

Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting MINUTES

July 1, 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 5:33 pm. Councilwoman Gover LittleSun gave the invocation.

II. Roll Call – Declaration of Quorum

Secretary George Gardipe called the roll: Misty M Nuttle – here, Jordan Kanuho – excused, 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

RENAME: New Business 8. Review of 2026 Pawnee Nation Housing Authority Indian Housing Plan to Discussion and/or action on 2026 Pawnee Nation Housing Authority Indian Housing Plan

Motion made by George Gardipe to approve the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting agenda for July 1, 2025, with changes, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– no, 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 Quarterly Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2025

Motion made by Dawna Hare to approve the Pawnee Business Council Quarterly Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2025, seconded by Cynthia Butler.

Vote: 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.

2. Approval of Pawnee Business Council Quarterly Reconvened Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2025

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve the Pawnee Business Council Quarterly Reconvened Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2025, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: 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.

3. Approval of Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2025

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2025, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: 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 Hare reported on the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma Meeting:

- Chaired by Chief Ben Barnes (Shawnee).
- 17 of 31 tribes were present, establishing a quorum.
- Smaller attendance due to the Thunder parade.
- Federal Relations:
 - Concerns about slowed land-into-trust processes.
 - Decreased federal dialogue with tribes.
 - Recommendation to find common ground with the current administration.
- Legislation & Funding:
 - \$1.8 billion in federal funds proposed for Lumbee recognition.
 - Concerns about this money being pulled from existing Indian Health Service (IHS) funds.
- Tribal Collaboration:
 - Reports of intertribal meetings in Miami, Anadarko, and Pawnee areas.
 - Emphasis on long-standing tribal cooperation (e.g., Intertribal Council's 75-year history).
- Economic Impact:
 - Tribes contributed \$23.4 billion in state production and 55,600+ jobs in 2023.
 - Pawnee Nation was one of 19 tribes participating in the economic impact study.
- Cybersecurity:
 - Seminar on cyberattacks emphasized caution with email links.
- New Initiatives:

- Formation of the Coalition for Tribal Sovereignty.
- Support for legislation to move Haskell Indian Nations University under tribal trust.
- Resolution 2025-1 passed condemning Governor Stitt's remarks about Tulsa being a "sanctuary city" for Native criminals.
- Mention of potential BIA structural changes and advocacy for Tribal Self-Governance.

Councilwoman Nuttle reported on the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board Meeting & Indian Care Improvement Act and Affordable Care Act Seminar:

- Attended with Councilwoman Gover LittleSun.
- Learned about the Community Health Aide Program (CHAP):
 - Otoe-Missouria Tribe is training tribal members through a Portland Area Office cohort.
 - requested a similar opportunity for Pawnee and surrounding tribes.
 - Follow-up Zoom meeting held with Southern Plains and Portland Area Indian Health Board.
 - Potential for Pawnee members to receive behavioral health training.
- Attended a national seminar on the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and Affordable Care Act.
- Emphasis on:
 - Expanding healthcare access.
 - Mobile health services for home visits and follow-ups.
 - Concerns about proposed Medicaid cuts in Congress.
 - Urged Council to send letters opposing Medicaid reductions.
- In discussions with Dawn Berg about acquiring a mobile health van for the tribe.
- Plans to coordinate with tribal health officials.
- Both trips (Southern Plains and Tulsa seminar) were covered by external sources—no cost to the tribe.

VI. Old Business

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

Motion made by George Gardipe to approve the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2025, seconded by Jenifer Gover LittleSun.

Vote: 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.

2. Approval of Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for May 6, 2025

Motion made by George Gardipe to approve the Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting Minutes for May 6, 2025, seconded by Jenifer Gover LittleSun.

Vote: George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– no, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting.
Motion carries.

3. Approval of 1035 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve the 1035 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: 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.

4. Approval of 4062 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1

Motion made by Carol Chapman to approve the 4062 Food Distribution Budget Mod #1, seconded by Cynthia Butler.

Vote: 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.

VII. New Business

1. Discussion and/or action on HIP Recommendation Status Report

Treasurer Chapman reported on the following:

- Unauthorized Amendment: The HIP program was added to the Pawnee Nation's Self-Governance Agreement without formal approval from the full Business Council (PBC).
- Lack of Transparency: The award was made to a single tribal member (Marilyn Nuttle) without a public process or opportunity for other citizens to apply.
- Conflict of Interest Allegations: The report alleges that relatives of the recipient, including elected officials, were involved in securing the award without proper disclosure.
- Retroactive Inclusion: The HIP program was added to the self-governance agreement after the award was made, raising procedural concerns.
- No Established Program: At the time of the award, the Nation had no HIP infrastructure, policies, or oversight mechanisms in place.
- Federal Confusion: Internal BIA emails revealed confusion and concern about the process and lack of coordination with the Nation.

Motion made by Jenifer Gover LittleSun to amend the agenda to add New Business 9. Approval of HIP Fund Award for a Pawnee Tribal Member, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: George Gardipe– yes, Carol Chapman– no, Cynthia Butler- yes, Dawna Hare- ahu (yes), Carol Nuttle– ahu (yes), Jenifer Gover LittleSun – yes, and President Nuttle – not voting.
Motion carries.

2. Discussion and/or action on Moccasins Across America Event

Motion made by Carol Nuttle to approve the Moccasins Across America Event, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: 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.

3. Discussion and/or action on letter to Congressman Lucas

Motion made by George Gardipe to approve the letter to Congressman Lucas, with edits, seconded by Carol Nuttle.

Vote: 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.

4. Approval of Resolution #25-31 New Members- Enrollment

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve Resolution #25-31 New Members-Enrollment, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: 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.

5. Approval of Resolution #25-32 Deceased Members- Enrollment

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve Resolution #25-32 Deceased Members-Enrollment, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: 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.

6. Approval of Resolution #25-33 Conditional Relinquishment- Enrollment

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve Resolution #25-33 Conditional Relinquishment- Enrollment, seconded by Jenifer Gover LittleSun.

Vote: 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.

7. Approval of Resolution #25-34 Conditional Relinquishment- Enrollment

Motion made by Cynthia Butler to approve Resolution #25-34 Conditional Relinquishment- Enrollment, with changes, seconded by Dawna Hare.

Vote: 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.

8. Discussion and/or action on 2026 Pawnee Nation Housing Authority Indian Housing Plan

Motion made by George Gardipe to approve the 2026 Pawnee Nation Housing Authority Indian Housing Plan, seconded by Dawna Hare.

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

9. Approval of HIP Fund Award for a Pawnee Tribal Member

Motion made by Jenifer Gover LittleSun to approve the HIP Fund Award for a Pawnee Tribal Member, seconded by George Gardipe.

Vote: 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

Councilwoman Butler provided the following announcements:

- Ribbon Cutting: Scheduled for Thursday at 10:30 AM for the new sign at the Pawnee Nation Museum.
- July 4th Games: Registration begins at 7:00 AM for turtle races and other activities. Council members were encouraged to volunteer.

- Roundtable Meeting: Scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at the Pawnee County Health Department.
- The PBC will host its annual cookout on Thursday at 5:30 PM at the PBC camp behind Building 64.
 - Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

Tribal Member Liana Teter asked questions concerning the Housing Improvement Program award process.

Tribal Member Ann Collins announced the Grandparents Day Dance Fundraiser to be held September 7, 2025, at 1pm and invited the Pawnee Business Council.

A Tribal Member reportedly tried to call in during Open Forum but was not connected due to using a personal number instead of the official Teams line. This raised concerns about accessibility and communication protocols for remote participation.

Jamie Nelson announced the following events during Homecoming:

- Trading Post Holiday Hours
 - Dates: Wednesday, July 2 & Thursday, July 3
 - Hours: 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Health Fair Walk & Fair
 - Date: Wednesday, July 2
 - Walk Start: 9:30 AM
 - Health Fair Start: 10:00 AM
- Pawnee Nation Office Closure
 - Date: Wednesday, July 2
 - Time: Closing at 2:00 PM
- Housing Authority Community Forum
 - Date: Wednesday, July 2
 - Time: 2:00 PM
- ICDBG HUD Grant Info Event
 - Date: Wednesday, July 2
 - Time: 6:00 PM
 - Location: Roam Chief Center
- Stone Wolf Casino Events
 - Summer Lovin' Hot Seats: July 2, 7:00–9:00 PM
 - Cruising into Cash: July 3, 7:00–9:30 PM
 - Route 66 Cash Cruise: July 5, 6:00–9:00 PM
 - Summer Nights Hot Seats: July 6, 8:00–9:00 PM
- Homecoming Events
 - Flag Raising: July 3, 7:00 AM (Farrell Ahdunko)
 - PBC Cookout: July 3, 5:30 PM at PBC Camp (behind Building 64)
 - Homecoming Parade: July 3–6, nightly at 7:30 PM
 - July 4 Flag Raising: 7:00 AM (Charles W. Chapman)
 - July 5 Flag Raising: 7:00 AM (Francis Elliott Morris)
 - July 6 Flag Raising: 7:00 AM (Robert James Littlesun)
- Enrollment & Tax Office Hours
 - Dates: July 3 & 4
 - Hours: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Museum Events
 - Ribbon Cutting: July 3, 10:30 AM

- Open Hours: July 4 & 5, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Know Your Rights Event: July 4, 11:00 AM
- July 4th Games
 - Registration: 7:00 AM
 - Activities: Throughout the day
- Time Capsule Event
 - Date: July 4
 - Time: 10:00 AM
 - Location: Campgrounds
- Four Bands Cattle Company
 - Open: July 3–6, various hours
- Handgames
 - Dates: July 4 & 5
 - Times: 1:00 PM (July 4), 2:00 PM (July 5)
 - Location: Roundhouse
- Tail Dancings
 - Date: July 6
 - Time: 2:00 PM
 - Location: Roundhouse

IX. Set the Next Meeting Date

The next Pawnee Business Council Special Meeting has been scheduled for July 15, 2025, at 5:30 pm at the Multipurpose Building.

X. Adjournment

Motion made by George Gardipe to adjourn, seconded by Cynthia Butler

Vote: 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 7:53 PM.

Approved: August 5, 2025
Date



Misty M. Nuttle, President
Pawnee Business Council



George Gardipe, Secretary
Pawnee Business Council