



# Cherokee Nation Tax Commission

P.O. Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465

Steve Wilson, Tax  
Commissioner

Michael Doublehead, Tax  
Commissioner

Fan Robinson, Tax  
Commissioner

## CHEROKEE NATION TAX COMMISSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

***Commissioners Present:*** Commissioner's Michael Doublehead and Fan Robinson was present

***Staff Present:*** Sharon Swepston, Shelia Sawney, Chelsea Fisher, Teresa Carder, Tammy Guinn (telephone), and Fonda Gritts

***Visitors Present:*** Greg Calvert, Attorney General's Office

Commissioner Robinson presented the prayer before meeting.

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Doublehead. Quorum was established with Commissioner's Robinson and Doublehead present.

***The Commissioner began with agenda #1- Approval of Minutes of June 14, 2023.*** Commissioner Doublehead ask for a clarification on agenda #5. Mr. Calvert had given a report on the tag bill handled by the House. The voting numbers were tabulated for a vote to override the Governor's veto. The minutes read "7 to 11" and it should have read "74 to 11" to override Governor Stitt's veto.

Commissioner Robinson stated with those changes to be corrected, she made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Doublehead second the motion. Motion carried.

***Agenda item #2- Kansas Smoke Shop License-*** Shelia stated this is not a new business, it's a change of ownership. All the documentation has been provided and she recommends approval.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Doublehead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Agenda item #3 – Sequoyah Smoke Shop LLC License*** – Shelia stated this is also a change in ownership. It went from a business to an LLC. All documentation has been provided and she recommends approval.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Doublehead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Agenda item #4 –MV: 01-3-310 – Rebuilt Titles*** – Tammy stated this regulation updates the employee terminology requesting Tax Commission and Administrator with authorized personnel. A few typos were corrected, we are requiring the citizens to sign into a Kiosk and be seen in the order of sign in. We do not take any inspections after 3:00pm. This has been working out very well and Tammy recommends approval on this regulation.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve. Commissioner Doublehead second the motion. Motion carried.

***Agenda item #5 – Monthly Reports*** – Sharon provided a graft on the motor vehicle to date through July we are down 8.4% compared to this time last year. On Revenue and Taxation we are up almost 20%, most of that has to do with Retail Sales at the Casinos.

Sharon had some numbers ran, on the number of new titles vs. the number of renewals this year and last year.

This year on motor vehicles we had 3,112 new registrations from October – August. And last year we had 3,022, we actually had more registrations but it was less money. Because of the amount that they paid for the vehicles, more use vehicles rather than new vehicles.

On the renewals we had 12,296 this year and 11,268 last year. On the boats this year the new registrations were 1606, last year 1667. We had more new registrations last year. Boats have the option to be registered one year or three years. We had 3,000 renewals this year, and last year we had 2,236 renewals.

Commissioner Doublehead ask if we were able to keep all of the offices staffed. Sharon stated we are doing better with staff. We have 6 at Catoosa and 1 works part time. This lady worked for us fulltime at Tahlequah, she

quit and started going to school. After school was over she wanted to work again. She lives in Muskogee and drives back and forth to Catoosa. She hasn't had to be trained so that has helped us over the summer. She worked full time and now since she has return back to school she is working part time basis with us.

Karen Walls, our Director of Motor Vehicle is retiring the end of September. We are going to do a reception for her and when we get all the planning for that we will notify the commission of the date and time.

Teresa Carder, will be the new Director of Motor Vehicle. Once those changes are in place, we will have other positions to fill.

Commissioner Robinson ask if the Stilwell tag office business was picking up. Sharon stated the business hasn't picked up much. She thinks people are just use to coming to Tahlequah office and also the lack of knowledge they haven't realized that Stilwell has an office. There was a brief discussion on Communication was going to promote to make sure the community knows it's there. Commissioner Doublehead suggested posting information at the clinic to where there is a large volume of people. Or put it on Facebook. When Voter registration sets up over in Stilwell to have a flyer up advertising the Stilwell Tag Office.

Sharon said she will contact Communication and see if they can get something out there again. Commissioner Doublehead suggested a flyer instead of placing an ad in the newspaper.

***Agenda item #6 – Consideration, discussion, and possible approval regarding any matter not known about or which could not have reasonably been foreseen prior to the time of posting.*** Sharon gave brief information on the new cabinet members with Administration.

Shella Bowlin- Secretary of State  
Tara Lee Montgomery – Assistant of Secretary of State  
Cannon Duncan – Assistant of Secretary of State  
Corey Bunch – Chief of Staff  
Chad Harsha- Attorney General  
Christina Justice –Secretary of Natural Resources  
Janees Taylor – Treasurer  
Shannon Buhl – Marshal

*Agenda item #7 – Executive Session - None*

*a. Exit Executive Session*

*Other New Business –None*

*Public Comments – None*

*Adjournment – None*

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Doublehead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjourn at 4:51pm

  
Commissioner's Approval