

Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting MINUTES

June 17, 2025, **5:30 p.m.**, Pawnee Nation Multi-Purpose Building
808 Morris Rd
Pawnee Tribal Reserve

Misty M. Nuttle – President
Jordan Kanuho – Vice-President
George Gardipe – Secretary
Carol Chapman – Treasurer

Cynthia Butler– First Council Seat
Dawna Hare – Second Council Seat
Carol L. Nuttle – Third Council Seat
Jenifer Gover LittleSun – Fourth Council Seat

I. Call to Order & Invocation

Madame President Nuttle called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Secretary Gardipe gave the invocation.

II. Roll Call – Declaration of Quorum

Secretary George Gardipe called the roll: Misty M Nuttle – here, Jordan Kanuho – here, George Gardipe – here, Carol Chapman – here, Cynthia Butler – here, Dawna Hare – titaku (here), Carol Nuttle – here, and Jenifer Gover-LittleSun – here. **Quorum established.**

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Carol Nuttle to approve the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting agenda for June 17, 2025, seconded by Cynthia Butler.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho– yes, George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries.

IV. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2025

Motion made by Dawna Hare to table the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2025, seconded by Cynthia Butler.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho– yes, George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries.

V. Pawnee Business Council Travel Report & Request

The following reports were given:

Councilwoman Gover LittleSun reports on SPTHB Tribal Leaders Convening & Town Hall meeting with Congressman Lucas:

- Discussed significant cuts to tribal law enforcement (\$140M), Indian education (BIE facing \$187M reduction), and LIHEAP (\$4B cut), emphasizing the cascading effects on tribal communities.
- Raised concerns about a new DOJ policy requiring approval for POs over \$10,000, potentially limiting program autonomy.
- Shared that the National Indian Health Board provided template letters and talking points for tribal advocacy.
- Suggested forming a caucus to coordinate tribal legislative efforts.
- Informed Congressman Lucas about Oklahoma's exclusion from IHS consultations; he expressed support and requested a white paper.
- Discussed the impact of potential Department of Education closure on tribal gaming revenue allocations.
- Highlighted how disability income disqualifies veterans and elders from food assistance.
- Will forward a full written report to the Council.

Councilwoman Butler reports on Sovereignty Symposium:

- Attended panels on international indigenous trade and free trade zones.
- Learned about protecting Native American arts and crafts through trademarks and copyrights.
- Discussed the implications of AI on cultural authenticity and the need to protect human-created content.
- Recommended trademarking the Pawnee Nation seal, a long-standing goal.

Secretary Gardipe reports on Sovereignty Symposium:

- Focused on economic development and networking with other tribal leaders.
- Emphasized the need for tribes to create independent revenue streams.
- Participated in posting the colors for the first time.

Councilwoman Hare reports on Sovereignty Symposium:

- Attended a panel on tribal-state partnerships moderated by Oklahoma Labor Commissioner Leslie Osborn.
- Accidentally attended a powerful session on language preservation; advocated for using Pawnee in council meetings.
- Participated in discussions on indigenous control over digital infrastructure and data.
- Attended a session on the history of the Sovereignty Symposium and key figures in Indian law.
- Will submit a detailed written report.

Councilwoman Carol L. Nuttle reports on SPTHB Tribal Leaders Convening:

- Advocated for the CHAP (Community Health Aide Program) initiative.
- Emphasized the need for local training and certification to support tribal health services.
- Reported on a national CHAP conference and upcoming presentation.

President Nuttle reports on SPTHB Tribal Leaders Convening, Town Hall with Congressman Lucas, and the Oklahoma Economic Impact Study:

- Stressed the importance of engaging in consultations and holding federal agencies accountable.

- Shared findings from a study showing tribes contribute \$23.4B in goods/services and support nearly 140,000 jobs in Oklahoma.
- Discussed efforts to bring CHAP training to Oklahoma and the need for collaboration with medical professionals.
- Advocated for educating tribal citizens on legislative processes and civic engagement.

The following travel requests were submitted:

Councilwomen Nuttle, Hare, and Gover LittleSun all requested to attend the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma Quarterly Meeting on Tuesday June 24th in Oklahoma City.

Councilwoman Gover LittleSun requested to attend the ACA/IHCIA training on Wednesday June 18th and Thursday June 29th in Tulsa, OK.

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve the Pawnee Business Council Travel Requests, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho– yes, George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– yes, Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries.

VI. Pawnee Business Council Committee Reports

Dawna Hare mentions the following:

- Committees have not been meeting due to quorum issues.
- Awaiting orientation and potential reappointments before resuming meetings.
- Notes for the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
 - Thanked Congressman Lucas for his past support in securing \$19.4 million for the Pawnee Health Center.
 - Recounted multiple advocacy trips to Washington, D.C., with President Chapman to secure funding.
 - Emphasized the importance of persistent advocacy and follow-up in securing federal appropriations.
 - Suggested compiling a packet detailing the history and process of securing the Pawnee Health Center funding.
 - Advocate for civic education to help tribal citizens understand how to engage in federal processes.

There was also discussion on developing Tribal civics and history classes to educate Tribal members and the importance of effectively engaging with lawmakers.

VII. New Business

1. Budget Committee Recommendations
 - a. Approval of 1035 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1

Motion made by Carol Nuttle to table the 1035 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1, seconded by Cynthia Butler.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho– yes, George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries.

b. Approval of 4062 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1

Motion made by Carol Nuttle to table the 4062 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho– yes, George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries.

VIII. Open Forum

A complaint by Tribal member, Angela Thompson, was brought to the Pawnee Business Council and it was discussed during open forum.

Mr. Melvin Battiest came to present information and request for the Moccasins Across America 2025 to come walk on the reserve on July 14th, the Pawnee Business Council will share the contact information with the Cultural Resources Division.

The following announcements were:

- June 18- Stone Wolf Promotions – “This Way or That Way” event from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
- June 19
 - Juneteenth Holiday – Pawnee Nation offices closed.
 - Pawnee Community Summit Meeting.
 - Stone Wolf Events:
 - Movie Night: Trolls Band Back Together
 - “Aged to Perfection” promotion from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- June 20
 - Four Bands Market opens at 12:30 PM.
 - Pawnee Public Library hosting events (details not specified).
- June 21
 - Farmers Market opens at 8:00 AM.
 - Nasharo Council Quarterly Meeting at 9:00 AM at the Enrollment & Chief Building (700 Agency Rd).
 - Community Meal for newly elected and reelected council members at 12:00 PM at the Roundhouse (900 Agency Rd).
 - Stone Wolf Summer Concert Series featuring Hoss Miller Band at 8:00 PM.
- June 23
 - Men’s Health Day – Walk and event at the Wellness Center.
- July 2
 - Pawnee Nation Health Fair
 - Walk begins at 9:30 AM
 - Fair runs from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- ICDBG HUD Grant Information Event from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Roam Chief Building.
- July 3-5
 - Homecoming Events
 - Enrollment Office open July 3-4 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
 - Hawk Chief Run on July 5
- July 4
 - 4th of July Games in the town square, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Tribal member, Marilyn Nuttle, brought her concerns to the Pawnee Business Council and it was discussed during open forum.

Congratulations were given to Councilwoman Butler for her swearing in to the City Council, making her the first Pawnee woman to serve simultaneously on both Councils.

IX. Set the Next Meeting Date

The next Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting has been scheduled for July 1, 2025, at 5:30 pm at the Multipurpose Building.

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to adjourn, seconded by Carol Nuttle.

Vote: Jordan Kanuho- yes, George Gardipe- yes, Carol Chapman- yes, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle- ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting. Motion carries to adjourn at 7:21 PM.

Approved: July 1, 2025

Date



Misty M. Nuttle, President
Pawnee Business Council



George Gardipe, Secretary
Pawnee Business Council