

**CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING**
Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office
208 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
April 18, 2018 – 10:00 AM

APPROVED

MAY 16 2018

Cherokee Nation
Environmental Protection Commission

PRESENT:

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

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Sara Hill, SONR
Joe Washum, CNB
Nancy John, CNEP
Tom Elkins, Office of SONR
Wayne Isaacs, CNEP
Laura Adair, CNEP
Bob Short, CNEP
Roger Cain, River Cane Initiative
Pat Gwin, Office of SONR
Butch Garner, Natural Resources

1. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Matlock at 10:05 AM.
2. Commissioner Matlock acknowledged the Record of Public Notice that was posted on May 4, 2018.
3. Commissioner Carson made a Motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2018 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Spears. A roll call vote was conducted and the minutes were approved.
4. Public Comments – None
5. Secretary of Natural Resources – Secretary Hill reporting.
 - A. Water Plan Update – No additional information to report.
 - B. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill Report
 - “Trash Off Day” held at the Landfill with 230 loads of material taken in.
 - Commissioner Fletcher provided a brief history of the county wide effort for “Trash Off Day”.
 - C. Environmental Statute Review Update – No additional information to report
 - D. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments –
 - Overview of TMDL Modeling Efforts and recent release of models by EPA
 - Summary of tribal citizens’ complaints related to Chicken House Construction
 - Secretary requested an Executive Session on the next month’s EPC agenda for Sequoyah Fuels

6. Reports

A. EPC Administrator -Tom Elkins

- Contract for landfill cell construction may be finalized in a few weeks and completion estimated by the end of the calendar year.
- CN will host the next TMDL meeting on April 24-25th at the Cherokee Hotel and Casino located in West Siloam.
- Completed an ANA grant application for funds to complete a master plan of the landfill.

B. Environmental Programs- Wayne Isaacs

- Planning continues and on track for the CN Environmental Festival
- EPA R6 Tribal Summit was held and the new Regional Administrator stated that she would like to visit all tribes in the region.

C. Administration Support – Pat Gwin

- Seeds are no longer available from the seed bank.

D. Cherokee Nation Entertainment_–Joe Washum

- The turn lane expansion in front of the Cherokee Springs Plaza will be completed on April 27th.
- Currently working on lagoon closure at Will Rogers Down.
- Cherokee Springs project is estimated to be completed by February, 2019.

E. Emergency Management_– Jeremie Fisher not in attendance

F. Natural Resources_– Butch Garner

- Tilled 23 gardens and estimated 100 gardens will be tilled for the season

7. “River Cane Initiative at Rock Fence” – Roger Cain

- A. Presentation – Mr. Cain described partnerships with schools ranging from elementary to high school students to study river cane breaks. Activities include field work and data collection of micro systems.
- B. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments – Commissioners expressed appreciation and commended Mr. Cain for the work that he is doing with the River Cane Initiative.

8. Request for Scientific Collector’s Permit – Daniel Faddis

- A. Presentation – Mr. Faddis provided an overview of the request for a Scientific Collector's Permit to continue the alligator snapping turtle research at the Sequoyah Wildlife Refuge and Baron Fork Creek.
- B. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments – General discussion about project
- C. EPC Commissioners unanimously approved the permit application.

9. New Business – None

10. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events.

- Next EPC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 16th @ 9:00 AM
- The June meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 12th @ 9:00 AM

11. Meeting Adjourned