

LUMBEE TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

For Thursday December 19, 2024 / 6:30pm
Tribal Complex/Livestreamed

Meeting Called To Order: Speaker, Dewey McNeill

Invocation: Homer Fields

Pledge of Allegiance: Carrington Locklear

Preamble: Alex Baker

Roll Call: Nanci Locklear

Ethics Statement read by Speaker, Dewey McNeill

Welcome: Speaker Dewey McNeill welcomed Tribal Chairman John Lowery, Tribal Administrator Ricky Harris, Newly Elected Tribal Council Member, Johnny Bell, BFW Robeson County Honor Guard Lumbee Warriors Association, family members of the ones that will be recognized, former Superintendent Johnny Hunt, North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, Larece Hunt, former Council Members Louise Mitchell and Sharon Hunt, County Commissioner Faline Dial, Governmental Affairs, Tammy Maynor, and everyone that joined by Livestream.

Council Members Present at Roll Call: 19

Billy Oxendine

Graylen Mitchell

Gerald Goolsby

Pam Hunt

Harold Smith

Carrington Locklear

Wendy Moore

Larry Chavis

Yvonne Dial

Kathy Hunt

Dewey McNeill

Bobby Emanuel

Chocajuana Oxendine

Josephine Doss

Alex Baker

Homer Fields

Nanci Locklear

Larry Soles

Kristie Hunt

Quorum established

Gerald Goolsby made a motion to approve the agenda

Harold Smith 2nd the motion

VOICE VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR

CARRIED

Alex Baker requested that the minutes reflect that the council took action based on the advice of the council's Legal Counsel (Attorney Daniel Locklear) and change the term "salary" to compensation

Request was noted by Belinda Brewer

Gerald Goolsby made a motion to approve the November Tribal Council Minutes & Actions with the amended minutes

Harold Smith 2nd the motion

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

16YES

3NO (*Billy Oxendine, Larry Chavis, Yvonne Dial*)

Billy Oxendine asked that a correction be made to the minutes where Larry Chavis made a substitute motion, instead of Bobby Oxendine it should be Billy Oxendine

Presentations/Recognition

Chairman Lowery read and presented a proclamation to the family of (*the late*) Mr. Ander Clark of District 12 along with Speaker Dewey McNeill. In recognition of (the late) Mr. Ander Clark the family was presented with a framed pin, and pinecone patch work from the Lumbee Warriors, the Robeson County Color Guard and the VFW (pictures were taken), Councilwoman Wendy Moore read the proclamation that was presented to the family of (*the late*) Mr. Gary Thompson (pictures were taken), Councilman Alex Baker read the proclamation that was presented to the family of (*the late*) Former Tribal Administrator, Mrs. Darlene Jacobs, Mr. (pictures were taken). Chairman Lowery and Speaker Dewey McNeill recognized and presented Mr. Eric "Fuller" Locklear and eagle feather (pictures were taken).

Councilwoman Chocajuana Oxendine read the proclamation that was presented in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of Pembroke First United Methodist Church, on behalf of Council Member Yvonne Dial. (pictures were taken)

County Commissioner, Mrs. Faline Locklear Dial, presented \$10,000.00 to District 5 that will be used towards the Two Streams Walking Track Project. Funds came from the County's discretionary monies (District 4 citizens). (*Pictures were taken*)

North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Chair, Larece Hunt - Gave Update on the December 6 quarterly commission meeting. The Nation Congress of American Indian Conference in New Orleans and Las Vegas purpose was to dismember non- federally recognized tribes (which did not happen). The commission unanimously voted to send a letter stating that the commission does not support the actions taken by the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Tribe. The inaugural ball for the newly elected governor will be held on January 11th. The recognition committee is in the process of processing a petition from the Roanoke Haters out of Dar County, the commission had a face to face meeting to let the group know what was needed to have a successful petition. A question that was asked during the meeting "how do you make somebody a Native American if you aren't Native American". Based on the information that was sent in by the group as of November 12th, they aren't an eligible group to petition. Three criteria's are cited, they started off with 115 members and ended up with 52 and out of the 52 only 6 lived in North Carolina. Out of the 6 people that lived in North Carolina only 2 were designated as American Indians, it takes more than 3 people to be designated as a tribe. With the information listed they have been declared ineligible to petition.

Chairman's Report

Tribal Chairman John Lowery gave his report which included Federal Recognition efforts, passed the house a call for a recorded vote. 2/3 vote under the rules of suspension which was 290 we received 311 votes.but it did not passed thru the Senate due to not being attached to the CR.We are now getting ready to work on

the 3rd resolution. Senator Tillis is in support of the Lumbee, if you are with Lumbee he does not stand in the way. The tribe continues to work on receiving Federal Recognition. The chairman spoke on the resolution of condemnation against the Eastern band of Cherokee, requested to be on the agenda with the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs to get the resolution passed. Conversations with different law firms in reference to slander and defamation (false information) against the Lumbee. Chairman ended his report thanking the support of the council throughout the year and inviting everyone to the Inauguration for Chairman and Council on Jan. 9, 2024 at the Pembroke Boys and Girls Club.

Other Business

CLLR-2024-1219-01 "CLOSING OF THE TRIBAL ROLLS"

Kristie Hunt 2nd the motion

Recommendation of the Tribal Chairman, did not come out of a committee

Alex Baker made a friendly amendment to include in the last therefore the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina does hereby declare that tribal rolls are closed for new enrollment applications until further notice. Pending applications and updates are excluded from this provision.

Gerald Goolsby 2nd the motion

ROLL CALL VOTE

18YES0N0ABS0RECUSE

CARRIED

CLLR-2024-1219-02 "RESOLUTION OF CONDEMNATION AGAINST EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS"

Alex Baker 2nd the motion

ROLL CALL VOTE

18YES0N0ABS0RECUSE

CARRIED

Item did not come out of committee

Committee Reports

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – GERALD GOOLSBY

CLLO-2024-1219-01 "COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY BENEFIT FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS"

Carrington Locklear 2nd the motion

ROLL CALL VOTE

18YES0N0ABS0RECUSE

CARRIED

Item did not come out of committee

AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES – WENDY MOORE

Larry Edwards, Interim Department Manager - Update

Kevin Melvin, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer – Update

Community Comments

No community comments were given

Calendar Review

December 23 – 27 Tribal Office Closed for Holiday

31 – Tribal Office Closed for Holiday

January 9 - Inauguration 6pm. Pembroke Boys and Girls Club

16 – Tribal Council Business Meeting

Billy Oxendine made a motion to adjourn

There were no objections

Benediction was given by Bobby Emanuel