

**MINUTES OF THE
OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION (OACIE)
REGULAR MEETING FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2022
MARCH 22, 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (BOARD OF EDUCATION ROOM)
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Lucyann Harjo

Chair Lucyann Harjo called the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting to order at 10:04 A.M., the purpose of the regular meeting is to meet “at least quarterly” provided by 70 O.S. § 3-173(D) per Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education Act.

2. Meeting Quorum

(A) ROLL CALL:

Present: Sydna Yellowfish, Jackie White, Paul Pinkerton, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Lucyann Harjo, Adrienne Lalli Hills, Annette Long, Cori Gray, and Raymond (Matt) Higdon; 9 present

Absent: Joy Hofmeister, Lisa John, Lori Hamilton, Monte Randall, Rhonda Hayworth, Jana Roth, Carrie Whitlow, and Esther Bell; 8 absent

(B) GUESTS: NONE

(C) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HOST

Chair Harjo thanked the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) for serving as the host for the regular meeting of the third quarter of 2022.

3. (Action) Discussion to approve or disapprove OACIE

Open Floor

minutes for Regular Meeting on December 21, 2021 (Q4)

Council member Butler-Wolfe made a motion to approve minutes, with a second from *Council member Long*. Voice vote conducted; *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

4. Discussion of current issues, goals, and updates

related to American Indian Students

(a) Vote/Elect 2022 Officers

Nomination for Chairperson (Action Item)

Jackie White explained Lucyann Harjo is currently serving as OACIE Chairperson. Paul Pinkerton made a motion for Lucyann Harjo to continue serving as Chairperson. Matt Higdon seconded the motion. Lucyann did confirm she would continue to serve. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

(b) Nomination for Vice Chair (Action Item)

Paul Pinkerton made a motion for Matt Higdon to serve as Vice Chairperson. Sydna Yellowfish seconded the motion. Matt confirmed he will serve as Vice Chairperson. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

(c) Nomination for Secretary Recorder (Action Item)

Lucyann indicated this would be for a council member. Currently the role of secretary recorder is provided by the NYCP grant staff with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Jackie White indicated this grant ends on September 30, 2022, unless granted a carryover. After further discussion, a motion was made to table this nomination for now and Stormie continue serving through the NYCP grant. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

5. Discussion of Nonattendance based on Bylaws

OACIE Board

(a) Nonattendance

Jackie White spoke about the importance of members being in attendance and what steps to take if a member doesn't show for a consecutive time. Adrienne Lalli Hills asked about COVID and steps the OACIE would take for future meetings. Paul Pinkerton stated an executive order would have to take place by the governor to hold scheduled meetings virtually. Jackie White also indicated OACIE would follow that order if placed in the future

(b) Discussion and possible action to recommend dismissal of Jana Roth to Superintendent Joy Hofmeister (Action Item)

A recommend dismissal of Jana Roth representing the Delaware tribe. Lucyann Harjo asked for a motion. Paul Pinkerton made a motion to dismiss Jana Roth. Annette Long seconded the motion. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

(c) Discussion and possible action to recommend dismissal of Rhonda Hayworth to Superintendent Joy Hofmeister (Action Item)

A recommend dismissal of Rhonda Hayworth representing the Ottawa tribe. Lucyann Harjo asked for a motion. Paul Pinkerton made a motion to dismiss Rhonda Hayworth. Matt Higdon seconded the motion. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

(d) Discussion and possible action to recommend dismissal of Esther Bell to Superintendent Joy Hofmeister (Action Item)

A recommend dismissal of Esther Bell representing the DOE. Lucyann Harjo asked for a motion. Matt Higdon made a motion to dismiss Esther Bell. Annette Long seconded the motion. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

(e) Discussion and possible action to recommend dismissal of David Walkingstick to Superintendent Joy Hofmeister (Action Item)

A recommend dismissal of David Walkingstick representing the Cherokee Nation. Lucyann Harjo asked for a motion. Matt Higdon made a motion to dismiss David Walkingstick. Annette Long seconded the motion. A vote was called. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-0)*

6. Discussion of Bylaws and possible changes

OACIE

After in-depth discussion of changes needed, this will be placed on the agenda for next meeting as an action item to vote.

7. Public Comment (NONE)

Open Floor

- (a) Jackie White talked about Senate bill 235 allowing tribal regalia at high school graduation ceremonies. Senate bill 1383, the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education allowing all 39 tribes to provide representatives recommended by their leaders. House bill 4107, asking the state department of education to recognize teaching certificates from tribal nations. Those are the three bills that are out involving specifically to Native American, Alaska Native in the State of Oklahoma.
- (b) Lucyann Harjo mentioned Senate bill 1383 authored by Senator Mary Boren and it was re-moving the appointments from the governor's office to the giving tribal leaders an opportunity to appoint their members to the council. This would be through the state superintendent's office. Unfortunately, that bill did not get any traction at all, and no updates. Also mentioned using the OACIE to brainstorm on how connections could be made to tribes.
- (c) Lucyann spoke of some announcements from the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education. We are hosting our annual Indian education legislative day. And these Senate bills that did not make the agenda is why we began the Indian Education Legislative Day on Monday, March 7th held at the state Capitol on the fourth floor in the Rotunda.
- (d) Cori Gray announced effective March 1st, Dr. Marcie Mack resigned her position as state director of Oklahoma Department of Career Tech. She has taken another position with MidAmerica Industrial Park up in Pryor. Dr. Lee Denney, former legislator, is serving as interim state director and opening the position for a nationwide search.
- (e) Adrienne Lalli Hills made an announcement of an event on Saturday hosting First Thunder. It's a free event from 11 to 3, exploring First American knowledge in environmental sciences. This will be an annual event, and I hope to have more tribal partnerships as we go forth.
- (f) Adrienne also mentioned summer opportunities for students going into 8th through 12th grade. It's the regents offer summer academies, they're at institutions all over the state. Each college or university applies for the grant, and they host STEM camps.

- (g) Lucyann Harjo announcement the National Indian Education Association Convention comes to Oklahoma City October 5th through 8th and has a lot of Indian education educators across the nation coming into Oklahoma City.
- (h) Lucyann spoke of when we're looking at native students in Oklahoma, and we kind of focus on the Title VI programs and the Johnson O'Malley programs, the Bureau of Indian Ed has recently changed the enrollment criteria for our upcoming student count. As a council, to advocate for our kids, do we want to draft a letter to the Bureau of Indian Education and express our concerns? Because the BIE changed the enrollment criteria counting only students who are tribal members of a tribal nation, or our Indian kids' blood quantum must total one fourth. My thoughts are, are we allowed to present and draft a letter to the Bureau of Indian Ed? Jackie White responded that the National Johnson-O'Malley board met and drafted a resolution, and we're sending it to the BIE. That tribal membership, certified degree of Indian blood card, we gave them, back to being an education major, specific things that we felt like they should honor, that you're right, the CDIB card is issued from the government. Stormie Honeysuckle stated with it not being on the agenda, we do not have to make that vote today. But will draft a letter, send it to everybody on the council to edit, make changes when received then vote as a council in April or an emergency meeting can be called.
- (i) Lucyann Harjo spoke about in the past, we have requested a report from the college board on how native students are doing taking advanced placement courses. We've had a report from the State Regents Office on how much money our tribes are sending to universities and colleges across the state, and how many native students do we have attending. We have requested reports like that in the past. And I just want you to think about what is important to present to the State Board of Education.

8. New Business (NONE)

9. Closing Remarks

Open Floor

Next Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

10. (Action) Adjournment

Open Floor

Higdon made a motion to adjourn, with a second from *Pinkerton*. By a unanimous voice vote, the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE) adjourned official business at 12:01 pm. *MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATION, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, AND 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (10-0-0).*

Minutes provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education: Office of American Indian Education, on behalf of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education on _____ and were _____ (*passed/rejected*) on JULY 27, 2022.

X

I, **Lucyann Harjo**, as Chairman of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE) hereby certify these minutes to be true and accurate as approved by the Council members who were present, in official quorum as provided by Oklahoma State Statute.