

**Delaware Tribe of Indians  
Elders Committee Meeting  
Minutes of June 24, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Beverly Hicks, at 1:05 pm.

The meeting was held in the FCS Meeting Room and on Zoom.

**Roll Call:**

Beverly Hicks, Chair - present

Jana Roth, Vice Chair - present

Angelia Franke, Secretary - present

Mollie Martin, Treasurer - present

Steve Donnell, Sargent-at-Arms, - present

Annette Ketchum, Elder Liaison - present

Billie Jean Sheshey, Elder-at-Large – present via Zoom

**Prayer:** Given by Annette Ketchum.

**Acknowledged Guest:** Chief Brad KillsCrow shared his concerns that the Cherokee Nation has not reached out to the Tribe about the plans for the Claremore Indian Hospital. The Cherokee Nation has talked to other tribes, but not us. A consortium of smaller tribes has prepared a resolution to keep the hospital. The resolution is on the Tribal Council Agenda for tomorrow's meeting. Also, Title 6 funds have not been given to the Tribe despite asking for the funding the past 3-4 months. Chief Hoskins indicated the funding would be automatic each year.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Jana Roth to approve the minutes and seconded by Steve Donnell. Minutes were unanimously approved.

**Poll Vote:** The Poll Vote of May 13, 2025, was presented by Beverly Hicks. Jana Roth made a motion to approve the Poll Vote. Seconded by Mollie Martin. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report by Mollie Martin:** The financial report for April, 2025, was presented by Mollie Martin. Expenses since January 1, 2025, are \$2,060.31 leaving a balance of \$12,964.69. Jana Roth will ask Kendall Reith to add a Pow Wow Donation line to the budget, as well as print the budget showing the unrestricted funds. Angelia Franke asked if the Committee members could begin receiving the working agenda and financials by the Friday before each meeting. Mollie Martin will prepare a list of expenses to help determine the most current fund balance as financial reports are not always received each month from the Trust Board. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Steve Donnell and seconded by Jana Roth. Motion carried unanimously.

**Elder Liaison Report:** Annette Ketchum presented the notes she scribed during the Delaware Tribal Council Workshop on June 20, 2025. Items discussed were appeals for donations to the Bartlesville Public School and Copan High School Softball, policies of the Lenape Early Learning Center and Housing Program Ordinances and Resolutions Policies are complete, Assistant Chief Anna has been working on acquiring property surrounding the Delaware Administration Building in Caney, Chief KillsCrow spoke on his visit with Chief Wacoche about the Claremore Indian Hospital, the Tribe's grant writers reported on the grant disturbances caused by the CNO, Billie Jean Sheshey and Jana Roth presented their Delaware Pottery Preservation Plan, Beverly Hicks and Steve Donnell talked on the four classes to be held this summer to teach Vision Quest to males and cooking to the females, and the Delaware Tribe Ranch Manager presented an update. Annette did not attend the May Workshop, and minutes were not sent to her. Jana Roth

made the motion to accept the Elder Liaison Report. Seconded by Steve Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

**Guests:**

Chief Brad KillsCrow and Kele Cruz, Steve Donnell's granddaughter.

**Old Business:**

**A. Laptop, camera, stand and electrical equipment:** Jana Roth and Angelia Franke purchased the laptop and accessories on Saturday at Best Buy. The equipment will be labeled as DTI Elder Committee property and kept at Beverly Hicks's home. Serial numbers on the equipment will be added to the minutes of the next meeting. Discussion included how helpful and important an office in a Tribal building would be.

**B. Recipe Book**

Jeremy Johnson and Anita Davis will order supplies for us. Approximate cost is \$100 for 125 books. We have ink and paper for printing. Recipes will include traditional foods and tribal members' favorite recipes. Submission date for recipes is August 31. Jana Roth made a motion to reimburse the Cultural Education Department up to \$250 for supplies. Seconded by Billie Jean Sheshey. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Annette's class**

The class will be held on July 12 in Forsythe Hall from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Martina offered to provide food. The presentation will be recorded for the Tribal Archives.

**New Business:**

**A. Binders**

Each committee member should bring the binder to every meeting. The Elder Committee By-Laws should be voted upon by Trust Board this week.

## **B. Beading Classes for Fall**

Elders are invited to work on beading, sewing, or other unfinished projects every Tuesday (except on Committee meeting dates) in September and October at 1 pm in the FCS Building. No cost will be incurred for these community building activities. A motion was made by Jana Roth to host the workshops and seconded by Steve Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

## **C. Jana Roth's Ideas**

Jana gave information about the Eucha Butterfly Farm tours. Also, she would like the Elder Committee to submit information on plants that are culturally important to our Tribe and create a lesson. Steve Donnell would like to highlight Indian Potatoes. Lastly, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Aviary in Shawnee welcomes everyone for the full moon ceremony each month.

## **D. Sweet Grass Basket Class**

Jana Roth will get the sweet grass when she travels to Montana. The class will be held on January 24, 2026.

## **E. December Trip to Sharp's and a museum**

One suggestion was a trip to Vinita to view Anna Mitchell's pottery. Tabled until August.

## **F. Delaware Nation Request**

The Delaware Nation has asked Steve Donnell to come to Anadarko to teach traditional Lenape games. One or two Elder Committee members could go as well on the overnight trip. The cost of the trip would be split with the Delaware Nation.

## **G. Delaware Days**

A motion was made by Jana Roth to nominate an Elder of the Year and purchase an honor blanket. Seconded by Annette Ketchum. Motion carried unanimously.

## **H. Tradition Classes**

Steve Donnell received approval from Tribal Council to present four classes to men, women and children to learn Lenape traditions. The classes will be held on July 8, July 15, August 5, and August 12 from 6 pm to 8 pm in the Forsythe Hall.

### **Set Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is set for August 26, 2025 at 1:00 pm in the FCS Room.

**Motion to Adjourn** by Jana Roth. Seconded by Annette Ketchum. Motion carried unanimously. Adjournment at 3:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Angelia Franke on June 25, 2025