



Choctaw Nation Election Board

MEETING MINUTES

The Election Board met on April 7, 2021 at 1:05 pm in the Ibaiachvffa (Membership) Conference Room #1251 at the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) Headquarters Building in Durant, Oklahoma. A virtual meeting link was provided for this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Virginia Kay Green.

Secretary, Candace Perkins, called the roll and the following individuals were present:

Virginia Kay Green, Chairperson

Jane Parent, Member

Candace Perkins, Secretary

Sylvia Sigler, Alternate

Jennifer Johnson-Williams, Secretary Alternate

Three (3) voting members of the Board answered roll call – a quorum was established.

Invited guest(s) in attendance: None.

Invocation given by Chairperson Green.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Meeting Minutes from the January 13, 2021 Regular Meeting were provided for review to all Board Members and Alternates prior to this meeting.

Chairperson Green called for Approval of Minutes.

Secretary Perkins made a Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from the January 13, 2021 Regular Meeting. – Seconded by Member Parent.

Chairperson Green called for voice vote; **MOTION PASSED.**



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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairperson Green gave the floor to Secretary Perkins for an update on the Chief and Tribal Council Election Ordinance. Secretary Perkins confirmed that the Election Board's recommendations are on hold until after Election 2021.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Chairperson Green called for the Secretary's Report.

Secretary Perkins provided the following information to the Board:

- Financial Updates including:
 - An overall financial snapshot of FY21 operating expenses for cost center.
- Operational Updates including:
 - An overview of operational updates for the Election Board:
 - It was confirmed that Chief Batton received a resignation letter from Election Board Alternate, Kitty Halcomb on March 10, 2021.
 - It was confirmed that Sylvia Sigler was sworn in as an Election Board Alternate by Tribal Council Speaker Williston on March 13, 2021. She will replace Judy Ogle's vacated seat.
 - A paper copy of Sylvia's biography and the Tribal Council Agenda for March 13, 2021 was provided to the Board.
 - It was confirmed that Chief Batton would be submitting a letter of appointment for Dempsey Wayne Tipps Jr. to Tribal Council at April's meeting. If approved by Tribal Council, Mr. Tipps will take his oath on April 10, 2021. He will replace Kitty Halcomb's vacated seat.
 - An Election Calendar reminder will be deployed to the public beginning April 6, 2021 through April 8, 2021.
 - A paper copy of the social media creative was provided to the Board.
 - Planning details for the Candidate Filing Period (4/19/2021 – 4/21/2021), Contest of Candidacy Period (4/22/2021 – 4/23/2021), and the Candidate Informational Session / Contest Inquiry Show up (4/27/2021) were discussed by the Board.
 - The former Postmaster is no longer at Durant Post Office. There was an issue trying to contact the interim Postmaster to discuss operations for the ballot hold. Issue was resolved on March 24, 2021. Interim Postmaster requested an official letter of operations from Secretary Perkins. This letter was emailed on April 5, 2021 and a paper copy was hand delivered to Durant Post Office on April 6, 2021.
 - A paper copy of the letter was provided to the Board.
 - An overview of current activities that are ongoing with the CNO Voter Registration (VR) Department:



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- As of April 1, 2021, we have a total of 41,172 registered voters which is 25.61% of the eligible tribal membership.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Green called for New Business.

Secretary Perkins requested discussion of proposed amendments to Articles XIV and XVIII of the Chief and Tribal Council Election Ordinance.

The post office issue, while resolved for 2021, will continue to be potential issue unless we find another method for ballot storage prior to tabulation. Secretary Perkins asked Glenn Coffee and Associates to begin drafting amendments to Articles XIV and XVIII of the Chief and Tribal Council Election Ordinance.

A paper copy of the first draft of the amendments were provided to the Board for feedback. These recommendations will be submitted after Election 2021.

No motions made on this subject.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Parent made a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting. – Seconded by Secretary Perkins.

Chairperson Green called for voice vote; **MOTION PASSED.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:39 pm.

Certification of Meeting Minutes:

X *Candace Perkins*

Candace Perkins
Secretary

Approved 5-19-2021