

At-Large Advisory Committee Meeting
November 3, 2020
3pm

Meeting started at 3:17pm Central Time and was held via Zoom (technology was causing a few hiccups for everyone to log in.)

In Attendance:

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
Bryan Warner, Deputy Principal Chief
Kim Teehee, Cherokee Nation Delegate to Congress
Mary Baker-Shaw, At-Large Tribal Councilor
Julia Coates, At-Large Tribal Councilor
Robert Wood, Committee Member
Kevin Stretch, CCO Director & Committee Chair
Wade McAlister, Committee Member
Dawni Saloli, CCO
Patsy Edgar, Committee Member
Cynthia Ruiz, Committee Member
Ashlee Fox, Government Relations
Adam McCreary, Government Relations
Lindi Conover-Thompson, CCO

1. Prayer
 - a. Patsy Edgar lead us in prayer
2. Welcome
 - a. Kevin Stretch, Committee Chair
 - i. We will be following the Open Meetings Act policy
 - ii. Meeting mins from the May 13, 2020 were approved
 1. Motion made by Patsy Edgar; Seconded by Cynthia Ruiz
 - b. Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
 - i. Welcome Remarks from Pryor Creek, Cherokee Nation Reservation
 - ii. Success of the virtual Cherokee National Holiday & Conference
 - iii. Still in the midst of the “worst public health crisis in memorable history.”
But Cherokee Nation is leading the way. CN has always had excellent healthcare.
 - iv. COVID-19 continues to create problems for Cherokee Nation & the State.
We’re leading, through the guidance of our public health officials and PPE.
 - v. The formula for the CARES Act did not account for all the At-Large citizens, but the Nation was still able to provide support to those citizens.
Recovery is underway, individuals, businesses are recovering, government budgets remain whole due to federal dollars. However, we are expecting long term effects down the road and may need to adjust budgets.
 - vi. McGirt: An important Supreme Court Decision. Allowing us to create the 2nd largest criminal justice in the State of OK, second to the state. Will

cost approximately \$35million/year to create systems across OK and Nation. Nation will need to fund until US government meets their obligation. Cannot risk safety of Cherokee Nation. CN Businesses are vital to funding this effort. This creates a challenging year ahead

- vii. Meeting our obligations to core initiatives (language, etc)
- viii. Community Organizing is Awesome and must remain
- c. Deputy Principal Chief Bryan Warner
 - i. Welcoming remarks
 - ii. CN is rising to face the challenges the past year has created, and the safety and welfare of our citizens is first priority.
- 3. Answers to questions from previous meeting
 - a. Discussion: Are we going to follow open meetings?
 - i. Yes, we'll be posting on the CCO Facebook page with a 2-week notice. Notes and agenda will be posted. Additionally, posted on our YouTube channel. Playlist will be made. Notes will be made available moving forward.
- 4. Distribution of Organizations to Committee Members
 - a. CCO will distribute the At-large communities to committee members to liaise with. We'll distribute as best as possible by region. The spreadsheet was displayed that showed which organizations were assigned to which advisory committee member. Kevin later emailed this list to the committee.
 - b. Patsy noted that an Arkansas group was not represented on the list. Kevin noted that they never incorporated with CCO.
 - c. Wade asked if the new Dallas/Ft. Worth was on the list. Kevin confirmed that they were.
- 5. Funding
 - a. In FY'20, \$1000 checks were sent to every group that returned their W-9
 - i. No reporting requirements
 - ii. These funds are typically to be used to help grow the organizations
 - iii. Patsy asked if this will continue in the future. Kevin said, yes, as best as possible.
 - iv. Cynthia asked if advisory members will get an exhaustive list of the individuals in their areas. Chief Hoskin responded that Cherokee Nation is not able to share this personal information. He acknowledged that this is a challenge. Groups can design post cards & Cherokee Nation can mail them out. Kevin noted that CCO gives to groups a copy of the sign in sheets from their at-large events, which is intended to help you collect that information.
 - v. Cynthia asked if CCO and list organization information on the CN website. Kevin responded that he has attempted to update links to those groups on the CCN website, but has had some problems getting current info from the groups to update links; substituted FB links as best he could.
 - vi. Started talking about Facebook
 - vii. Cynthia asked When a citizen comes to CN website, how do they get to the at-large list? Kevin responded that he would write that down and seek an answer. Chief added CN needs to make improvements on CN website

to allow for easier navigation. Kevin asked everyone to come up with list of things/information to ask for contact info form/website.

- viii. Cynthia asked if a group's newsletter can be uploaded to the Cherokee Nation website. Cynthia agreed that this is a great idea.
 - ix. Robert asked if each at-large delegate create a postcard to mail to groups in their region? Kevin responded that yes, and to work with him on that. Kevin will come up with a radius for each representative to use and determine how many to send to keep costs minimal.
 - x. Wade asked who will pay for the costs of the cards & mailing? Kevin responded that that's the purpose of the \$1000 grant.
 - xi. Patsy asked when the websites are updates, could Chief host a chat inviting at-large groups to make contact? May cut down on mailing costs. Chief responded that, yes, we can geo-target. Kevin put that on the list of things to do.
 - xii.
 - 1. each at-large group could be encouraged to establish an organizational contact
 - xiii.
 - email so we can have cohesive contact if contact person changes over time
- b. Respond, Recover, Rebuild (COVID-19 relief grants)
- i. CCO Allowed for \$2K for each organization 18 orgs have rec'd money. These funds have provided food, food cards, and PPE to elders in area.
 - ii. Reporting: Required to submit receipts to CCO. You should stay as close to the application as possible. Receipts are due no later than Dec 15th
 - iii. Robert asked if these RRR funds are separate from the \$1000 grant. Kevin confirmed that, yes, these were totally separate funds with different parameters and different requirements. Kevin noted that Lindi Conover was the person to talk to with questions on those.
 - iv. Patsy asked about "alternates" to attend meetings in the event that a particular delegate could not. Kevin responded that he cannot answer today. He will have run past administration and will clarify at the next meeting.

6. Civic Engagement

- a. Congressional Delegate Kim Teehee
 - i. Government Relations has developed a website/microsite which is now live and can be found at Cherokee.org, under the "About the Nation" tab. Kevin will circulate. Its purpose is to provide template letters for engagement with elected government officials.
 - ii. Examples of issues concerning Indian Country and template letters to address those issue are:
 - 1. COVID relief funding: extension to deadline to expend funds being requested
 - 2. Indian Child Welfare Act
 - 3. Permanent authorization of the Indian Healthcare Improvement Act contained in the ACA (which may be challenged in SCOTUS.)

4. Alaska Native Corporations; urging treasury to release CRF money
5. VAWA (Violence Against Women)
6. Issues/ Letters coming Post election:
 - a. FY 2021 appropriations - Federal Funding to CN could cease if government t shutdown occurs, CN would have to supplement funding for programs to continue
 - b. Federal Stimulus relief, Indian Country needs to be included
 - c. National Defense Authorization Act
- iii. Discussion:
- iv. Cynthia asked if Kim can send a “call to action” to the at-large committee members who would them forward their specific group(s) based on priority and timing of each issue being addressed? Kim answered that all issues a need to be handled concurrently. Chief noted that we should direct citizens to website.
- v. Cynthia noted that all citizens should be engaged with these issues, not only Cherokee citizens. Kevin noted that CN wants each group to feel autonomous regarding public policy, but please keep CN updated for coordination.
- b. Adam McCreary noted that Government Relations will add more template letters at a future date.
7. Virtual At-Large Events
 - a. Dawni: To stay in weekly contact with at-large communities, we'll be doing some online events for the next 6 months. Schedule will be posted tomorrow. Each event or topic will occur every Thursday at 11 (subject to change)
 - b. We'll be doing events weekly that will be on Thursdays. First week will be Culture & History; Second week will be Government relations; Third week will be Capacity Building; and Fourth week is “potpourri,” with additional current topics. Pre-recorded sessions will post when Thursday conflicts with a Holiday.
 - c. Cynthia asked where/how these virtual events will be accessed. Dawni responded that it will be on CCO's YouTube channel and Facebook.
8. New Business
 - a. Patsy noted that questions were submitted by the at-large groups for our meeting-prior to the meeting and some were forwarded to the administration as they do not fit our purview.
 - b. Kevin: Would like to post bio/pic of each delegate for newsletter, he will be setting that up.
9. Adjournment at 4:21pm