

# Election Reform Committee

SUMMARY

DECEMBER 11, 2014

1:10PM-3:43PM

C2 BALLROOM  
CHOCTAW CASINO & RESORT

<b>HANDOUTS</b>	Constitution of Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma & Election Ordinance; Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation & Election Code; Constitution of Chickasaw Nation & Election Code; Constitution of the Cherokee Nation & Election Code; Constitution of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes & Election Code; Constitution of Muscogee (Creek) Nation & Election Code
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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

CHIEF BATTON

This is a historic day as we look at election. Chief and Assistant Chief will leave meeting after introduction and 10 member group will function on their own as a recommending committee. The goal is to develop up to date election processes that assure that our tribal members have a fair and just election that the majority of our tribal members can be proud of and that will be transparent for all to see. This will be a continual process that should be completed in steps.

## POINTS OF INTEREST WITHIN DISCUSSION

1. The committee completed a lengthy informative discussion regarding the election process and identified underlying issues that they have heard or experienced with the current election process. It was determined that further study was needed by committee members to review reading materials and think over ideas presented during discussion of process.
  - a. Specifically, study use of voter registration as homework to think about where each committee member sits with the ideas presented. Perhaps other options can be provided at the next meeting.
  - b. There was a request from Tribal Council representatives for committee to review Cherokee and Chickasaw election ordinances as it relates to employees who run for elected positions. This is a good opportunity to gather a sample of opinions.
  - c. The committee will try to focus on access to community centers, voter registration list, and type of access to Biskinik at next meeting.
2. The committee brought forth the perception by people that the turnaround time frame to submit recommendations to Chief could be misconstrued. Committee agreed that there is no agenda attached to the timeframe and that this process is pure.
3. It's a new day! Committee members agreed that this is a historical day as Chief stated and they see being invited to take part in this committee as a ray of sunshine. We need to go forward and try to fix some of the past issues. We need to find a place of integrity and transparency.
4. Committee discussed voting similar to Supreme Court cases where votes will be written with explanations of dissent or concurrent; or, committee member can elect to speak explanation instead of writing. The group would like to try and achieve consensus on election process recommendations; but, if consensus cannot be achieved, then group will look at majority.

## COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

1. Try to capture big issues for reflection and set up another meeting so that people can be up-to-date on reading materials.
2. Next meeting is December 23, 2014 at 1pm (CST).

<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Committee recommendations are due to Chief for review by January 1, 2015.</li><li>2. Reading materials will be sent electronically to those participants on conference call.</li><li>3. Minutes will be transcribed and sent out as soon as we can for further committee study.</li><li>4. Set up meeting space for next meeting.</li></ol>
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