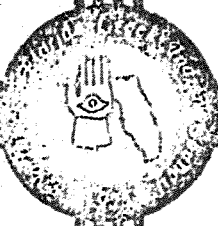


**Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek
5/28/1978 Minutes
Muscogee Nation of Florida Technical Assistance Response 2002,
Volume 2, Exhibit 61b**

Exemption 6

Northwest Florida Creek Indian Council
P. O. Box 462, Pensacola, Florida 32592, 904-432-9639



THE FLORIDA TRIBE OF EASTERN CREEKS

MINUTES

MAY 28, 1978

BRUCE, FLORIDA

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by Chairperson James E. Waite.

Welcome to all members and guest was extended by Chairperson Waite.

The Chairperson established a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James E. Waite, Riley E. Rolin, Melvin McGhee, Connie Palmer, William R. Palmer, Jr., (b) [REDACTED] Andrew Boggs Ramsey, Lamar Ward, [REDACTED] Sherry Bowen, Jim Hill, Zera Denson, [REDACTED] Perloca Linton, Mazie Rossell, Sara A. McCoy, [REDACTED] Janice Maddox, Lucille Blackwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: [REDACTED] Jordan Mathis, [REDACTED]

STAFF: Juanita Felter

CONSULTANT: Ms. Mary M. Callaway, Attorney-at-law.

OLD BUSINESS: Constitution

Ms. Callaway present the minor legal terms to be inserted to comply with the Federal Guidelines into the Constitution to make it a better document. A copy of the changes were given to each member to read as Ms. Callaway made her presentation. There were various other minor changes recommended and adopted from the Council. A motion was made and second to adopt the recommended changes that had been present. The adoption was made by a roll call vote for the adoption of the Constitution. The adoption of the Constitution was made unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were elected:

Mr. James E. Waite - Chairperson-Okaloosa County

Mr. Riley E. Rolin - Vice-Chairperson-Escambia County

Corresponding Secretary - Sherry L. Bowen- Okaloosa County

Recording Secretary - Connie Palmer- Calhoun County

Treasurer - Mr. Jim Hill, Santa Rosa County

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Riley E. Rolin - Chairman

Connie Palmer

William R. Palmer

Jordan Mathis

Zera Denson

Ralph E. Hunt

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

Mazie Rossell - Chairperson
Perloca Linton
Sara A. McCoy
Jim Hill
Melvin McGhee
Laura McCook
Earline Ward Snell

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Dr. Andrew B. Ramsey - Chairperson
Lamar Ward
Janice Maddox
Lucille Blackwell
Jack Myers
Jackie Cummings
Wisa Ramsey

TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP

Much discussion was given to tribal membership. A resolution was passed that all Creek Indians that voted in our recent tribal election, and signed an affidavit be accepted as members of this tribe with an amendment that the Creek Indians that have signed an affidavit be the initial members of this tribe. The resolution was accepted.

Treasurer report was given by Juanita Felter from the donations from the Council in the amount of \$16.08. The disbursements was envelopes for the mailing, \$4.90, 23 postage of \$.26 was \$5.98, one ream of paper was \$4.05; and 5 stencils was \$1.25; making a total of \$16.18, of which I donated \$.10.

The Council made a collection for postage in the amount of \$10.00.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mrs. Rossell asked for a donation to help with the cost of electric bills in the building.

Dr. Ramsey asked that the Program committee meet for a few minutes after the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Waite made an announcement about the dancers from Amarillo, Texas will present "From where the Sun Now Stands" Bi-Centennial pageant, May 1, at 8:00 P.M. in the Eglin Airforce Base Gym. The program captures the folklore of the American Indian in dance. The highlight of the evening will be the dance of the midnight warrior in modern pow-wow dances. The admission is \$2.00 adults and \$1.00 children under 18 years of age.

Mr. Buford Rolin commented on how pleased he was to see the strength in Tribal Council and hoped it would continue.

ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Ramsey made a motion for adjournment seconded by Riley Rolin. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M. Meeting to be held July 9, 1978 at Bruce, Florida at 2:30 P.M.

FIRST TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
BRUCE, FLORIDA

Mr. Waites: As you can see, we have several items of great importance to cover. I don't think we'll be able to get to all of these today. We do need to get into the constitution and get that settled. When we get to the clause where we agree on the election of officers, we should elect officers. To begin with, I think the best way to xx the constitution is to read it, and hear comments and discussion on each paragraph. xxxxx better idea.xxxxx We'll discuss it by articles. Is there any question about the first paragraph, any comments?

ARTICLE (1) the name of this tribe shall be the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks. Does everybody agree with that?

ARTICLE (2) the official seal of the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks shall be the seal such as is adopted for the Tribe by the Tribal Council.

Mrs. Linton: xxxxxxxx know what that seal is?

Mr. Waites: Yes. On the agenda, I had hoped we could get to the place we could appoint an administration committee, and that could be one of the tribal committees to come up with some ideas to present to the council. We'll discuss it, and our final acceptance...

Lady: In other words, there is no seal?

Mr. Waites: No.

xxxxxx

Mr. Waites: That's for the Northwest Florida Creek Indian Council.

ARTICLE (3) Purposes: The purposes of the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks shall be (1) to maintain representative, democratic processes, xxxxx the conduct of tribal affairs (2) to xxx good relationships with surrounding committees. (3) Promote better conditions for the Creek people and their descendents. Economically, Educationally, cultureally, and socially. (4) Provide for the continuity and development of the Creek Indian heritage.

Any questions or discussion on Article 3? We're doing a lot better than I thought we would.

ARTICLE (4) Geographical jurisdiction. The Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks shall be composed of those persons who a. are Creek Indian by descent, and presently reside in the state of Florida, or b. are Creek Indian or Creek Indian descent, who are born in the state of Florida, but do not presently maintain a residence in the state of Florida. or c. any other person who has obtained membership in the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians.

xxxxxxx

Mr. Waites: I think this is making reference to the Associate membership.

Ms. ~~Kxxxx~~: We originated from the state of AL. and these, in our clans, they are Indians xxxxxxx.

Mr. Waites: I'm not sure I understand your question.

Lady: I'm not sure I understand this statement here. xxx the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians shall be composed of those persons who are creek Indian by descent, and presently reside in the state of Florida, or are Creek Indian or of Creek Indian descent, who are born in the state of Florida, but do not presently maintain a residence in the state of Florida. or any other person who has obtained membership in the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians.

If you've already obtained your membership in the Florida Tribe of Creek Indians; the only people as far as I know who have attained membership in the tribe is this council right here., because it says later on that a person shall apply for it. For membership in the tribe. I don't understand

xxxxx

Mr. Waites: O.K. Mrs. Felter wants to say a word that might clarify it a little.

Mrs. Felter: When we were working on these, there is a lots of other people who are living through out the state of Florida, and also our neighbors right here in these counties that are not of Creek Indian blood, but we do not want to deny these people the right to become a member o

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in there; if they come to the tribal council and can prove that they are Cherokee, or Choctaw, or Sioux or someone that's living away from their reservation, and do not have tribal membership with them, well, then they can affiliate with us.

Lady: But it says any other person who has attained membership in the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks.

Man: You should say who may obtain membership

Lady: It's worded wrong. It should be worded some other way. Any other person who desires membership..any other person of Indian descent who desires membership;

Man: Who wishes to apply for membership

xxxxxxx

Lady: I'd like to say that I don't think that it would be wise for us, I could be wrong, but; for them to sit on the council.

Mr. R. Rolin: That's in there.

Mrs. Felter: That's in the constitution

Mr. Waites: O.K. We had one here. Go ahead.

Lady: O.K. I was thinking, what's hapening is that we've come to this before we come to the part that really explains what that xxxxx.

Mr. Waites: Yes.

Lady: So maybe we can put that on hold and come back to it if it doesn't explain itself in a little bit further.

Man: xxx if I move out of the state of Florida, and my family comes along; are my children going to be included?

Lady: Your children will be included under b.

Man: O.K.

Mr. Waites: Anyone have any questions before we go on?

SECTION (2) The Florida Tribe of Eastern Creeks may, by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the full council, unite with other tribes in a federation or xxx of x Indians.

Lady: xxxxx

Mr. Waites: We will apply for federal recognition here shortly. We know that xxx has also applied for federal recognition. There's some talk that maybe there will only be one federally recognized tribe. In that event, we will certainly become part of that tribe.

Mrs. Linton: We are already, sir. You can not devide a Creek Nation as far as the blood is concerned. Only by state lines. So if, we already feel that we are brothers, and combine with the creeks in AL. I mean what sort of

Mr. Waites: We are xxxxx this is the Creeks living in Northwest Florida Counties. The Creeks in AL would not actually be members of our tribe.

Unless they were residents in xxx AL. We know that Forester has applied for Federal Recognition, which will not include FL.

Mrs. Linton: There is no way to keep the Creeks in FL from becoming fedaralized if the Creeks in Atmore become Federalized.

Mr. Waites: Yes there is.

Mrs. Felter: The general law, and the state lines.

Mrs. Linton: I know. I know that. But there is also laws, maybe not general law, that said we could become citizens of the United States and we would not lose our tribal rights. And I can show it to you. So, when we are Creek Indians, we're Creek Indians no matter where we are.

Mr. Waites: I'll agree with that. The reason for that section is so that we will unite, for xxx with the others.

Lady: Well, I think the part that xxx is, that we be friendly and that we xxxxx here. xxxxx and of course we'll all be the same but we'll all have different sides.

xxxxx

Mr. Ramsey: In otherwords, if it ever came to pass that the Creek People East of the Mississippi ever chose to unite under a tribal council, that this