



CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

AGENDA REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, January 8th, 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 December 30th Special Meeting
- IV. Administrator's Report
- V. Election Director's Report
- VI. Attorney's Report
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. Current Items
 - a. Discussion and possible action regarding precinct locations.
- 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
12/26/25 11:45pm

By December 26, 2025, 5:00 PM
Cherokee Nation Election Office
17763 S. Muskogee Ave
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Chairperson: Rick Doherty

Posted by: 



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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 8th, 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. The following Commissioners present:

Rick Doherty – Chairman

Cheryl Cooper – Vice Chairperson

Pamela Sellers – Secretary/Treasurer

Elizabeth Ballew – Commissioner

Sherry Reynolds – Commissioner

Office Staff – Connie Parnell & Marcus Fears

Election Commission Attorney Harvey Chaffin

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Chairperson Rick Doherty asked for approval and/or discussion regarding the minutes of the December 30th Special Meeting. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the December 30th Special Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

IV. Administrator's Report

- a. Marcus reported the number of days until the 2027 election cycle kicks off and that the Policies Committee will have to review, and present to the Commission, several items prior the beginning of the election cycle. Sherry Reynolds 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 reported on looking at additional polling locations and reviewing numbers of voters near each location. She also brought up meeting with CSA in Norman next Tuesday if any of the Commissioners wanted to



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attend. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Election Directors Report. The motion was seconded by all Commissioners. (**Attachment 2**)

VI. Attorney's Report

- a. N/A

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VIII. Current Items

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding precinct locations.
 - i. There was discussion on letting Tribal Council know the Commission is interested in their input regarding the current polling locations in their districts. Further discussion with Council Attorney, John Young about meeting with half of Council at a time to hear their input. There was no action taken.

IX. Executive Session

- a. None

X. Action from Executive Session

XI. Announcements

Two representatives from Career Services were present to explain the programs they have available for obtaining workers.

Marcus mentioned that the EC reports in-person at Rule's on January 29th and a Policy Committee work session is scheduled for Friday, January 16th.

XII. Adjourn

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

Minutes submitted by Pamela Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer

Pamela Sellers



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January 08, 2026 Administrators Report

Marcus Fears Administrator

fears-marcus@cherokee.org

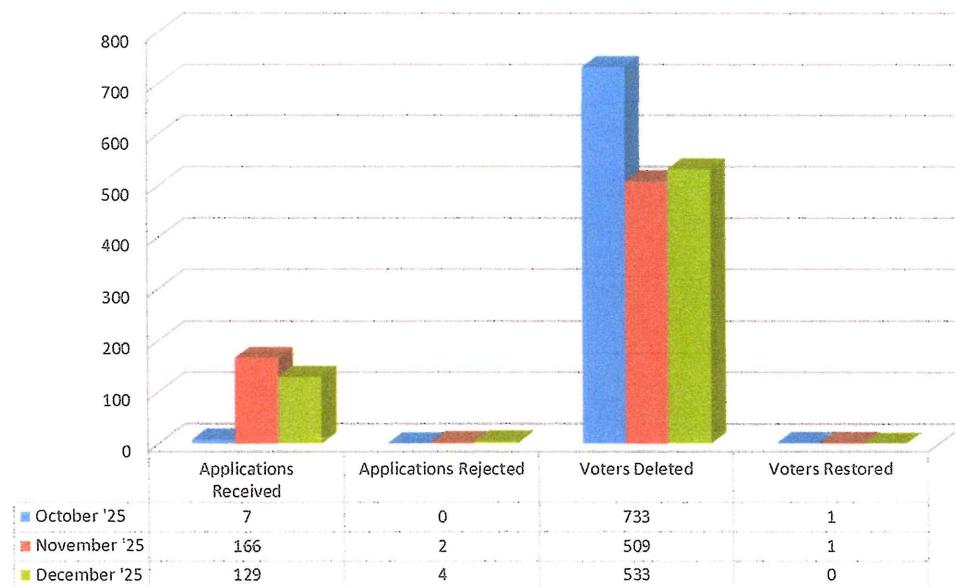
I. OFFICE:

Happy New Year to everyone! It may seem like the 2027 election is a long way away, but it will be here before we know it. December 1st Candidate Packets are only 327 days away...or 223 days less holidays and weekends. And there are several items Policies needs to meet over and bring forward to the Commission before we even get to packets. Looking forward to a busy and productive year.

II. VOTER PROCESSING: As of 01/05/2026

78,775 Total Registered Voters; **42,626** In-District; **36,149** At-Large

Voter Registration Statistics



A. Statistical Report:

*Detailed Data by District and Precinct is attached

III. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3 total Requisitions for December.
- FY2026 is on target and off to a great start.

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 1	Hulbert D-1	1,669
	Okay D-1	349
	Tahlequah B D-1	1,394
Total for District		3,412
Dist No. 2	Tahlequah A D-2	1,618
	Tahlequah B D-2	1,112
Total for District		2,730
Dist No. 3	Keys D-3	1,058
	Marble City D-3	1,374
	Tahlequah B D-3	853
Total for District		3,285
Dist No. 4	Ft. Gibson D-4	1,396
	Vian D-4	834
	Warner D-4	923
Total for District		3,153
Dist No. 5	Owasso D-5	583
	Tulsa D-5	1,068
Total for District		1,651
Dist No. 6	Muldrow D-6	1,021
	Roland D-6	369
	Sallisaw D-6	1,464
Total for District		2,854
Dist No. 7	Belfonte D-7	313
	Dahlonegah D-7	633
	Stilwell D-7	3,129
Total for District		4,075
Dist No. 8	Briggs D-8	1,430
	Kansas D-8	690
	Westville D-8	1,075
Total for District		3,195
Dist No. 9	Adair D-9	1,068
	Jay D-9	649
	Kenwood D-9	1,586
Total for District		3,303

District	Precinct	Voters
Dist No. 10	Afton D-10	581
	Grove D-10	715
	Jay D-10	947
	West Siloam Springs D-10	266
Total for District		2,509
Dist No. 11	Nowata D-11	951
	S. Coffeyville D-11	628
	Vinita D-11	1,444
	Welch D-11	175
Total for District		3,198
Dist No. 12	Bartlesville D-12	1,605
	Collinsville D12	361
Total for District		1,966
Dist No. 13	Catoosa D-13	459
	Claremore D-13	127
	Owasso D-13	2,040
Total for District		2,626
Dist No. 14	Chelsea D-14	552
	Claremore D-14	1,701
Total for District		2,253
Dist No. 15	Justus Tiawah D-15	465
	Locust Grove D-15	789
	Pryor D-15	1,162
Total for District		2,416
At Large	At Large	36,149
Total for District		36,149
Grand Total		78,775



Cherokee Nation Election Commission

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

December- 2025 Directors Report

December was very eventful; I have been working on the additional locations for the districts that did not have an election in 2025. I have read the documentation from the precinct officials from the 2025 election. Only in the new locations we used had one complaint, but the complaint came from several of the voters and the precinct officials. Which was from Dist. 7 Dahlonegah. The building they put us in has stairs into the building and it's hard for the voters to enter the building. I have reached out to the Council members that have voiced adding precincts to their districts. This is something you the commissioners will have to decide, with the input from the Council members that have asked for more locations. Again, we may have more Council members that want more locations or for some reason they do not like the current location we are using. I have some suggestions and will discuss them in our policy meetings.

Will be discussing the upgrades to CSA street segments. Also, the upgrades to Chronical with Maxim. These will go through policies also then presented to the Commission in a meeting for the commission approval.

I had a great vacation with my granddaughter and family, thank you for allowing this for me.

Looking forward to the new year.

Cherokee Nation Election Commission
Regular Meeting Sign-in Sheet

Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:30 AM

Print Name

Michelle Arnes - Career Services

JACKY ENGLAND - CAREER SERVICES


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CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

✓ REGULAR MEETING

SPECIAL MEETING

ELECTION COMMISSION PRESIDED BY: Rick Doherty

MEETING DATE: 1/8/20 at 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:

Michelle Arras

Jacky England

John Young