

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS THIRD QUARTER MEETING

Saturday, July 10, 2004
Chattanooga Complex
540 McCallie
Chattanooga, Tennessee

The business meeting of the Tennessee Commission of Indian Affairs was called to order at 11:30 after a brief meeting of the Rules Committee.

Commissioners present were: Teri Ellenwood, Chair, Jimmy Reedy, Vice-Chair, Ruth Knight Allen, Secretary, Van Lynch, John Anderson, John Hedgecoth, and Mike Mangrum.

Motion # 1

Commissioner Hedgecoth moved to use the First published agenda rather than the second one published by Commissioner Ellenwood. Commissioner Allen seconded.

Motion #2

Commissioner Ellenwood moved to use agenda saying it took precedence. She amended hers to combine the two agendas. Commissioner Reedy seconded.

Commissioner Ellenwood motion vote was three for and four against. Motion failed.
Commissioner Hedgecoth motion vote was four for and three against. Motion carried.

Opening prayer was by Jeremy Meeks.

Introductions of guests

Copies of the January 31, 2004 minutes were distributed. Commissioner Allen, Secretary, read the minutes. Additions and deletions were discussed.

Motion # 3

Commissioner Lynch moved that comments stated as opinions need to be stricken from use in the minutes. Commissioner Hedgecoth seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion and questions on transcribing from tapes of the January meeting.

Commissioner Ellenwood opened discussion on whether the March meeting was a legally called meeting. Commissioner Ellenwood called for a vote on whether the Memphis March meeting was a legally called meeting.

Commissioners Ellenwood, Mangrum, and Reedy voted yes. Commissioners Anderson, Hedgecoth, Allen, and Lynch voted no. Commissioner Ellenwood declared the meeting legal supported by attorney opinion. Commissioner Mangrum suggested a Minutes Committee of the Commissioners to review the tapes of the January meeting.

Motion #4

Commissioner Mangrum moved that copies of the tapes should be given to ACTIA to prepare a set of minutes for comparison.

Attorney Ed Harris was asked if this action would be legal. Mr. Harris acknowledged that it would be legal. After asking David Teat, representative of ACTIA, if he would agree on behalf of ACTIA to accept the assignment, it was agreed that Commissioner Allen would send Mr. Teat tapes for ACTIA to review. After much discussion, it was agreed that there would be another meeting held in Memphis in December of 2004.

The Commissioners gave individual reports. Commissioners Allen, Lynch and Hedgecoth gave verbal summaries and submitted written reports. Commissioner Anderson introduced his guest, Don Drennon-Gala, who reported on the status of Moccasin Bend. Commissioner Anderson was asked to continue his verbal report after the lunch break.

Commissioner Anderson continued his report by recognizing Cleata Townsend, one of his constituents, by presenting her with an appreciation plaque for her hard work in the Chattanooga area. He discussed work toward a memorial for Dragging Canoe. Commissioners Mangrum and Ellenwood gave verbal reports and Commissioner Reedy said he did not have a report at this time.

The Rules Committee Chair, Commissioner Lynch, presented the first draft of Standing Rules for discussion. Copy attached. Attorney Harris was requested to research the issue of TANNAC and ACTIA's position with regards to their reporting to the Commission. There was discussion on timeliness of reports after meetings and research into use of a TDEC website on which to post notices and minutes.

Motion # 5

Commissioner Reedy moved to pass the Standing Rules with out Rule #4 which is to be tabled for further work. Commissioner Hedgecoth seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Ellenwood moved to jump ahead on the agenda. Commissioner Mangrum seconded. Motion failed.

Commissioner Ellenwood appointed the three officers, Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary as the Agenda Committee.

Motion # 6

Commissioner Lynch moved to amend all minutes to use titles and last names within the minutes. Commissioner Reedy seconded. Motion carried.

Group Reports:

ACTIA: David Teat presented a written report. (Attached) He reported that Commissioner Lynch will assist with education effort on the Textbook Committee and that a genealogy class is scheduled in Jackson. Commissioner Lynch is also to help with the Recognition Committee.

TNNAC: Vicky Garland gave a verbal report. The TNNAC Board is working on TNNAC procedures. She issued an invitation to attend the July 17th TNNAC meeting at MTSU.

Commissioner Hedgecoth presented a Resolution of No Confidence against Chair Ellenwood. Commissioner Ellenwood turned the Chair over to Vice Chair Reedy in order to address the issues of the Resolution. Commissioner Ellenwood commented on each item listed. Each Commissioner also commented on the issues outlined. The public was allowed comments. Attorney Harris commented that a Resolution of No Confidence is not the same as a vote to remove. Commissioner Hedgecoth called for the motion. Commissioner Lynch called for an amendment to the Resolution. Whereas the majority of the TCIA Commissioners no longer have confidence in Commissioner Ellenwood's leadership as chairperson of the TCIA, therefore be it resolved that the TCIA work on healing and reconciliation. Seconded by Commissioner Allen. Commissioners Hedgecoth, Anderson, Lynch and Allen (4) voted for the Resolution of No Confidence. Commissioners Ellenwood, Reedy, and Mangrum (3) voted against the Resolution of No Confidence. Motion carried.

Remaining meeting dates for 2004 are: September 18th, Knoxville and December 4th, Memphis. The first two meeting dates in 2005 are: March 12th, Nashville and June 4th, Chattanooga.

Attorney Harris turned over to TCIA all the files of the CWC to Commissioner Allen, Secretary. Commissioner Reedy requested an official address and phone number for the TCIA. Discussion followed. Attorney Harris explained the position of TDEC and related that, at the suggestion of TDEC Attorney Joe Sanders, the address and phone number should be with the secretary of the TCIA, Commissioner Allen, Secretary.

Commissioner Ellenwood asked Attorney Harris to request an Attorney General Opinion on the relationship of TNNAC and ACTIA to the TCIA. Commissioner Lynch was directed to draft a letter making this request.

Commissioner Allen requested availability of standard forms approved for recording donations of funds to the TCIA. Discussion followed. Attorney Harris will research and advise.

There was discussion on the disposition or status of HB3418 and HB2415. These bills can be checked on website.

Attorney Harris asked if the TCIA has a Recognition Committee set up. Commissioner Ellenwood replied that all the Commissioners will serve on that Committee and that Commissioner Lynch serves as liaison with the ACTIA Recognition Committee. David Teat, ACTIA Vice-Chair, discussed the role of the ACTIA Recognition Committee. Commissioner Mangrum moved that ACTIA make a study and report at the September meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion carried.

Public comments are recorded on tapes.

Commissioner Ellenwood introduced James Cossingham, Ph. D., member of the state recognized Nipmuc Indians of Massachusetts, now living in Clarksville (Middle, TN). He is head of the Minority Business Association.

Closing prayer was by Tommy Veal.

Commissioner Mangrum moved to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Reedy. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned.

Ruth Knight Allen, Secretary July 10, 2004

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