

CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION
Cherokee Nation Environmental Protection Office
206 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, OK
February 3, 2009

PRESENT:

Commissioner: Mark Green
Commissioner: Ed Fite
Commissioner: Marty Matlock via phone

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Shaun West, CNEP
Flossie Girty, Cherokee Nation Administration
Nancy John, CNEP
Tom Elkins, CNWM
Pat Gwin, CNNR
Roger Fields, CNE
Dena Geib, CNB
John Freise, CNEP
Laura Adair, CNEP

1. Commissioner Green called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Commissioner Green acknowledged and placed into the record the Record of Public Notice and meeting attendance.
3. Commissioner Fite made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 23, 2008 meeting. Commissioner Matlock seconded the motion, minutes approved.
4. No public comment.
5. Reports
 - a. Natural Resources Department – Pat Gwin, report submitted. No questions.
 - b. Environmental Programs – Nancy John, report submitted. Updated the group on the economic stimulus packet that has been proposed and the impact on Environmental due to dollars set aside for Tribal Drinking Water and Wastewater infrastructure projects. EPA will be asking the Tribes to submit information on these projects. EPA will have 30 days to get funds moving once the bill is signed. Priority projects, Cherokee Nation projects and funding will require further discussion. The 14th Annual ITEC Conference is tentatively scheduled for June 16 & 17.
 - c. Cherokee Nation Enterprises – Roger Fields reported that up to the date of the report no incidents had occurred, but a two gallon spill occurred at the Roland location on January 25. Facilities and Security personnel responded and cleaned the spill. Reports have been received on the two properties in Catoosa located at 193rd East Avenue and both are negative for lead based paint and asbestos material. The tree/limb damage debris at the golf course is being put in piles and they will be asking for permission to burn.
 - d. NEPA projects for Realty, IHS, NAHASDA, Roads – Tom Elkins reported for Wayne Isaacs, written report submitted. Further information on the process used was provided to Commissioners on the Stimulus projects submitted by the Tribe on NEPA projects.
 - e. Tribally funded construction projects – No report, no representative due to EOC coverage.
 - f. EPC Administrator – No additional information.
6. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill

- A Report – Dena Geib reported that construction is ongoing and the second week of March is the target date for opening the landfill. Blasting and rock removal are complete on Cell 3 and subgrade construction is starting. Mr. Elkins asked if the landfill would accept brush from CN entities and others, Ms.Geib reported that discussion had been held on this topic and permission was needed from the Commission. Commission agreed that the landfill could accept brush which would be converted to mulch.
 - B. Compliance Issues – will be discussed at March meeting.
7. New Business – Discussion regarding EPC stipends. Cherokee Nation requests permission to proceed. Commissioners requested financial assistance to attend meetings and trainings instead of a monthly stipend. Mr. Elkins will obtain an opinion from the Attorney General’s office and further research this topic. Additional information will be presented at the next meeting. Commissioner Fite requested that the Tribe research implementing a recycle program. Mr. Elkins informed the Commission that meetings regarding this topic are currently being held and he will provide them with a report at the next meeting. Commissioner Matlock will contact an Arkansas representative to discuss this issue and request his attendance at the next meeting. Mr. Fields reported CNE’s current activities regarding recycling.
 8. The next meeting will be April 7, 2009 at 9:30 A.M. at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office.
 9. Commissioner Matlock moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fite seconded, meeting adjourned.