



THE

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MCN ATTRACTS MISS USA PAGEANT TO OKLAHOMA MORE THAN 3,000 VISITORS PROJECTED TO VISIT TULSA DURING THANKSGIVING WEEK

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

TULSA, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has partnered with Miss USA and Miss Teen USA to hold this year’s pageant on the Muscogee Reservation at the River Spirit’s Paradise Cove.

During a press conference MCN officials and Miss USA, and Miss Teen USA released statements regarding the partnership.

Principal Chief David Hill said, “We are proud to announce and welcome Miss USA and Miss Teen USA to our growing list of amazing events right here at Paradise Cove.”

According to Hill more than 100 contestants will travel to OK from each state to compete for the title of Miss USA and Miss Teen USA.

As one of the most consistently watched programs nationally and internationally, the event is expected to bring more than 3,000 visitors to Tulsa.

Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum commended the MCN for being a “tremendous driving force” in the local economy in a press conference announcing the event.

“I want to thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief David Hill and his team at River Spirit Casino Resort for their successful recruitment of this prestigious event,” Bynum said. “You need to only look around you to see what the Muscogee (Creek) Nation does for the community on a daily basis, now to be attracting a world-class event like Miss USA to Tulsa, it’s just a reminder of how lucky we are to live here and work together as one community.”

Miss USA Organization President Crystle Stewart said the venue was among the best she had ever seen.

Stewart called Paradise Cove a “state of the art entertainment center that rivals any of the centers I have been to around the world, not just in the Nation.”

“That’s what sold us on Paradise Cove.”

Stewart held the Miss USA 2008 Title and has been a part of the organization since.

According to Stewart, this is her first year organizing the contest and the organization’s first year to partner with a tribal entity.

“I know in the past we have had several contestants that were Native American, and we hope to have more in the future.”

Stewart says tickets will be available in a few months and can be found online on several platforms, including the River Spirit Casino and Resort Paradise Cove ticket office.

Second Chief Del Beaver, Miss USA President Crystle Stewart, Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Jayden Randall and Principal Chief David Hill were on hand to announce the Miss USA Pageant coming to the Muscogee (Creek) Reservation.

(MN File Photo)



Second Chief Del Beaver, Miss USA President Crystle Stewart, Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Jayden Randall and Principal Chief David Hill were on hand to announce the Miss USA Pageant coming to the Muscogee (Creek) Reservation.

(MN File Photo)



Oklahoma officials from both houses vote in support of Ida’s Law.

(Shutterstock)

IDA’S LAW SIGNED BY GOVERNOR STITT NEW LAW EMPHASIZES INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma – Ida’s Law passed through the Oklahoma State Senate and House of Representatives and was signed into law on April 20, by Gov. Kevin Stitt.

The law is named after 29-year-old Ida Beard (Cheyenne Arapaho) from El Reno who disappeared in 2015. Beard has never been found.

On Feb 3, 2020 Ida’s Law was first introduced as House Bill 3345 to the House of Representatives. After a month of debate, it was passed through the House with overwhelming

support from Representatives.

The bill was put on hold for almost a year.

In early February of 2021 the bill was introduced to the Senate as Senate Bill 172. March 2, the bill was passed through the Senate and was received approval the House of Representatives on April 13.

The law emphasizes collaboration between the OSBI, the U.S. Attorney’s Office and the U.S. Department of Justice to coordinate with one another and obtain federal funding to gather data relating missing and murdered indigenous people.

IDA - 2

MCN OBSERVES NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK

MCN’S FVPP JOINED U.S. ATTORNEY’S OFFICE AND TULSA ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP CRIME VICTIMS LEARN ABOUT RESOURCES

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

TULSA, Oklahoma– In observance of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 18-24, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Oklahoma partnered with organizations from Tulsa for “Community Day of Hope.”

According to MCN’s FVPP Director Shawn Partridge, the “Community Day of Hope” was a collaborative event aiming to provide information about services and resources for victims of crime. The FVPP attended the event to let victims of crime know about the resources MCN provides.

Some of the resource organizations in attendance were the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Family Safety Center, Tulsa Crime Stoppers, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Tulsa County Sheriff’s Office, YWCA, Tulsa Police Department-Forensics Nursing representative, Counseling and Recovering Services, AAA and others.

“This event was the first we participated with the U.S. Attorney’s Office,” Partridge said. “However, Shannon Buchanon who is one of our project managers was working all month with the U.S. Attorney’s Office participating in Facebook Live sessions to talk about services and



Governor Kevin Stitt is pictured speaking with Muscogee Nation’s FVPP during the “A Community Day of Hope” event.

(Clinton Sinclair)

resources.”

The FVPP has developed a close relationship with the U.S. Attorney’s Office prior to the ruling affirming the tribes jurisdiction and continues to work together to provide help to victims of crimes.

Governor Kevin Stitt made an appearance at the “Community Day of Hope” event and greeted those in attendance. He said the event was also designed help victims understand what their rights are after adding Marsy’s Law in the constitution.

Marsy’s law is a national movement that aims to ensure victims of crime have meaningful and enforceable constitutional rights in the criminal justice system. Oklahoma voters overwhelmingly voted to pass the law

on Nov. 6, 2018, in the form of State Question 794.

Governor Stitt stated that his office is building relationships especially with the McGirt Decision.

FVPP Project Coordinator Tania Bardin commented about the event saying, it was mostly to help provide education to victims, survivors and their families who were impacted by the McGirt ruling.

Partridge said in light of the McGirt ruling and the misinformation that continues to be perpetrated, it is important people know MCN has had victim services for many years to serve and support victims of crime.

For more information about MCN FVPP contact 918-732-7979.

MVSKOKE FFA STUDENT SHINES IN COUNTY SHOW

CITIZEN KADE ROBERTSON HAS WON MULTIPLE BELT BUCKLES SHOWING LIVESTOCK

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

WELEETKA, Okla-
homa– Muscogee (Creek) cit-
izen Kade Robertson was born
into agricultural family.
The son of Timothy and
Kim Roberston, is a soph-
omore at Weleetka High
School. Robertson is a
member of the Weleetka FFA
program where he has been
showing species such as pigs
since he was 3 years old.
“I’ve been showing all spe-
cies since that age,” Robert-
son said. “Some of those spe-
cies are cattle, sheep, goats
and pigs. I have been raised up
around livestock.”
Roberston enjoys showing
cattle, because he likes their
temperament and how he can
work with them more. Show-
ing livestock is important to
Robertson, he said it teaches
what hard work and dedica-
tion is all about.
According to MCN’s Ag

Youth Program Manager
Billy Haltom, Robertson had
a really good county show.
Robertson participated in the
Okfuskee County Livestock
Show and the Oklahoma
Youth Expo (OYE) Show ear-
lier this year.
“In the 2021 Okfuskee
County Livestock Show, I
won a total of six belt buck-
les,” Robertson said.
Robertson won three belt
buckles under the reserve
grand champion, and three
under champion in various
categories. He also won breed
champion in the OYE show.
Robertson has placed
in many other livestock
shows including the MCN
All-Indian Livestock show.
Although he has only done a
few shows this year, Robert-
son said winning in those two
shows have been his favorite
memory so far.
Robertson plans to con-
tinue showing animals
throughout high school and
hopefully beyond.



Citizen Kade Robertson placed first in the breed champion steer category for Oklahoma Youth Expo show.
(Submission)

SECRETARY HAALAND CONTINUES PURSUIT OF JUSTICE IN INDIAN COUNTRY, BEGINS IMPLEMENTATION OF ‘NOT INVISIBLE ACT’

UNDER HAALAND LEADERSHIP DOI ENGAGES WITH STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON – Secre-
tary of the Interior Deb Haal-
and announced today that she
is moving forward to implement
the Not Invisible Act, includ-
ing establishing a Joint Com-
mission led by the Departments
of the Interior and Justice on
reducing violent crime against
American Indians and Alaska
Natives.
Congress enacted the Not
Invisible Act in October 2020
to increase intergovernmental
coordination to identify and
combat violent crime against
Indians and within Indian

lands. The Act calls for the
Interior Department to coordi-
nate prevention efforts, grants,
and programs related to missing
and murdered Indigenous peo-
ples. Secretary Haaland was the
lead sponsor of the Not Invisi-
ble Act when she served in
Congress. The bill was passed
unanimously by voice vote in
both chambers of Congress.
“A lack of urgency, trans-
parency, and coordination has
hampered our country’s efforts
to combat violence against
American Indians and Alaska
Natives,” said Interior Secretary
Deb Haaland. “In partnership
with the Justice Department
and with extensive engagement

with Tribes and other stake-
holders, Interior will marshal
our resources to finally address
the crisis of violence against
Indigenous peoples.”
Secretary Haaland is coordi-
nating with Attorney Gen-
eral Merrick Garland to estab-
lish a joint Commission and
appoint members. The Com-
mission must be composed of at
least 27 federal and non-federal
members who represent diverse
experiences, backgrounds, and
geography, and who are able to
provide balanced points of view
with regard to the duties of the
Commission. The Commission
will hold hearings, take testi-
mony, and receive evidence in

order to develop recommenda-
tions for the federal government
to combat violent crime against
Indians and within Indian
lands.
“For too long, Tribes have
suffered from high rates of vio-
lent crime that ripple across the
entire community. It is incum-
bent on the federal government
to partner with Tribes to sup-
port and sustain safer commu-
nities,” said Attorney General
Merrick Garland. “I look for-
ward to working closely with
Secretary Haaland to honor our
treaty and trust responsibili-
ties to the Tribes, to fulfill the
requirements of the Not Invisi-
ble Act, and to further our

nation-to-nation partnership
with Tribal governments.”
Today’s announcement fol-
lows Secretary Haaland’s recent
formation of a new Missing &
Murdered Unit (MMU) within
the Bureau of Indian Affairs
Office of Justice Services (BIA-
OJS) to provide leadership and
direction for cross-departmen-
tal and interagency work involv-
ing missing and murdered
American Indians and Alaska
Natives. The MMU will help
put the full weight of the fed-
eral government into investigat-
ing these cases and marshal law
enforcement resources across
federal agencies and throughout
Indian country.

IDA
Continued from Page 1

The law also creates the
Office of Liaison for Miss-
ing and Murdered Indigenous
Persons under the direction of
the OSBI.
Senator Paul Rosino (R)
is a principal author of the
Senate Bill.
According to Sen. Rosino,
there are an estimated 220
missing American Indians in
OK with about 14 cases from

his own district.
In a press release from the
OK State Senate, Rosino said,
‘It’s a national problem, and
it’s a problem right here in
Oklahoma.’
‘One of the biggest issues is
the lack of solid data, which is
exactly what Ida’s Law would
help us address.’
According to the National
Congress of American Indi-
ans, ‘Native American women
face murder rates ten times
more than the national average
of any demographic group.’



**ANONYMOUS
TIP LINE**
918.777.3429
 **MVSKOKE MEDIA**

THE MVSKOKE MEDIA

Angel Ellis, Director | aellis@mvskokemedia.com

Lani Hansen, Senior Reporter | lhansen@mvskokemedia.com

Morgan Taylor, Reporter | mtaylor@mvskokemedia.com

Jerrad Moore, Multi-Media Producer | jmoore@mvskokemedia.com

Clinton Sinclair, Videographer | csinclair@mvskokemedia.com

Gary Fife, Radio Specialist | gfife@mvskokemedia.com

Chelsie Rich, Mvskoke Markets | crich@mvskokemedia.com

Breanna Dawson, Advertising & Sales | bdawson@mvskokemedia.com

Pauline Randall, Project Specialist/Layout | prandall@mvskokemedia.com

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CLAREMORE’S SENIOR KEARANIE JOHNSON IS THE FIRST FEMALE TO WIN A STATE CHAMP TITLE IN WRESTLING

MCN CITIZEN BRINGS HOME FIRST HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WRESTLING STATE CHAMP TITLE

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

CLAREMORE, Okla-
homa– Claremore High School senior Kearanie Johnson takes girls state wrestling title home.

Johnson is the daughter of Muskogee (Creek) citizen Anthony Johnson and wife Desarae Johnson, and Amber Johnson. The Claremore senior has been wrestling since she was 4 years old. Johnson looked up to her dad, who is a former three-time state champion wrestler for Webster and was taught by him as a young child.

“My dad use to wrestle for Webster out of Tulsa,” Johnson said. “One day he took me into the room at Blue T and I liked how rough the sport was and competitive, I liked winning.”

Claremore’s first female wrestler, started out being the only female to wrestle her freshman and sophomore year. When junior year came around, Johnson gained 11 teammates for the all girls wrestling team.

As a wrestler, Johnson puts in many hours of practice in the gym. Before school, she would go to the gym at 5 a.m. then go to her team practice from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. After she eats dinner, Johnson heads back to the gym.

Johnson’s weight class in wrestling is either between 120 or 123 pound class. In Oklahoma City, when Johnson competed for state title in girls wrestling she was



Kearanie Johnson signs letter of intent with family and coaches. Back row from left to right are Amber Johnson, Coach Crystal Luginbill, Coach Zec Weber, Coach Chad Willard and Coach Ryan Jahn. Pictured on the bottom row from left to right are Kearanie Johnson, Anthony Johnson, Nokose Johnson and Desarae Johnson.

(Staff photo by Clinton Sinclair)

in the 127-pound class. She won state her junior and senior year.

When Johnson competed during her junior year for the state title, it was under an exhibition tournament. It was not until the next year in 2020 when the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association sanctioned a girls division in wrestling.

“Last year when I won state, it didn’t feel really spe-

cial because it wasn’t official,” Johnson said. “This year after my match I started crying, because I was thinking ‘wow this is really over and it counts.’ Last year I counted it but this year it meant a lot more.”

Johnson plans to continue her education and wrestling career after high school. She has signed with Gannon University out of Pennsylvania and plans to study in

Communication Sciences and Disorders. Then she plans on going to graduate school for Speech Language Pathology.

As a senior, Johnson is definitely going to miss her friends and teammates from high school wrestling but she is looking forward to college wrestling. There are two types of wrestling styles and according to Johnson, she will be wrestling freestyle in

college where in high school she wrestled folk style.

“I’m ready for that change, freestyle is more fun,” Johnson said. “Freestyle is international, where everybody in the world wrestles this. Folk style is an American style of wrestling. Freestyle is more fast paced and exciting to watch.”

Johnson’s family, friends and coaches are definitely proud of her.

MCN SC JUSTICE NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ADAMS RECOGNIZED BY NALSA FOR HIS VOLUNTEERISM



Justice Andrew Adams III is currently serving a six-year term with the Nation.

(Submission)

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-
homa – Muskogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Justice Andrew Adams III was awarded the National Native

American Law Student Association’s (NALSA) Alumnus of the year award for 2021.

Justice Adams was nominated and confirmed in 2012 to the Muskogee

JUSTICE - 4

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

2021 Muskogee Creek Nation high school, military, technical and college graduates for the June 1st edition.

Friday, May 14th at 5:00pm is the deadline for our special June 1st print edition.

Profiles will be edited for Associated Press style, structure, grammar, spelling, length and punctuation.

2021 Graduate Profile Form
High Resolution Digital Image
Name
High School/College/Technical Institute/Military Program
BIO **(150-word limit)**

DEADLINE: MAY 14, 2021 AT 5PM

LATE PROFILES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

E-mail all information to info@mvskokemedia.com

For more information please call 918-732-7720. An e-mail stating your submission has been received will be sent to you, however if you do not get a response, please call to verify that your information was received.

ANIMATION PROGRAM AT RYAL ELEMENTARY

RPS USES A MEDIA SOFTWARE PROGRAM FOR KIDS TO DEVELOP NEW SKILLS

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

SALEM, Oklahoma – In the last year, Ryal Public School has introduced a new media program and started the Ryal Animation Club.

According to Director of Programs at RPS, Lucky Burney this program uses Wonder Media software that was developed by Terry Thoren called Wonder Media Story Maker.

Thoren was once the CEO of the company that produced Rugrats and Wild Thornberry's.

"It teaches kids to write and think because basically every kid has have a story and this program will help them tell their stories," Burney said.

Wonder Media Story Maker software teaches students to create cartoons and program the cartoon to do what they want it to do. According to www.wonder-media.com this teaches children skills through storytelling, writing, communication, teamwork, problem-solving and technical skills.

"Sometimes when kids are videoing or doing recordings they don't want to be on camera," Burney said. "We found that when kids use a cartoon character and not themselves, they feel like its okay to make mistakes and its okay to have."

According to Burney, students start this program as early as kindergarten at RPS.



Muscogee (Creek) students Shaniah and Simon Lee record voices for animation projects.

(Morgan Taylor)

Burney believes this program helps bat the generational trauma that Native American children face when it comes to building communication skills.

"Some of our kids live in traditional homes and with grandparents who suffered during their times," Burney said. "Learning these skills and being able to use a cartoon as themselves helps them break out of that shell and open up behind that animation."

The students also use a studio of equipment including, lights, green-screens, and cameras.

"So right now the kids are making commercials," Burney said. "I just had a girl who made a commercial for her family's farm."

Burney says these commercial projects teach students how to record and edit video and audio, produce video, animation, "Everything you can think of when it comes to media."

In the year that the program has been at the school, students have done news broadcasts, self-introduction videos, and commercials for family businesses.

"It's different things for dif-

ferent kids," Burney explains. "Some just like to do recordings and voices, some just like animations, then there are those leaders I guess you could say who like to be directors."

"I try to make them do everything but by this time of the year they have figured out what they like to do."

Burney said and important lesson is "They all learn to work together, ultimately."

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has brought challenges to the program, as they would typically enter film competitions through out the year.

"It has been a struggle

because half of our students are still doing virtual, not only that but I have to limit the amount of students in the studio at one time," Burney said.

As the program progresses at Ryal, Burney hopes to take his future Animation Club students to competitions.

Students mentioned that this program has opened them up to considering media production or similar work for the future.

The Ryal Animation Club has a Facebook page that showcases the kid's work that can be followed for those who are interested.

INDIAN AFFAIRS ANNOUNCES DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR \$850 MILLION DESIGNATED FOR BIE-FUNDED SCHOOLS

FUNDS WILL PROVIDE COVID-19 RELIEF FOR EDUCATION IN BIE- AND TRIBALLY OPERATED K-12 SCHOOLS AND TCUS

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON – Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Bryan Newland today announced the Bureau of Indian Education's plan for disbursing \$850 million provided by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, signed on March 11, 2021, by President Biden. The funds, which BIE began disbursing this week, will be provided to BIE-funded K-12 schools and Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCUs).

"This much-needed financial support will aid our ability to help the Tribal communities we serve recover more quickly from the pandemic's wide-ranging impact on them," said Bryan Newland. "ARP funds are vitally important for alleviating strains imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic on BIE students and their families, as well as on teachers, administrators, and staff in our K-12 schools and at the TCUs."

"While this past year has been a challenge given the conditions the COVID-19

pandemic has imposed on our schools and students, our educators have remained dedicated to ensuring our students' success," said BIE Director Tony L. Dearman. "The ARP's funds will go a long way to ensuring our students will not unduly bear the burden of the pandemic's impact on their education. This funding will help support our schools locally as they devise and implement much-needed student learning recovery initiatives."

According to the BIE's allocation plan for the \$850 million it received under the Act:

\$535.5 million will go to the 183 K-12 schools in its school system based on the Weighted Student Unit formula,

\$229.5 million will go to TCUs based on student count, and

\$85 million will be managed by BIE School Operations for investments, such as the buildout of a Learning Management System and facility ventilation improvement projects.

The BIE is using the same set of allowable costs identified by the U.S. Department of Education for CARES Act funding, which are outlined on the Bureau of Indian Affairs website: BIE Implementation of American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding | Indian Affairs (bia.gov). It is currently awarding funds to schools and TCUs.

Congress and the Administration have provided schools across the United States nearly \$200 billion in COVID-19 relief to date making the American Rescue Plan Act the third pandemic federal aid package for education.

The BIE implements federal Indian education programs and funds 183 elementary schools, secondary schools and dormitories (of which over two-thirds are Tribally operated) located on 64 reservations in 23 states serving an estimated 46,000 individual students. The BIE also operates two post-secondary schools and administers grants for 29 Tribally controlled colleges and universities and two tribal technical colleges.

JUSTICE

Continued from Page 3

(Creek) Nation Supreme Court. He is currently serving his second six-year term as a Justice for the MCN Supreme Court. Justice Adams has also served as Chief Justice during 2014-2019 term and Vice Chief Justice during his 2013 term.

According to Justice Adams the award honors Indigenous lawyers who work to give back to the organization.

"They bestow the award on Indian lawyers who have had some type of connections with the NALSA," Justice Adams explained. "Back in 2005 to 2006, I served as the treasurer for NALSA and over the years I have individually supported NALSA by volunteering or other ways."

"My law firm has also been a sponsor of the organization for the last six or seven years."

Every year NALSA has a Moot Court Competition where teams from across the country from different law schools will compete in a legal argument that a federal Indian law professor puts together and search for attorneys to judge the competition.

"NALSA had asked me to be a final round judge along with five others," Justice Adams said. "They didn't tell me exactly why they picked me for the award but I think it has something to do with volunteering."

Justice Adams has a

demonstrated dedication to mentorship and giving back.

"I mentor American Indian law students and my firm has been a financial contributor to NALSA," Adams said. "I do my best to support the organization any way that I can."

As Justice Adams is one of four recipients of the award, he was the only Muscogee (Creek) recipient for this year.

"I think it's important when Muscogee citizens are doing positive things," Justice Adams said. "I think it's important for citizens to know that, especially the youth."

"If I can be a positive role model to Muscogee youth I definitely want to do that."

Justice Abrams said and he wants to encourage other young citizens who have dreams of going into law to keep working hard toward their dreams and goals."

Justice Adams is a founding partner of Hogen Adams PLLC in St. Paul, MN, which focuses on Indian Law.

"The McGirt decision has definitely positively impacted my practice," Justice Adams confirms. "I just think it's awesome that the Supreme Court actually got it right in the case and reaffirmed the Muscogee Nation reservation boundaries pursuant to the Treaty of 1866."

You can find more information about Justice Andrew Adams III at <http://www.creeksupremecourt.com/justices/justice-andrew-adams-iii/>.



MVSKOKERADIO

WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM CST

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SPORTS NAMES, LOST WAR BONNET, INTERIOR SECRETARY

OSCAR REFUSAL, SPORTS TEAM NAMES, LOST AND FOUND HEADDRESS, PRESS SHY SECRETARY?

Gary Fife
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Okmulgee, Oklahoma—All the fanfare and fancy people just had their night of nights in Hollywood. The Academy Awards were presented and an Asian woman’s film, Nomadland was named as Best picture. This year, there was a more diverse group represented among the winners.

Nope, no Native Americans there, but there was some mention of the 1973 ceremony when Apache actor, Sacheen Littlefeather rejected the Oscar on behalf of Marlon Brando for his work in the film “The Godfather.” She announced that Brando refused the Oscar because of the treatment and images of Native American by the Hollywood film industry. Recently, several news agencies re-ran the story.

Update on pro sports team names: The Disneyland-On-The-Potomac football team could actually become the “Washington Football Team.” How generic can you get? According to the team website that name was among about 30 being circulated among fans who get to

play a “big role” in making the name selection says CBS Sports. On the list: “Warriors.” Sounds a bit too familiar, hey? How ‘bout “Sports Players?” You could embroider the word “Player” on the back of each team member’s jersey. Generic enough?

Meanwhile, in Kansas City..The ‘Chiefs’ football team has been talking about banning the wearing of war bonnets and face paint during their games. To their credit this team has actually been talking to local Native groups about improving their image. Still, troubling problems remaining are how to get rid of the ‘tomahawk chop’ and chant.

Of course, back in December, the Cleveland Indians announced they were working on plans to drop that name. The team is also considering fan opinions about that change. No time or date was announced. Still waiting, guys.

O.K., one more. A Native group in Roseville, Minnesota, the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors Group (MUID), is campaigning to change the name of Pocahontas Park, says The Circle. The group and a Roseville Com-

munity Action Plan say Pocahontas had no local connections. The true story of the woman is not being told.

Also the story being told, especially by the Disney film tells of her mixing with the European culture and leaves out her exploitation. Their effort, according to a MUID statement is to correct the misinformation being told about the real historical figure.

In April, APTN National News reported a man in Vancouver was dumpster diving and found an eagle feather headdress. Harry Werner began a search to locate the real owners of the relic. It had been stolen and after several people tried to claim it, the family of the real owners saw it on Facebook and brought it home.

A couple of times recently, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland spoke with Native reporters and some others, about issues on her agenda and that’s well and fine. But no recording of those events was allowed. In this day and age of the major expansion of Native media, especially the broadcast and internet, that doesn’t make sense.

Indian Country Today just reported that there was



(MNN File Photo)

“STILL WAITING, GUYS.”

a White House Cabinet level meeting about how to form and conduct its new tribal consultation initiative. But, that meeting was closed to the press.

To an old and gray Native reporter, that automatically raises suspicions. Why? Is she/they afraid of saying something they ought not to, and having it on the audible/visible record. So far, everything she has done has been just fine, why the mystery?

Well, hopes are that you’ve recovered from the 2020 national election because the Muscogee (Creek) Nation elections are coming up this fall. The primary is set for September 18. Check with the Election Board webpage for information on dates, positions and rules for voting in this election. Do your duty, vote.

Getting ready for Meske—Summer. Hvtvm cerecares.

Disclaimer: The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or Mvskoke Media.

FUNDING FOR MCN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION PASSES

AGREEMENTS MADE WITH PRODUCTION COMPANY FOR UPCOMING FILM

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMLUGEE, Oklahoma – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Extraordinary Session was held March 30 via teleconference.

The National Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-046 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board (“GOAB”) to execute the AIA document A101-2017 Standard from of Agreement between owner and contractor with Thompson Construction, INC. Sponsor: Representative Patrick Freeman Jr.

The GOAB has determined that is necessary to enter into AIA Document A101-2017 Standard From of Agreement



Contracts approved in Extraordinary Session. (MN file photo)

between MCN and Thompson Construction, Inc. for the MCN Okemah Casino exterior and interior renovation project. The contract sum is \$1,527,100.00. Postponed during March 27, Regular Session. Adopted Substitute 14-0-0.

TR 21-051 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Location Agreement with the Minim Productions, Inc. Sponsor: Representative James Jennings

For the purpose of photo-

graphing and filming Reservation Dogs, a Location Agreement has been presented. Agreement states: 1. All rights of every kind in and to all photographs a sound recording made in connection with the use of the property (“Footage”), which shall be and remain in the sole and exclusive property of Minim Production, Inc.; and 2. The perpetual and irrevocable right to use and re-use the footage in connection with the Production and in any other productions as Minim Productions, Inc. may elect, and in connection with any advertising, publicizing, exhibiting, merchandising, distributing, and exploiting such Productions in any manner whatsoever at any time by all means, media, devices, processes and technology now or herein after known or devised in perpetuity throughout the universe. Adopted 14-0-0.

TR 21-057 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a grant award letter with the National Congress of American Indians Fund awarding grant funds to the MCN Scholarship Foundation. Sponsor: Representative James Jennings.

National Council to approve grants funds in the amount of \$5,000 from the National Congress of American Indians Fund for the purpose of benefiting the MCN Scholarship Foundation. Adopted 14-0-0.

NCA 21-034 Law of the MCN amending NCA 20-100 (a Law of the MCN approving the Comprehensive Annual Budget for fiscal year 2021 and providing for appropriations.) Sponsor: Representative Mark Randolph Adopted substitute 13-1-0.

EXTRAORDINARY- 6



Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens can recieve a full traditional funeral service with no extra cost to families.

This package includes:

- Complete services including viewing/visitation, wake service & funeral service
- Casket
- Outside Container
- Stationary Package
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- Death Certificate
- Cemetery Set Up (tent, chairs, etc.)

(This package is valued at \$4,500)

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PARKS
BROTHERS
Funeral Home

HEW COMMITTEE PASSES NEW LAW FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE

TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP SEEKS FUNDING TO HIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held April 14.

All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session Nov. 30.

HEW addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-047 Execute a certain agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health and Surescripts, LLC (“Agreement”) on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by Representative Mary Crawford.

The agreement with Surescripts, LLC will allow MCNDH access to certain pharmacy electronic prescribing services for the full integration and implementation of the Epic Electronic Health Record System. Passed 4-0.

TR 21-048 Supporting the assumption of remaining

tribal shares from the Health Services Claremore Service Unit. Sponsored by Rep. Joyce Deere.

Tribal shares and other related services provided by the Indian Health Services at Claremore Indian Hospital has planned to transfer related programs, services, functions and activities with MCNDH. Passed 4-0.

TR 21-049 Execute a professional services agreement with the University of Oklahoma, Health Sciences Center on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health. Sponsored by Rep. Anna Marshall.

The professional services agreement with OUHSC will provide specialized bariatric services to members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and other qualifying individuals. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-030 Amending MCNCA Title 35, Chapter 7. Entitled “Natural Disaster Act.” Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph.

The new law known as the “Disaster Assistance” will assist a household of at least one enrolled Muscogee (Creek)

citizen who may be eligible for assistance for the loss of furniture, clothing, groceries, housing etc. if affected by fire, flood, tornado, hurricane, earthquake or other disasters considered on a case-by-case basis. Disaster must have occurred within one year of application date, certain documentation is required. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-031 Amending MCNCA Title 19 substitute 10-108. Entitled “Handling of returned absentee ballot,” and substitute 10-109. Entitled “Examination of signatures; removal of outer envelope.” Sponsored by Rep. James Jennings.

The new law states absentee ballots received by the Election Board must be marked, sealed in the inner envelope and mailed in the pre-addressed outer envelope. The examination of signatures and the removal of the outer envelope may take place during three days in the advance of the day of election. Absentee ballots are retrieved by Election Board members and placed in absentee ballot boxes from Lighthouse Headquarters. Passed 4-0.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Health, Education and Welfare Committee meeting was held April 14 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MN File Photo)

NCA 21-032 Amending MCNCA Title 35, substitute 14-103 entitled “Eligibility; guidelines and policy.” Sponsored by Rep. Anna Marshall.

The new law states the Director of the Youth Services Program will develop and adopt guidelines and procedures for the Muskoke Youth Opportunity Grant, with advisement from the Muskoke Nation Youth Council – Finance Committee. The eligibility shall be all enrolled youth citizens, up to the age of 24 to partake in educational

activities and non-educational extra-curricular activities. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-033 Authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office for Fiscal Year 2021.

The citizenship office has seen an increase following the McGirt decision, and is in need of additional funds in order to hire additional staff. Passed 4-0.

For audio of committee meetings visit: www.mcnn.com

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT TAKES STEPS TO RESTORE TRIBAL HOMELANDS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TOOK STEPS TO HONOR OUR NATION-TO-NATION RELATIONSHIP WITH TRIBES

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON – The Department of the Interior today took several steps to honor our nation-to-nation relationship with Tribes and uphold our trust and treaty responsibilities to them. Today’s actions reverse a series of steps taken in the previous administration that undermined the ability of Tribes to establish and consolidate their homelands.

Taking land into trust is one of the most important functions Interior undertakes on behalf of Tribes. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland issued Secretary’s Order 3400, which re-delegates the authority to review and approve applications to place land into trust to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional directors. The Secretary’s Order will not apply to gaming applications. This action reverses steps taken in 2017 that unnecessarily elevated land-into-trust decisions to the Department’s headquarters staff, increasing the complexity of the decision-making process and causing delays.

“At Interior, we have an obligation to work with Tribes to protect their lands and ensure that each Tribe has a homeland where its citizens can live together and lead safe and fulfilling lives,” said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland. “Our actions today will help us meet that obligation and will help empower Tribes to determine how their lands are used — from conservation to economic development projects.”

Federal policies dating back more than a century have eroded the land base of Indian Tribes across the United States. By placing lands into trust status through the Department of the Interior, Tribes are able



Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland issued Secretary’s Order 3400 which re-delegates the authority to review and approve applications to place land into trust to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional directors. (USDIOI)

to reacquire lands within or near their reservations, establish a land base for Tribal communities and clarify jurisdiction over their lands. Tribes have faced delays and increasing costs in efforts to develop housing projects, manage law enforcement agencies and develop local economies as a result of unnecessary hurdles in the land-into-trust process.

“The patchwork of land-holdings within existing reservation boundaries can make it difficult to develop coherent law enforcement and regulatory policies on reservations, restricting the ability to sustain community and economic development,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. “These important actions are a step in the right direction to restore homelands that will strengthen Tribal communities.”

In addition to the Secretary’s Order, the Solicitor’s Office withdrew three previous opinions that impeded the Department’s ability to take land into trust for Tribes and that were issued without adequate Tribal consultation. Going forward, the Department will engage in meaningful and robust consultation with Tribes to learn about the challenges they face in the fee-to-trust process and in managing their own lands.

The Solicitor issued M-37070 and withdrew M-37054 and M-37055, which created an unduly burdensome process for Tribes seeking to place land into trust under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934. In its place, the office reinstated a previous opinion (M-37029) that has been upheld by multiple federal courts and outlines a reasonable process for Tribal applications for land into trust.

The Solicitor also issued M-37069 and withdrew M-37064, which erroneously concluded that, despite the existence of a formal rule allowing such acquisitions, the Secretary of the Interior does not have discretionary authority to take land into trust for Tribes in Alaska. This action will eliminate uncertainty over the Secretary’s continuing authority under the IRA to take land in Alaska into trust for the benefit of Alaska Tribes.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice and Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held March 23 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MNN File Photo)

COMMITTEES PASSED NEW LEGISLATION FOR GOAB

GOAB SEEKS TO IMPROVE OKEMAH CASINO

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice and Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held March 23.

All passed legislation went before the full Council during the regular session March 27.

BFJ/LNC addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21-046 Authorizing the Gaming Operations

Authority Board (“GOAB”) to execute the AIA document A101-2017 standard form of agreement between owner and contractor with Thompson Construction, INC. Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr.

The AIA Document A101-2017 Standard Form of Agreement between the Owner and Contractor with Thompson Construction, INC is a contract for improvement for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okemah Casino exterior and interior renovation project. Passed 9-0.

For audio of committee meetings visit: www.mcnn.com

EXTRAORDINARY
Continued from Page 5

The legislation allows for the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2021 line item for independent statutory agencies to increase in the amount of \$6,793,997. FY 2021 annual budget for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse department shall be funded at 50% of the departments tribal operating cost for the remainder of FY 2021.

NCA 21-035 Law of the

MCN authorizing the expenditure of grant funds received from the National Congress of American Indians Fund for the MCN Scholarship Foundation. Sponsor: Representative James Jennings (\$5,000)

National Council to approve the expenditure of grants funds in the amount of \$5,000 from the National Congress of American Indians Fund for the purpose of benefiting the MCN Scholarship Foundation. Adopted 14-0-0.

Full legislation can be viewed at www.mcnn.com.

BFJ COMMITTEE APPROVES NEW JUDICIAL POSITION

MCN JUDICIAL BRANCH SEEKS TO ADD CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Lani Hansen
SENIOR REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held April 15.

All passed legislation will go before the full Council during the regular session April 24.

BFJ addressed the follow-ing legislation, the interpre-tation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

NCR 21-003 Approving the Service Contract Agree-ment between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Native Advisory LLC. Sponsored by Representative William Lowe, Co-Spon-sored by L. Tiger III, A. Jones III, R. Hufft, A. Mar-shall

The Service Contract Agreement between the Client who is the National Council and Contractor who is the Native Advisory LLC, where the client will pro-vide contractor necessary documents and information. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-040 Authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission for fiscal year 2021. Sponsored by Rep. Joseph Hicks.

The citizenship numbers have increased which adds to the increased work, and fol-lowing the McGirt decision, the Tax Commission is need-ing additional agents. Passed 4-0.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Business, Finance and Justice Committee meeting was held April 15 at the Mound Building in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. (MNN File Photo)

NCA 21-041 Estab-lishing guidelines regard-ing the authorization of the expenditure of the American Rescue Plan Funding. Spon-sored by Rep. William Lowe. Co-Sponsored by L. Tiger III, A. Marshall, J. Hicks.

The purpose of this Act is to establish guidelines where all ARP funds will require budgets for proposed expenditures and must be detailed to and approve by the National Council. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-042 Amending MCNCA Title 37, Chapter 9 entitled “Record requests between public bodies” and creating new law entitled “Information Requests.” Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe.

The purpose of this act is to authorize record requests between public bodies, and

the public body is not required to process the request under the FOIA, unless the citizen chooses to do so by written request. Passed 3-1. Robert Hufft voted against.

NCA 21-043 Amending MCNCA Title 14 substitute 1-802 entitled “Release prior to trial.” Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman, Co-Spon-sored Robert Hufft.

The release to prior trial conditions is determined by the judge to reasonably assure the appearance of the person for trial and ensure public safety. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-044 Amending MCNCA Title 26 entitled “Judicial Branch/Courts” and authorizing the creation of a Chief District Court Judge. Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman, Co-Spon-sored by Robert Hufft.

The Chief judge is nec-

essary to hear emergency requests, handle case admin-istration, provide for timely approval of search warrants and arrest warrants, and pre-side over the part-time Dis-trict Court Judges. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-045 Creating new law in Title 30, Chap-ter 9 entitled “Government Records.” Sponsored by Rep. Lucian Tiger III, Co-Spon-sored by A. Jones, P. Free-man, A. Marshall, J. Hicks.

This act is to provide open access to each National Council member to all records under Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s elected offi-cials. Passed 3-1. Travis Scott voted against.

NCA 21-046 Amending MCNCA Title 26 entitled “Judicial Branch/Courts.” Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Freeman.

No discussion. Related to NCA 21-044. Postponed Indefinitely 4-0.

NCA 21-047 Appropriat-ing funds for Financial Advi-sory Services. Sponsored by Rep. William Lowe.

The appropriating funds of \$153,450.00 from the Native Advisory LLC is to assist National Council in executing their constitution-ally mandated fiscal respon-sibilities. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-033 Authoriz-ing a supplemental appro-priation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office for fiscal year 2021. Sponsored by Rep. Anna Marshall.

The citizenship office has seen an increase following the McGirt decision, and is in need of additional funds in order to hire additional staff. Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-036 Authoriz-ing a supplemental appropri-ation of funds for the Arbor Care Equipment Storage at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headquarters in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Sponsored by Rep. Charles McHenry.

Passed 4-0.

NCA 21-038 Appropri-ating funds to be used to accept donated Real Prop-erty and Transactional costs related to accepting donated Real Property located in McIntosh County, Okla-homa. Sponsored by Rep. Mark Randolph.

Passed 4-0.

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COUNCIL APPROVES EXECUTIVE BRANCH RECORDS ACCESS

CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ACCESS TO EXECUTIVE BRANCH DEPARTMENT RECORDS LEGISLATION PASS QUARTERLY SESSION

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council meeting was held April 26 via teleconference.

The National Council addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

NCR 21-003 Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council approving the service contract agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Native Advisory LLC. Sponsored by Representative William Lowe.

The National Council seeks to enter into a Service Contract Agreement with Native Advisory LLC to assist the National Council in executing their constitutionally mandated fiscal responsibilities. The contract shall be in the amount of \$153,450 from April 24, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Motion adopted. Representatives Thomasene Yahola Obsorn, Mark Randolph, Travis Scott, and Robert Hufft voted against. 11-4

NCR 21-004 Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council selecting Rodney Luellen to serve on the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board of Directors. Sponsored by Representative Travis Scott.

The National Council selects Rodney Luellen for a term ending on April 24, 2024 on the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board of Directors. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCR 21-005 Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council selecting Rodney Luellen to serve on the Muscogee Nation Businesses, LLC (MNB, LLC) Board of Directors. Sponsored by Representative Travis Scott

The National Council selects Rodney Luellen for a term ending on April 24, 2024 on the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board of Directors. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-047 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a certain agreement between the MCN Department of Health and Surescripts, LLC on behalf of the MCN Department of Health. Sponsored by Representative Mary Crawford.

The MCN Department of Health desires to enter an Agreement with Surescripts, LLC to allow access to certain pharmacy electronic prescribing services for the full integration and implementation of the Epic Electronic Health Record System. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-048 Resolution of the MCN supporting the assumption of remaining tribal shares form the Indian Health Service Claremore Service Unit. Sponsored by Representative Joyce Deere.

MCN Department of Health has determined the assumption of the remaining available shares will provide improved services to MCN citizens and has planned to assume tribal shares, to transfer related programs, services, functions and activities and provide services directly. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-049 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a professional services agreement with the University of Oklahoma, Health Sciences Center on behalf of the MCN

Department of Health. Sponsored by Representative Anna Marshall.

The MCN Department of Health has the opportunity to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center to provide specialized bariatric services to members of the MCN and other qualifying individuals. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-050 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with Hughes County for improvements to three county roads. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Obsorn.

The Nation and Hughes County, OK are desirous of obtaining satisfying road conditions within Hughes County in the MCN by engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project includes placing an asphalt overlay on three County Roads known as Rt 1945, Rt 1946, and Rt 1922. Estimated \$1,178,830.00 for the project paid for by Federal Funding from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-052 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of understanding with the city of Muskogee, OK, for the maintenance of roadways and associated rights-of-way constructed of improved by the MCN Tribal Transportation Program. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation's Tribal Transportation Program has an inventory of proposed public roadways/associated rights-of-way designated as Tribal Transportation Program Routes located in the City of Muskogee. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-053 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for a Safety Improvement Project located at U.S. Highway 75 and E0830 Road. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

There is a need for a Safety Improvement Project that includes an acceleration lane and deceleration lane at US-75 and E0830 Rd in Okmulgee Co., the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation are desirous of the Project to reduce collisions. The estimated cost is \$1,300,000.00 and will be paid with Tribal Transportation Funding. The Department of Transportation accepts maintenance. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-054 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Okmulgee Co. for improvements to three county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor.

The Nation is engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project, which includes placing asphalt overlay on three county roads known as Rt 142M, Rt 1459, and Rt 148K. The estimated cost of the project is \$355,803.00 and shall be funded by Federal Funding from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-055 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute two separate Memorandums of Agreement with McIntosh County for improvements

to two county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor.

The Nation and McIntosh County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within McIntosh County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in two projects known as the patching and paving overlay of 3.4 miles of Salem South Road (RT 1803) at an estimated cost of \$1,851,712.00 and 2.5 miles of Salem Road-E1130 (RT 1821) at an estimated cost of \$1,123,459.00 from the Nation' Tribal Transportation Program. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-056 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Okfuskee County for improvements to two county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation and Okfuskee County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within Okfuskee County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project, which includes placing an asphalt overlay on two county roads known as Rt 1315 and Rt 1322. Project estimated \$595,143.00 from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-058 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with McIntosh County for improvements to a county road. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation and McIntosh County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within McIntosh County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in a project known as the NTTFI RT# 181B Project includes the grading and placing of aggregate on 1.0 miles of roadway. Estimated cost of projects is \$200,000.00 from Tribal Transportation Program. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-059 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the construction of an Arbor Care Equipment Storage Awning at the MCN Headquarters in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry

The MCN Office of Emergency Management, Risk Management and the Department of Interior Affairs are requesting an equipment storage space for Arbor Care vehicles. Cost of construction is \$51,700.00. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-060 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement among the 325th Fighter Wing Tyndall Air Force Base, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, the MCN and the Poarch Band of Creeks regarding the Tyndall Air Force Base Golf Course Building Demolition Project. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks.

Tyndall AFB has consulted with Micosoukee Tribe of Indians, the MCN, the Poarch Band of Creeks, Seminole Nation of OK, Seminole Tribe of FL, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town regarding the effects of the undertaking on historic properties. Motion adopted 15-0

TR 21-061 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Programmatic Agreement among the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, the Advisory Council



National Council approves judicial changes and executive branch access to records legislation. (MN File Photo)

on Historic Preservation, the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK, the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town, the Chickasaw Nation, the Coushatta Tribe, the Kallegee Tribal Town, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, the Seminole Nation of OK, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Shawnee Tribe of OK, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, and the Oconee Land Development Company, LLC, regarding development within the Reynolds Lake Oconee Property and the Lake Oconee Village Property, Greene County and Putnam County, GA. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks

Oconee Land Development Company LLC proposes to develop and construct residential and commercial properties and related amenities within the Reynolds Lake Oconee Property. The project is an undertaking subject to review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing its regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" as well as the National Environmental Policy Act, the Historic Sits Act of 1935, the Antiquities Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Indian Sacred Sites Executive Order, Preserve American Executive Order and Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-062 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract award with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC. for the construction of homes for the Berryhill Acres subdivision in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn

The MCN Department of Housing is requesting approval for a MCN Department of Housing Contract Award with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC to build nine homes for the Berryhill Acres Subdivision and the cost will be \$1,592,005.00 funded by NAHASDA funds. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-063 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Nadie Beauty to serve as the Secretary of Housing for the MCN. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn

Nomination of Nadie Beauty to serve as the Secretary of Housing for the MCN will go before National Council. Motion adopted. Representatives Darrell Proctor, Lucian Tiger III, Joyce Deere, Joseph Hicks, Adam Jones III, Anna Marshall, James Jennings voted against. 8-7

TR 21-064 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a

contract accepting a donation of land located in McIntosh County, OK. Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph

The Nation has been presented with an opportunity to accept a donation of land located at Tiger Mountain, OK of approx.1300 acres. The acquisition of the land will allow for the development of a nature preserve and visitors/educational center for the Nation. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-065 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an Attorney-Client Agreement for legal services with law firms of Whitten Burrage, LLP and Nix Patterson, LLP on behalf of the MCN. Sponsored by Representative Anna Marshall

The MCN through the office of the Attorney General is seeking advice, consultation, and any necessary legal; services relating to potential litigation against third-party insurance programs that are wrongfully denying payment for third-party insurance claims. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR21-066 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Christopher M. Ray to serve on the Gaming Operations Authority Board. Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr. Co-Sponsored by Representatives Robert Hufft, Adam Jones III, William Lowe, and Travis Scott.

The National Council confirms nomination of Christopher M. Ray to serve a term beginning when Ray receives his gaming license and shall end three years (2024) from beginning date. Motion adopted. 15-0

TR 21-067 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Kevin Agee to serve on the Gaming Operation Authority Board. Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr. Co-Sponsored by Representatives Robert Hufft, Adam Jones III, William Lowe, and Travis Scott.

The National Council confirms nomination of Kevin Agee to serve a term beginning when Agee receives his gaming license and shall end three years (2024) from beginning date. Motion adopted. Representatives Anna Marshall, Darrell Proctor, Lucian Tiger III, and Joyce Deere voted against. Representative James Jennings abstained. 10-4-1

TR 21-068 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Jackie Jackson to serve on the Gaming Operations Authority Board. Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr. Co-Sponsored by Representatives Robert Hufft, Adam Jones III, William Lowe, and Travis Scott.

The National Council confirms nomination of Jackie

QUARTERLY

Continued from Page 8

Jackson to serve a term beginning when Jackson receives her gaming license and shall end three years (2024) from beginning date. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-030 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA Title 35, Chapter 7. Entitled “Natural Disaster Act.” Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph

The new law known as the “Disaster Assistance” will assist a household of at least one enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizen who may be eligible for assistance for the loss of furniture, clothing, groceries, housing etc. if affected by fire, flood, tornado, hurricane, earthquake or other disasters considered on a case-by-case basis. Disaster must have occurred within one year of application date, certain documentation is required. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-031 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA Title 19 substitute 10-108. Entitled “Handling of returned absentee ballot,” and substitute 10-109. Entitled “Examination of signatures; removal of outer envelope.” Sponsored by Representative James Jennings

The new law states absentee ballots received by the Election Board must be marked, sealed in the inner envelope and mailed in the pre-addressed outer envelope. The examination of signatures and the removal of the outer envelope may take place during three days in the advance of the day of election. Absentee ballots are retrieved by Election Board members and placed in absentee ballot boxes from Lighthouse Headquarters. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-032 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA

Title 35, substitute 14-103 entitled “Eligibility; guidelines and policy.” Sponsored by Representative Anna Marshall.

The new law states the Director of the Youth Services Program will develop and adopt guidelines and procedures for the Mvskoke Youth Opportunity Grant, with advisement from the Mvskoke Nation Youth Council – Finance Committee. The eligibility shall be all enrolled youth citizens, up to the age of 24 to partake in educational activities and non-educational extra-curricular activities. Representative Anna Marshall made a motion to postpone until next session. Motion postponed. 15-0

NCA 21-033 Law of the MCN authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office for Fiscal Year 2021. Sponsored by Representative Anna Marshall (\$89,777.38)

The citizenship office has seen an increase following the McGirt decision, and is in need of additional funds in order to hire additional staff. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-036 Law of the MCN authorizing an appropriation of funds for the Arbor Care Equipment Storage at the MCN Headquarters in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry (\$51,700.00)

The purpose of this law is to authorize an appropriation of funds for the Arbor Care Equipment Storage Construction Project. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-037 Law of the MCN authorizing a budget modification in excess of ten percent for the MCN Realty and Trust Department FY 2021 Budget. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks.

The Realty and Trust Department is making this

budget modification request to reallocate certain funds for other necessary expenses as outlined in the attached budget modification request. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-038 Law of the MCN appropriating funds to be used to accept donated real property and transactional costs related to accepting donated real property located in McIntosh Co., OK. Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph

The Nation will pay the owner \$100 as a consideration and in validation of the transaction. Costs associated with donated lands include cost of title, insurance, title opinions, surveys, environmental studies and applicable taxes. The purpose of this law will appropriate funds to cover the consideration and costs of incidental expenses related to the acceptance of the above-referenced donated land. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-039 Law of the MCN amending NCA 20-025 (Law of the MCN authorizing the expenditure of Federal, State, and Local funds received by the MCN to provide tribal services in response to the COVID-19 Virus) Sponsored by Representative William Lowe

Section 1-101 - E of NCA 20-025 has been eliminated from legislation.

Section four amended to authorize to expend funds as they are received form federal, state and local agencies shall terminate April 24,2021. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-040 Law of the MCN authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission for fiscal year 2021. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks.

The citizenship numbers have increased which adds to the increased work, and fol-

lowing the McGirt decision; the Tax Commission needs additional agents. Representative Joseph Hick made a motion to postpone until next session. Motion postponed. 15-0

NCA 21-041 Law of the MCN establishing guidelines regarding the authorization of the expenditure of the American Rescue Plan Funding. Sponsored by Representative William Lowe. Co-Sponsored by Representatives Lucain Tiger III, Anna Marshall, and Joseph Hicks.

The purpose of this Act is to establish guidelines where all ARP funds will require budgets for proposed expenditures and must be detailed to and approve by the National Council. Motion adopted. Representatives Thomasene Yahola Osborn, Mark Randolph, and Travis Scott voted against. 12-3

NCA 21-042 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA Title 37, Chapter 9 entitled “Record requests between public bodies” and creating new law entitled “Information Requests.” Sponsored by Representative William Lowe.

The purpose of this act is to authorize record requests between public bodies, and the public body is not required to process the request under the FOIA, unless the citizen chooses to do so by written request. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-043 Law of the MCN amending MCNCA Title 14 substitute 1-802 entitled “Release prior to trial.” Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr., Co-Sponsored by Representative Robert Hufft.

The release to prior trial conditions is determined by the judge to reasonably assure the appearance of the person for trial and ensure public safety. Motion adopted. 15-0

NCA 21-044 Law of the

MCN amending MCNCA Title 26 entitled “Judicial Branch/Courts” and authorizing the creation of a Chief District Court Judge. Sponsored by Representative Patrick Freeman Jr., Co-Sponsored by Representative Robert Hufft.

The Chief judge is necessary to hear emergency requests, handle case administration, provide for timely approval of search warrants and arrest warrants, and presides over the part-time District Court Judges. Motion Adopted 15-0

NCA 21-045 Law of the MCN creating new law in Title 30, Chapter 9 entitled “Government Records.” Sponsored by Representative Lucian Tiger III, Co-Sponsored by Representatives Adam Jones III, Patrick Freeman Jr., Anna Marshall, Joseph Hicks.

This act is to provide open access to each National Council member to all records under Muscogee (Creek) Nation government. The legislation would require that executive branch employees respond to records request from each national council representative. The records requested would be required to be turned over to representatives of the legislative branch within five days. Failure to comply with the request would mean civil penalties could be enforced.

Representatives Robert Hufft, Charles McHenry, Thomasene Yahola Osborn, Travis Scott voted against. 11-4

NCA 21-047 Law of the MCN Appropriating funds for Financial Advisory Services. Sponsored by Representative William Lowe.

The appropriating funds of \$153,450.00 from the Native Advisory LLC is to assist National Council in executing their constitutionally mandated fiscal responsibilities. Motion adopted. 15-0

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT

for CRIME VICTIMS on the MUSCOGEE NATION RESERVATION



THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 580 | OKMULGEE, OK 74447
918.732.7979 | 800.482.1979

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is committed to working with State and Federal Partners to ensure public safety on the Reservation. The change in jurisdictional authority and dismissal of cases by State Courts, to be filed in either Tribal and/or Federal Court, is likely to leave victims/survivors/families with many questions. These changes require increased communication amongst Tribal, State and Federal partners and ultimately require increased communication to victims and their families, of which the MCN is committed to providing.

For questions regarding cases, updates, supportive services or other information, please refer all crime victims to:

MCN FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (FVPP)

918-732-7979

Providing confidential services to Native and non-Native victims/survivors of a variety of violent crimes to promote safety, healing and justice.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Assistance with Victim's Compensation
- Assistance in filing protective orders
- Court Advocacy in Tribal, State, Federal Courts
- Accompaniment to and preparation for court proceedings
- Safety Planning
- Supportive services
- Access to civil legal assistance
- Serve as Liaison with courts and prosecutors to keep updated on case status
- Provide access to safe housing
- Referrals for counseling and other supportive services
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Exams
- Information and referral to meet survivor needs

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

MCN LIGHTHORSE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

MCN DISTRICT COURT

MCN OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

918-732-7800

918-758-1400

918-295-9720

MVSKOKE MEDIA • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • 918.732.7720 • MvskokeMedia.com • @Mvskokemedia



COMMITTEE APPROVES DONATION OF PROPERTY

ROADWORK PROJECTS FUNDED BY TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

OKMULGEE, Okla-homa - A Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Land, Natural Resources and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting was held April 13 via teleconference.

All passed legislation is subject to the full council approval during the regular session.

LNC addressed the following legislation, the interpretation of which is attributed to language in the bills:

TR 21- 050 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Hughes County for improvements to three county roads. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn

The Nation is engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project, which includes placing asphalt overlay on three county roads known as Rt 1945, Rt 1946, and Rt 1922. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,178,830.00 and shall be funded by Federal Funding from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Do Pass. 4-0

TR 21-052 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of understanding with the city of Muskogee, OK, for the maintenance of roadways and associated rights-of-way constructed or improved by the MCN Tribal Transportation Program. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation's Tribal Transportation Program has an inventory of proposed public roadways/associated rights-of-way designated as Tribal Transportation Program Routes located in the City of Muskogee. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-053 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for a Safety Improvement Project located at U.S. Highway 75 and E0830 Road. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

There is a need for a Safety Improvement Project that includes an acceleration lane and deceleration lane at US-75 and E0830 Rd in Okmulgee Co., the Nation and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation are desirous of the Project to reduce collisions. The estimated cost is \$1,300,000.00 and will be paid with Tribal Transportation Funding. The Department of Transportation accepts maintenance. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-054 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the

Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Okmulgee Co. for improvements to three county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor.

The Nation is engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project, which includes placing asphalt overlay on three county roads known as Rt 142M, Rt 1459, and Rt 148K. The estimated cost of the project is \$355,803.00 and shall be funded by Federal Funding from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-055 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute two separate Memorandums of Agreement with McIntosh County for improvements to two county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor.

The Nation and McIntosh County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within McIntosh County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in two projects known as the patching and paving overlay of 3.4 miles of Salem South Road (RT 1803) at an estimated cost of \$1,851,712.00 and 2.5 miles of Salem Road-E1130 (RT 1821) at an estimated cost of \$1,123,459.00 from the Nation' Tribal Transportation Program. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-056 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Okfuskee County for improvements to two county roads. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation and Okfuskee County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within Okfuskee County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in a project known as the Maintenance Overlay Project, which includes placing an asphalt overlay on two county roads known as Rt 1315 and Rt 1322. Project estimated \$595,143.00 from the Nation's Tribal Transportation Program. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-058 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with McIntosh County for improvements to a county road. Sponsored by Representative Darrell Proctor

The Nation and McIntosh County are desirous of obtaining satisfactory road conditions within McIntosh County, which is within the MCN, by engaging in a project known as the NTTFI RT# 181B Project includes the grading and placing of aggregate on 1.0 miles of roadway. Estimated cost of projects is \$200,000.00 from Tribal Transportation Program. Do-pass. 4-0

TR 21-059 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the construction of an Arbor



Cabinet nominees considered in committee.

(MN File Photo)

Care Equipment Storage Awning at the MCN Headquarters in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry

The MCN Office of Emergency Management, Risk Management and the Department of Interior Affairs are requesting an equipment storage space for Arbor Care vehicles. Cost of construction is \$51,700.00. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-060 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Memorandum of Agreement among the 325th Fighter Wing Tyndall Air Force Base, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, the MCN and the Poarch Band of Creeks regarding the Tyndall Air Force Base Golf Course Building Demolition Project. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks.

Tyndall AFB has consulted with Miccosoukee Tribe of Indians, the MCN, the Poarch Band of Creeks, Seminole Nation of OK, Seminole Tribe of FL, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town regarding the effects of the undertaking on historic properties. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-061 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Programmatic Agreement among the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK, the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town, the Chickasaw Nation, the Coushatta Tribe, the Kailegee Tribal Town, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, the Seminole Nation of OK, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Shawnee Tribe of OK, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, and the Oconee Land Development Company, LLC, regarding development within the Reynolds Lake Oconee Property and the Lake Oconee Village Property, Greene County and Putnam County, GA. Sponsored by Representative

Joseph Hicks

Oconee Land Development Company LLC proposes to develop and construct residential and commercial properties and related amenities within the Reynolds Lake Oconee Property. The project is an undertaking subject to review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing its regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" as well as the National Environmental Policy Act, the Historic Sites Act of 1935, the Antiquities Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Indian Sacred Sites Executive Order, Preserve American Executive Order and Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-062 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract award with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC. for the construction of homes for the Berryhill Acres subdivision in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn

The MCN Department of Housing is requesting approval for a MCN Department of Housing Contract Award with MacHill Tribal Construction, LLC to build nine homes for the Berryhill Acres Subdivision and the cost will be \$1,592,005.00 funded by NAHASDA funds. Do pass. 4-0

TR 21-063 Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination of Nadie Beauty to serve as the Secretary of Housing for the MCN. Sponsored by Representative Thomasene Yahola Osborn

Nomination of Nadie Beauty to serve as the Secretary of Housing for the MCN will go before National Council. Do pass.

TR 21-064 Resolution of the MCN authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contact accepting a donation of land located in McIntosh County, OK. Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph

dolph

The Nation has been presented with an opportunity to accept a donation of land located at Tiger Mountain, OK of approx.. 1300 acres. The acquisition of the land will allow for the development of a nature and preserve and visitors/educational center for the Nation. Do pass. 4-0

NCA 21-036 Law of the MCN authorizing an appropriation of funds for the Arbor Care Equipment Storage at the MCN Headquarters in Okmulgee, OK. Sponsored by Representative Charles McHenry (\$51,700.00)

The purpose of this law is to authorize an appropriation of funds for the Arbor Care Equipment Storage Construction Project. Do pass. 4-0

NCA 21-037 Law of the MCN authorizing a budget modification in excess of ten percent for the MCN Realty and Trust Department FY 2021 Budget. Sponsored by Representative Joseph Hicks.

The Realty and Trust Department is making this budget modification request to reallocate certain funds for other necessary expenses as outlined in the attached budget modification request. Do pass. 4-0

NCA 21-038 Law of the MCN appropriating funds to be used to accept donated real property and transactional costs related to accepting donated real property located in McIntosh Co., OK. Sponsored by Representative Mark Randolph

The Nation will pay the owner \$100 as a consideration and in validation of the transaction. Costs associated with donated lands include cost of title, insurance, title opinions, surveys, environmental studies and applicable taxes. The purpose of this law will appropriate funds to cover the consideration and costs of incidental expenses related to the acceptance of the above-referenced donated land. Do pass. 4-0

Full agenda and legislation can be viewed at mcnn.com.

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Joint Committee approves funding and legal service agreements.
(MNN File Photo)

COMMITTEE SEEKING LEGAL SERVICES THIRD PARTY INSURANCE WRONGFULLY DENYING CLAIMS

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

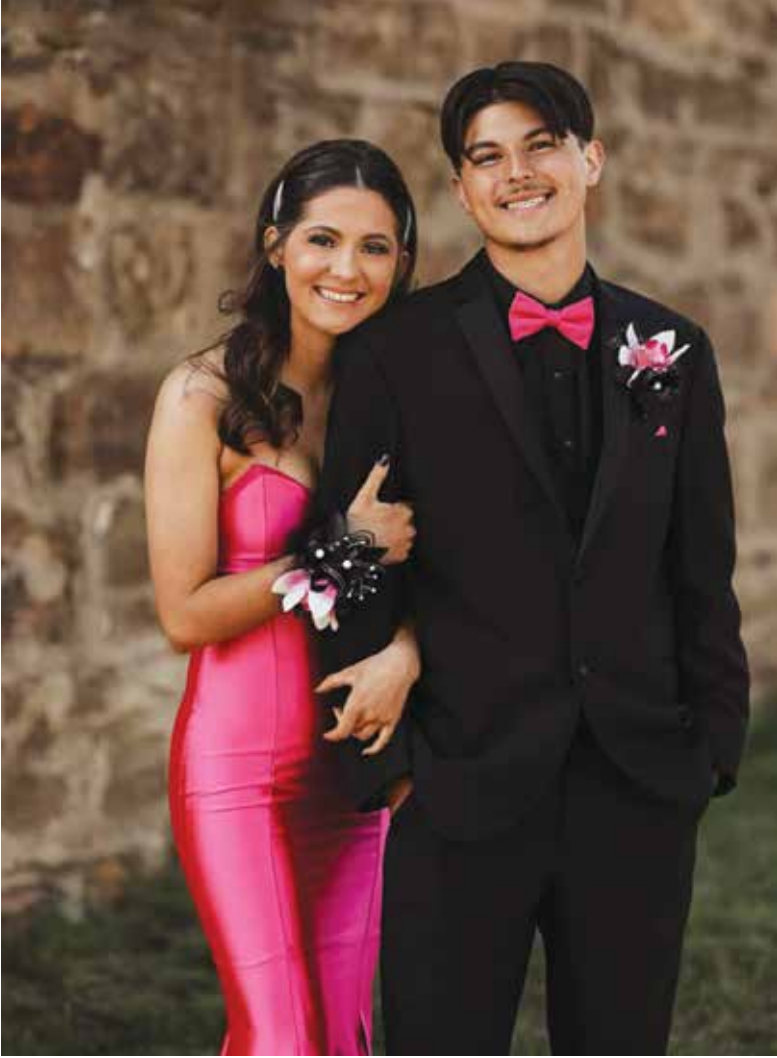
OKMULGEE, Okla-
homa - A Muscogee (Creek)
Nation National Council
Health, Education, and Wel-
fare/Business, Finance, and
Justice Joint Committee ses-
sion was held April 20 via
teleconference.
All passed legislation is
subject to the full council
approval during the regular
session.
The Joint Committee
addressed the following leg-
islation, the interpretation of
which is attributed to lan-
guage in the bills:
TR 21-065 Resolution of
the MCN authorizing the
Principal Chief to execute an
Attorney-Client Agreement
for legal services with law
firms of Whitten Burrage,
LLP and Nix Patterson, LLP
on behalf of the MCN. Spon-
sored by Representative Anna

Marshall
The MCN through the
office of the Attorney Gen-
eral is seeking advice, con-
sultation, and any neces-
sary legal; services relating
to potential litigation against
third-party insurance pro-
grams that are wrongfully
denying payment for third-
party insurance claims. Do
pass.
NCA 21-039 Law of
the MCN amending NCA
20-025 (Law of the MCN
authorizing the expenditure
of Federal, State, and Local
funds received by the MCN
to provide tribal services in
response to the COVID-19
Virus) Sponsored by Repre-
sentative William Lowe
The law outlines a termi-
nation date for the emerg-
ency expenditures of funds
from Federal, State and local
agencies. The legislation
amends NCA 20-025 and
sets the termination date
for emergency expenditures
as April 24.

MVSKOKE COUPLE NAMED KING AND QUEEN HENRYETTA SENIORS AND MCN CITIZENS TAKE THE CROWN AT PROM

Morgan Taylor
REPORTER

HENRYETTA, Okla-
homa – After a crazy year of
event cancellations schools
like Henryetta decided to
proceed with having prom.
This was especially excit-
ing prom for two young Mus-
cogee citizens. Cheyanne
Thomas and Austin Green
were named the Henryetta
Prom King and Queen 2021.
Thomas is the daughter of
Casey and Amanda Thomas
and Jaylaina Rampenthal.
Green is the son of Timmy
and Shelly Cantrell.
According to Thomas, the
high school sweethearts were
excited and surprised to both
win.
“Everybody voted when
they got to prom, I thought
it was going be between me
and my friend. We really
didn’t know if we would win
it or not,” Thomas explained.
“We are glad to be posi-
tive representatives of the
MCN.”



Cheyanne Thomas and Austin Green named prom king and queen.
(Submission)

starting in kindergarten. He
is involved in cross-country,
track and National Honor
Society.
Thomas plans to attend
OSUIT this summer lead-
ing into fall to finish her
associate’s degree then on to
another school for a physical
therapy assistants program.
“I plan to use MCN ser-
vices where I can to help me
with school,” Thomas said.
Green attended Yardeka
Headstart then Henryetta

plans as of right now.
“He has a lot of offers to
run track at different colleges
but he’s not sure he wants to
do that yet,” Thomas said.
“He has thought about going
to OSUIT and becoming an
electrician.”
In October, the couple will
have been together four years
and plans to stick together
Thomas said.



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Fiscal Year 2021

In accordance with the following legislation:

NCA 20-050 A law of the Muscogee Creek Nation amending **NCA 20-038** (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditures of **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act** (“**CARES Act**”) funds received from the United States Department of the Treasury to establish the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Coronavirus Relief Fund Program.)

SECTION 7. REPORTING. A report shall be provided bi-weekly by the Office of the Principal Chief to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Mvskoke Media documenting all expenditures of the CARES Act funds.

Total received/earned\$312,681,466.95

Total expenditures and encumbrances for FY20 and FY21 as of this report date equals, \$299,042,138.92

The following report has been submitted for the publication date of **MAY 1ST**.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROGRAM NAME/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT BUDGETED	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	CASH BALANCE
	PRINCIPAL CHIEF				
50000	Salary & Wages-FT	0.00	-	-	0.00
50020	Salary & Wages-O/T over 1.5	0.00	-	-	0.00
50100	Salary & Wages-PT/Other	86,000.00	86,000.00	-	0.00
51000	Fringe-FT	0.00	-	-	0.00
51100	Fringe-PT/Other	10,449.00	10,449.00	-	0.00
56010	Donations/Contributions	49,187.20	10,000.00	-	39,187.20
	SECRETARY OF NATION				
54000	Contractual	9,245,034.70	7,394,884.91	1,848,721.23	1,428.56
58010	Construction	1,400.00	1,400.00	-	-
59220	Grants	305,310.85	180,114.32	-	125,196.53
	TOURISM & RECREATION				
53000	Supplies	1,537.38	1,537.38	-	-
59050	Food Purchases	681,025.44	670,043.79	10,981.65	-
59440	Incidentals	4,048.79	4,048.79	-	-
	CONTRACTING EMPLOYMENT				
53000	Supplies	1,700.00	1,691.75	-	8.25
55210	Communications - Other	3,000.00	80.40	-	2,919.60
59220	Grants	6,825,910.80	4,909,596.59	-	1,916,314.21
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
53000	Supplies	816,070.56	411,660.99	228,869.84	175,539.73
53010	Software/Licenses	1,047,630.11	893,025.84	90,164.00	64,440.27
54000	Contractual	463,594.25	54,626.40	98,269.85	310,698.00
55210	Communications- Other	50,620.89	50,620.89	-	0.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	124,818.95	49,897.92	48,293.43	26,627.60
85500	Equipment	3,535,033.48	1,730,909.90	1,787,287.91	16,835.67
	FLEET MANAGEMENT				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	20,000.00	980.89	-	19,019.11
50010	Salary & Wages - Overtime	15,876.00	-	-	15,876.00
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	-3,374.80	12,511.20	-	-15,886.00
51000	Fringe - FT	20,199.00	594.99	-	19,604.01
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	-394.66	1,513.21	-	-1,907.87
53000	Supplies	3,212,728.45	1,452,659.34	107,276.46	1,652,792.65
53290	Postage/Shipping	50,000.00	33,148.50	-	16,851.50
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	315.00	-	-	315.00
85400	Vehicles	151,476.00	146,021.00	-	5,455.00
85500	Equipment	108,000.00	85,016.00	-	22,984.00
	SOCIAL SERVICES				
50000	Salary & Wages - FT	94,063.09	93,216.05	-	847.04
50020	Salary & Wages - O/T Over 1.5	14,174.67	14,175.00	-	-0.33
51000	Fringe - FT	60,683.72	60,683.74	-	-0.02
53000	Supplies	5,522.08	5,466.79	36.00	19.29
54000	Contractual	452,709.91	407,128.64	9,294.24	36,287.03
57000	Indirect Costs	-	14,287.91	-	-14,287.91
59071	Direct Assist - Income Support	56,333,581.41	56,202,000.00	-	131,581.41
59072	Direct Assist - Hardship	36,132,825.50	35,801,400.00	-	331,425.50
	SENIOR SERVICES				
53000	Supplies	200,000.00	185,364.01	0	14,635.99
	FOOD DISTRIBUTION				
53000	Supplies	75,214.69	75,214.69	-	-
59050	Food Purchases	146,239.79	146,239.79	-	-
85050	Renovations	130,000.00	5,870.00	119,932.80	4,197.20
85170	Construction	313,656.48	66,527.04	67,506.00	179,623.44
85400	Vehicles	63,417.60	63,417.60	0.00	-
85500	Equipment	525,000.00	262,500.00	262,500.00	-
	ELDERLY NUTRITION				
85170	Construction	540,000.00	95,568.50	394,888.50	49,543.00
	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION				
50000	Salary& Wages- FT	3,018.44	2,759.00	-	259.44
50020	Salary& Wages - O/T over 1.5	73,329.31	73,195.99	-	133.32
51000	Fringe - FT	42,925.42	42,925.55	-	-0.13
53000	Supplies	779,513.00	539,918.88	2,157.84	237,436.28
56030	Stipends/Honorariums	25,000.00	8,000.00	-	17,000.00
57000	Indirect Costs	-	10,683.78	-	-10,683.78
59073	Direct Assistance - Ed Support	2,180,488.29	2,177,938.27	-	2,550.02
	MCN MEAT PROCESSING PLANT				
53000	Supplies	100,000.00	-	-	100,000.00
85010	Architect & Engineering	1,165,012.00	1,058,925.18	106,086.82	0.00
85170	Construction	14,800,000.00	3,341,951.74	11,456,816.26	1,232.00
85500	Equipment	1,234,988.00	1,070,272.18	118,919.13	45,796.69
	REAL ESTATE SERVICES				
54000	Contractual	12,374.00	9,519.94	2,854.06	0.00
	CULTURAL PRESERVATION				
59220	Supplies	2,189,999.00	2,189,998.95	-	0.05
	TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION				
50100	Salary & Wages - PT/Other	83,206.80	19,234.80	-	63,972.00
51100	Fringe - PT/Other	10,438.07	2,337.03	-	8,101.04
53000	Supplies	38,975.00	32,490.00	4,270.00	2,215.00
85010	Architect & Engineering	145,244.88	103,798.83	-	41,446.05
85170	Construction	14,289,758.71	10,838,438.66	2,792,875.90	658,444.15
85500	Equipment	195,110.00	127,985.00	2,125.00	65,000.00
	SECRETARY OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS				
58010	Construction	313,297.00	297,631.64	3,460.36	12,205.00
	OFFICE OF JUSTICE				
53000	Supplies	26,799.29	26,799.29	-	-
54000	Contractual	24,738.00	24,738.00	-	-
	OFFICE OF TAX COMMISSION				
54000	Contractual	36,300.00	19,000.00	-	17,300.00
55300	Bldg Maint/Repairs	340.80	-1,159.20	1159.20	340.80
85500	Equipment	1.03	-	-	1.03
	CITIZENSHIP BOARD				
53000	Supplies	177,704.50	130,620.80	34,585.00	12,498.70
54000	Contractual	231,500.00	142,900.00	-	88,600.00
	LIGHTHORSE ADMINISTRATION				
85500	Equipment	56,790.00	56,790.00	-	-
	NATIONAL COUNCIL				
53000	Supplies	623.34	623.34	-	0.00
	DISTRICT COURT				
53310	Equipment Maint/Repair	10,512.00	10,512.00	-	-
85500	Equipment	176,011.68	159,761.68	16,250.00	-
	SECRETARY OF HEALTH				
90110	Transfer Out	-	11,279,552.97	-	-11,279,552.97
	TOTAL	160,338,284.89	145,490,238.06	19,615,581.48	-4,767,534.65