

THE QUAPAW POST

Fall 2025



2025 ANNUAL ELECTION

OFFICIAL RESULTS

WORKSHEET

VICE CHAIR: Jesse Manz McKibben II **394**
Amy Panther-Kvistad **79**

MEMBER: Joey A Giveswater **201**
Linda Davis **472**
Larry Mercer **175**
Virginia Mouse **122**
Roman Kihaga **133**
Buddy Shapp **160**
Sean Mathews **124**

Total Registered Voters **1793**
Total Walk In Voters **3**
Total Ballots Spoiled **3**
Total Absentee Ballots Mailed Out **306**
Total Absentee Ballots Received **3**
Total Absentee Ballots Spoiled **3**

Total Votes **416**
Total Counted **416**
Total Spoiled **0**

Chairman: Frank Frazier *Frank Frazier*
Vice-Chairman: Vacant
Sec/Treasurer: Lori Shafer
Member: Steve Owens *Steve Owens*
Member: Julia Peteahsy *Julia Peteahsy*
Alternate: Russ Garber *Russ Garber*
Alternate: Michelle Newton *Michelle Newton*

In accordance with the Election and Voting Ordinance accepted at the January 31, 2004 General Council, page 11, Section 12.16 states: On the third business day after ballots are counted and the recount period has expired without a recount, the Election Committee shall declare the election final and issue a notice of Certification of the Election Results. The Election Committee shall issue the notice of such election or vote results on the third business day following the election at 12:00 p.m., or after the recount is resolved, whichever is later. The Certification of the Election Results will be posted at the Quapaw Tribal Office and provided to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Quapaw Agency Office, and the Business Committee Secretary.

I, Frank Frazier, Chair of the Quapaw Nation Election Committee, certify the recount period has expired without a recount and declare the election final and hereby issue a notice of Certification of the Election Results.

Frank Frazier
Frank Frazier, Chair
Quapaw Nation Election Committee
Date: **7/24/2025**

All Incumbents Re-elected in 2025 General Election

Quapaw, OK (July 2025) The results are in for the 2025 Quapaw Nation General Election.

In this year's election, all incumbents were re-elected to continue serving the Quapaw Nation:

Jesse "Manz" McKibben - Re-elected as Vice-Chairman

Linda Davis, Joey Giveswater, and Larry Mercer - Re-elected as Business Committee Members.

These leaders return to office with the continued trust of the people, tasked with guiding the Nation through the coming year.

Equally important are those who ran and did not win their bids for office. Running for office is no small act—it's a commitment to serve, to lead, and to represent. Every candidate, win or lose, plays a vital role in the democratic process and deserves respect and recognition for their courage and dedication to the future of the Nation.

While the leadership remains the same, the numbers tell a story hard to ignore.

Out of 1,793 registered voters, only 416 ballots were cast—a voter turnout of less than 24 percent. In essence, 416 individuals determined the direction of the Nation for the next year, while over 1,300 registered voters and thousands of eligible citizens remained on the sidelines.

The steady increase in registered voters is promising, but participation at the ballot box has continued to decline year after year:

Year	Registered Voters	Votes Cast
2020	1,537	873
2021	1,569	564
2022	1,609	621
2023	1,669	451
2024	1,765	529
2025	1,793	416





On July 4, 2025, during General Council, Minnie Tsosie Hamilton (left) and Betty Lou Goodbear (right) were crowned tribal princess and junior tribal princess after a vote by General Council.



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DAR Member with Native American Heritage Shares Her Family's Story

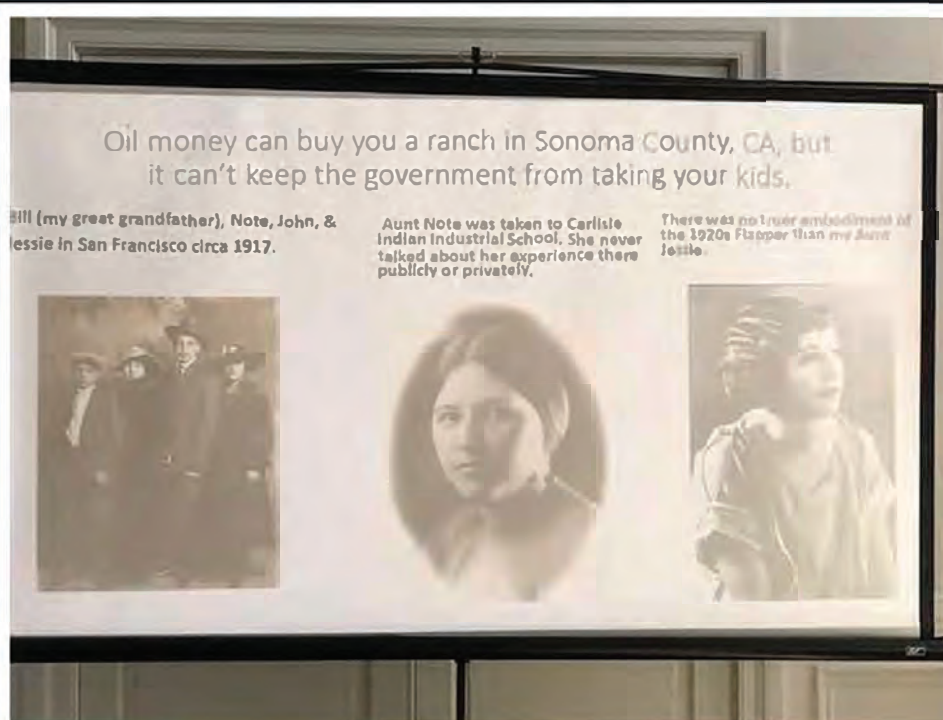
An intricate American ancestry was the subject of the Marco DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) meeting March 17th at the Hideaway Beach Club.

Melbourne Florida Chapter member Maryann Wyrick Esenwein entitled her power point talk, "Prairie Tales: An Intimate Portrait of an Osage and Quapaw Family." She said, "It's the story of the Osage and Quapaw tribes fight for survival on the ever-changing American landscape as told through the oral traditions of my family."

Maryann is Osage and Quapaw. She grew up on the Osage Indian Reservation in Oklahoma with her mixed Osage, Quapaw and white family. She is a Mayflower Descendant and a fifth generation DAR member who has held many state level DAR offices.

She went on to explain, "I was taught the stories of my people on the laps of my elders. I would like to acknowledge Principal Chief Sylvester of the Osage Nation. He made it his life's mission to care for the physical, mental, and spiritual health of generations of Osages, especially my generation. I tell our stories in his and all my elders' honor."

DAR is a service organization with 180,000 members in three-thousand chapters worldwide. Members are women eighteen years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot in the American Revolution.



Maryann Wyrick Esenwein shows photos of her mixed Quapaw/Osage and white ancestry.





This year the Cultural Committee with the assistance of O-Gah-Pah Communication set up photo sessions similar to those of our ancestors in the Longhouse, here are some of those photos to enjoy.

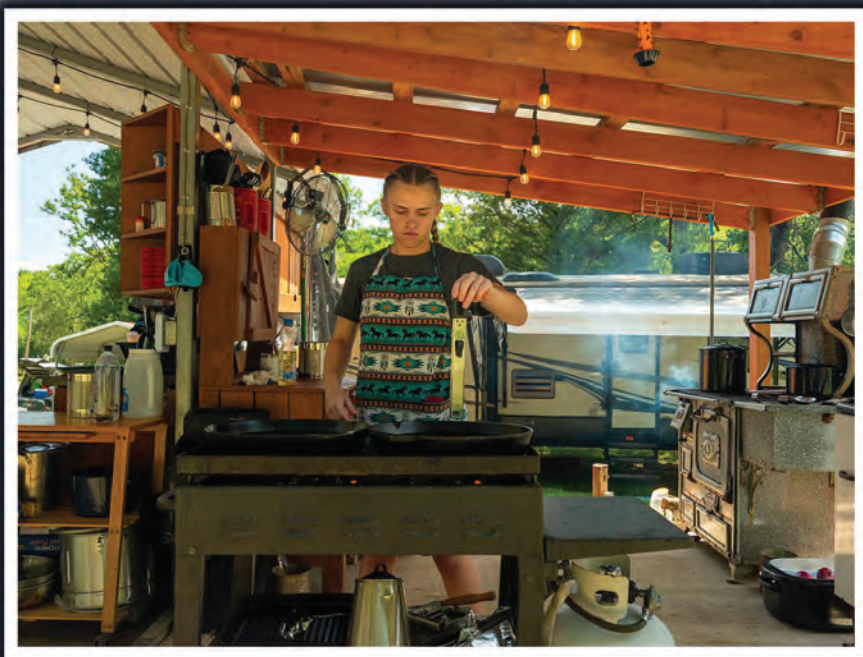
















Just a Reminder:

**THE NEXT MEETING FOR OUR QUAPAW WOMEN'S GROUP IS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
5:30 P.M. AT THE MUSEUM CLASSROOM**

**FOLLOWING DINNER AT 5:30 WE WILL BE HAVING OUR RIBBON
SKIRT CONTEST SO WEAR YOUR FAVORITE RIBBON SKIRT AND
PREPARE TO TELL ITS HISTORY.**

**FOLLOWING THE CONTEST OUR ENTERTAINMENT FOR
THE EVENING WILL BE BILLIE BURTRUM, QHPP DIRECTOR
WITH AN EXCITING GAME OF "QUAPAW JEOPARDY".
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE FOR AN EVENING
OF FUN AND GAMES!**

QUAPAW FALL GATHERING

“Good Ole Days Pow Wow”

Organized by Quapaw Cultural Committee

Inspired by memories, and Quapaw Pow Wow agendas from the 1900s–1960s

Head Singer: Shawn Ellick
M.C.: Ocquanoxcey Hamilton
Head Man: Nathan Dreadfulwater
Head Woman: LaCinda Attocknie
A.D.: Jeremy Olsen
Stomp Dance: Trenton Stand

Date: September 6, 2025

Location: Beaver Springs Park
5681 South 630 Road,
Quapaw, OK 74363

Keenest Blanket or Shawl Contest

Men and Women combined
Line-up only, no contest song
\$250 winner take all – All ages

Best Dressed Quapaw Woman

Line-up only, no contest song
\$250 winner take all – All ages

Best Dressed Quapaw Man

Line-up only, no contest song
\$250 winner take all – All ages

*Supper Provided By: Quapaw Historic
Preservation Program*

*Meat Donated By: Quapaw Cattle
Company*

*Not Responsible for Injury, Loss, or
Accidents.*

Tallest and Shortest Indian Contest

Separate Contest for Men and Women
Line-up only, no contest song
\$125 winner take all – 18 & over

Clown Dance Contest

1st \$400, 2nd \$300, and 3rd \$200 place
prizes. All ages

Feather Pull Contest

1st \$400, 2nd \$300, and 3rd \$200 place
prizes.
17 & under - must be in full attire

*No Giveaway Specials at Committee
request (no giveaway songs or speeches)*

*For vendor information, or other questions,
please contact Barbara Kyser-Collier at:
918-325-3645*

Join us for a day of fun and dancing. This gathering is inspired by old Quapaw pow wow agendas and memories from the mid-20th century. This event will feature an afternoon and evening session of war dance, social dances, stomp dance, a traditional meal, and community contests. This gathering will reflect earlier traditions and will not include some of the modern elements introduced after the 1970s, such as a parade-in, northern drum, gourd dance, or long dance contests.



Ribbon Skirt Class

September 14, 2025



Moccasin Classes

September 27 & 28, 2025

November 8 & 9, 2025

Boys Straight Dance Bells Class

October 11th, 2025



Rosette Class

October 25 & 26, 2025

To sign up, please contact: Kristen Keys at 918-325-2886
Classes sponsored through a federal grant from SAMHSA.
Open to the public, but spots are limited so **RSVP today!**

Quapaw Business Committee June 2025 Summary

Ha-we,

There were multiple important topics discussed in the BC meeting today. You are encouraged to watch the recorded meetings on YouTube. The following summary is not the official meeting minutes. The approved minutes will become available in June. If you know of others who would like to be added to this distribution list, so they are aware of meeting outcomes quickly, please let me know. In addition, if anyone would like to be omitted from the distribution list, please provide that as well.

Discussion of the Bear settlement or authorization bill are in bold. Editor's notes are marked with <...>

Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum

Present – Chair Supernaw, Vice Chairman McKibben, Secretary Treasurer Valliere, Member Mercer, Member Buffalo, Member Davis, and Member Giveswater

Business Committee Report Announcements:

1. Member Mercer provided a Ray Property home, O-ga-xpa ti-kda, project update where good progress continues and 10 family are residing there.
2. Member Buffalo gave an update on the latest negotiations with the State of Oklahoma regarding our tobacco compact. As reported last month, due to the good faith negotiations that broke down with the State, four tribal nations (Muskogee Creek, Seminole, Osage and Quapaw) decided to support proposed tobacco compact legislation. Once the legislation was drafted by the tribal nations, it was reviewed and then updated by the Governor's legal team who assured us the Governor would not veto it if presented in that form, accepted by the tribal nations, only to later hear the Governor planned to veto it. So, the goal became to gain enough votes in the House and Senate to override the Governor's veto. Secretary Treasurer Valliere and Chair Supernaw went to Oklahoma City on 2 different dates, lobbying to achieve the votes. Although sufficient votes were obtained, the Senate Pro Tem refused to introduce the bill. The Quapaw Nation is now operating without a tobacco compact and actively seeking alternatives that could prove fruitful.
3. Member Buffalo gave an update on the Claremore Indian Hospital. After all the tribal nations decided formally to leave their HIS shares at Claremore, the Cherokee announced all in-patient, and all surgeries will be discontinued. Their plan is to build a new facility and focus only on emergency and out-patient services. In the last Board meeting, they heard from the United Keetoowah Band and their objections. As we continue to learn more details, we still have time to remove our shares from Claremore before the transition 10/1/2025.
4. Member Giveswater gave an update on the Pow Wow Grounds and Long house improvements. The Long house improvements are not completed yet. In the event the work is not complete by Pow Wow, for those utilizing the long house, please use the east end and do not pass the construction tape.
5. Secretary Treasurer Valliere provided an update on the potential Argo bioprocessing plant.
6. Secretary Treasurer Valliere announced for those who have moved into O-ga-xpa ti-kda, or will shortly, if you are interested in serving on the Resident Housing Committee, please send your interest to brent.divine@quapawnation.com.
7. Secretary Treasurer Valliere gave an update on the recently released Oklahoma Tribal Nations Economic Impact Study, sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association for FY 2023.
 - a. \$7.8 Billion in wages and benefits to Oklahoma workers.
 - b. \$23.4 Billion in state production of goods and services.
 - c. 139,860 jobs in the state.
 - d. From FY 2019 to FY 2023, economic activity increased by \$4.9 Billion, nearly double the increase recorded between FY 2017 to FY 2019.
7. Member Davis gave an update on the Sovereignty Symposium and the Native Alliance Against Violence Conference.
8. Earlier this week, the Quapaw Nation signed a Tribal Amici (friend of the court) on the KALSHIEX LLC v. MARY JO FLAHERTY case in the UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT. So, what is

this case about and why is it important to the Quapaw Nation? This is regarding a lower court upholding gaming related sports events contracts can be traded under the guise of commodity trading pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). Let me explain, commodities trading is where oil, gas, gold, and wheat type futures contracts can be traded. The lower court held Kalshi was able to legally trade sports event contracts on a commodities exchange, just like oil. Why does this matter to the Quapaw Nation? We believe, and the case contends the lower court ruling is in direct violation of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act as well as the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's ("CFTC") own regulations. We understand that sports betting is legal in the State of Oklahoma under limited circumstances. However, in cooperation with other Tribal Nations in Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association, considerable effort has been expended to expand our sports betting capabilities in this market. Tribal Nations need to expand the market to benefit our tribal members, not give it away to a non-Indian entity, where none of our tribal members will benefit. Kalshi impedes tribes' inherent sovereign right to regulate gaming activity on Indian lands. That is why we signed as a friend of the court brief.

9. Regarding the Department of Government Efficiency recommendations on decreasing the size of the Federal Government and impacts to the Quapaw Nation. There is nothing new to report. However, we will continue actively monitoring the situation and communicate any further impacts. We did participate in a recent DOI Consultation. Unfortunately, it seemed they were looking at feedback on their organizational proposal, so it was more of a check the box exercise instead of a true government to government consultation. The Quapaw Nation will be providing formal comments.
10. We announced 2 months ago the meat processing plant management agreement with Cypress Valley Meat Company will cease 7/1/2025. The transition continues to go smoothly. We appreciate all the efforts by Executive Director Trenton Stand, Agricultural Director Michell Albright, plant manager Wade Payne, and the entire Human Resources team that have brought us to a good state of readiness to resume Quapaw Nation operational management of the plant. Thank you to the team.

The Nation held the following events over this last month.

- The Quapaw Nation Fitness Center held Aerobic Drumming and Walking Strong classes every Tuesday and Thursday throughout May.
- The Quapaw Nation Language Department hosted the "Quapaw Lunch & Learn" Spring 2025 Language Sessions. They were free in-person classes open to all skill levels and offered an opportunity to learn Quapaw together during the lunch hour.
- The Indian Child Welfare Department held a book drive for new or gently used books for children 13 years and younger. Their goal was to create a lending library for local foster families, and they succeeded. The book drive collected 510 books! The ICW Department is very appreciative, and they extend a big thank you to everyone who donated.
- This year's annual rotating event, called Completing the Circle, was sponsored by the Seneca Cayuga Tribe on May 31st. This event is held for all tribal foster families. The Quapaw Nation's Indian Child Welfare Department participated, the Fire Department supplied a first aid station, and dancers and drummers put on an exhibition, explaining different songs, dances, and regalia.
- The Food Sovereignty Department and the Cattle Company held another food distribution for Quapaw Tribal Member Head of Households. This distribution consisted of 20 pounds of ground beef. The scheduled pick-up dates were June 9th - 14th, and they had a total of 1,090 members sign up.
- On June 10th, the Quapaw Nation CCDF program hosted its first Oklahoma Tribal Child Care Association quarterly meeting at Downstream. They had a morning presentation, followed by a director's training, and ended with a tour of the Nation's facilities.
- The Youth Program hosted a Shield Pottery Class on June 10th & 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Suzy Moore Pottery Studio, and Betty Gaedtker taught the class. The class was open to 5th- 12th graders. During this class, students created their own pottery shield while exploring Quapaw art and culture through hands-on learning. This class was sponsored through a federal grant from Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Authority (SAMHSA).
- On Saturday, June 14th, the Quapaw Nation's higher education department hosted a Graduation Celebration Banquet for students graduating between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. Congratulations to all the graduates, we wish you the best of luck.
- On June 19, 2025, 3rd Thursday, held in Joplin, Missouri, on Main Street, held a "You Belong in Joplin" event. The

nation sponsored the event by putting on an exhibition with drummers and dancers to celebrate and share our culture.

The Nation has the following current and upcoming events

- Children's Miracle Network at Freeman offers assistance programs that provide direct family assistance programs for children and families in need who live in Ottawa County, Oklahoma. This can include specialty equipment, a service dog program, travel assistance, and other medically necessary items. You can take advantage of these programs and get the help you or your family needs today. Please visit freemanhealth.com for more information.
- The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Department is calling for more people to help contribute to the Regalia Closet. This program loans out regalia to children for them to dance. The goal is for children to feel what it is like to dance in regalia in hopes that it will spark a yearning for participation and learning about our traditions and culture. Availability is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Quapaw tribal members who specialize in making Quapaw regalia for boys and girls aged from infants to 12 years old are encouraged to submit a bid to the CCDF Department.
- Tribal member, Madeline Jennings, is a student at Washington State University in the Archeology program. She has created a community survey for her thesis research as well as a pedestrian survey of a select historical site in the upcoming months. She is requesting participation in her survey, which can be found on the Quapaw's Post Facebook page. This survey is available now until the end of September.
- The Nation's Splash Pad is now open for the season. Operating hours are from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. It is located behind our fitness center.
- The Quapaw Farmer's Market takes place on the first and third Fridays from now until October from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to stop by, receive a ticket for their monthly drawings, grab a bite to eat, and shop for fresh produce and arts and crafts from local vendors.
- The Quapaw Tribal Nation Library is offering a new, exciting service for its members. Anyone with a Quapaw Nation Library Card can access NewsBank, a platform that offers full-text and digital access to hundreds of newspapers across the United States. It is very easy to get a library card; just stop by their facility to get signed up and learn about all the other programs they have to offer.
- The Quapaw Nation Youth and CCDF Programs have scheduled Camp Quapaw from June 23rd to June 27th. This camp is for children in 2nd to 12th grade.
- Please come join the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tribal Nations Technical Center of Expertise in a "Vision to Action" session on Tuesday, June 24th. There will be two sessions available, and both are open-house formats. These sessions are designed to support the ongoing Comprehensive Water Resources Planning study for the Tar Creek and Spring River watersheds. Please come share what you would most like to see with regard to the restoration. They would like to hear from you. Indian tacos will be available during the first session, from noon to 2 p.m., with a \$5 suggested donation, and while supplies last, and beverages will be available during the evening session from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- On June 25th, the Quapaw Nation Mobile Integrated Health team will be conducting a short class on techniques used to help a choking person. This class will teach old and new methods! Elders 55 and older will receive a free choker device. There is a limit of one per household. The class starts at 1 PM at the Title VI building.
- The Quapaw Nation's STEM Team is having three fundraisers coming up. The first is a Krispy Crème Donut Fundraiser, which you can pre-order starting now until Tuesday, June 24th at 7 p.m. Pre-orders and same-day orders can be picked up at the Quapaw Farmer's Market on Friday, June 27th starting at 10 a.m. while supplies last. They will be selling donuts by the half dozen or by the dozen. To pre-order, please email QNSTEMTEAM@quapawnaion.com. The next fundraiser is a Pet Contest Fundraiser, starting Monday, June 23rd, and they will accept entries until July 13th. There is a \$5 per pet entry fee, and it is open to all pet owners. Each pet will be entered in their own category (dogs, cats, fish, rabbits, etc.), and there will be 3 places in each category. Winners will be announced during a third fundraiser, STEM Bingo + Raffle, on Friday, August 29th. All winners will receive a prize and be featured on social media. Additional details on these upcoming fundraisers are available on the Quapaw Post's social media and the tribal website.
- The Quapaw Nation Courts is hosting a Debt Relief Amnesty Program for Traffic Citations & Delinquent Debt on June 30th and July 1st from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Ki-Ho-Ta Center. You will have the chance to pay off all traffic citations and delinquent court debt, with a 25% reduction to the balance. It gives the opportunity to take care

of legal obligations stress-free. Community Service options will also be available for those unable to pay. This initiative is designed to support our community by providing relief without penalty. Please visit the Court's home page on the Quapaw Nation's website for more information.

- Quapaw Nation is soliciting bids for the salvage sale of materials of a collapsed pavilion located at 906 Whitebird St in Quapaw. Bids must be made for the entirety of the structure. Bids for specific parts or materials will not be considered. In-person viewings by appointment only. Bids must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on June 30, 2025. Full details can be found on the Quapaw Nation's website.
- General Council is of course July 4. The meeting will be called to order at 9am in the Downstream Pavilion. Enrolled Tribal Members 18 and above and certain non-Tribal Members can attend. Non-Tribal Members can attend only if: 1) They are Quapaw Blood (QB) voters, or 2) They have assigned specific duties for the General Council, such as registration team members, Downstream personnel, communication team, technology support, parliamentarian, Quapaw Nation Marshals, etc., or 3) Their presence is necessary to provide mobility/wellness assistance to tribal members (1 per tribal member only). Breakfast and registration begin at 8am. For those who would like, cedar smoke will be available at approximately 7:00am on the patio through the glass doors next to the Pavilion. Lunch is at 11:30. For those of you who have children, the childcare pre-registration form has been released. Please complete the form by today, June 21st. Additional and special Valet services will be available. Elders 65 and above and those with mobility challenges can utilize valet behind the Downstream Pavillion rear entrance past the employee parking area and tiered parking. The General Council FAQ and childcare pre-registration forms are available on the tribal website.
- A draft of the proposed Quapaw Nation Constitution is available online and has been shipped to all Quapaw Tribal member head of households. The next step is for Quapaw Nation Tribal members to review this draft constitution and bring questions and perspectives to the July 4th General Council Meeting this year. Additional details can be found online.
- The next edition of the Quapaw Post will start hitting mailboxes late next week. It will also be uploaded online for digital distribution on Monday, 6/23. The General Council Resource book will also be available online with survey information for feedback on if it. We want to know if the General Council Resource Book contains the type of information tribal members are seeking. We encourage you to provide feedback.
- The dates for this year's 153rd annual Quapaw Powwow are July 3rd-6th, with the 3rd being the All Quapaw Group Photo at 5:45 p.m. followed by Quapaw Night, then the 4th-6th will be Contests & Inter-Tribal Dancing, & the 5th being the night for Fireworks. Please refer to the flyer for additional information. Camp registration is set for June 30th to July 3rd from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 4th 8am - 11:30am. Rations will be handed out on July 5th starting at 9 a.m. in the Community Building.
- The Annual Health Fair will be on July 2nd from 8 a.m. to Noon at the Quapaw Nation Fitness Center. The health fair will be open to elders only from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and then open to everyone else from 9 a.m. to noon.
- The youth program is hosting a cultural class on how to make a traditional Indian Football. The class will be taught by Christina and Rachel Sharp on July 3, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the old long house. This class is sponsored through a federal grant from SAMHSA and is at full capacity.
- On July 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm., the CCDF program is sponsoring a creation station which is free for everyone! It will be held at the Native American Church (NAC) Summer House. They will have snow cones, face painting, and crafts.
- Also on July 3rd, O-Gah-Pah Communications is starting a new project called "Elders' Circle of Remembrance, Honoring Our Voices, Sharing Our Stories." They will be recording at the old longhouse from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and all elders are encouraged to join in the discussion.
- Save the Date for the 14th Annual Dhegiha Language Conference on July 23rd & 24th at the Downstream Casino & Resort. The event gathers Osage, Ponca, Northern Ponca, Quapaw, Kaw, and Omaha communities to support the preservation and revitalization of Dhegiha languages. They encourage registrants to be individually motivated and/or affiliated with a tribal language program and language teachers that seek to preserve and revitalize the language. The application has been placed on the Quapaw Nation's website for those who would like to participate. It costs \$60 per person and \$10 per day per child under 14, t-shirt included. The deadline to register is July 15th, after that, there is on-site registration, but t-shirts are not guaranteed. Non-participating guests who only want meals, the cost is \$25.
- Quapaw Nation Youth Program is hosting another Youth GONA: Gathering of Native Americans Program. The event will be held at the Quapaw Nation Fitness Center from July 28th to 31st, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is open to everyone: Youth, Local, Tribal leaders, etc. This class is sponsored through a federal grant from SMHSA &

VSSA. For more information, please contact Kristen Keys.

- The Higher Education Department is continuing its classes and is hosting another scholarship workshop on August 6th and 20th, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the community building. This event is available in person and on Microsoft Teams. It is free and open to everyone. To register, please email education.department@quapawnation.com.
- The Cancer Awareness Committee is holding a Cancer Awareness Golf Scramble on Sunday, September 14th, at Eagle Creek Golf Club. The cost is \$300.00 per team, and the deadline to enter is August 14th. The committee is also accepting donations for the golf scramble and silent auction. For more information, please contact Jackie Stone at Jackie.stone@quapawnation.com.
- If you want to stay up to date with all the events happening in the nation, you can visit the ogahpahcommunications.com website and click on "Notify Me" to sign up for text, email, or phone call alerts.

Quapaw Casino

April 2025 was an excellent month for Quapaw Casino from an Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) standpoint. For the month ending April 30, 2025, EBITDA totaled \$442,000, with a margin of 21.8%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. Quapaw Casino did an excellent job meeting this expectation. April's results exceeded our budgeted expectation by \$70,000 and represents a decrease of \$124,000 from April 2024. This month was a great start to the third quarter!

The main contributing factor to this positive month was their expense control. The glaring negative to this month was fuel and gaming revenue. Fuel revenue missed budget and last year by \$91,000. While gaming revenue while exceeding budget, it missed prior year by \$71,000. Cigarettes, alcohol, and retail revenue also saw negative variances. The decrease in EBITDA from last year is primarily the result of these variances.

Net income for the month totaled \$414,000 with a margin of 20.4%. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%. So again, Quapaw Casino did an excellent job meeting this expectation. Net Income represents a positive budget variance of \$10,000. Net income compared to April 2024 had a huge decrease of \$188,000. This negative variance was the primary result of the decreased revenue.

April 2025, we received our second Pay Application from Flintco, the General Contractor. They were paid \$1.6MM on Friday May 16th. We are currently holding payment on one material supplied vendor due to not being approved by QNGA yet.

Downstream Casino & Resort April & May

April was an exceptional month! For the month ending April 30, 2025, EBITDA totaled \$8.1MM, with a margin of 46.3%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. April results exceeded our budgeted expectations by \$0.7MM and were \$0.7MM more than April 2024 EBITDA of \$7.4MM. FY2025 we are currently sitting at \$55.2MM which is 100.3% of the first seven months of FY25 budget! These are extraordinary results after January's huge deficit.

Net income for the month totaled \$6.8MM with a margin of 38.7%. This represents a positive budget variance of \$1.0MM. Net income compared to April 2024 also showed an increase of \$1.0MM. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%.

May was not only an exceptional month but from a revenue, EBITDA, and net income standpoint, the best month of FY2025! For the month ending May 31, 2025, EBITDA totaled \$9.7MM, with a margin of 48.6%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. So not only is our revenue well above par, but our expense control is also! May results exceeded our budgeted expectations by \$1.8MM and were \$1.8MM more than May 2024 EBITDA. FY2025 we are currently sitting at \$64.9MM which is 103.2% of the first eight months of FY25 budget! This is an extraordinary result after January's huge deficit. For the 3rd quarter of FY2025 we are currently at 116.7% of the 3rd quarter budget.

Net income for the month totaled \$8.3MM with a margin of 41.8%. This represents a positive budget variance of \$2.1MM. Net income compared to May 2024 also showed an increase of \$2.1MM. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%.

Our next quarterly mandatory payment of \$6.5MM will be due on June 30th. However, as stated previously we will continue the path of paying \$7.5MM quarterly. Once we make the June 30th payment, the outstanding loan balance will be \$107MM. Considering we started at \$300MM, that is remarkable progress. The loan balance will be below \$100MM before we know it!

Saracen

Net gaming revenues (NGR) in May finished as our best month ever. The impressive performance beat budget by 16.8% and prior year by 24.1%. Number one revenue source is Slots with handle (volume) and revenue (hold) continue to experience increases when compared to the prior year. Slots handle beat prior year by 23.0% and net revenue was up over prior year by 21.5%. Performance against budget resulted in Slot net revenue ahead of expectation by 14.8%. Sportsbook volumes continue to outpace prior year with handle (bets placed) up 29.6%. Sportsbook win finished up over prior year by 34.3% and budget by 25.8%.

Considerable progress has been made on the development of the Hotel and Event Center. From a budget perspective, the development is about 55.5% complete with a majority (80%) of the funding derived from cash flow from operations. Utilization of the revolving line of credit to supplement cash flow has started with every effort to minimize the number and amounts of draws. Updates on when the facility will open to the public will be forthcoming.

The Saracen MBA program for Quapaw Nation citizens has been approved and is in the process of reviewing applications. The goal is to select the inaugural participant in the coming weeks, in time for the start of the Fall 2025 semester.

Ogahpah Wisdom Keepers (Grace Goodeagle)

- Congratulated all graduates and thanked their family and friends.
- Will be at Camp Quapaw.
- 7/3 recordings of elders.
- AARP Indian Elder Honoree Sandra Bear.

Culture Committee (Everett Bandy)

- The Committee has been working on music project. Met with Wilma Jo Shawnee, last living child of Bill Shawnee. She supports the use of Quapaw songs on Quapaw phone system.
- DCR exhibit reinstallation of Quapaw clothing is complete. The new exhibit is in the lobby with a display to preserve the clothing.
- Photo shoot of elders using crescent moon inspired by early 1900s photographs. Date and time tbd.
- Asked to review 3 sections of the drafted Constitution.
- Will participate in the language conference.
- Planning for a 9/6/25 Fall Gathering to be held hopefully at the pow wow grounds. Head staff are all Quapaw. Hope to have a flyer ready by 7/3.

Constitution Committee (Roman Kihega)

- Draft constitution mailed to all Quapaw households.
- Discussed that after 7/4 constitution is presented to General Council, the Committee has discharged its assigned duties.
- There is still work to be done. The committee is hoping that additional work can be supported by a law school and should know more by the end of August.
- Trying to organize a listening session on 7/2 or 7/3 for those who would like to participate.

Election Committee (Frank Frazier)

- Absentee ballot packets are now available.
- Registered voters can get the packets at the admin building, vote, and drop in the ballot box there in the lobby.
- For those who wish to vote in person, 7/26 is the election date.

Executive Director Reports

Their monthly reports are available on the tribal website for anyone interested.

Emergency Phone Polls Approved Since Last Meeting

- Poll43537 ITBC Herd Development Grant FY 2024
- Poll43542 Authorizing Engagement With Law Firm
- Poll43766 Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund Grant
- Poll44022 Tribal Indigenous Advisory Council Nomination
- Poll44030_John L. Berrey Candidacy Appeal #1
- Poll44032_John L. Berrey Candidacy Appeal #2
- Poll44032_John L. Berrey Candidacy Appeal #3
- Poll44065 Approval of Quapaw Nation Mentorship Program
- Poll44079 Approval of Housing Policy Revisions
- Poll44091 Approval to Sign on as a Amici Curiae

New Business Resolutions Approved

- 062125-A Amend QN Sex Offender Registration Code
- 062125-B Approval of Framework Agreement
- 062125-C Appointment of Judges
- 062125-D Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- 062125-E Approval on Contract with Accounting Firm
- 062125-F Miami Economic Development Agreement
- 062125-G Arkansas Natural Resource Programmatic Agreement
- 062125-H Geo-fence for Tornado Warning
- 062125-I Saracen Use of Revolving Line of Credit QTR 4
- 062125-J Rural Domestic Violence Program Grant
- 062125-K Submission of Violence Against Women Grant
- 062125-L Employee Engagement Survey
- 062125-M Water Line Right of Way S94 Water District #4
- 062125-N Water Line Right of Way S1 Water District #4
- 062125-O Approval of Chat Sale #5
- 062125-P Approval of Chat Sale #6
- 062125-Q Approve Tracement Survey as Official Authoritative Survey
- 062125-R Authorize Execution of Lease
- 062125-S Secretary of Interior take 175.93 Acres Into Trust
- 062125-T Medical Director Services Agreement
- 062125-U Providing Professional Group Facilitation Services

Donations Approved

- Wyandotte Youth Football Camp - \$500
- The Quapaw Native American Church - \$5000

Open Forum

- Recommendation for the new housing community to hold community projects and events. Discussion on potential renovation of barn on the east side of property.
- Addressed rumor the Beaver Creek project will include large amounts of concrete. The purpose of the project is to address erosion for the safety of both people and the camps. Not supportive of using too much concrete and prefers more natural materials.
- Requested the casino General Managers attend General Council. The DDA has requested each GM to record a short video message for General Council but will not be present in the room.
- Question on the Saracen refinancing in August 2024, whether it included the revolving line of credit, the impact on interest payments, and whether the construction is over budget. The construction is not over budget. The revolving line of credit was anticipated and included in the refinancing completed in August 2024.

OIGA 2025



Tribal Leaders Emphasize Communication, Strategy, and Sovereignty at OIGA Panel in Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK - JULY 15, 2025 — Tribal leadership took center stage today at the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association (OIGA) Conference as four prominent leaders discussed the role of gaming revenue in tribal progress, the importance of transparency with tribal citizens, and adapting leadership strategies to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving world.

The panel featured Iowa Tribe Chairman Jake Keys, Delaware Nation President Deborah Dotson, Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend, and Quapaw Nation Chair Wena Supernaw. Together, they delivered a candid and compelling conversation about the real-time challenges and evolving approaches facing tribal governments today.

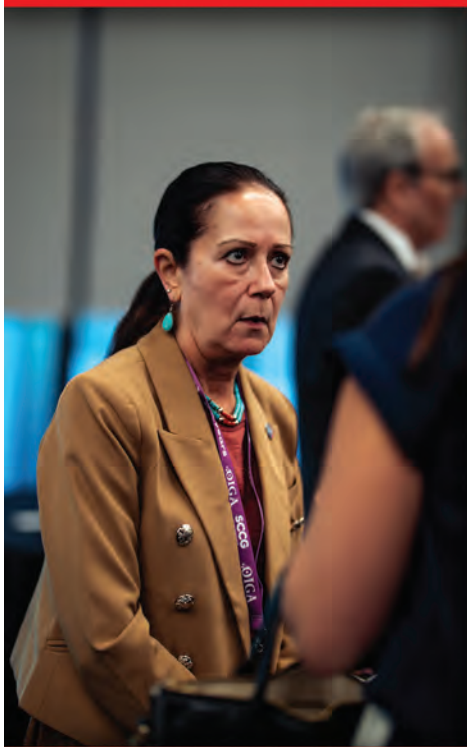
Chief Billy Friend of Wyandotte Nation underscored the need to rethink long-term planning in a fast-paced digital era. "We're moving away from 10-year plans and focusing on 3-5 year strategic plans because things are changing at a considerably faster rate in this digital era," he explained. He added that communication remains central to effective leadership. "We all know that effective communication is the key to a good relationship, and relationships are the foundation of leadership. So if you aren't communicating, you probably aren't going to be a leader for long."

Chief Friend also emphasized the cultural responsibility that comes with tribal leadership. "We have a motto at Wyandotte Nation: we are striving to preserve the future of our past. A lot of what we do is with that in mind. How do we protect our culture looking seven generations forward?"

Chairman Jake Keys of the Iowa Tribe shared lessons from his journey from staff member to tribal leader, reflecting on the power of investing internally. "We looked at decisions that were being made that were making others rich and started investing in ourselves," he said. Keys emphasized that growth demands connection with tribal citizens: "The bigger you get, the more you need to talk to your people... As someone who worked for my tribe for a decade before being a tribal leader, there's no such thing as too much communication."

He also cautioned leaders against secrecy and indecision: "What I've learned is when you're not open, people form their own truths," he said. "What are you doing today? What are you doing tomorrow to help our people?"

Quapaw Nation Chair Wena Supernaw pointed to instability in federal funding as one of the largest hurdles in tribal governance. "Part of the challenge is that currently a lot of our federal funding is pretty lumpy. It's all over the place and not consistent on a year-to-year basis, so we look at that quarterly," she explained. "Each time our directors come to us and say, we aren't meeting the goals that were set for us, that's a dollar taken away from our tribal members—and that's just unacceptable."



Barbara Collier, Quapaw Tribal Elder, Chair of the Quapaw Nation Cultural Committee along with "Southern Sway" members Shawn and Chayton Ellick appeared on KOAM News Now August 7, 2025 talking about the Quapaw Fall Gathering - "Good Ole Days Pow Wow"



5th Annual Route 66 Heritage Fest a Resounding Success

Miami, OK (July 27-28, 2025) — In what local officials are proudly calling “our best Heritage Fest yet,” the 5th Annual Route 66 Heritage Festival transformed historic Downtown Miami into a vibrant celebration of culture, music, food, and community spirit.

From the first guitar riff to the final, this two-day event was more than just a festival—it was a full-sensory experience of what makes Miami special. Families, friends, visitors, and longtime locals came together under the summer sky to honor tradition, celebrate progress, and simply enjoy being together in the heart of Route 66.

Spearheaded by the Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau, under the leadership of Trinda Crow, and with tremendous support from city staff, this year’s Heritage Fest hit all the right notes—literally and figuratively. Mayor Bless Parker praised the effort, saying the CVB Team “knocked it out of the park,” and that the event perfectly captured the soul of Miami. Residents discussed the incredible mix of cultures, food, and community moments.

Opening ceremonies each evening set the tone, beginning with a soul-stirring National Anthem performance by Kamry Lawson on electric guitar. The Wyandotte Nation Princess performed a moving rendition of The Lord’s

Prayer in Sign Language followed by original music from Southern Sway.

This year’s festival spotlighted the deep Indigenous heritage of the region. The Quapaw Nation was proudly represented by Vice Chairman Jesse “Manz” McKibben and Business Committee Members Lloyd Buffalo and Linda Davis. They joined a broad representation of tribal leaders from across the area, highlighting the unity, history, and living culture of Native nations throughout Ottawa County. Their presence underscored the festival’s commitment to honoring all voices that make up the story of Miami and Route 66.



The weekend wasn't just about fun—it was about purpose. The always-popular "Rigs on Route 66" car and truck showcase roared to life again this year, and with it came incredible generosity: over \$40,000 was raised for the Child Advocacy Center of Ottawa County, proving that when this community celebrates, it gives back.

Another defining moment came when Joe Don Rooney of Rascal Flatts was officially inducted into the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame, a hometown hero receiving well-deserved recognition in the very place where his journey began.

And in a homecoming that tugged on heartstrings, Jon Wolfe, a proud former Miami Wardog, returned to take the stage and light up the night with his signature country sound. The city also honored Thunder Girl Kiah Payton, a beacon of youth pride and positivity, with a Key to the City—a symbol of thanks and admiration for her role in representing Miami across Oklahoma and beyond.

As if the weekend couldn't get any more exciting, officials announced that Popeyes will officially break ground in August 2025, bringing new economic energy and more great food options to the city.

The fusion of live music, historic pride, local flavor, and cultural heritage created a timeless atmosphere—one where past and present met in a celebration of all that Miami has been and all it is becoming.





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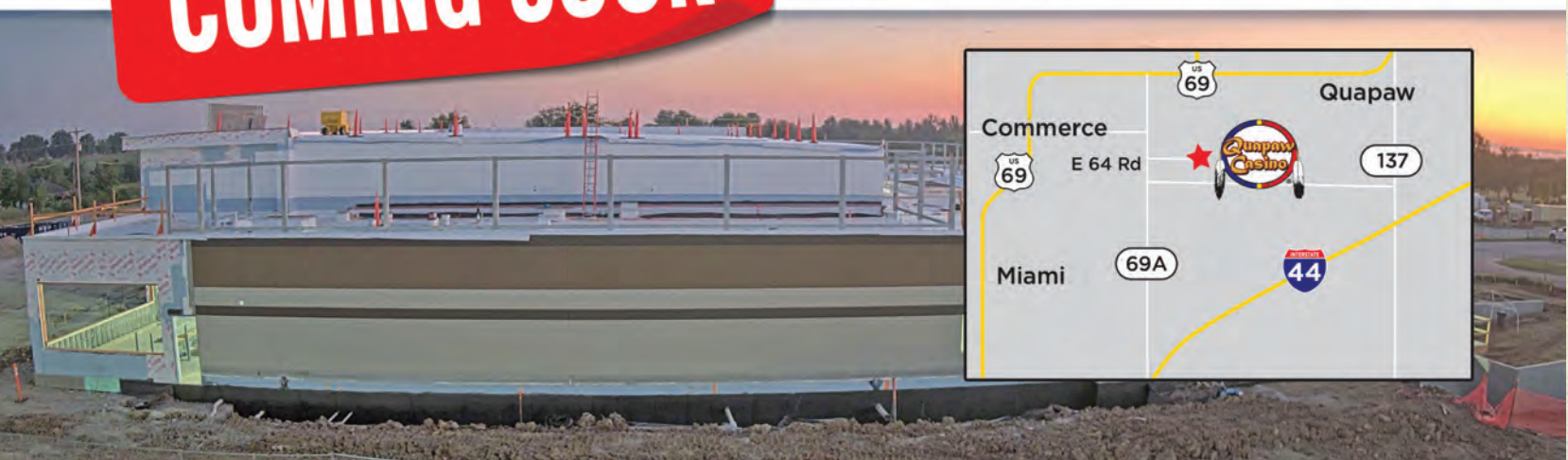
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918 290-0026 SHAWN ELLICK



Preview of the 2025 Heritage Game uniforms scheduled for September.



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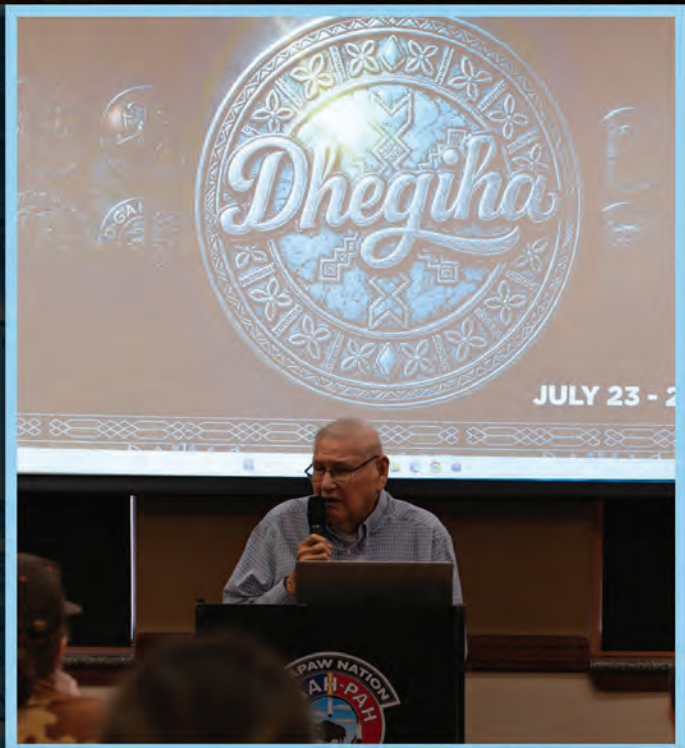
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JULY

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Quapaw Nation Pow Wow July 3-6, 2025

Tradition, Reflection, & the Power of Home



The Beaver Springs grounds stirred again as families, veterans, and visitors gathered for the 153rd Annual Quapaw Powwow. During the day, it was all about what was happening at the camps. Families moved, shared memories, and ate to their hearts' content. In the evening, the grounds came alive with a celebration of culture and community.

Each day of the powwow opened with flag raising ceremonies honoring Quapaw Nation veterans from each military branch—Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. The raising of the flags is a long standing tradition meant to remind all in attendance of the sacrifices made by those in service of their people and country.

On the first night, Quapaw night, the annual group picture was taken followed promptly at 6:00 PM by gourd dancing.

As the sun set, the outer skirts of the arena filled and, on every night but Quapaw night, Grand Entry began at 8:00 PM with a procession of dancers, elders, veterans, powwow royalty, and others that wished to join. A variety of contests for all age groups - from Tiny Tots to Golden Age - took place during the four-day powwow celebration.

A new event took place up at the old longhouse, where the very first Elders Circle of Remembrance was held. Though participation was sparse for the first event, with only Charlene Button, Grace Goodeagle and Bill Griffin speaking, there are hopes to build the event in the future. Elders shared stories of those who had passed on—of family members and others who once danced during powwow cooked meals or simply made an impact on them when they were younger.

Also at the longhouse, O-Gah-Pah Communications captured a series of nostalgic moon portraits based on portraits taken in the early 20th century.

As part of a new project titled "Stories from the Homeplace," O-Gah-Pah Communications, alongside individuals from Shadow + Light Creative, could be seen moving between campsites, cameras in hand, listening, filming, and engaging. This project aims to document and archive these stories—not just for today, but for the generations yet to come. It is the hope that through the lenses of storytellers, those stories will live on.

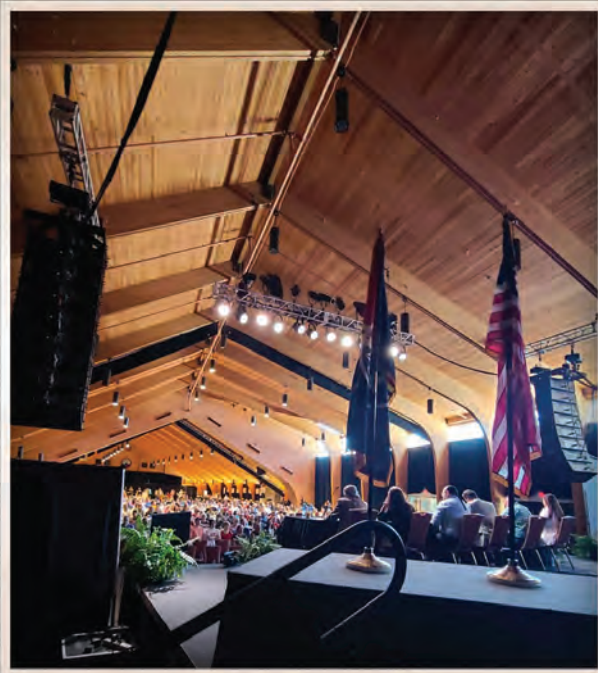
At the center of it all was Powwow Chairman Toni Shawnee, who led this year's gathering with grace, strength, and vision.



His leadership brought balance to the schedule, respect to traditions, and hospitality to everyone who attended. As the Quapaw Nation looks ahead, new Chairman Shawn Ellick steps into the role, ready to carry the legacy forward and guide the next chapter of this gathering of people - of tradition and culture.

The 153rd Quapaw Powwow was a reminder of who the Quapaw people are, where they come from, and what it means when coming back to the home place.





Quapaw Nation General Council July 4, 2025 Summary

Ha-we,

There were multiple important topics discussed in the General Council meeting. You are encouraged to watch the recorded meeting on YouTube, when it becomes available. The following summary is not the official meeting minutes. The minutes will become available in July 2026. If you know of others who would like to be added to this distribution list, so they are aware of meeting outcomes quickly, please let me know. In addition, if anyone would like to be omitted from the distribution list, please provide that as well.

Notes regarding the Bear settlement are marked in bold. Editor's notes are marked with <...>

Welcoming Remarks - Chair Wena Supernaw

Ha-We, Hello and Welcome, it's wonderful to see so many Quapaws here today and thank you for coming. It's through active tribal member participation; we continue to make forward progress.

- **ELDERS RECOGNITION** - We want to thank you for teaching us, guiding us in our culture and traditions, sharing your wisdom, and especially your patience. You are an inspiration to all of us, and you are precious to the Quapaw Nation.
- **VETERANS RECOGNITION** - Your service to this great nation is greatly appreciated to keep all of us safe. Please join me in a Moment of Silence for all those we have lost this last year. Please lift all these Quapaw families in prayer as we all grieve and help support one another.
- Thank you to all those working to make this a good General Council meeting. That includes all the Quapaw Nation employees & volunteers, Downstream Learning Center, Ogahpah Communications & Events, Department of Public Safety, Election Committee, and the Downstream Casino & Resort team.
- Our goal today is to conduct an efficient, productive, respectful, and constructive meeting.
- Thank you to our Tribal Princess, Lena Tsosie and Jr. Tribal Princess Emelyn McCandless for representing our Nation so proudly and gracefully this last year.
- **QUAPAW ROYALTY RECOGNITION** - Thank you for your contributions to the Quapaw Nation.
- Thank you to Tony Shawnee, our Pow Wow Committee Chairman, the full Pow Wow Committee, and the Grounds Committee. Yesterday evening was great and we're looking forward to the next 3 days.
- When you registered earlier today, you received a voting device, a packet, and a sticker. Quapaw citizens need to wear their sticker. Remember.....**STICKER = CLICKER!** Only those wearing the Ogahpah flag sticker should have a voting device in their possession. Caretakers and non-tribal member essential personnel should wear the yellow sticker to show you have permission to be in the room.
- A Quapaw Nation Resource booklet that contains a departmental directory, a welcoming statement from the Business Committee, Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 financial results, Quapaw Nation Gaming Agency highlights, reports from all 3 gaming properties, departmental reports, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) annual report, and subcommittee reports. The last two loose pages are a Quapaw Nation General Council and Resource book feedback surveys. We sure would appreciate you taking the time to complete these surveys either on the forms provided or on the website after today's meeting. This is all a part of our continuing focus on improvement. Your feedback helps ensure that future meetings and information provided reflect the needs, priorities, and voice of our Nation. At the beginning of the Resource Book, we included the Quapaw Nation Mission Statement and Guiding Values. These were established through a collaborative effort to deliberately and thoughtfully define these to the best of our abilities. Our mission is to provide for, protect and empower Quapaw Nation citizens by cultivating a compassionate, inclusive, and loving



Quapaw Nation General Council

July 4, 2025 Summary (continued)

community that supports the well-being of our people and the sovereignty of our governance. We are committed to prioritizing the needs of our tribal members, while extending kindness and support to our extended community, creating a legacy of acceptance, unity, and shared prosperity. Our Guiding Values are Protection of Culture, Genuine Intent, Servant Mindset and Stewardship Focus. <RESOURCE BOOK AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://WWW.QUAPAWTRIBE.COM/](https://www.quapawtribe.com/)>

- There are 2 specific areas we would like to address before we move on based on multiple requests by tribal members.
 - **Pace, our government relations firm, has provided a memo on the Bear settlement appropriation legislation. Please refer to the memo on social media posted by Quapaw Post.**
 - We have been provided with an update from the Quapaw Nation Prosecutor's Office. Since last year, 2 of the 5 criminal cases reached resolution. Currently the John Berrey and Tamara Smiley Reeves cases are pending trial. The Jack Brill case is pending preliminary hearing. Individuals charged with a crime are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- July 4, 2024, General Council meeting minutes - Passes
- September 7-8, 2024, Special General Council meeting minutes - Passes as amended to include the recordings
- January 18, 2025, Special General Council meeting minutes - Passes as amended to include the recording.

TREASURER'S REPORT FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER VALLIERE

Reviewed the Resource Book financial information. The full Quapaw Nation Fiscal Year 2024 Audited Financials can also be found on the Quapaw Nation website. From the home page, click on Government, then Financial Audits, 2024 Quapaw Nation Audit.

The Quapaw Nation Fiscal Year 2024 consolidated financial statements received an unqualified audit opinion. An unqualified audit report concludes that the financial statements are presented fairly and are transparent in all material aspects. It is the best audit opinion provided by the auditors.

Described the refinancing of both Downstream and Saracen credit agreements that lowered interest expense, continued focus on debt repayment, and capital projects.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report - Passes

ELECTIONS

1. Tribal Princess - Minnie Tsosie Hamilton
2. Jr. Tribal Princess - Betty Lou Goodbear
3. Pow Wow Committee Chair - Shawn Ellick
4. (2X) Grievance Committee Odd Year Positions - Mary Heather Dismuke and Justin Wray
5. (3X) Ethics Commission Odd Year - Brenda Murray, Betty Gaedtke, and Jerri Montgomery
6. (1X) Ethics Commission Vacancy Even Year - Larry Ramsey

UPDATES WERE PROVIDED BY THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

1. **Ogahpah Wisdom Keepers** - Grace Goodeagle
Motion to Give elders a budget of 200,000 that they can use however they see fit and utilize current events coordinator for FY 2026 - Passes
2. **Election Committee** - Frank Frazier
3. **Downstream Development Authority/Quapaw Casino Authority** - Kugee Supernaw, Mick Wilson, Billy Shapp, Derek Jennings, and Hoshi Henry (virtual) <Videos of all 3-gaming property General Managers were played.>



Quapaw Nation General Council

July 4, 2025 Summary (continued)

New Business

1. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Update & 2026 Budget – Carrie V Wilson, Collen Mouse, and Maddie Enlow
Motion to approve FY 2026 NAGPRA budget as amended for 207,000 - Passes
2. Ethics Commission – Sean Matthews
Motion: Appointed, elected committee members or commissioners, are prohibited from sitting on the Ethics Commission – Passes
Motion: Covered officials are to include executive directors, general managers, management, directors, supervisors and Human Resources to become subject to the Code of Ethics - Passes
Motion: to update Code of Ethics 9.04 Confidentiality section to replace Pokagon Band to Quapaw Nation and Band's to Nation's - Passes
3. Constitution Committee – Deciding on Next Steps for Draft Constitution – Roman Kihega
Motion: Enter into a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Stanford - Passes
Motion: MOU signed by resolution no later than beginning of September 2025 - Passes
Motion: Point of Contact to be the Constitution Committee - Passes
4. Business Committee Compensation – no action requested

CANDIDATE FORUM 7/26 ELECTION (5 MINUTES EACH)

VICE-CHAIR

Jesse Manz McKibben II
Amy Panther Kvistad

MEMBER

Joey A Giveswater
Linda Davis
Larry Mercer
Virginia Mouse
Roman Kihega
Buddy Shapp
Sean Matthews

OPEN FORUM: This time was used for many various tribal members to discuss a broad series of issues within Quapaw Nation.

Please review the full General Council meeting for specifics on notes contained within this summary on the official Quapaw Nation Youtube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jx8Qsbsphmg>



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Quapaw Business Committee July 2025 Summary

Ha-we,

There were multiple important topics discussed in the BC meeting today. You are encouraged to watch the recorded meetings on YouTube. The following summary is not the official meeting minutes. The approved minutes will become available in June. If you know of others who would like to be added to this distribution list, so they are aware of meeting outcomes quickly, please let me know. In addition, if anyone would like to be omitted from the distribution list, please provide that as well.

Discussion of the Bear settlement or authorization bill are in bold. Editor's notes are marked with <...>

Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum

Present – Chair Supernaw, Vice Chairman McKibben, Secretary Treasurer Valliere, Member Mercer, Member Buffalo, Member Davis, and Member Giveswater

Business Committee Report

Announcements:

1. Member Mercer provided a Ray Property home, O-ga-xpa ti-kda, project update where good progress continues and 16 families are residing there.
2. Member Giveswater gave an update on the Pow Wow Grounds and Long house improvements.
3. Secretary Treasurer Valliere provided an update on the potential Argo bioprocessing plant.
4. Secretary Treasurer Valliere provided an update on her trip to Little Rock last week.
5. Secretary Treasurer Valliere announced Billie Ellick is appointed to the Resident Housing Committee, with concurrence from the Business Committee. There are 2 openings on the Events Subcommittee. For those who are interested in serving on the Events Subcommittee, please send your interest to brent.divine@quapawnation.com.
6. Regarding the Federal budget recommendations on decreasing the size of the Federal Government and impacts to the Quapaw Nation. There is nothing new to report. However, we will continue actively monitoring the situation and communicate any further impacts. Based on last month's DOI Consultation regarding their organizational proposal, the Quapaw Nation did provide formal comments.
7. We announced months ago the meat processing plant management agreement with Cypress Valley Meat Company would cease 7/1/2025. We are pleased to announce the transition is complete. We appreciate all the efforts by Executive Director Trenton Stand, Agricultural Director Michell Albright, plant manager Wade Payne, and the entire Human Resources team that have brought us to a good state of readiness to resume Quapaw Nation operational management of the plant. Thank you to the team.

The Nation held the following events over this last month.

- On June 24th, the Quapaw Nation's Environmental Department hosted a comprehensive and strategic planning workshop in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address pressing environmental challenges and to chart a path forward for restoring and protecting our watersheds. It brought together experts, stakeholders, and Tribal representatives to examine the full scope of water resource issues impacting the Tar Creek and Spring River watersheds.
- On June 25th, the Quapaw Nation Mobile Integrated Health team conducted a brief class on techniques for helping a person who is choking. This class covered both traditional and new methods. Elders aged 55 and older received a complimentary choker device.
- The Quapaw Nation Youth and CCDF Programs hosted another impactful and meaningful Camp Quapaw during the week of June 23rd to June 27th for children in 2nd through 12th grade. Throughout the week, campers participated in a wide range of cultural and creative activities, including making fans, painting, listening to stories from elders, playing stickball and Indian dice, learning various dances, cooking traditional foods, made Quapaw pottery, and medicine bags. These experiences not only provided fun and engagement but also helped deepen the children's connection to Quapaw traditions and heritage. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the volunteers who stepped up to teach and share their knowledge; your efforts made a lasting impact on

our youth and the success of Camp Quapaw.

- The Quapaw Nation Courts hosted a Debt Relief Amnesty Program for Traffic Citations & Delinquent Debts on June 30th and July 1st at the Ki-Ho-Ta Center. Participants had the chance to pay off all traffic citations and delinquent court debt, with a 25% reduction to the balance.
- **The 153rd Annual Quapaw Powwow Was a Success!** A heartfelt thank you to Tony Shawnee and his dedicated Powwow Committee for their outstanding work in organizing and bringing this year's Powwow to life. Your hard work, commitment, and passion helped make the event a memorable and meaningful celebration for all who attended.
- On July 2nd, Christina and Rachel Sharp led a hands-on workshop teaching participants how to make a traditional Indian football as part of the youth program sponsored by SAMHSA. The class was a great success; participants learned a new skill and had a lot of fun. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many kids expressing how much they enjoyed both the activity and the opportunity to connect with cultural traditions.
- Also on the 2nd, the Nation held its annual health fair. Gratitude goes out to Megan Freeman, our Community Health Representative, who did a wonderful job organizing this year's event. It was a morning of wellness, community resources, and a variety of health-focused vendors. Following the event was the annual Indian Taco lunch provided by Rhonda Weaver and her staff at the Elders Activity Center. A big thank you to all of you for always stepping up and taking care of our community.
- On July 3rd, the CCDF program sponsored a creation station, which was free for everyone! They had snow cones, face painting, and crafts. Also on the 3rd, O-Gah-Pah Communications started recording a new project at the long house called "Elders' Circle of Remembrance, Honoring Our Voices, Sharing Our Stories." Another date to continue recording is being determined and will be announced soon.

The Nation has the following current and upcoming events

- The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Department is seeking contributions for the Regalia Closet program. This initiative provides regalia on loan to children so they can experience the joy of dancing in traditional attire. The purpose is to inspire a deeper interest in participation and learning about our cultural traditions. Regalia is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Quapaw tribal members with expertise in crafting traditional regalia for boys and girls, from infancy to age 12, are invited to submit a bid to the CCDF Department.
- Tribal member, Madeline Jennings, is a student at Washington State University in the Archeology program. She has created a community survey for her thesis research as well as a pedestrian survey of a select historical site in the upcoming months. Jennings is requesting participation in her survey, which can be found on the Quapaw's Post Facebook page. This survey is available now until the end of September. Those who complete the survey will be entered to win one of the twenty \$20 gift cards to Walmart.
- The Quapaw Farmer's Market takes place on the first and third Fridays from now until October from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to stop by, receive a ticket for their monthly drawings, grab a bite to eat, and shop for fresh produce and arts and crafts from local vendors.
- The Quapaw Nation Library is offering a new, exciting service for its members. Anyone with a Quapaw Nation Library Card can access NewsBank, a platform that offers full-text and digital access to hundreds of newspapers across the United States. It is very easy to get a library card; just stop by their facility to get signed up and learn about all the other programs they have to offer.
- Save the Date for the 14th Annual Dhegiha Language Conference on July 23rd & 24th at the Downstream Casino & Resort. The event gathers Osage, Ponca, Northern Ponca, Quapaw, Kaw, and Omaha communities to support the preservation and revitalization of the Dhegiha languages. They encourage registrants to be individually motivated and/or affiliated with a tribal language program and language teachers who seek to preserve and revitalize the language. The application has been placed on the Quapaw Nation's website for those who would like to participate. Non-participating guests who only want meals, the cost is \$25.
- On July 25th & 26th, the City of Miami is hosting its 4th Annual Route 66 Heritage Festival and has invited everyone to attend. Opening ceremonies begin at 6 pm both nights. Don't forget your lawn chair. They will have music, food trucks, marketplace vendors, kids' activities, a corn hole tourney, and a BBQ competition.
- Final reminder that the Quapaw Nation's General Election will be held next Saturday, July 26th, and the polls are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Building.
- On July 28th, there will be a Cyber Security Planning Committee meeting at 6 p.m., located in the community building. They will be focusing on ongoing efforts to meet the upcoming deadline for drafting a comprehen-

sive Cyber Security Policy for the Quapaw Nation, and they will also be addressing the selection of a Designated Service Provider to ensure continuity of technical expertise in the event there is a gap due to loss or job vacancy. The agenda also includes updates on the current challenges and recent cyber incidents. **This meeting is open to the public**, and they welcome community participation. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input on these important matters.

- The Quapaw Nation Youth Program is excited to host another Youth GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) from July 28th to 31st at the Quapaw Nation Fitness Center. The event will run daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is made possible through generous support from federal grants provided by SAMHSA and VSSA. Due to high interest and participation, registration has reached full capacity. We're looking forward to a meaningful and engaging experience for all attendees as they explore cultural identity, community building, and personal well-being.
- The Quapaw Food Sovereignty Department and Cattle Company will be holding another food distribution. Sign-ups will open on August 1 at 8 a.m. and close on August 29 at 4 p.m. Each distribution package will include 10 pounds of ground beef and two roasts. Pick-up will take place during the week of September 8-13. The sign-up form will be available on our website beginning August 1. Please note, this service is available only to the head of household and is limited to Quapaw Tribal Members.
- The Youth Program has scheduled a Ribbon Skirt Making Class on **August 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the **Ki-Ho-Ta Family Service Craft Room** for individuals aged **5 to 24**. **This class has reached full capacity.** We thank everyone for their interest and encourage you to stay tuned for future opportunities.
- The CCDF Backpack & School Supply Voucher Giveaway is scheduled for August 1st at the Farmer's Market, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. This year, the CCDF Program is once again partnering with Amazon to provide a convenient and customizable school supply experience, with items delivered directly to households. Supplies will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last, and no holds will be allowed. Vouchers are available for children ages 3-12 who are enrolled in Pre-K, Head Start, or Elementary School, and you don't have to be enrolled in the CCDF program to qualify. To receive a voucher, parents or guardians must provide proof of school enrollment, a copy of the child's birth certificate, the child must be present, live within a 100-mile radius, provide an email address, and create an Amazon account. For more information, please visit the Nation's website or contact the CCDF Department.
- The Higher Education Department is continuing its classes and is hosting another scholarship workshop on August 6th and 20th, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the community building. This event is available in person and on Microsoft Teams. It is free and open to everyone. To register, please email education.department@quapawnation.com.
- The Quapaw Nation Department of Public Safety & CCDF Program, in partnership with Quapaw, Commerce, and Peoria Fire Departments, is proud to sponsor this year's annual Back-to-School Bash for students of both Quapaw and Commerce Public Schools. Just like in previous years, the event will include inflatables, food, and games, providing a fun-filled day to celebrate the start of the new school year! This year's bash will take place on Saturday, August 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Quapaw Schools. Moving forward, the school districts have agreed to alternate hosting locations each year.
- On August 10th, Voices of the O-Gah-Pah Documentary is going to be shown as part of a double feature at the Route 66 Theater in Webb City. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., show starts at 6 p.m. It is \$10 a ticket, and for Seniors over 65, tickets are \$5. Tickets can be purchased in person or online at 2ndSundayCinema.com.
- The Youth Program will be hosting a Bandolier Class on August 16th from 11 am to 3 pm at the Ki-Ho-Ta Family Service Craft Room. Open to individuals ages 5 to 24. All supplies for the class will be provided. No experience is needed to participate. Parents are encouraged to join and help. This class is sponsored through a federal grant from SAMHSA. There are still some spots available, but it is filling up fast.
- The Quapaw Nation's STEM Team is having an "Ice Cream Goody Package Raffle" fundraiser. One (1) ticket for \$1 or Six (6) tickets for \$5. The Ice cream basket includes an ice cream maker, rock salt, ice cream mix, chocolate & caramel syrups, fruit toppings, sprinkles, sundae cups, and an ice cream scoop. You can get your tickets at the Quapaw Nation's Farmer's Market or contact the STEM Fair team at QNSTEMTEAM@quapawnaion.com. The drawing will be held on Friday, August 29th, and you do not need to be present to win. They also have Krispy Kreme donuts and ice cream bars in the freezers at the Farmer's Market for sale.
- In addition to this fundraiser, the Quapaw Nation STEM Fair Team is currently seeking donations for an upcoming silent auction to be held later this year. All contributions, regardless of size, are deeply appreciated and will go directly toward supporting this valuable educational program.

- The Quapaw versus Wyandotte High School Football Heritage Game has been scheduled for September 5th. More details will be available soon.
- The Quapaw Fall Gathering - "Good Ole Days Pow Wow" will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at Beaver Springs Park in Quapaw, OK. This cultural event, organized by the Quapaw Cultural Committee, reflects the traditions of pow wows from the early 1900s to the 1960s and will feature a day of dancing, contests, and a traditional meal. Modern elements introduced after the 1970s will not be part of this gathering. Additional details can be found online.
- Earlier that same day on September 6, the Quapaw Nation Powwow Committee is holding a Cornhole Tournament at the powwow grounds. Registration starts at 8am. The tournament starts at 9am. \$50 per team to play. Prizes will be given for the top teams. Feel free to register now by contacting Lana Ellick at 918-542-1853 or Powwow Chairman Shawn Ellick at (918) 290-0026. The flyer is ready and will go out in the next few days.
- The Quapaw Nation Environmental Office is hosting a Quapaw Wetlands Training Workshop on September 9th -11th from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This workshop will be focused on ecosystems, restoration techniques, and environmental stewardship. Registration is required and is ideal for environmental professionals, students, and community members interested in wetland restoration and conservation.
- The Cancer Awareness Committee is holding a Cancer Awareness Golf Scramble on Sunday, September 14th, at Eagle Creek Golf Club. The cost is \$300.00 per team, and the deadline to enter is August 14th. The committee is also accepting donations for the golf scramble and silent auction. For more information, please contact Jackie Stone at Jackie.stone@quapawnation.com.
- If you want to stay up to date with all the events happening in the nation, you can visit the ogahpahcommunications.com website and click on "Notify Me" to sign up for text, email, or phone call alerts.

Quapaw Casino

May 2025 was an excellent month for Quapaw Casino from an Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) standpoint, the second-best EBITDA in FY2025. For the month ending May 31, 2025, EBITDA totaled \$527,000, with a margin of 24.5%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. Quapaw Casino did an excellent job meeting this expectation. May's results exceeded our budgeted expectation by \$259,000 and represents an increase of \$156,000 from May 2024. FY2025 we are currently sitting at \$3.3MM which is 125.1% of the first eight months of FY25 budget! For the 3rd quarter of FY2025 we are currently at 151.6% of the 3rd quarter budget.

The main contributing factor to this positive month was their expense control with a small increase in gross revenue.

The only glaring negative to this month was fuel revenue. Fuel revenue missed budget and last year by \$62,000. Please keep in mind though that you will see huge year-over-year fluctuations in fuel due to the market swings in fuel prices.

Net income for the month totaled \$567,000 with a margin of 26.4%. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%. So again, Quapaw Casino did an excellent job meeting this expectation. Net Income represents a positive budget variance of \$313,000. Net income compared to May 2024 had a positive variance of \$165,000.

May 2025, we received our third Pay Ap from Flintco. They were paid \$853,000 on Friday June 20th. We are currently working on payments for material supplied vendors.

Downstream Casino & Resort April & May

June was a stable month. For the month ending June 30, 2025, Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) totaled \$6.9MM, with a margin of 39.5%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. So not only is our revenue on par, but our expense control is also! June results missed our budgeted expectations by \$1.3MM and were \$1.3MM less than June 2024. FY2025 we are currently sitting at \$71.8MM which is 101.0% of the first nine months of FY25 budget! This is extraordinary results after January's huge deficit. For the 3rd quarter of FY2025 we finished at 105.2% of the 3rd quarter budget.

Total net revenue for June 2025 was \$17.5MM. This net revenue does represent a decrease from June 2024 of \$0.4MM or 2.2%.

The year-over-year expense comparison did show a large increase due to labor and benefits.

Net income for the month totaled \$5.6MM with a margin of 31.8%. This represents a negative budget variance of \$1.2MM. Net income compared to June 2024 also showed a decrease of \$1.2MM. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%.

Debt reduction during June 2025 increased with the required quarterly principal payment of \$6.5MM plus an additional \$1.0MM principal payment. So, the outstanding loan balance is currently \$107MM. Our next quarterly payment of \$6.5MM will be due on September 30th. However, we will continue the path of paying \$7.5MM quarterly. Yes, the loan balance will be below \$100MM September 30th. Considering we started at \$300MM, that is remarkable progress.

Saracen

Net gaming revenues (NGR) in June continued an impressive streak finishing as the sixth best month for Saracen. The impressive performance beat budget by 21.8% and prior year by 15.8%. Number one revenue source is Slots with handle (volume) and revenue (hold) continue to experience increases when compared to the prior year. Slots handle beat prior year by 6.5% and net revenue was up over prior year by 8.3%. Performance against budget resulted in Slot net revenue ahead of budget by 20.4%. Sportsbook volumes continue to outpace prior year with handle (bets placed) up 20.7%. Sportsbook win finished up over prior year by 63.1% and budget by 32.1%.

From a market perspective, Saracen achieved 55.4% of the net gaming revenue for the central Arkansas gaming market for the month of May. For the year, market share stands at 52.2% of the net gaming revenue for central Arkansas.

Considerable progress has been made on the development of the Hotel and Event Center. From a budget perspective, the development is about 58.7% of the GMP (guaranteed maximum price) for the general contractor and 56.0% of the total budget. Majority of the funding has been generated from cash flow from operations. Utilization of the revolving line of credit to supplement cash flow has started with every effort to minimize the number and amounts of draws. Updates on when the facility will open to the public will be forthcoming with a preliminary date for a complement of rooms of mid-November 2025.

The Saracen MBA program for Quapaw Nation members has been approved. The inaugural participant has been selected and will begin their journey this fall at the University of Arkansas Little Rock and with Saracen.

The Saracen Casino Resort Team is excited to continue making progress on significant projects, especially in terms of diversifying cash flows, completing the development of the hotel and event center and providing the best gaming experience to our guests. Focus continues building the premiere experience to provide future returns for the Quapaw Nation.

Ogahpah Wisdom Keepers (Grace Goodeagle)

- Highlights from past events
- Encouraged elder recordings started on 7/3 and will continue.
- Jean Ann Lambert will help with budget. Meeting with CFO on Monday.
- Looking for confirmed date for Elders Christmas dinner.

Culture Committee (Barbara Collier)

- Will send written verification on tribal crowns for royalty to the Business Committee.
- Discussed moon backdrop and photo shoot. Wants to create other occasions for additional photos.
- Fall Gathering is September 6. They want people to use their camps for the 9/6 Fall Gathering. Grounds will be open starting Friday morning at 8am to Sunday night at 10. Corn hole tournament as a fund raiser for the pow wow will be held earlier in the day. Please see the flyers. No grand entry. No contests. Corn hole tourna-

ment is \$50/team. It will be a full day of activities.

- Mike Rusch, who has an AR podcast, interviewed a few different folks during pow wow and Barbara hosted this group at the Quapaw Museum Classroom on 7/5.
- Dr Dan Swan will be giving a talk from 10-1 at DCR 9/26 pertaining to the Native American Church.

Constitution Committee (Roman Kihega)

- Reiterated 3 separate email requests for all correspondence between any Business Committee member and Professor Reese or Stanford representatives; Internal Business Committee communications related to this engagement; Any outreach to or from tribal citizens and Constitution Committee members concerning the Stanford opportunity.
- Chair Supernaw stated On July 4, 2025, General Council decided by majority vote: Enter into a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Stanford; MOU signed by resolution no later than beginning of September 2025; Point of Contact to be the Constitution Committee
 - Therefore, the Constitution Committee needs to support the fulfillment of all these obligations. In order for the Business Committee to sign the resolution, authorizing the execution of the MOU, that resolution needs to be provided no later than August 1, 2025. I recommend someone from the Constitution Committee get in contact with Stanford Law, if you have not already done so.
 - Your request for any prior email communication with Stanford Law is denied. It is not standard practice – nor required – that such privileged communications be disclosed to a subordinate subcommittee of the Business Committee, especially where doing so could compromise the confidentiality or legal posture of the Nation. General Council has reviewed and resolved this matter, and I consider it closed unless otherwise directed by the full Business Committee.
- Business Committee voted for these redacted materials to be turned over to the Constitution Committee with Chair Supernaw, Member Mercer, and Member Buffalo abstaining.

Election Committee (Frank Frazier)

- Registered voters can get the packets at the admin building, vote, and drop in the ballot box there in the lobby until 7/25 at 5pm. Since the office closes at 4pm on Fridays, the Election Committee will be there from 4-5pm.
- For those who wish to vote in person, 7/26 is the election date from 9am to 5pm in the Community Building.

Cyber Security Planning Committee (Mikel Whitecrow)

- Meeting 7/28 at 6pm in the Community Building and open to the public.

Powwow Chairman (Shawn Ellick)

- Holding powwow fundraisers such as a corn hole tournament on 9/6 and a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.
- There will be daytime events next year during the pow wow next year.
- Starting Aug 1 there will be an art contest for the powwow t-shirt design through Nov 1. Open to all tribal members. The committee will pick the top 4. Top 1 will appear on the T-shirt. The other 3 will be displayed on the powwow concrete walls.

Executive Director Reports

- Their monthly reports are available on the tribal website for anyone interested.

Emergency Phone Polls Approved Since Last Meeting

- Poll44115 Amendment to Solar Agreement
- Poll44123 Amend the FY2025 Indian Housing Plan
- Poll44132 Approving Human Resource Contract
- Poll44134 Farmers Market Promotion Program USDA Grant
- Poll44135 Local Food Promotion Program USDA Grant
- Poll44139 Purchase Restricted Interest in Land
- Poll44145 Fall 2025 Tribal Youth Programming Grant

New Business Resolutions Approved

- 071925-A Blanchard Springs Memorandum of Agreement
- 071925-B Supreme Court Justice Appointment
- 071925-C Authorize Fiber Optic ROW
- 071925-D Secretary of the Interior take 281.98 Acres Into Trust
- 071925-E Authorizing the Purchase of Fee Property
- 071925-F Authorize a Mow & Bale Permit
- 071925-G Secretary of the Interior take 5 Acres Into Trust
- 071925-H Quapaw Nation Fitness Center Policies

Donations Approved

- Indian National Finals Rodeo-Cash \$500
- Indian National Finals Rodeo-Payton \$500
- Native Youth Golf Championship-Koda \$500
- Native Youth Golf Championship-Benjamin \$500
- Ottawa County Sade Haven Baby Box \$2000

Open Forum

- Flint Rock lawsuit is progressing on the Ritz pile. Chat ownership is complex, so Realty is responding to some legal questions next week. They will be in contact with all the owners.
- Misses Exec Director's reports and avoiding the tribal website. Website would be nice if you could use a search engine. Really hard to find specific resolutions without knowing month and year.
- Tribal member requested a closed session. Member Mercer will follow up.
- 7/28 Cyber Security Planning Meeting at 6pm Community Building
- Aug 22 is next Culture Committee meeting at 1pm in the Museum Classroom
- 1st Thursday of August 7 is the next Ogahpah Wisdom Keepers meeting
- Beaver Creek project to address erosion. Has seen the drawings. Concern regarding concrete wall and safety. Member Giveswater asked for anyone who has concerns to please contact him.
- The BC is here to serve.
- Vice Chair McKibben requested his name be removed from the 7/26 ballot.



Installation of Quapaw Nation officers in the August, Quapaw Nation Business Committee meeting on August 17, 2025.

Jesse "Manz" McKibben – Re-elected as Vice-Chairman

Linda Davis, Joey Giveswater, and Larry Mercer – Re-elected as Business Committee Members.



Quapaw Nation Business Committee members meet with Congressman Josh Brecheen on August 26, in Miami, OK at in-person town halls.

Constituents were invited to attend, share their thoughts, and ask questions on policy issues impacting Oklahoma and our nation at large.

Congressman Brecheen has so far held 106 in-person town halls since his first term in office, visiting every county in Oklahoma's 2nd Congressional District.

Quapaw Business Committee August 2025 Summary

Ha-we,

There were multiple important topics discussed in the BC meeting today. You are encouraged to watch the full recorded meeting on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/live/YRHO3mgRPtE?si=eti87-ZNFqZCpvNE>. Please subscribe to Quapaw Nation YouTube channel for updates and information at <https://www.youtube.com/@quapawnation>. The following summary is not the official meeting minutes.

Discussion of the Bear settlement or authorization bill are in bold. Editor's notes are marked with <...>

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Present – Chair Supernaw, Vice Chairman McKibben, Secretary Treasurer Valliere, Member Mercer, Member Buffalo, Member Davis, and Member Giveswater



BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Member Mercer provided a Ray Property home, O-ga-xpa ti-kda, project update where good progress continues.
2. Vice Chair McKibben formally announced and welcomed George Valliere as our new Executive Director, Department of Public Safety. His first day was 8/4 and we are glad he has joined the Nation. His 17 years in law enforcement and 17 years in hospital and medical administration is highly valuable to the Nation.
3. Member Giveswater gave an update on the Pow Wow Grounds and Long house improvements.
4. Member Buffalo gave an **update on the Bear legislation. The bill has been introduced to both the Senate (Mullin and Lankford) and House (Brecheen). The bills are in subcommittee at the current time. A hearing already took place in the House Natural Resources Committee. We are awaiting a hearing in the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. This could take a while.**
5. Secretary Treasurer Valliere announced multiple subcommittee appointments and vacancies.
 - Resident Housing Committee appointment - Rachel Bandy has been appointed to the vacant position on the Resident Housing Committee with a term expiration of December 2025. Rachel has already started working on the committee and has been voted by the Resident Housing Committee to serve as the Secretary. Thank you, Rachel, for your willingness to serve and your dedication.

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

5. Secretary Treasurer Valliere announced multiple subcommittee appointments/vacancies. (Cont.)
- Events Committee appointments - Elizabeth Scott and Shelaine Mosher have been appointed to the vacant positions on the Events Committee, both with a term expiration of December 2025. Thank you, Elizabeth and Shelaine, for your willingness to serve and your dedication. All 7 Business Committee members concurred with the Events Committee appointments.
 - Election Committee Vacancy - If you are interested in serving on the Election Committee, please send an email to brent.divine@quapawnation.com along with a statement of how you feel you can contribute to the Election Committee as well as all appropriate contact information. The deadline for applying for the Election Committee vacant position is end of business, Friday August 22nd.

Constitution Committee - Before I discuss the Constitution Committee, I would like to provide a bit of an overview as to how we have gotten to where we are now with this committee.

The formulation of committees for the Quapaw Nation is governed by our Governing Resolution and Roberts Rules of Order. There are two types of committees that can be formed under Roberts Rules of Order: (i) special committees, which are assigned a specific task and dissolve upon completion of that task and (ii) standing committees that are ordinarily added to an assembly's governing documents and are permanent with ongoing responsibilities, like the Business Committee, Grievance Committee, and the Ethics Commission. Remember, those three were created as standing committees in our Governing Resolution.

In 2019, Minnie Francis Hawk presented a motion to form a Constitution Committee to (quote) "establish [a] constitution and present [it] to general council next year to allow input before BIA." This comes from the Meeting Minutes of July 4, 2019, General Council Meeting page 10. The Constitution Committee was formed as a *special committee* and not a *standing committee* because:

1. It was assigned a specific task to draft a constitution and present it to General Council; and
2. The motion forming it did not indicate the Constitution Committee would be a standing committee. This is important because adding the Constitution Committee as a standing committee would have required language suggesting the Constitution Committee was "to perform a continuing function and remain in existence permanently." Because Ms. Hawk's motion only applied to establishing a draft constitution and presenting it at the following General Council meeting, this is not the case.
3. All other Quapaw Nation standing committees are established in our Governing Resolution, as amended. The Governing Resolution was NOT amended to establish the Constitution Committee as a standing committee.

In other words, the Constitution Committee qualifies as a special committee because of the language used to form it; otherwise, its creation as a standing committee would be invalid under our Governing Resolution and Roberts Rules of Order. Likewise, a special committee is considered to be a subordinate committee to the Business Committee. This affords the Business Committee the authority to appoint the membership of the Constitution Committee.

For a variety of reasons, the Constitution Committee did not complete its assigned task within the time specified in Ms. Hawk's motion and continued to work toward drafting and presenting a Constitution as requested by the General Council beyond 2020.

Between the July 4, 2019 General Council meeting when the Constitution Committee was formed as a special committee, and the July 4, 2025 General Council meeting, when the Constitution Committee presented its draft constitution to General Council, the General Council issued subsequent instructions to the Committee, which is permitted under Roberts Rules of Order. These subsequent instructions

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

to the Committee, which is permitted under Roberts Rules of Order. These subsequent instructions apply until the special committee completes the original assigned task, unless the original motion by Ms. Hawk is amended or rescinded and must be "in reference to the referred question"

Most notably, at the October 22, 2022, Special General Council Meeting, the General Council instructed the Constitution Committee to make non-substantive edits to all governing documents "until disbanded by the General Council." This motion had the effect of empowering the Constitution Committee to make those non-substantive edits but did not have the effect of extending the Constitution Committee beyond the completion of its originally assigned task of presenting a draft constitution. In order for that to have happened, notice that Ms. Hawk's initial motion was going to be amended would have either (i) had to be set on the agenda prior to the meeting, or (ii) a two-third majority would have had to approve the motion. Neither happened, as the agenda did not indicate that the intent was to amend Ms. Hawk's original motion and less than two-thirds of the voting members present voted in support of the motion.

Finally, at the most recent General Council meeting this past July, the Constitution Committee fulfilled its purpose and presented its draft Constitution to the General Council. Where the Constitution Committee can only validly be viewed as a special committee, the completion of its specially assigned task marked the end of the Constitution Committee's existence.

However, the General Council clearly indicated that there was further work it would like done on the constitution draft and by the Constitution Committee. The General Council's directives are as follows; 1. To enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Stanford Law School, 2. The MOU is to be signed by resolution no later than the beginning of September 2025, and 3. That the Constitution Committee is to serve as the point of contact with Stanford University Law School. Stanford Law will assist with turning the draft constitution presented this July into a final version to be voted on by a referendum vote of all eligible Quapaw citizens. Whereby operation of Roberts Rules of Order, the Constitution Committee no longer continued to exist when this additional task was assigned. The Business Committee now intends to form the next phase of the Constitution Committee to fulfill the intent and will of the General Council. This next phase of the Constitution Committee will act as point of contact with Stanford and continue to do the important work of moving the draft Quapaw Nation Constitution forward.

The Motions made regarding the Constitution Committee during the July 4, 2025, General Council meeting again created (or reestablished) a special committee with a specific assigned task. Under Section 5 of the Quapaw Nation's Governing Resolution, the "Quapaw Nation Business Committee is ... empowered to appoint subordinate committee [members] and representatives[.]" As stated previously, the Constitution Committee is a special committee, which under Roberts Rules of Order and our Governing Resolution means the committee is subordinate to the Business Committee. Therefore, it is within the scope of authority that the Business Committee can appoint the membership of the Constitution Committee. The compiled information I just provided is based on factual data and research conducted by Drummond Woodsum, Wena Supernaw, and myself.

The following are being appointed to the Constitution Committee with a term expiration of December 2025 or until the tasks assigned by General Counsel are complete, whichever comes first. Vance Gilmore, Nathan Phelps, Melissa Morris, Abigail Logan (declined the appointment later in the meeting), and Mikel Whitecrow. Thank you all for your willingness to serve and your dedication to the Quapaw Nation. 5 Business Committee Members concurred and 2 did not concur with the Constitution Committee appointments.

6. Regarding the efforts on decreasing the size of the Federal Government and impacts to the Quapaw Nation. There is nothing new to report. However, we will continue actively monitoring the situation and communicate any further impacts.

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

7. The Quapaw Nation, the Downstream Development Authority and Quapaw Casino Authority have been conducting detailed budget reviews for the last few months. We anticipate approving the FY 2026 budget next month, in the September 20 BC meeting. FY 2026 begins for us on October 1. We would like to thank all the Directors, Executive Directors, CFO Eric Bohn, the DDA, the QCA and their executive teams for all the preparation and planning that has gone into the process.

The Nation held the following events over this last month.

1. Our Nation is constantly moving, with many events unfolding and many more on the horizon. During all this activity, sometimes things get unintentionally overlooked. We deeply appreciate everyone who works tirelessly to support and uplift this Nation. Your contributions do not go unnoticed, even if they are not always mentioned in every report. We thank you all for being part of making the events in our Nation a huge success.
2. 14th Annual Dhegiha Language Conference July 23-24 with over 200 registered participants
3. 4th Annual Route 66 Heritage Festival in Miami on July 25 - 26
4. Cyber Security Planning Committee Meeting July 28. Next meeting is 8/25 from 6-8 in the Community Building.
5. Youth GONA Event week of July 28 and reached full capacity demonstrating strong youth interest.
6. Ribbon Skirt Making Class on 8/2 at full capacity. Another class has already been scheduled for September 14th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
7. CCDF Backpack & School Supply Voucher Giveaway on 8/1
8. Higher Education Scholarship Workshop
On August 6th, the Higher Education Department hosted a scholarship workshop at the Community Building, with a second session scheduled for August 20th at 6:00 p.m. The event is free, open to all, and available both in-person and via Microsoft Teams. To register, email education.department@quapawnation.com. There will be a special guest, author Dr. J Hall, who is also the Dean for Social Sciences at the Oklahoma City Community College. Everyone who attends virtually or in person will receive a free copy of his book titled College Unpacked: A Practical Guide to Choosing, Preparing for, and Excelling in College.
9. Back-to-School Bash on 8/9. Thank you to all the sponsors and participants.
10. Voices of the O-Gah-Pah Documentary Screening on 8/10 in Webb City

The Nation has the following current and upcoming events

1. The 2025 Elders Trip is scheduled for September 9th -11th, 3 Days/2 Nights. They will be travelling to the historic Angel Mounds site in Evansville, Indiana. Registration for this trip is closed due to reaching its full capacity earlier this week.
2. The Quapaw Food Sovereignty Department and Cattle Company are hosting another food distribution. Sign-ups opened on August 1st and will close on August 29th at 4 p.m. Each household will receive a package that includes 10 pounds of ground beef and two roasts. Distribution will take place during the week of September 8th -13th. This program is available only to Quapaw Tribal Members and is limited to the head of household. The sign-up form is available on the Quapaw Nation website.
3. Quapaw Tribal Member Madeline Jennings, a student in the Archaeology program at Washington State University, is inviting tribal members to participate in a survey for her thesis research. Madeline is asking for help to build collective knowledge, awareness, and direction when it comes to our cultural heritage. The community survey is currently available via the Quapaw Post Facebook page and will remain open until the end of September. Those who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win one of twenty \$20 Walmart gift cards.
4. The Quapaw Farmer's Market continues to run on the first and third Fridays of the month, now through October, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is a great opportunity to shop local for fresh produce, handmade goods, and crafts, while enjoying a meal. Earlier this month, the Cancer Awareness Committee hosted a fundraiser at the market, serving BBQ beef sandwiches. On each visit, market attendees receive a door prize ticket to be entered into a monthly prize

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

drawing. Keep an eye on their social media and the Quapaw Post for updates, so you can support not only the market but also the many fundraisers that are often held there to benefit a variety of important causes.

5. Today, the Youth Program is hosting a Bandolier Making Class at 11 a.m. at the Ki-Ho-Ta Building. This class was sponsored by a federal grant from SAMHSA. This class provides a valuable cultural experience for our youth.
6. The Quapaw Nation STEM Team has several fundraisers scheduled for this year. They currently have two raffles going, one is for an Ice Cream Goody Basket, which includes an ice cream maker, ingredients, toppings, and supplies. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or you can get six tickets for \$5. The winner will be drawn on Friday, August 29th. The other raffle is for a hunting blind and portable hunting chair, donated by Redneck Outdoor. Hunting Bundle Raffles tickets are \$5 for one ticket, or \$20 for 5 tickets. The drawing for this hunting package will be held on September 30th, right before deer season starts. Tickets for both these raffles can be purchased at the Quapaw Farmer's Market or by contacting the STEM Team at QNSTEMTEAM@quapawnation.com. You do not need to be present to win. Additionally, the STEM Team is seeking donations for a silent auction to be held on December 5th at the Farmer's Market, where they will also be having a baked potato fundraiser. All proceeds will support educational initiatives for our youth.
7. The Quapaw Nation offices will be closed in observance of Labor Day. Business will resume on September 2nd
8. The annual High School Heritage Football game, Quapaw vs. Wyandotte, is set for Friday, September 5th. Additional details will be released soon.
9. On Saturday, September 6th, the Quapaw Cultural Committee will host the Quapaw Fall Gathering - "Good Ole Days Pow Wow" at Beaver Springs Park in Quapaw, OK. This cultural event will honor the traditions of powwows from the early 1900s through the 1960s and will include a traditional meal, dancing, and contests. This gathering will intentionally omit elements introduced after the 1970s, offering an authentic experience rooted in our historical traditions. More details can be found online. The Powwow Committee is also hosting a corn hole tournament that morning.
10. The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Department is continuing to collect donations for its Regalia Closet program. This initiative provides traditional regalia on loan to Quapaw children (from infants to age 12) so they can participate in dances and cultural events. Contributions of regalia are always welcome. Tribal members with skills in crafting boys' and girls' regalia are also invited to submit bids to the CCDF Department to help support this important cultural effort.
11. The Quapaw Nation Environmental Office will host a Wetlands Training Workshop from September 9th -11th, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This workshop will focus on ecosystems, restoration techniques, and environmental stewardship. Registration is required and is ideal for environmental professionals, students, and community members interested in wetland restoration and conservation.
12. The Okaxpa Wak'o, a Quapaw Women's Group, is having a get-together and dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Quapaw Nation Museum classroom on September 11th. Following the dinner, they will be having a ribbon skirt contest, so they ask that you wear your favorite ribbon skirt and prepare to tell its history. They will also be playing Quapaw Jeopardy, sponsored by the Quapaw's Historic Preservation Program and put on by its director, Billie Burtrum.
13. On Sunday, September 14th, the Cancer Awareness Committee is hosting a Cancer Awareness Golf Scramble at Eagle Creek Golf Club. Registration has closed for this tournament; however, the committee is still accepting donations for a silent auction to be held during the event. For more information, please contact Jackie Stone at Jackie.stone@quapawnation.com.

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

14. The Quapaw Nation Higher Education Department is hosting two special sessions on Funding Resources for Graduate and Post-Graduate Students on September 17th and September 24th, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
15. In addition, starting in October, a series of free public financial education classes will be offered on Wednesdays starting at 6:30 p.m. Each session will cover a different topic to help you better manage your finances and plan for the future. All classes are taking place at the Community Building and can be attended virtually. To register, please contact the Higher Education department.
16. The youth program will host a two-day southern plains-style moccasin-making class on September 27th and 28th, in preparation for Rock Your Mocs on November 15th. The class will be from Noon to 4:00 p.m. An additional overflow class has been planned for November 8th & 9th. Boys' Straight Dance Bells Class will be held on October 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and a Rosette Class is scheduled for October 25th and 26th, from Noon to 4:00 p.m. All classes will take place at the Ki-Ho-Ta Center and are open to ages 5 to 24. No prior experience is necessary, and all supplies will be provided. Parents and guardians are encouraged to participate alongside their youth. These opportunities are made possible by our Youth Director, Kristen Keys, and are generously sponsored through a federal SAMHSA grant. To register, please contact the Family Services Youth Department.
17. Join us for a captivating presentation by Daniel Swan, PhD, noted scholar of Native American religious traditions, on The Impact of Quapaw on Osage Peyotism on September 27th, 9:30 a.m. 7 to 1:00 p.m., in the meeting rooms at Downstream Casino. This event is hosted by the Quapaw Tribal Ancestry Program and the Quapaw Nation's Business Committee, Native American Church, and Library. You must be at least 18 years old to attend. For more information, please contact Rise Supernaw Proctor or Pattie Billings.
18. The Quapaw Nation Powwow Committee is holding a T-shirt Art Competition for next year's powwow. This contest is open to all Quapaws who wish to participate. The first-place winner will have their design printed on the powwow t-shirts, while 2nd-4th place entries will be displayed at the event. The deadline to submit artwork is November 1st. Applications are now available online.
19. Our Nation continues to grow and thrive, with many exciting events and opportunities ahead. From cultural gatherings to educational programs and community services, there is something for everyone to participate in and support. To stay informed about all the latest events, programs, and announcements, we encourage everyone to visit the tribal website for additional details, or you can visit ogahpahcommunications.com and click on "Notify Me" to sign up for alerts by text, email, or phone call.

QUAPAW CASINO

June was a disappointing month for Quapaw Casino's Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) based upon how the rest of FY2025 has went. For the month ending June 30, 2025, EBITDA totaled \$174,000, with a margin of 10.0%. In the casino industry, a healthy EBITDA margin is around 20% to 40%. Quapaw Casino missed the mark on meeting this expectation this month. June's results missed our budgeted expectation by \$140,000 and represents a huge decrease of \$364,000 from June 2024. However, FY2025 we are currently sitting at \$3.4MM which is 117.6% of the first nine months of FY25 budget! For the 3rd quarter of FY2025 we are finalized at 119.9% of the 3rd quarter budget.

The main contributing factor to this negative year over year comparison was their large decrease in gross revenue and large increases in wages and benefits.

Net income for the month totaled \$525,000 with a margin of 29.7%. The net income margin for the casino industry is generally between 15% and 25%. Quapaw Casino did an excellent job meeting this ex-

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

QUAPAW CASINO (CONTINUED)

expectation. Net Income represents a positive budget variance of \$225,000. The main contributing factor of this excellent Net Income value was from the interest earned on the T-Bills. However, Net income compared to June 2024 had a negative variance of \$153,000.

June 2025, we received our fourth Pay Ap from Flintco. They were paid \$781,000 on Tuesday July 22nd. We are currently working on payments for material supplied vendors.

DOWNSTREAM CASINO & RESORT

July financials will become available next week so those will be covered in next month's meeting. The preliminary results are looking good.

SARACEN

Net gaming revenues (NGR) in July continued an impressive streak, finishing as the eighth best month in Saracen's nearly five-year history. In total, NGR beat prior year by 17.4%. The number one revenue source continues to be Slots, with handle and revenue seeing significant increases compared to prior year. Slots handle was up 14.7% and net slot revenue was up by 17.7%. Sportsbook volumes continue to outpace prior year with handle (bets placed) up 10.3%. Sportsbook win finished up over prior year by 19.7%.

Saracen achieved 52.4% of the net gaming revenue for the central Arkansas gaming market for the month of June and 53.7% for the fiscal quarter. For the year, market share stands at 52.2% of the net gaming revenue for central Arkansas. This occurred even though Oaklawn has had a hotel and event center for several years and finished their six-month horse racing season in early May.

Considerable progress has been made on the development of the Hotel and Event Center. From a budget perspective, the development is about 69.1% of the GMP (guaranteed maximum price) for the general contractor through the end of July and 59.3% of the total budget. The majority of the funding has been generated from cash flow from operations. Utilization of the revolving line of credit to supplement cash flow has started with every effort to minimize the number and amounts of draws. Updates on when the facility will open to the public will be forthcoming with a preliminary date for a complement of rooms in January.

The Saracen MBA program for Quapaw Nation members has been approved. The inaugural participant has been selected and will begin their journey this fall at the University of Arkansas Little Rock and with Saracen.

OGAHPAH WISDOM KEEPERS (GRACE GOODEAGLE & BRENDA MURRAY)

- Elder trip is full
- Next meeting is 9/4 at 1pm
- Want more classes offered for elders for their betterment.
- Wants to thank the Culture, Wisdom Keepers, and Business Committee for their well wishes to an elder who fell, had surgery, and is now recuperating.
- Elders Christmas dinner December 20.

CULTURE COMMITTEE (BARBARA COLLIER)

- Did not meet this last month. 8/21 is their next meeting.
- Received a donation from the group that visited from AR over pow wow. Committee will meet and decide what to do with it.
- Fall Gathering is 9/6. Grounds will open 8am Friday to 10pm on Sunday for families to use their camps. Several vendors will be there. Multiple activities. Everyone is invited.

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

CULTURE COMMITTEE (BARBARA COLLIER) - (CONTINUED)

- 9/11 Quapaw Women's meeting - wear your own ribbon skirt with a story and will be playing Quapaw Jeopardy thanks to Billie Burtrum.
- Dr Dan Swan will be giving a talk from 9:30 - 1 at DCR 9/27 pertaining to the Native American Church.

ELECTION COMMITTEE (FRANK FRAZIER)

- See Brent if you are interested in serving on the Election Committee

CYBER SECURITY PLANNING COMMITTEE (MIKEL WHITECROW)

- Their next meeting is 8/25 from 6-8 in the Community Building. Would like more public input Powwow Chairman (Shawn Ellick)
- Corn Hole tournament on 9/6
- Encouraged families to help with camp cleanup for 9/6 Fall Gathering.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

Their monthly reports are available on the tribal website for anyone interested.

EMERGENCY PHONE POLLS APPROVED SINCE LAST MEETING

- Poll44266 Tribal Adult Protective Services Demonstration
- Poll44278 Approval to Amend Resolution 052023-N Fee-To-Trust
- Poll44321 Filling Vacancy on the Resident Housing Committee
- Poll45060 Approval to Submit BIA Energy & Mineral Development Program Grant

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

- 081625-A Revise The 2025 Emergency Action Plan
- 081625-B Purchase Request- Electronic Polling System
- 081625-C Subcommittees Stipend Payment FY 2026
- 081625-D QN Housing Services & QN Historic Preservation Programs MOU

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS TABLED

- 081625-E Approve Indian Child Welfare Rate Schedule until some wording changes to the resolution can be made
- 081625-F Approving The Stanford Law Memorandum of Agreement until tribal member feedback is provided. The deadline is 8/28.

DONATIONS APPROVED

- Riverton Little League \$2000

OPEN FORUM

- Constitution Committee
 - o We need a constitution to protect our people
 - o General Council's voice is being trampled on. <Constitution> It is not supposed to include any of the Business Committee.
 - o Questionnaire feedback from a few years ago said accountability from leadership was the number 1 priority. We deserve better than that. We are out of order because the Special GC was not called for as decided 1/18/25.
 - o Discussion on failure to call a Special General Council

Quapaw Business Committee Aug. 2025 Summary (cont.)

OPEN FORUM (CONTINUED)

- Stanford MOU discussion topics
 - Scope of work. Are they rewriting it or making simple updates to the existing draft?
 - Our constitution belongs to the people, not the BC.
 - Demand the Stanford MOU be rescinded and reinstate the old Constitution Committee.
 - Cannot relinquish our nation to another entity.
 - Has confidence in the Point of Contact (Vance Gilmore). The MOU feedback should go to Vance.
 - Wants the MOU to prohibit Business Committee participation in any form
 - Asked the BC to file a grievance against the Chair for failure to correct allegations in the email traffic turned over to the Constitution Committee, a public apology, and additional items within 30 days that will be emailed to the Business Committee.
- Lack of Information
 - Requested the Executive Director reports be summarized and included in the monthly Business Committee meeting
- Resignation letter from an Election Committee member was read. Thanked her for her 20 years of service.
- Discussion on Freedom of Information Requests and their potential impact on employees
- 2023 Gaming Ordinance and its shortcomings such as lack of due process and reduced protections.
- We need other non-gaming businesses.
- Discussion of recent grievances and who is eligible to serve on the Grievance Committee

Save The Date!

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE TOWN HALL

On October 10, 2025 Professor Elizabeth Reese and some of her students from Stanford Law School (SLS) will be in town for a Town Hall Meeting with the Quapaw Nation.

At this point in the Constitution process it is important to get as many members of the Quapaw Nation as possible to this meeting for their feedback.

October 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm, location to be determined. More details to come.

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