secretary of Natural Resources – Sara Hill was not in attendance
 - A. Water Plan Update – Nothing to report
 - B. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill
 - Report
 - Nothing to report
 - Compliance Issues
 - Nothing to report
 - Discussion and Opportunity for Comments –
 - No comments.

6. Reports

A. Environmental Programs -Tom Elkins

- Commissioner Fite had a question about the ESA on the 183 acre site in Craig County. He wanted to know if the land will be used for a grazing lease. Sheila Sevenstar-Horn from CNEP was available to answer the question. The CNEP is performing the ESA for the Fee to Trust acquisition application package for Cherokee Nation Real Estate Services. Mr. Elkins also told Commissioner Fite he is not sure what Cherokee Nation is going to do with the land. The Cherokee Nation regularly puts land in to Trust without knowing its final usage.
- Commissioner Fite asked Mr. Elkins if he wants the Environmental Protection Commission to attend the Tribal Summit in Dallas on April 5th and 6th. Mr. Elkins said this meeting is similar to the ITEC conference which is put on by CNEP/ITEC every summer. The EPA has certain topics they want discussed with the Tribes, so they help organize and make suggestions on what goes into the conference. The ITEC meeting and Summit are organized by Cherokee Nation and ITEC for the Tribes.

B. Administration Support- Pat Gwin

- Mr. Gwin provided a list of native plants in his report. Administrative Support has started taking orders on the CN website for seeds. There is a limited number of seeds and there is a possibility that some will actually run out.
- Cherokee Nation has received funding for a solar powered parking lot canopy and has incorporated charging stations into it. Seven (7) potential bidders showed up at a mandatory pre-bid meeting to solicit bids for the project.

C. Cherokee Nation Entertainment –Joe Washum

- The travel plaza in Roland has been put into trust. Mr. Washum is working with David Hayes (CNEP) on a smooth UST registration transition from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to EPA.
- A question came up on whether or not Outpost 1 needed monitoring wells for UST's. The EPA's answer was confusing, so Mr. Washum and Mr. Elkins met and decided to go ahead and put in the monitoring wells and complete the risk assessment.
- The sewer lines have been completed at Will Rogers Downs. The city of Claremore decided the pumps are undersized and needed to be upgraded. In order to alter the engineering on the project, a permit is required from ODEQ. Also, there was a significant rain at the site and one of the sewer lines had a large break in it because it sits at a low point. The lagoons also filled up to the rim again. They had to be pumped down into the infield so staff is hoping that the alterations will be finished by the end of February to prevent a repeat of this event. The closeout date for the lagoons is December 1, 2017.

D. Emergency Management – Jeremie Fisher

- Representative was not in attendance to report

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

- Natural Resources is continuing to help elders with wood and recently built a wheelchair ramp in Adair County. They also built a ¼ mile fence around the bow range.

7. Environmental Statute Review – Tom Elkins

A. Status Report –

- Mr. Elkins met with Secretary Hill and Julie Justice to set an outline of what they want to include on the Environmental Statue Review. They should finish or be close to finishing the review before the new fiscal year.

B. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments –

- No comments

8. New Business

- Commissioner Matlock has been confirmed as a Science Advisor for US EPA

9. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events

- Next EPC meeting will be on Monday March 13, 2017 @ 1:00 p.m.
- The Environmental Festival will be held on April 21, 2017 at Talking Leaves Job Corps
- The EPA Tribal Summit will be in Dallas on April 5th and 6th

10. Meeting adjourned