

Shawnee, Oklahoma  
March 4, 1939.

MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING OF BUSINESS  
COMMITTEE.

The Business Committee of the Citizen Band of Pottawatomí Indians met at the Shawnee Indian Agency on March 4, 1939, at 1:30 p. m.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. L.J. Brant. This was the first Quarterly Meeting under the new organization. All members were present:

Mr. L. J. Brant, Chairman  
Mrs. Julia Mallow, Vice-Chairman  
Mrs. A. W. Wardchow, Secretary  
Mr. Frank Wano, First Member  
Mr. William Trousdale, Second Member.

General Business was discussed at length. The employment of an attorney to represent the tribe was taken up and, if his services could be secured, to call a General Council for approval. It was also decided to ask Mr. Ben Dwight to come to a series of meetings at Sacred Heart, Trousdale, and Shawnee, in the near future, to explain the principles of becoming a chartered organization.

A discussion was also had as to the correct procedure to take in order to obtain a general hospitals for the Indians in the Shawnee Jurisdiction.

Mrs. A. W. Wardchow\*  
Mrs. A. W. Wardchow,  
Secretary.

APPROVED:

L. J. Brant  
Mr. L. J. Brant  
Chairman.

Shawnee Indian Agency  
Shawnee, Oklahoma  
April 17, 1941

MEMBERS OF THE INTER-TRIBAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

Dear Member:

I am enclosing herewith attached the minutes of the Inter-Tribal Council of Shawnee, Kickapoo, Iowa, Pottawatomie, and the Sac and Fox, which was held in the Community Building, April 4, 1941.

I advise that these minutes be filed with your Tribal Secretary. I have written five additional copies for the Office here, to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Regional Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and to Mr. Ben Dwight.

Sincerely yours,

*Wallace McClellan*

Wallace McClellan  
Tribal Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF SHAWNEE, KICKAPOO, IOWA,  
POTTAWATOMIE, AND THE SAC AND FOX, APRIL 4, 1941.  
Shawnee Indian Agency, Shawnee Oklahoma

The Inter-Tribal Council met at the Agency Community Building April 4, 1941. The Business Committee representing the five tribes under the jurisdiction of Shawnee Indian Agency were as follows: Shawnee: Mr. Harold Abraham, Mr. Casper Alford, Mr. Luther Rolette, and Mrs. Davis Tyner. Iowa: Mr. Blaine Kent, and Mr. Jack Lincoln. Pottawatomie: Mr. William Trousdale, Mr. Frank Wano, and Mrs. Ward-chow. Kickapoo: Mr. George Kishketon, Mr. Dwight Kishketon, Mr. John Logan, and Mr. Sweeney Stevens. Sac and Fox: Mr. Don Whistler, Mr. Marcellus Duncan, Mr. Wallace McClellan, Mr. James White and Mr. Paul Cokey, and Mr. Hugh Wakolee, a member of the Sac and Fox Grievance Committee.

Meeting was called at 1:30 p. m.

Mr. Whistler: Explains the purpose of the meeting. Purpose of the meeting were to represent each respective tribe. To state their general tribal problems; to express their views and opinions upon matters that have same relations at a common cause; and to analyze tribal situation, interest, rights, and privileges. All former meetings were only held with chairmans of each tribe.

At this point, an open forum was held on Indian leases, and few business committee members voiced their opinion regarding the Indian leases. After much discussion pro and con, the two following resolution were presented before the council; Motion by Mrs. Davis Tyner, and seconded by Harold Abraham.

RESOLVED: That the clause in leases covering Indian land requiring the tenant to take proper care of the improvements on said land, to turn the same over to the landlord, and to present to the Superintendent's office these improvements, be made more effective and enforced. It is recommended that a representative of the Superintendent's office make an inspection to that purpose before the lease expires.

RESOLVED: That the authority of selling oil and gas lease on restricted land be changed so as to permit the Indian land owner to take advantage of the best prices offered, and it is recommended that this might be accomplished by using the same method as used in agricultural leases. The motion, upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously.

The council conferred with Mr. John Malone, president of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, in regards to an Indian Fair with the Pottawatomie county fair in September. Mr. Malone, spoke to the council and encouraged the group to have their tribesmen put on exhibits at the coming fair, and to have a booth to exhibit Indian Arts and Crafts to promote interest. The council appointed the following committees composed one from each tribe. The committee appointed were Mr. Frank Wano, Mrs. Davis Tyner, Mr. Sweeney Stevens, Mr. Jack Lincoln, and Mr. Marcellus Duncan. They will meet with Mr. Gibson, president of Alridge Hotel, at a luncheon to discuss plans and advertise the fair, and to plan an Indian entertainment to be held at the Shawnee Municipal stadium during the fair. The appointed group is to meet with Mr. Gibson and other members of the Chamber of Commerce within the next few weeks.

There being no other business and time limited, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting, which will be last Thursday in September, 1941.

Wallace McClellan  
Temporary Secretary

MINUTES OF THE POTAWATOMI TRIBAL COUNCIL HELD AT THE  
AGENCY COMMUNITY BUILDING, APRIL 28, 1939

In accordance with a notice issued by the Chairman of the Potawatomi Tribal Council, by authority granted under Section 2, Article VI of the Constitution and By-Laws, a special general council was called on Friday, April 28, 1939, at 1:00 P.M., at the Agency Community Building, for the purpose of deciding whether or not to employ an attorney to represent the tribe in the matter of the tribe's claims against the government, and for such other business that might properly come before the council.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by Mr. L. J. Brant, Chairman. There were approximately sixty adult members in attendance at the meeting, representing a quorum.

The purpose of the meeting was explained to the group and the various phases of the matter were discussed. A motion was made by Frank Wano, seconded by Sadie Hardin that an attorney be employed to represent the Potawatomi Tribe in the matter of their claims against the Government. The motion carried unanimously.

General discussion was held on who the attorney should be and Mr. Grady Lewis' name was submitted. It was explained to the group that Mr. Lewis had taken an interest in the matter and, while on a trip to Washington on business of his own, had investigated same and in recent correspondence had submitted an offer to the Tribe. The suggestion was made that this correspondence from Mr. Lewis be read and it was unanimously agreed that Mrs. L. J. Brant read same. Mrs. Brant has studied Potawatomi history and is quite familiar with all phases of it. She gave a brief summary of the history of the various claims, after which she read the correspondence from Mr. Lewis. The important factor in Mr. Lewis' letters was that he believed that something might be derived from such claims and that he would be willing to represent the tribe for a small percent, the amount to be set by the Department if and when a contract is drawn up, of anything that might be collected but it would require \$250 to start on. This was thought to be a reasonable amount by the council and a motion was made by Mrs. Sadie Hardin and seconded by Mr. Trousdale that Mr. Grady Lewis be accepted as the attorney to represent the tribe in the matter of attempting to collect any claims the tribe has against the Government. Mrs. Beck made a motion that an amendment be made to the above motion to the effect that a specified time be given the attorney to show some progress. After further discussion on the question Mrs. Hardin and Mrs. Beck asked that their motion and amendment be recalled and Mrs. Hardin suggested that a resolution be made setting forth the matter in detail, and upon motion by Mrs. Hardin, seconded by Mrs. Wardchow, it was

unanimously agreed that the following resolution be incorporated in the minutes:

#### RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, That we employ Mr. Grady Lewis to make a preliminary investigation to determine whether we have a valid claim against the government, and that we endeavor to raise \$250 for expense money, to be advanced to him with the understanding that he make this investigation within one year and that same is to be repaid to us from his final fee if the case is prosecuted to a successful conclusion.

As the Potawatomi Tribe has no money to its credit, the \$250 to be paid Mr. Lewis would have to be raised among the Indians. It was decided that the best procedure would be to appoint a Finance Committee, picking a member from each district where the Indians live, and then letting each committee member pick his helpers. The Finance Committee appointed is as follows:

John Curley	Mr. Mueller
Lee Burnett	Mr. Stigall
George Gregson	

It was decided that the money collected should be turned over to the Secretary-Treasurer and she in turn would deposit it to the Tribe's credit at the office, the account to be handled as an individual account in the Individual Indian Money Section.

The Chairman asked if there was any other business anyone wished to bring before the council and there being no further business of any nature, motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried that the meeting adjourn.

*Mrs. A. W. Wardchow*  
Mrs. A. W. Wardchow,  
Secretary-Treasurer