Edition 1007 September 2024

PAWNEE NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

AKÂRU' NEWS

www.pawneenationhousing.org



WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are nearing the Holiday Season and the Housing Authority would like to wish all of our tenants a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope that your homes are filled with the love and thankfulness of family and relatives this holiday season.

This edition is filled with pictures of the kids and activities that our staff have participated in for Halloween. We hope all the kids had fun dressing up and receiving all the sweets that were passed out. We enjoyed seeing all the costumes and sharing laughter with all the parents.

Our maintenance staff have been working hard to get units ready for new tenants. We have a few non-NAHASDA homes that are open for residency. We are accepting applications if you know anyone who is interested and will be eligible for housing. Our applications are online at pawneenationhousing.org.

We have a few Christmas contests for the tenants. We look forward to all that want to participate. There will be incentives and prizes for the kids.

We have added the Cooking Corner and hope that you enjoy the recipes for the holiday and winter season.

Also included in this edition are the Commission and Board openings at the Pawnee Nation. If you are looking to get involved these are great opportunities.

We look forward to the New Year and wish you all Happy Holidays!

~Linda Jestes, Executive Director

COMMISSIONER NEWS

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Commissioners met in a Regular scheduled meeting on October 8th with a quorum present. Commissioners had discussion standing agenda items: 2026 IHP and PNHA Strategic Infrastructure Plan. In New Business the Commissioners approved for a purchase of land on Cleveland and 2nd street, approving the change of status from NAHASDA to non-NAHASDA at 403 Forest Street. had discussion on the new drafted PNHA Non-HAHASDA Lease Purchase Program Policy and heard an update on talking with consultant Amy Wilson.

The Board of Commissioners had a Special Meeting on October 30th with a quorum present. The Commissioners discussed Planning and Development of the Housing Authorities properties with Ms. Amy Wilson. Ms. Willson will be submitting a proposal for the November 12th meeting and the Commissioners will make a decision to move forward with development.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on <u>November 12th</u> with a quorum present. Under New Business the Commissioners approved a letter of support for the Pawnee

Nation for Pawnee Nation Steel LLC, heard a presentation from consultant Amy Wilson, heard a presentation from Ms. Electa Hare and the Iriratutakichisu Program, approved a contract with Ms. Wilson on planning and development, and approved revisions to the Pet Policy and the Drug Free, Smoke Free, Weapon Free Policy.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Douglas Gover Miller, Seat #1

James Grant Hawkins, Seat #2

Reva Howell Garcia, Seat #3

Carol Nuttle, Seat #4

Suzy Knife Chief, Seat #5

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR December 3rd at 11: 30 A.M.

For a full listing of our Commission Meetings, please visit our website at www.pawneenationhousing.org.

PNHA STAFF











CONTACT INFORMATION:

Linda Jestes, Executive Director

Phone: 918-762-3454

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Mary Hawkins, Administrative Technician

Phone: 918-223-7988

Email: maryhawkins@pawneenationhousing.org

VACANT, Project Coordinator

Email: none

Cynthia Butler, Compliance Specialist Email: cbutler@pawneenationhousing.org

George Pratt, Maintenance Coordinator

Phone: 918-223-1697

Alex McSheridan, Energy Coordinator Email: alex.mcsheridan@pawneenationhousing.org

Deni Clark, Accountant Jaden Grier, Maintenance (Contract) Ronald Jestes, Maintenance (Contract) Tom Pratt, Maintenance (Contract)

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

For our employee spotlight this edition, we welcome Mr. Alex McSheridan. Alex is our Energy Coordinator through the Pawnee Nation Rural Energy Pilot Program (REPP). He has been with Housing since February 2024.

His duties are to assist in the coordination and oversight of projects. Collaborate to identify and allocate resources required for projects. Establish and maintain effective communication channels with project partners, including OU, tribal entities, and vendors.

Alex grew up half an hour south each of Seattle, WA. Ended up in the oilfield in North Dakota, came to Oklahoma a decade ago for training and has been here ever since. He is currently pursuing his Masters in Petroleum Engineering from OU and has a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering from WSU.

He recently got married to his beautiful wife, Valarie and is excited about their future together. He has one sister in Idaho, and his parents live in Washington State.

He started off working in landscaping since he was 11 years old, then in maintenance, and after that he went into the oilfield. He started off from being a ground hand to managing the wellsite.

He has also done some engineering for the oilfield as well.

We are glad to have him on the Team!



HOUSING STAFF ACTIVITIES

RURAL ENERGY PILOT PROGRAM

The REPP Energy Coordinator, Mr. Alex McSheridan has still been busy in phase II of the project continuing with work on community engagement and signing individuals up for the sensor and smart thermostats. We have on the calendar a few more workshops in January. Please save the date for January 9th, 5:30 pm at the PN Community Center (551 Harrison Street).

It has been a while since we have sent out an update but we have been working to get our first installments scheduled and have run into some minor set backs. We want to thank you all for your patience! We have not forgotten about you, just working out the final kinks in regard to the marriage of the sensors and thermostats. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we will be doing a pilot trial with 10 sensors and thermostats within the next 30 days, making sure everything is operating and connecting flawlessly, and then within the next 60 to 120 days roll out everyone else's sensors and thermostats!

A reminder that this program is 100% free, can help you identify where your electricity is going, can assist in controlling temperature within your residence and helps us greatly with future weatherization efforts around Pawnee. So, if you know anybody that might be interested in potentially saving money, send them our way! Thank you again for your patience, I know it has taken a while, but we are going to deliver everything to make it as painless as possible.

We cant wait for you to become an **ENERGY CHAMPION** and sign up for the program today!

On the Right are photos of our REPP Energy Coordinator at work.







HOUSING STAFF ACTIVITIES

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

Our maintenance staff have been busy getting housing ready for new tenants. They are currently working on home renovations at four of our properties and we have a contractor working on two of the homes.

There are three (3) non-NASHASDA homes that are being rehabbed that are located at 403 Forest Street, 704 Forest Street and 419 Park Lane. The home we reported on at 122 Yellowhorse has been completed and waiting for a family to take up residence there.

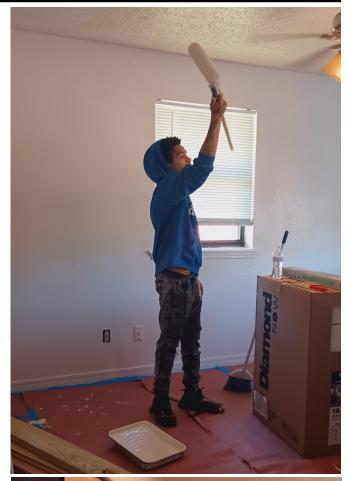
Staff have been working on a few rehabs at Littlesun Addition. They have started on Units 106 and 113 with plans to start soon on 116. These units will be getting a face lift and new appliances to get ready for new tenants to move-in.

Our contractors are continuing to work on the renovations at 307 Ash Street. This is our non-NAHASDA Lease Purchase home. They are working on replacing the roof and installing appliances in the home.

The crew also did one last mow for the mowing season. Thank you to all of our tenants for helping to keep the grounds looking nice and picking up debris.

We want to thank our staff for their hard work. The skill that it takes to do some of the renovations do not go unnoticed. We have a great crew who work well together to get the job done.

On the right are a few pictures of the staff working on Unit 106.





HOUSING AUTHORITY NEWS

RECERTIFICATIONS

It is that time of year for all of our PNHA tenants to do recertification applications. This is required by our funding agency for continued eligibility.

This year we will be delivering the applications to your residences and ask them to be returned at the first of the year.

Should you have any questions on what needs to be reported on recerts, please contact Ms. Mary Hawkins at the Housing Office.

TENANT GIFT BASKETS

The Housing Authority identified some remaining ARP funds and was able to purchase cleaning supplies for all of our NAHASDA and non-NAHASDA tenants before the end of the fiscal year. We hope that you all were able to use the supplies in your homes.



PN STAFF FUN DAY

Our Housing Staff were invited to participate in the Pawnee Nation's Staff Fun day. They weren't able to participate in the games but enjoyed themselves watching. We can't wait to participate in next years games.





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PNHA BINGO NIGHT

Thank you to all who came out and played BINGO. We had a fun filled night with food, BINGO and prizes. Congratulations to all of our winners. We are looking forward to next time.





HALLOWEEN CONTEST

Thank you to all of our tenants who participated in the Halloween House Decorating Contest. Below are our winners.





1st Place: The Merrell Family





2st Place: The Branch Family

HALLOWEEN CONTEST CONT



3rd Place: The Hawkins Family



4th Place: The Ramirez Family

HOUSING GARDEN

We wanted to share with you all the fruit from our little garden at the Housing Office. We planted watermelon and strawberries.



TRICK OR TREATERS

The Housing Office participated with the Pawnee Nation's Trick or Treat Event for the PN Learning Center. We wanted to share our pictures from this event.













	AMERICAN				1	2
3	4	5 530 PBC Mtg Election Day	6 10 am REPP Team Mtg	7	8	9
10	PNHA Closed 12 p Veterans Day Dance	12 1130 PNHA Mtg	13 10 am REPP Team Mtg	14	15 2 pm Rock your Mocs	16
17	18	19 530 PBC Mtg	20 10 am REPP Team Mtg	21 1130 Pawnee Chamber of Commerce Roundtable	22	23
24	25	26	27 10 am REPP Team Mtg PNHA Closed Early	28 Thanksgiving PNHA Closed	29 PNHA Closed	30

TRUNK OR TREAT

The Staff also participated in the Pawnee Nation's Trunk or Treat event for Halloween. Pictured is Mrs. Linda Jestes handing out candy to the kids.

Sun



ROCK YOUR MOCS



PNHA staff participated in the Native American Heritage Month event Rock Your Mocs.

Sat



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PNHA COOKING CORNER

HAMBURGER SOUP

Ingredients:
1 pound lean
ground beef
1 onion diced
2 medium potatoes peeled and
diced



3 ½ cups beef broth

28 ounces canned diced tomatoes with juices, 1 can

10.75 ounces condensed tomato soup 1 can

2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

1 teaspoon Italian seasoning

1 bay leaf

salt and black pepper to taste 3 cups frozen mixed vegetables or fresh chopped vegetables

Instructions:

Brown onion, ground beef and garlic until no pink remains. Drain any fat.

Add potatoes, broth, tomatoes, tomato soup, Worcestershire sauce, seasoning and bay leaves.

Simmer covered 10 minutes.

Stir in vegetables. Simmer 15-20 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

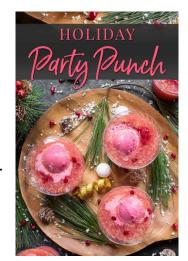
*Optional: Serve with fry bread

HOLIDAY PARTY PUNCH

2 liter bottle Ginger Ale, chilled (recommend cranberry flavor)
2 liter bottle lemon-lime soda.

chilled

12 ounce can frozen lemonade concentrate (recommended pink lemonade)
1 cup pomegranate juice, chilled
1 pint raspberry sorbet



CRANBERRY JALAPENO DIP

12 oz cranberries, blended into chunky puree 1 large jalapeno, finely chopped Green onions, finely chopped Handful of cilantro, finely chopped 3/4 cup Sugar 1/2 tsp Salt 1 tbsp Lemon Juice *Refrigerate over night

Spread 16 oz Cream Cheese on serving dish Spread cranberry mixture on top

*Optional: Drain cranberry jalapeno mix

Serve with crackers.



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 11:30 AM PNHA Mtg 5:30 pm PBC Mtg	4 10 am REPP Team Mtg	5	6	7 6 pm Parade of Lights
8	9	10	11 10 am REPP Team Mtg	12	13	14
15	16	17 5:30 pm PBC Mtg	18 10 am REPP Team Mtg	19 5 pm Pawnee Community Christmas Party	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve Housing Office Closed	25 Christmas Day Housing Office Closed	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve Housing Office Closed Early	Jan 1 New Years Day Housing Office Closed		PAWNEE	

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Get your Christmas lights ready to decorate! We will be having a PNHA Tenant Christmas House Decorating Contest. Judging will be on December 20th. If you would like to participate, please email Cynthia Butler by Monday, December 17th. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.



GINGERBREAD CONTEST

This year we will be having a PNHA Tenant Gingerbread House Contest for the kids. Entries need to be submitted by December 18th for judging on December 19th. Must be between ages 2 to 12 years of age to enter. All participants will be able to keep

their house after the judging. Please email Mary Hawkins if you want to participate.



POLICY REVISIONS

The PNHA Board of Commissioners have made revisions the following PNHA Policies.

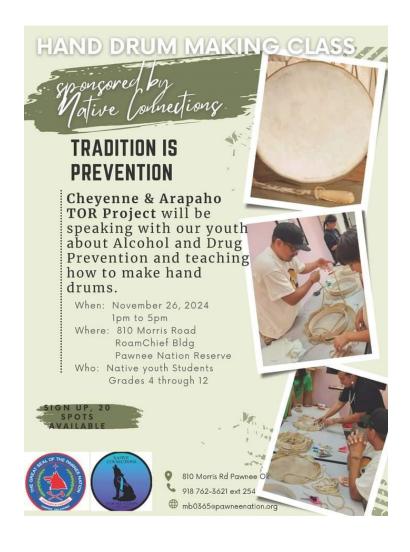
PET POLICY: Revisions were approved to add #12. Tenants must also comply with the City of Pawnee Ordinances and purchase a pet tag for each pet in the household. The tenant must also present any documentation and/or proof of purchase of tag(s) for the tenant's file.

This is required by City Ordinance and is effective January 1, 2025 for all PNHA Tenants who have a comfort pet. Compliance with this ordinance will save the tenant money on any future fines/ fees if your pet becomes at-large and the police are called.

DRUG FREE, SMOKE FREE, AND **WEAPON FREE POLICY:** Revisions for Section approved were Complaints and Violations, Violations, 1st Violation: Written Warning and a \$100.00 violation fee.

These policies have been updated in the amended lease agreements that will be signed during the recertification process.







Pawnee, OK 74058 @Warmothers-Pawnee



Star Quilt Raffle

\$5/Ticket

Drawing on: December 5th

The Pawnee War Mothers are raffling off this beautiful black satin star quilt with fire colors star.

All proceeds will go towards our end of the year activities which include mailing out gift packages to our Pawnee Soldiers for Christmas.

We would also like to have a hand game during Christmas and New Years week.

Thank you for your support!

Nawa iri

Do you want free smoke alarms for your home?

Pawnee Nation has partnered with the Johns Hopkins Smoke Alarm Project to provide interested community members with:

- Free smoke detectors, and combination smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors
- Installation guidance for alarms
- Home fire safety education







If you are interested in participating, you can pick up and file an application at:

301 Agency Rd.

Pawnee, OK 74058

Contact Pawnee Nation Fire Department For Information: (918)762-3655 ext. 156
The application can also be found under the Fire & Rescue Department
page on the Pawnee Nation website: pawneenation.org

Types of Fires

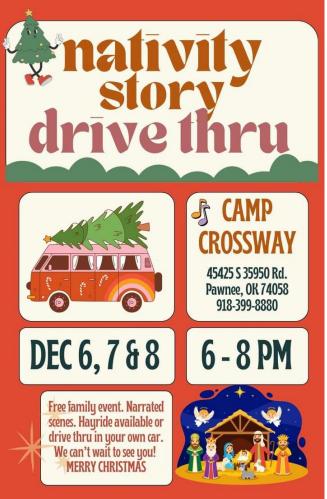
Class A (plastic, paper, wood, and fabric) extinguish with water

Class B (alcohol, oils, solvents, kerosene) extinguish by cutting power, use fire extinguisher

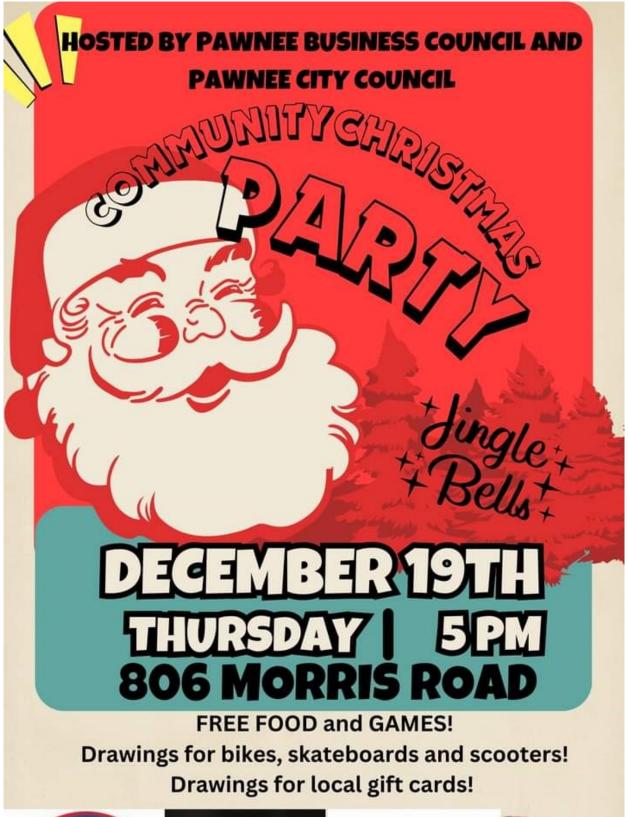
Class C (electrical components) extinguish by cutting power, use fire extinguisher

Tips for creating your home fire escape plan and practicing your 2-minute drill:

- Everyone in your household should know two ways to escape from each room in your home.
- Smoke is dangerous. Get low and go!
- Decide where to meet once you get outside:
- Get out and stay out. Never go back inside for people, pets or things.
- If a fire starts, you may have less than two minutes to get to safety. So time your fire drills and find out: what's your escape time?













Pawnee (Vation Indian Child Welfare

Angel Tree

Pawnee Nation Indian Child Welfare is making an effort to provide gifts for families with Pawnee children that are in foster care and/or families that just need extra help this holiday season. If you are interested in making a difference in these children's lives this year, there are just a few things to do:

- Choose an angel from our Angel Tree PLEASE call one of the numbers listed below to reserve an Angel. As the Angels are reserved, we will remove them from the Christmas tree.
 ICW Angel Tree is located in the DHCS Building, 400 Agency Rd Pawnee, OK 74058 (Across from the Pawnee Nation Fire station)
- · Purchase an appropriate gift
- Deliver the gift to Pawnee Nation ICW (Pawnee Nation DHCS Building) <u>BEFORE December 16, 2024</u> with the original numbered angel



If you have any questions, feel free to contact Randee Marks at (918) 762-9779 Ext. 175 (Office)

PN COMMUNITY CENTER

Do you need a place for a family event or meeting? We have the perfect place!

Our Pawnee Nation Community Center, located at 551 Harrison Street, downtown Pawnee, is the perfect spot for your next gathering. Please visit our website for more information on fees, rental application and contact information for building availability.



HUD 184 LOANS

Are you interested in learning more about HUD 184 Loans and what this program offers? If so, the Housing Office would like to set up a class for anyone who is interested in learning more about this HUD program.

If you are interested or would like to provided with more information on what a HUD 184 Loan is, please let us know by calling the office or emailing us. We also have more information on this opportunity on our website at our Housing website.

We could also offer classes for you learn more, if you are interested in taking a class, please contact Cynthia Butler by email.





COMMISSION-BOARD OPENINGS

If interested, please submit a written request with a resume, to Misty M. Nuttle, President, Pawnee Business Council, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, P. O. Box 470, Pawnee, OK 74058. For electronic submissions please email jnelson@pawneenation.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY

Act as lead agency in Tribal water quantity allocation, regulatory functions, consult/coordinate with DECS, seek injunctions against persons in violations against act, exam/approve plans for waste disposal facilities, decide status of permits/licenses/certifications specified under Act, and responsible for implementing regulations of the Act.

Term: 4 years Opening Positions: 2 Upcoming Openings: 1 December

Governing Document: Law & Order Code Title XII Natural Resources Protection Act

SPORTS

Implement the Pawnee Nation Sports Commission Act and to protect/maintain/improve the safety/welfare of the participants of the sports competition as well as the general public

Term: 3 years Open Positions: 3 Upcoming Openings: 2 November

Governing Document: Pawnee Nation Sports
Commission Act

TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OFFICE

Formulate/adopt/amend/rescind rules and regulations necessary to carry out provisions of this Act, administer oaths/hearings by subpoena, to require witnesses to attend hearings, review/issues rulings and orders pertaining to appeals of the PNTERO aggrieved parties, to examine any person with respect to any matter relates to this Act, Petition Tribal Court for orders necessary & appropriate to enforce the decisions of TERO, to exercise all authority delegates to or conferred by law, receive reports necessary for discharge of duties, shall have authority in operations & functions of TERO

Term: 3 years Open Positions: 3

Governing Document: TERO Act

MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Day-to-day responsibility for the financial affairs and ethical/professional standards of the Corporation but shall share these authorities with the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma for budget and audit purposes. All corporate powers shall be exercised by the Board of Directors. The business, property, and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed under the direction of the Board. Duties: Annual Budget, regulate cash management, meet guidelines and requirements of donors/funders, avoid conflict of interests, and develop systems that protect internal controls.

Term: 3 years Open Positions:2 Upcoming Openings: 2 November

Governing Document: Museum By-Laws



BEHAVORIAL HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The PNBH Board of Directors is responsible for providing corporate oversight and governance in relation to the Pawnee Nation Behavioral Health Facility including all ancillary business activities supporting its operations. Board members are responsible for collaborating with Ascension Recovery Services in charting the executive leadership and strategic direction of the PNBH consistent with the Nation's vision and long-range goals. Board Members are responsible and accountable for the successful development and implementation of strategic business plans to enhance the success and growth of the Company. Board Members provide oversight of business operations and new development while ensuring that each entity is operating in a sound and fiscally responsible manner.

QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required:

- · Ability to pass a background check.
- The Board members shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- Experience with American Indian tribal governments.
- The Board members shall be qualified in one or more of the following areas: public health and wellness, Indian Health, medicine, pharmaceuticals, dental, mental health, business management, traditional culture, health care law or financing.
- The Board members must exemplify attributes of leadership and organizational skills for the development and growth of the health and wellness of the Pawnee Nation.
- Action-oriented and innovative mindset.
- · Proven leadership and management skills.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to convey information clearly in person, in writing, and via telephone and email to diverse audiences.
- Advanced problem-solving and analytical abilities.
- · Commitment to maintaining confidentiality.

Term: 3 years Opening Positions: 5

Governing Document: Articles of Operation of Pawnee Nation Mental Health LLC.

If interested, please submit a written request with a resume, to Misty M. Nuttle, President, Pawnee Business Council, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, P. O. Box 470, Pawnee, OK 74058. For electronic submissions please email inelson@pawneenation.org.

PTDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointment by the Pawnee Business Council. The PTDC Board of Directors is responsible for providing corporate oversight and governance in relation to the gaming activities of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, including all ancillary business activities supporting its gaming operations. Board members are responsible for charting the executive leadership and strategic direction of the PTDC consistent with the Nation's vision and long-range goals. Board Members are responsible and accountable for the successful development and implementation of strategic business plans to enhance the success and growth of the Corporation. Board Members provide oversight of business operations and new development while ensuring that each entity is operating in a sound and fiscally responsible manner.

Board Members are selected for the candidate's subject matter expertise in the field(s) of gaming, management, business, and/or finance. General policies and procedures of the Corporation are adopted by the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the Pawnee Business Council.

QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required:

- Must be able to pass a background check and obtain a gaming license through the Pawnee Nation Gaming Commission.
- Must have experience with American Indian tribal governments.
- Must have a good understanding of economic development and tribal sovereignty as it relates to business and economic development.
- Must possess a strong financial background with an ability to develop and adhere to a complex organizational budget.
- Subject matter expertise in gaming, management, business, or finance.
- · Must be action oriented and innovative.
- Proven demonstration of effective leadership and management qualities.
- Must have exceptional public speaking skills and be able to effectively present and communicate with the entire organization and the general public.
- Must have excellent communication skills and be able to communicate clearly in person, in writing, and by telephone and email in a diverse range of audiences and settings.
- · Must have advanced problem solving and analytical skills.
- Must have knowledge of employment and gaming laws and regulations.
- · Must maintain confidentiality.

Term: 3 years Open Positions: 4

<u>Governing Document:</u> Articles of Incorporation of the Pawnee Tribal Development of Corporation