



Caddo Nation of Oklahoma

Post Office Box 487 • Binger, Oklahoma 73009 • 405-656-2344 • 405-656-2345 • Fax 405-656-2892

Caddo Nation Membership Meeting Caddo Nation Headquarters – Facebook Live January 29, 2022

Secretary established quorum: 33 signed in comment box

Call to order: 10:00 a.m.

Council Roll Call: Bobby Gonzalez, Kelly Factor (online), Jennifer Reeder, Verna Castillo, Arlene O’Neal, Travis Threlkeld (online), Phillip Martin, and Jennifer Wilson

Invocation: Arlene O’Neal

Motion 01: by Karrisa Hodge, seconded by Sharla Bare to adopt the November 6, 2021 minutes as read, Motion Carried, 32-0-2

New Business:

Caddo Nation update by Chairman Gonzalez

- American Rescue Plan Act
 - The council is following the ARPA final rule set out by the Department of Treasury.
 - The council is confident the tribe will have clean audits related to the use of this funding.
 - Conner and Winters Law Firm is helping to guide the council with allowable expenditures related to ARPA.
- Job Placement and Training
 - \$100,000 in ARPA funding will be used to supplement JP&T program to help members get back into the workforce.
 - Eric Guy is the tribal liaison for the truck driving CDL training program. More information will be posted on the Caddo Nation website for members interested in taking this training.
- Caddo Nation Administrative Infrastructure
 - The tribal council is currently evaluating the tribe’s infrastructure with its legal team to develop a tribal court system.
 - The council is working on getting the tribe’s Indian Child Welfare program back.

- Veterans Affairs and Mental Health
 - Chairman Gonzalez has been working with the Veterans Health Administration about mental health funding.
 - The Chairman would like to establish a Caddo veteran's workgroup. He is asking for tribal member input.

- Caddo Nation Boards
 - The Chairman sent letters to all members nominated for the Housing Board. He is waiting to hear back before proceeding with swearing in.
 - The Chairman asks for more people to run for the Hearing Board during the July 2022 election so it can have a quorum. For now, the Court of Indian Offenses will adjudicate tribal disputes until we have our own court system.

Old Business:

- Update on Casino Building
 - The Chairman has been working with our legal team to get all casino contracts, agreements, etc. and to work towards an agreement on any outstanding bills. Currently, the negotiated amount due is \$1.2 million.
 - The travel plaza is still open and is now breaking even. There are plans to make upgrades in the near future such as new fuel dispensers, automatic doors, etc.

- Update on Housing
 - The housing department has received additional ARPA funds to supplement HUD funds.

- Update on District Representatives
 - District representatives will start holding quarterly meetings in their districts and the tribe will provide funding for room rental, food, etc.
 - After the July 2022 election, the council will begin working towards amending our tribal constitution and setting up meetings to receive tribal member input.

Open Forum for Tribal Members:

- Question and Answer session with tribal members (see supplemental for details)

- Jon Moss is willing to help the tribe with his expertise. The Chairman will set up a meeting with Mr. Moss to explore his assistance with the Caddo Housing Board.

- All financial functions are still being handled off-site by Finely & Cook.

- The tribal council will continue to gauge the pandemic to determine whether future meeting will be held online or in person. A recording of each meeting will be posted on the website.



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Motion 02: by Brenda Shemayme, seconded by Karissa Hodge by to adjourn at 11:55 p.m.,
Motion Carried, 34-0-0

Oklahoma City Representative Wilson closed the meeting with a prayer.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairman and Secretary of the Tribal Council of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, hereby certify the above Caddo Nation Membership meeting minutes were approved by a quorum of the membership at a duly called meeting convened and held on this ___ day of _____, 2022 at the Caddo Nation Tribal Complex in Binger, Oklahoma, and that the forgoing minutes were duly adopted by an affirmative vote of ___ For, ___ Against, and ___ Abstentions.

Bobby Gonzalez, Chairman

Date

Jennifer Reeder, Secretary

Date

Caddo Nation Membership Meeting Supplemental: Questions and Answers January 29, 2022

Q: Is the tribe able to invest in Caddo small businesses?

A: Our legal team is taking a look at this issue and will report back to the council.

Q: Would the construction company donate the casino building to the tribe and take a write-off?

A: No

Q: Will tribal members have to vote to expand the number of district representatives?

A: Yes, the question will have to be put to a vote during a Secretarial Election.

Q: Will tribal dances go on as scheduled?

A: For now, dances have been cancelled due to a surge in COVID-19 but we hope to hold them in the spring.

Q: What is the status of Caddo ancestor remains in Texas?

A: Regarding the Bois d'Arc Lake project, the council is working with the state of Texas and the Attorney General's office for relief under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The state of Texas has offered to donate 5-acres of land for reburials and future tribal use.

Q: Does the CDL training apply to out-of-state Caddo tribal members?

A: Yes, if you are willing to come to Oklahoma and take the training. If you want to take any job training in your state, contact the tribe for potential funding to assist getting back into the workforce.

Q: Does the tribe still have monitoring jobs open with TXDOT?

A: Not at this time, but the tribe will continue to monitor for any future projects and will announce any new positions.

Q: Who do tribal members contact regarding ARPA assistance funds?

A: Delita Butler, ARPA Coordinator

Q: What's the council doing to support educational activities at Caddo Mounds?

A: The Chairman will meet with Caddo Mounds about NAGPRA compliance issues regarding human remains before tribal support is discussed.

Q: Will the tribe have a food pantry drive-thru again?

A: The tribe has been working with the USDA on establishing a food distribution program. We are also investigating turning the casino building into a grocery store and growing our own foods with greenhouses.

Q: Is there assistance available to first time home buyers?

A: Yes, down payment and closing costs are available for members within the Caddo Nation service area in Oklahoma. We continue to work towards making this assistance available to all tribal members with other funding.



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Q: Will the tribal council work on preserving the old community house by the dance grounds?

A: Yes, plans are underway to preserve the building. The community house, dance grounds, and Native American Church grounds are considered sacred sites under Executive Order 13007. Caddo volunteers have offered to help replace the roof and perform updates to the building this summer.

Q: What's the status of the museum board?

A: The board is inactive. If you are interested in serving on the museum board, please email the Chairman at bgonzalez@mycaddonation.com.

Q: Did the Caddo Nation sign up for the SSBCI tribal allocations from the US Treasury Department?

A: Yes

Q: How many members have participated in the meeting today?

A: The stats show 83 viewers with 61 signing into the chat box as tribal members throughout the meeting.