



## CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

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

### AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 March 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting
- IV. Administrator's Report
- V. Election Director's Report
- VI. Attorney's Report
- VII. Old Business-None
- VIII. Current Items
  - a. Consideration and possible action on recommendations by the Policies Committee.
    - i. State of Oklahoma Death Deletion Report
    - ii. Record Retention
    - iii. Polling Locations
  - b. Consideration and possible action on additional election equipment.
- 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



By March 20, 2026, 5:00 PM  
Cherokee Nation Election Office  
17763 S. Muskogee Ave  
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Chairperson: Rick Doherty

Posted by: \_\_\_\_\_



## **CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION**

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### **ELECTION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

*Tuesday, April 2, 2026*

*9:30 AM*

#### Call to order

**The Regular Meeting of the Cherokee Nation Election Commission was called to order by Chairperson Rick Doherty at 9:31am.**

#### Roll call/Approval of absent members to attend by phone if necessary

**Rick Doherty, Chairperson - Present**

**Cheryl Cooper, Vice Chairperson - Present**

**Pamela Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer - Present**

**Sherry Reynolds, Commissioner - Present**

**Debra Proctor, Commissioner - Present**

**Harvey Chaffin, Election Commission Attorney - Present**

**Office Staff Present – Connie Parnell & Marcus Fears**

#### Approval of Minutes

**Chairperson Rick Doherty asked for approval and/or discussion regarding the minutes of the March 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the March 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.**

#### Administrator's Report

**The Administrator reported that new Clerk I, Paige Crow, will start work on Monday. He mentioned the Policies Committee meeting and bringing those things to Current Items and meeting with the Council work group. Lastly, he mentioned a budget reallocation where budget amounts in two accounts were moved from one account to another due to finance reporting the transactions coming from a different account than what was originally budgeted. Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Administrator's Report. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. **(Attachment 1)****



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### Election Director's Report

**The Election Director reported on meeting with the Election Code revision work group and that they were shooting for an April Rule's and May Council for approval. She also reported on working on the election calendar with Marcus and speaking with Chad Hunter from the Phoenix about upcoming deadlines and press releases. Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the Election Director's Report. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (Attachment 2)**

### Attorney's Report

**Nothing to report.**

### Old Business

**None.**

### Current Items

- a. Consideration and possible action on recommendations by the Policies Committee.

1. State of Oklahoma Death Deletion Report.

**Connie presented the report containing names of deceased citizens reported by the state health department, nursing homes etc. that match our voter database. Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to send the report to Tribal Registration for their review and their confirmation of deceased. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.**

2. Record Retention.

**Marcus presented a piece of the minutes from February 2022, mentioning that Rules and Regulations, §2.07 regarding Record Retention, needed further clarification. He presented recommended changes to §2.07 of the Rules and Regulations as well as a table to be used for record retention purposes moving forward. Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the amendment to §2.07 of Rules and Regulations, Record Management and the attached table for record retention. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.**

3. Polling Locations.

**After some discussion by the Policies Committee on the packet of information used for reviewing new locations, Sherry Reynolds**



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**made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to Table Polling Locations until the next meeting. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.**

- b. Consideration and possible action on additional election equipment. **Connie presented the quote from Hart Intercivic for the 6 new voting machines including licensing. Debra Proctor made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to approve the quote and purchase of the 6 machines and licensing for \$39,841. The motion was approved by all Commissioners. (Attachment 3)**

### Executive Session

**N/A**

### Action from Executive Session

### Announcements

**Connie and Marcus will contact Sharon Swepston to determine whether the tag office can provide any data pursuant to Election Law §11.C.6, which identifies their office as a certified source for maintaining accurate address information within our voter database.**

### Adjourn

**Sherry Reynolds made a motion, which was seconded by Cheryl Cooper to adjourn at 10:58am. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.**

Minutes submitted by Pamela Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer

*Pamela Sellers*



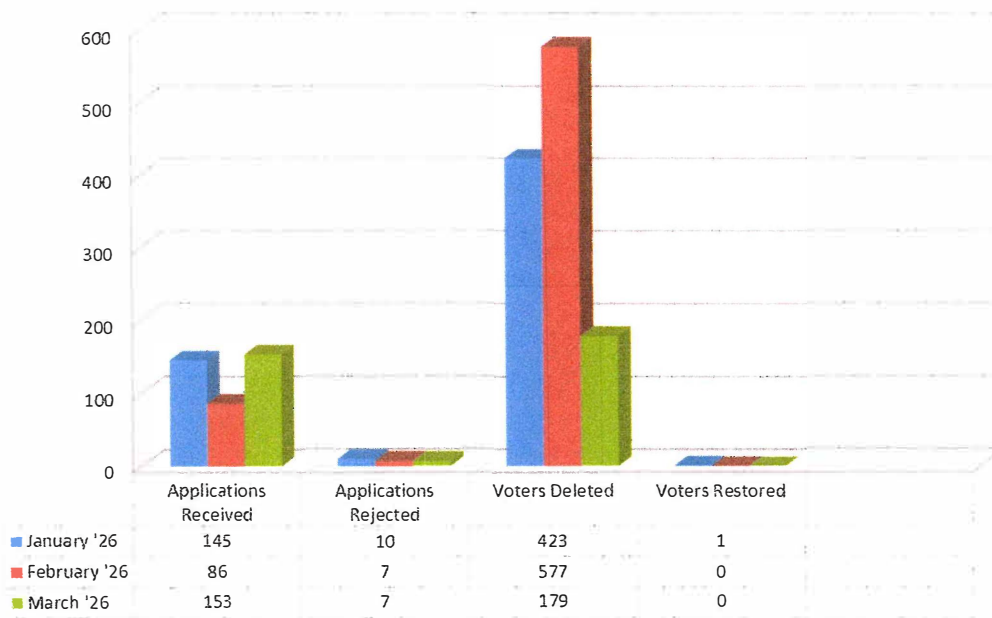
**I. OFFICE:**

In March we conducted our interviews for Clerk I during our Regular Meeting. Paige’s first day at the Election Commission will be Monday. The Policies Committee met over items that we will later discuss under current items. We will continue to meet and bring items to the Commission that need addressed. Lastly, we attended another Council Work Group. Like we’ve said, for the most part the recommendations are helpful, and we would be happy to discuss any of the recommendations at any time.

**II. VOTER PROCESSING: As of 03/31/2026**

**77,904 Total Registered Voters; 42,040 In-District; 35,864 At-Large**

**Voter Registration Statistics**



**A. Statistical Report:**

\*Detailed Data by District and Precinct is attached

**III. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:**

- 6 total Requisitions for March.
- FY2026 is on target.
- Budget Reallocation - \$72,000 to 650010 from 650000 and \$10,000 to 690500 from 640000.

<u>District</u>	<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Voters</u>
Dist No. 1	Hulbert D-1	1,669
	Okay D-1	340
	Tahlequah B D-1	1,381
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,390</b>
Dist No. 2	Tahlequah A D-2	1,599
	Tahlequah B D-2	1,097
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,696</b>
Dist No. 3	Keys D-3	1,060
	Marble City D-3	1,350
	Tahlequah B D-3	855
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,265</b>
Dist No. 4	Ft. Gibson D-4	1,355
	Vian D-4	817
	Warner D-4	916
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,088</b>
Dist No. 5	Owasso D-5	581
	Tulsa D-5	1,083
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>1,664</b>
Dist No. 6	Muldrow D-6	1,007
	Roland D-6	364
	Sallisaw D-6	1,437
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,808</b>
Dist No. 7	Belfonte D-7	306
	Dahlongah D-7	622
	Stilwell D-7	3,106
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>4,034</b>
Dist No. 8	Briggs D-8	1,417
	Kansas D-8	691
	Westville D-8	1,057
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,165</b>
Dist No. 9	Adair D-9	1,058
	Jay D-9	637
	Kenwood D-9	1,565
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,260</b>

<b>District</b>	<b>Precinct</b>	<b>Voters</b>
Dist No. 10	Afton D-10	571
	Grove D-10	709
	Jay D-10	943
	West Siloam Springs D-10	262
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,485</b>
Dist No. 11	Nowata D-11	931
	S. Coffeyville D-11	616
	Vinita D-11	1,420
	Welch D-11	175
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>3,142</b>
Dist No. 12	Bartlesville D-12	1,570
	Collinsville D12	370
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>1,940</b>
Dist No. 13	Catoosa D-13	450
	Claremore D-13	130
	Owasso D-13	1,949
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,529</b>
Dist No. 14	Chelsea D-14	536
	Claremore D-14	1,670
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,206</b>
Dist No. 15	Justus Tiawah D-15	460
	Locust Grove D-15	770
	Pryor D-15	1,138
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>2,368</b>
At Large	At Large	35,864
<b>Total for District</b>		<b>35,864</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>77,904</b>



## Cherokee Nation Election Commission

P.O. Box 1188, Tahlequah, OK 74465-1188

Phone: 918-458-5899 Fax: 918-458-6101

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### March 2026 Directors Report

Policies have met and have some policies to present to the commission for their discussion and consideration on approval by the election commission.

Marcus and I have been meeting with the Council work group on the

Election Act. We met on March 26; they were creating another work group on three items of consideration: 1. Absentee drop box at the precincts to allow the large voters to drop their absentee ballots. 2. Offer Early voting at the precincts in the reservation for one day or multiple days. 3. Accept electronic signatures for absentee ballot request forms. After further discussion this has been tabled for further study of the needs that they have listed. So, we will be doing a study during this election for the concerns of the voters for these topics.

Still going through the act and getting ready for the updates that Council Approvals.

Going through CN policies to upgrade the EC policies. There are lots of changes to be looked at and added to the EC's policies. Policies and procedure group will meet on this

Have had conversations with Chad Hunter at the Phoenix on deadlines and what we want to put in the news paper and when. Chad is onboard with this, and we will meet with him very soon. We want to start with articles to come out in the holiday paper as our kickoff of election notices.



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- Election Commission Attorney Harvey Chaffin had no new litigation to report.

### VII. Old Business

- None

### VIII. Current Items

- Consideration and possible action regarding Candidate Financials.
  - i. Pam Sellers made a motion seconded by Elizabeth Ballew to finalize the financials by sending proper notification by certified mail and/or email of an additional fine for not filing a Final or Revised Final Report to the 3 remaining Candidates who have not done so. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.
- Consideration and possible action regarding copier lease.
  - i. Rick Doherty made a motion seconded by Pam Sellers to lease Option C, the 7054 by Kyocera for 63 months. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.
- Consideration and possible action on Vital Records Control pursuant to CNCA Title 26 Elections and CNEC Rules and Regulations regarding record retention.
  - i. Pam Sellers made a motion seconded by Elizabeth Ballew to retain election documentation such as absentee ballots/envelopes counted or rejected and used forms for 3 years rather than 2 and the remaining shall be recycled pursuant to current record retention policy. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.
- Consideration and possible action on revision recommendations to Legislative Act 22-20.
  - i. Pam Sellers made a motion seconded by Rick Doherty to table this agenda item until further consideration could be made. The motion was approved by all Commissioners.

### IX. Executive Session

- N/A

### X. Action from Executive Session

### XI. Announcements

- The Commission plans to have a Special Meeting Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

### XII. Adjourn

- Randy Campbell made a motion to adjourn at 6:17pm. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Rick Doherty, Secretary/Treasurer

*Feb 8, 2022*

## RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION

brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great Grandparents, and great grandchildren.

### §2.07 Record Management.

For the purpose of these Rules and Regulations, disposition means the manipulation of records and includes: the usual and customary handling and disclosure of office records as defined by Cherokee Nation Election Commission policies and procedures and federal regulations, the storage and maintenance of records relating to specific elections, and destruction of election materials with no further value to the Cherokee Nation Election Commission.

- 1) Office records shall include time cards, time sheets, requisitions and other materials necessary to carry out routine office procedures and are to be dealt with in the usual and customary manner as defined by the Election Commission policies and procedures, and federal regulations.
- 2) Specific election records relating to a primary, runoff or special election shall include original Certificate of Vote forms with election results, minutes of the Commission, a listing of voters and disclosure reports. They shall be stored and maintained in the office as permanent record.
- 3) ~~Voted Absentee ballots, counted or rejected, absentee envelopes & contents, and used election day forms including spoiled, mutilated and challenged ballots as well as precinct signature books and absentee ballot requests~~ shall be retained for a period of three years after the date of the certification of the election outcome of the election in which they were cast and then may be destroyed. These items may be transferred to files for storage during the three year interim after the period of challenges has passed.
- 4) Unused ballots, forms and duplicate copies of records as well as unusable or damaged election ballot boxes, supplies or materials may be destroyed thirty days following an election. However, staff shall keep one copy of each ballot style and form used for each election. This copy may be kept electronically.
- 5) Voter registration records and lists of deceased or relinquished citizens who are removed from the voter's list based on information provided by Tribal Registration, ~~voted ballots, spoiled, mutilated and challenged ballots as well as precinct signature books, absentee ballot requests processed or rejected and returned undeliverable mail such as Voter ID cards or other mailed notification correspondence~~ may be destroyed after 2 years after the date of death or relinquishment.

### §2.08 Qualifications of candidates for elective office.

- A. All persons who desire to run for an elective office of Cherokee Nation must meet all of the qualification requirements of §§31, 32, 33 and 34 of the Election Law, as well as applicable provisions of the Constitution of the Cherokee Nation and Cherokee Nation and Federal court decisions.
- B. To meet the requirements of § 31 B1 any person who has been an employee of Cherokee Nation during the Election Period must have resigned or otherwise terminated his or her employment with Cherokee Nation prior to the date he or she actually files the Declaration of Candidacy form with the Commission and provide proof of their resignation or termination at the time of filing.

**CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDED AND RESTATED RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of self- government on behalf of the Cherokee people;

**WHEREAS**, the Cherokee Nation is a federally recognized Indian Nation with a historic and continual government to government relationship with the United States of America;

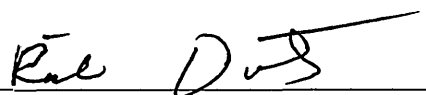
**WHEREAS**, the Cherokee Nation Election Commission is a constitutional, autonomous and permanent entity charged with the administration of all Cherokee Nation elections as set forth in the Cherokee Nation Constitution.

**WHEREAS**, Section 11 of Title 26 (Elections) of the Cherokee Nation Code Annotated, as amended provides that the Election Commission shall develop rules and regulations concerning the Cherokee Nation Election Commission.

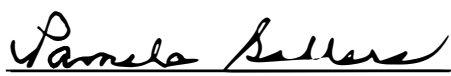
**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the above authority the Cherokee Nation Election Commission hereby adopts the attached amended and restated Rules and Regulations.

**CERTIFICATION**

The forgoing resolution was adopted by the Cherokee Nation Election Commission at a duly called meeting on the 2 day of April, 2026, having 5 members present, constituting a quorum, by vote of 5 yea, 0 nay; 0 abstaining.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Doherty, Chairperson of the Cherokee  
Nation Election Commission

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Sellers, Secretary of the Cherokee  
Nation Election Commission

YEAS and NAYS Recorded:  
Rick Doherty Y      Cheryl Cooper Y      Pamela Sellers Y  
Sherry Reynolds Y      Debra Proctor Y



Quote Number 00016389  
 Account Name Cherokee Nation, OK  
 Grand Total \$39,841.00

Expiration Date 3/28/2026  
 Payment Terms Net 30

Please fax with signature to or scan and email to [ssaenz@hartic.com](mailto:ssaenz@hartic.com) to order.

Item	Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Price
Verity Scan	Digital ballot scanner	\$6,370.00	6	\$38,220.00
Verity Ballot Box	Ballot box w/ transport bag and privacy screens for use with Verity Scan		6	
License and Support	Annual license and support fee: will be prorated to align with contract	\$1,071.00	1	\$1,071.00
Subtotal				\$39,291.00
Shipping and Handling (Estimated)				\$1,050.00
Solution Price				\$40,341.00
Special Discount				(\$500.00)
Grand Total				\$39,841.00

Bill To P.O. Box 1188  
 Tahlequah, OK 74465

Ship To 17763 S Muskogee Ave.  
 Tahlequah, OK 74464


**Customer Contact**

Contact Name Connie Parnell

**Terms and Conditions**

Subsequent License and Support will be billed annually per contract terms.  
 Please note: Shipping & Handling charges listed are estimates only. Due to global supply chain and delivery issues, actual shipping & handling charges may be significantly higher. Pricing subject to inventory availability at time of quote execution and acceptance.  
 Taxes will be calculated in conjunction with the Customer based on the final approved price list.

**Hart Approval**

Prepared By Simon Saenz Title Sales Account Manager  
 Signature 

**Customer Approval**

Name: 17005 Ricky Doherty Title: Chairperson  
 Customer Approval: Ricky Doherty Date: 4-2-26

# CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION ROLL CALL

X REGULAR MEETING

\_\_\_ SPECIAL MEETING

ELECTION COMMISSION PRESIDED BY: Rick Doherty

MEETING DATE: April 2 at 9:30 (AM)/PM at the CNEC Office

### Commission Member: Present/Absent

Rick Doherty (Present)/Absent

Cheryl Cooper (Present)/Absent

Pamela Sellers (Present)/Absent

Sherry Reynolds (Present)/Absent

Debra Proctor (Present)/Absent

Quorum Established: (YES) / NO

CNEC Attorney: Harvey Chaffin

Staff Present:  Marcus Fears,  Connie Parnell,  Allison George,  Charlene Keys,

### Visitors:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____