

**CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING**
Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office
208 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
November 1, 2016 – 9:00 AM

PRESENT:

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

APPROVED

DEC 14 2016

Cherokee Nation
Environmental Protection Commission

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Tom Elkins, CNEP
Salli McLemore, CNEP
Nancy John, CNEP
Shaun West, CNEP
Jackie Woodard, CNEP
Wayne Isaacs, CNEP
Laura Adair, CNEP
Butch Garner, NR
Sara Hill, SONR
Chad Harsha, AG Office
Pat Gwin, Admin Support

1. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Fite at 9:08 AM.
2. Commissioner Fite acknowledged the Record of Public Notice and was posted on October 21, 2016.
3. Commissioner Fletcher made a Motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2016 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Carson, roll call vote conducted. Minutes were approved with commissioner Spears abstaining on the vote.
4. Public Comments – none
5. Secretary of Natural Resources –
 - A. Water Plan Update – Arkansas and Oklahoma meet on November 16th and 17th and will hopefully come to an agreement on whether or not the .03 phosphorous standard should remain. These standards are critical water issues to the Cherokee Nation.
 - B. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill

-Report

- The landfill operations continue and progress has been made on the Title 5 evaluation and A & M Engineering will be providing an analysis.
- Construction on the new landfill cell has experienced delays due to administrative requirements encountered since moving a LLC to Cherokee Nation.
- The organizational structure and the EPC regulatory process are now in draft format. Secretary Hill will continue with an internal review of the draft.
- NRCS met with the Cherokee Nation and other tribes to discuss Best Management Practices (BMP) for tribes.

-Compliance Issues

- Risk Management has set up some guide lines regarding the issues related to worker safety and the landfill staff is working on compliance.

C. Discussion and Opportunity for Comments –

- No comments.

6. Reports

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

- Tom attended a self-governance advisory council meeting in Washington D.C. on October 25th. A few tribes provided an overview document on how to implement self-governance with EPA programs.

B. Administration Support- Pat Gwin

- The native plant garden will be remodeled and a Cherokee geometric pattern will be introduced. U.S. Fish and Wildlife provided \$15K to develop an interpretive site that also includes a pollinator project. A Grant was submitted to DOE to increase the tribe's solar energy capacity. Mr. Gwin will report with additional information as it becomes available.
- The wind farm tribal resolution passed and the project is moving forward. The wind farm is being built by P & E.

C. Cherokee Nation Businesses – Joe Washum

- Representative was not in attendance to report

D. Emergency Management – Jeremie Fisher

- Representative was not in attendance to report

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

- Some of the Natural Resources staff has been working at Sequoyah's Cabin. They were doing maintenance work as well as opening and closing the gate. The state has spent a funds on the drive way and it looks so much better.
- Staff is going to start weaning the Buffalo Calves soon. Hay has been fed to the Buffalo the past couple of months due to the dry weather.
- NR had a trail ride a couple of weeks ago at Sallisaw Creek Park that was a success.
- The Jay community garden provided garden products for 23 families.

7. Environmental Statute Review – Tom Elkins

- The first iteration was received for review. Mr. Elkins has some questions on it as well as Mr. Gwin. They are going to start scheduling meetings and proceed with the review.

8. New Business

- No new business

9. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events

- Next EPC will be on Monday December 12, 2016
- Joint Commission Meeting will be held in Tulsa on November 17th and 18th.

9. Meeting adjourned