

## Wichita Governing Resolution

### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma is not organized under the provisions of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act and does not possess a constitution and By-Laws or rules and regulations for the conduction of tribal business, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma to establish rules and regulations under which the tribe can operate and function as a tribal organization, and

**WHEREAS**, the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma adopted membership rules and regulation on October 9, 1956, and it is the desire of the Wichita Tribe to incorporate these membership regulations in this document and shall become Article II as shown hereinafter, now.

**Be it resolved** that the following Articles and Sections become the governing rules and regulations of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

#### ARTICLE I – Name

(Pursuant to Amendment II, Adopted May 21, 1977)

The name of this organization shall be “The Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, and Tawakoni).”

#### ARTICLE II – Membership

(Pursuant to Amendment I Adopted June 24, 1972, Amendment III Adopted May 21, and Amendment XII Adopted July 16, 2016)

Section 1. The membership of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes shall consist of the following persons, providing they have not received a share of land or money by virtue of being enrolled as a member of another Tribe:

- (a) All persons of Wichita, Keechi, Waco, and Tawakoni Indian blood who received an allotment of land as members of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, and Tawakoni), shall be included as full blood members of the Tribe.
- (b) All living lineal descendants of allottees eligible for membership under the provisions of Section I (a) of this Article born on or before the date of adoption of Amendment I (June 24, 1972).
- (c) All persons of at least one-thirty second (1/32) degree Wichita, Keechi, Tawakoni, or Waco Indian blood as defined by and derived from Section 1 (a) and born after the date of adoption of Amendment I (June 24, 1972). This amendment becomes effective October 1, 2016 at which time applications for enrollment under Amendment XII (July 16, 2016) may

be submitted. Anyone enrolled under Amendment XII will not be eligible to apply for services until January 1, 2017.

Section 2. All applicants for membership in the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes whose names do not appear on the membership roll as of the date of adoption of Amendment III (May 21, 1977) must submit an application for membership to the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Executive Committee. Application for membership must be supported by birth certificates or other records as required by the circumstances of each applicant. All evidence will be retained by the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes to support the record.

Section 3. The Tribal Executive Committee shall have the power to make ordinances covering loss of membership, future membership, and adoption into membership subject to review by the Secretary of Interior.

### **Article III – Membership of Council**

(Pursuant to Amendment V, Adopted November 18, 1980)

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Council. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, male and female who are 18 years old or older.

### **Article IV – Officers**

(Pursuant to Amendment VI, Adopted February 8, 1992)

The officers of the Tribe shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Councilmen. The Councilmen will serve with full voting power. The term of the officers shall be for four years and the present officers elected to office on January 6, 1961, shall serve until the first election under these rules and regulations is held on the third Saturday of July, 1964.

### **Article V – Committees**

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. This Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribes in all matters on which the Tribe are empowered to act now or in the future.

### **Article VI – Meetings**

(Pursuant to Amendment VII, Adopted February 8, 1992)

Section 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Saturday in July each year for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the council.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the President, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Executive Committee or upon written request of twenty (20) members of the Tribe; provided, that at least ten (10) days notice shall be given in each instance.

Section 3. The principal object of a special council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words “and for the transaction of other business that may be presented.” Unless these words are added no other business may be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

Section 4. The regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held the second Monday in January, April, July, and October of each year unless otherwise provided by resolution.

Section 5. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three (3) members of the Executive Committee.

Section 6. Meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

### **Article VII – Elections**

(Pursuant to Amendment IV, Adopted May 21, 1977, Amendment VIII, Adopted February 8, 1992 and Amendment XIII Adopted July 16, 2016)

Section 1. The first election under these rules and regulations shall be held at the annual meeting on the third Saturday of July, 1964. Regular elections of officers shall be held on the third Saturday of July of each fourth year hereafter. Special elections shall be called by the President of the Executive Committee for the purposes of filling vacancies or voting on any amendment to the Governing Resolution.

Section 2. Election shall be by secret ballot in an election held according to appropriate Election Procedures approved by the Executive Committee, a majority of those casting votes necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates for office and no one receives a majority vote, the low candidate shall be eliminated and a run-off election shall be called by the President of the Executive committee according to approved Procedures until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election and serve until their successors are elected and installed.

Section 3. To be eligible for election under Section 1 of this Article, notice of candidacy of an elective office must be filed with the Secretary of the Council in accordance with the Election Procedures as stated in Section 2. Such notice shall be valid if filed by a candidate himself. No person shall be a candidate for more than one office at any one election.

Section 4. Election Procedures shall allow absentee voting for all elections and referendums of the Council.

### **Article VIII – Vacancies**

(Pursuant to Amendment IX, Adopted February 8, 1992)

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term at a special election called by the President of the Executive Committee held according to appropriate Election Procedures adopted by the Executive Committee.

### **Article IX – Remove of Officers**

Upon the signed petition of 20 members of the council, the President shall call a special meeting of the Council to act upon complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Executive Committee, provided such complaints are supported by affidavits. The Council shall have power, by majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing and if found guilty of charges to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

### **Article X – Bill of Rights**

Section 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly, and association.

Section 2. These rules and regulations shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as Citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

Section 3. The individual property rights of any members of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of these rules and regulations without the consent of such individual member.

### **Article XI – Amendments**

(Pursuant to Amendment XI, Adopted April 11, 1992)

These rules and regulations may be amended by a majority vote of at least 10% of the qualified voters of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, at an election called for that purpose by the President of the Executive Committee of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes. It shall be the duty of the President of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Executive Committee to call such an election of referendum at the request of the majority of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Executive Committee members or upon presentation of a petition signed by at least 20 adult members of the Wichita Council, provided that not less than thirty (30) days' notice of such an election and proposed amendments shall be given members of the tribes directly by mail, if feasible, and by appropriate publicity throughout the communities in which the tribal members reside.

## **Article XII – Duties of Officers**

Section 1. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Executive Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of president.

Section 2. Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President performs the duties of the office. In the case of vacancy, the Vice-President shall succeed at once to the office of the President until the next special or regular election for the office of President.

Section 3. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all proceedings and official records of the Council and of the Executive Committee and shall file a copy of same with the Officer in Charge of the Anadarko Agency. He shall be responsible for the prompt and efficient handling of all correspondence pertaining to the business of the Council and of the Executive Committee. All official records of the Secretary shall be open to inspection by the members of the Council, the Secretary shall be open to inspection by the members of the Council, in the presence of the Secretary, upon the order of the Executive Committee or upon the written request of 20 members of the Council. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and in the absence of the President and Vice-President, shall call meetings to order until chairman pro temp is selected. At the expiration of this term of office, the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor.

Section 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds in possession of the Council from any source. He shall keep an accurate record of all such funds and shall disburse the same in accordance with the vote of the Executive Committee. He shall render a written report at the annual Council meeting and at such time as he is requested to do so by the Executive Committee, and shall file a copy of same with the Officer in Charge of the Kiowa Area Field Office. He shall keep all tribal monies entrusted to his care in special account.

At any time that such account shall amount to more than \$50.00, he shall file bond satisfactory to the Executive Committee and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out in tribal money. At the expiration of his terms of office, the records and all papers and funds in his possession shall be turned over to his successor.

## **Article XIII – Qualifications of Officers**

Any person elected to membership on the Executive Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma. Any person holding an elective office who without reasonable cause misses three (3) regularly called meetings in succession shall automatically lose office.

## **Article XIV – Place of Meetings**

All regular and special meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee shall be held at the Anadarko Area Field Office unless some other point under the Kiowa Agency Jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice.

**Article XV – Quorum**

(Pursuant to Amendment X, Adopted February 8, 1992)

Section 1. Fifteen members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

Section 2. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

The foregoing resolution was adopted in a duly called meeting of the adult members of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma by a vote of 32 for and 0 against on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1961.

Louis Zadoka  
President

ATTEST: Inez Vance  
Secretary

APPROVED: (Sgd.) Martin P. Mangan  
Acting Commissioner  
August 8, 1961

This document incorporates Amendment Number I adopted and approved effective June 24, 1972.

This document incorporates Amendment Number II, III, and IV adopted and approved effective May 21, 1977.

This document incorporates Amendment Number V, adopted and approved effective November 18, 1980.

This document incorporates Amendment Numbers VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X, adopted and approved effective February 8, 1992.

This document incorporates Amendment Number XI, adopted and approved effective April 11, 1992.

This document incorporates Amendment Number XII and XIII, adopted and approved effective July 16, 2016.