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Meetings 1962-64

The special called meeting of the Tribal Council of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians was called to order at 7:15 p.m., December 11, 1962, with the Chairman, Phillip Martin, presiding.

The invocation was given by Rufus Wesley, followed by a roll call by the Secretary-Treasurer, Emmett York. The following members were present:

Ebin Bell, Bogue Chitto	Nettie Jimmie, Pearl River
Zina Thompson, Bogue Chitto	Houston Allen, Red Water
Rufus Wesley, Bogue Chitto	Dean Wilson, Red Water
Mary Lou Farmer, Conehatta	Phillip Martin, Tucker
Cleddie Bell, Pearl River	Clement Chickaway, Tucker
Jim Gardner, Pearl River	Emmett York, Secretary-Treasurer

The following members were absent:

John Lee Gibson, Conehatta	Charlie Denson, Standing Pine
Woodrow Thomas, Conehatta	John Mingo, Bogue Homo
Tom Ben, Standing Pine	

Representing the Choctaw Indian Agency was Mr. Lonnie Hardin, Superintendent. Visitors were: Mrs. Arletta McMillan, Mrs. Annie York, Miss Ellen Gail Farmer, Mr. Nicholas Bell, and Mr. Sammie Wilson.

Chairman Martin: I am glad to see that all of you could make it tonight. I am sure the others absent would have made it if the weather was not bad. We are happy to see all of the visitors with us tonight. You, the people, elected us to represent the various communities to work for the tribe. It is good to see you people visiting us tonight.

"I told you at the last Council meeting that we would probably have more meetings in order to get some of our programs operating better. Our meetings every three months is long time in between for us not to be doing anything. So, with your permission, I requested that we call these meetings in the evenings as some of the people have to work and it is difficult to get off during day time.

"Tonight I have prepared four resolutions for you Councilmen to consider. I think that these resolutions are good resolutions, and if there are some changes that need to be made, we could do it. If there are some things we don't like, we can take it out. If you disagree with me, I am not going to hold it against you or visa versa. To get things underway, I have a resolution here which pertains to health that I want you to consider. We also have few road right-of-ways and power line resolutions prepared by the Agency here. The two resolutions that I want to present to you concerns health. If I had time to work with the various committees, I could have worked these out with the committee, but I don't have the time to do this and I went ahead and prepared it myself to present it to you. The first resolution is as follows:

the former Superintendent went to Albuquerque where the overall planning took place. We were not properly informed of the plans that was agreed on for the Choctaws. This is one reason why this resolution was prepared for your consideration. After the new Superintendent came we discussed this education matter in a meeting one night, along with some members of the Council and Agency staff, but we haven't gotten too far with that have we? The Bureau of Indian Affairs are planning on building a high school here soon. We are going to have to express what we feel and the type of school we need here. You are the representative of the people from various communities, it is our responsibility to see that things go according to some of our thinking. At least we should have an opportunity to express how we feel on this school problem. I always try to do what I think would be to the advantage of all Choctaws and what would be agreeable with you. We have the resolution here and it will be presented to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. After all, the Commissioner is the man who has the final word. You may not agree with this, I don't know, but I am going to present it to you anyway. If you don't want it, vote against it. If you think it is good, support it. Be sure you feel strongly about it. Be sure you think it is good for the people. Be sure you think it has some future value and act accordingly through a vote. I believe we have a strong case here to present to the Commissioner, but we can talk more about it later after we have read the resolution.

Reading of resolution Cho-11-63 by Chairman Martin.

RESOLUTION

Cho-11-63

WHEREAS: In keeping with the Tribe's resolution Cho-24-62, plans are being formulated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to erect new facilities for a full high school in Mississippi for the Choctaw Indian people, and

WHEREAS: We feel that a more prudent approach to such a building program should very definitely include a consideration to the thoughts and sentiment of those whom these facilities are destined, and that these people, namely; the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians be heard on this matter both as to its essential material elements and its location, and

WHEREAS: Without previous planning with the Tribal Council an agreement was reached at the Albuquerque, New Mexico conference held July 16, 1962, by the Area Director of Schools, Muskogee Area Office, and the former Superintendent of the Choctaw Indian Agency for the construction of a new high school building at the Pearl River Indian School, and

WHEREAS: This Council feels strongly that it has a definite stake and responsibility for any future plans of our education program for the Choctaw Indians of Mississippi, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the Tribal Council of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians during a special called meeting held December 11, 1962, that the following facts and ideas be considered by the Washington Office:

1. Adopt an overall objective to achieve eventual assimilation into the public school system under honorable conditions. We are aware that this will not come about soon. Therefore, we submit these suggestions to establish a location more advantageous to accomplish the above objective.
2. Plan and design a new school plant to include facilities for grades seven (7) through twelve (12) and located at or around the Choctaw Indian Agency in Philadelphia, Mississippi. The fact that a new junior-senior high school located in the city limits would greatly benefit the public relations between the Indian and the non-Indian people. This would be brought about by inter-school activities such as, athletic and scholastic activities. For, it is through common interests and social events that greater understanding of our neighbor is made possible.
3. In the overall view of the objective, the fine structural character of the new junior-senior high school would make any city proud to have it as part of their public school system.
4. Aside from the above fact, the presence of these facilities in the city will be a greater incentive for the Choctaw people themselves to see that even a greater percentage of their children attend school. These new high school facilities will be a source of pride and respect for the Choctaw people. They will be a symbol of progress, and an attainment for a better educational and social level.
5. The whole issue of a new junior-senior high school arises from the fact that the present educational set up at Pearl River shows certain limitations. Since it is planned that new facilities come into existence, the motivation should not be new facilities for the sake of new facilities, but new facilities with an overall objective of eventual assimilation into public school system.
6. The fact that this objective will most probably be years in attainment, means that the new facilities in a new location will have been in good use for a definite number of years.
7. Time is precious for the sooner such a junior-senior high school comes into existence, the sooner will the overall objective be attained.
8. We emphatically state that the eventual assimilation of these facilities and their students into public school system come about through the re-education of the thinking and the joint cooperation of both the non-Indian and the Indian people. For, such is the state of affairs that this is the best and most beneficial manner of achieving this objective. \$

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, certify that the Tribal Council of said band is composed of sixteen members of whom _____ members, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held on the _____ day of _____, 1962, that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 1962.

Attest:

Chairman, Tribal Council

Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended:

Date: _____

Superintendent, CIA

Approved:

Date: _____

Area Director, Muskogee

Chairman Martin: This is a resolution with strong meaning. It is a resolution that is aimed for better education with a positive objective for the future. We work for our living in the non-Indian surrounding and if our children go to college, they will have to go to a non-Indian college. Our young people have got to be trained and developed so that they can attain better life through education. The resolution is asking for a new high school beginning with 7th through 12th grade, and to erect it in or near the Agency. If we do get a plant like that, it would more than likely be boarding school. Some would have to come by bus, but others would have to come by boarding situation. Any progress we make is going to have to be through our younger people. By having it here around the Agency, better public relation and inter-school activities can be worked out.

"At Pearl River we are now crowded for space and buildings. We don't have enough grounds now for our athletic programs, etc., and what is most discouraging is that we are isolated from everybody else. We are out there by ourselves without much opportunity for non-Indian competition.

Mrs. Cleddie Bell: Mr. Chairman, if you were to put it in town, would these places have to open their facilities to our children?

Chairman Martin: First, we should come in here with the mind of giving these children the best education possible. Public relations comes with it the same time. By having these school facilities in town, our children would be more in the public eye. Did you know that in this county, there are many non-Indian people who knows little or nothing about the Indians? Many have an erroneous idea that Federal Government gives us a check every month, but we all know that is not so. This is also true about the people right here in our own city and State.

Mrs. Cleddie Bell: They have already seen our school. They have said that they are a lot better schools than their own. There are advantages and disadvantages. I believe through an education this is the only way that we will have to be recognized, regardless of whether we put it right in the middle of town. If we don't have the education, there is nothing in it. Even if you did have it where we have it now part of the facilities are already there now. We wouldn't be so crowded because we have plenty of land around the school which can be purchased. As I said before, there is advantages and disadvantages to my way of thinking.

Chairman Martin: Definitely there is advantages and disadvantages either way. The thing here is we have to weigh it and vote with our convictions.

Mr. Hardin: Regardless of which place you had it, you would have to have additional boarding facilities. I don't know whether you would have more facilities over the other. I don't know off-hand.

Chairman Martin: The consolidation of students from all the communities from 7th grade through 12th would increase the enrollment greatly.

Houston Allen: We have requested for eighth grade. There is more rooms there now and I don't know. In the edge of town, will they want us to build a school for the Indians?

Chairman Martin: Would they want us? It is difficult to say, but we have the right to make improvements for our people and now we have a better chance of doing it than before.

Houston Allen: They may not want us.

Chairman Martin: Let me say this. The Choctaw Indians were here in Mississippi before anybody. When the white people came they brought with them the negroes as their slaves. So, in a nutshell, the white and negro problem is one of their own making. In my opinion, the basis of the Indian problem is entirely different. History can prove that the Indians once were the owner of these lands. The white people came here as intruders. The Federal Government came here and dealt with our ancestors with the sole purpose of taking the land and move the Indians to the West of the Mississippi. They were successful in getting the lands, but they were not completely successful in moving the Indians out against their will. So, I believe no intelligent thinking people would be opposed to any plans designed to improve the condition of our people. In my opinion nobody has a right to say where we should build our school except the Indian people themselves.

Jim Gardner: We have been talking about this high school for many years now. You know what the white people think about the Indian people. They are our neighbors, yet they are still against us. We didn't ask them to come. They came in, more or less, trespassers. After they have taken our land, they turn against us. When you go somewhere away from here like Meridian, Jackson, etc., you get treated like a citizen. They welcome you to their restaurants, hotels, etc., but not in Neshoba, Leake, Newton counties where the Indians are largely located. I don't know if it can work here. I think it would be nice.

Chairman Martin: Anybody else?

Emmett York: That is the resolution you read isn't it? It is not in the form of a protest of what the Federal Government or Bureau of Indian Affairs is trying to do for our people, it is mainly your thinking.

Chairman Martin: This resolution is no protest. It is a recommendation for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to consider too. The Albuquerque plans are well underway now to build it at Pearl River. If you reject this resolution, then we are saying that we are in agreement with them. Facilities will be at Pearl River and everything situated there. The Commissioner will make the final decision.

Emmett York: Since is is a statement of your views, and with that thought in mind for a long range program, I go along with that. This long range proposal is for the future generation, not for us grown ups today. It is really true that isolation will never get you anywhere. If we remain in the country where they put us, we are isolating ourselves. If we isolate ourselves we are going to remain in the same situation that we are in and will always be in. The State of Mississippi includes us because in 1924 Congress passed a bill that all Indians in the United States are citizens of the United State. The Constitution of the State of Mississippi reads that a resident of Mississippi and citizen of the United State is also citizen of the State of Mississippi. According to law you are a citizen. According to law, you can get your rights same as this negro boy's case while back. What is one of the University student doing now? Suing a U. S. Marshall for violation of his right. You can do that if you can get a lawyer to take your case. The law is for all people.

"With that in mind, I think it is right that we should try to plan for this high school for the future generation. I wonder what will it be like 15-20 years from now? We might not live to see it, but conditions maybe different. We might say, "I wish we did have a high school in Philadelphia", and again, we might not. I think we should have a long range program in mind in discussing these things. As stated before, we owned these lands. We were here before anyone else that is true, furthermore, since we don't have our own form of Government, we have the white man's laws. What we are trying to do is to learn the present form of Government. If we are going to get along, we must learn the American form of Government. I think what we should try to do is to learn as much as we can. If we can learn all of it, let's learn it. Then it will give us better footing and better saying of where we are going. So, with just stating your mind and thinking, I go along with the resolution. I don't think that the next 15-20 years our grandchildren will want to be isolated from the general public.

Maybe someday we will have an Indian in on the things that is going on in the State level. If we think that as a leader for our future generation, perhaps we can accomplish something. If we are going to sit around here expecting a miracle to happen to advance ourselves, we will not get anywhere. Let's think ourselves as an American and work for that miracle to happen. I believe we might succeed if we make a way for our future generation.

Mrs. Cleddie Bell: Don't get me wrong. I am not against a high school. Only thing is, even if we are isolating ourselves, we can still open it as well as to other Indian people like the Cherokees of North Carolina, Seminoles of Florida, and perhaps those in Louisiana. ①

Mr. Hardin: I wonder if I could review some of the things that have come up recently. Going back through correspondence and remembering back to the time when I was Reservation Principal, I realize you have been asking many years for a high school to be established in Mississippi. You have had a two-year high school for several years, this year the third year was added, and next year you will have a full four-year high school. I think that it is now agreed that you will have a high school in Mississippi, the question now is location. The question of location started when planning started for new buildings to house the high school. I believe Phillip wrote a letter to the Commissioner setting forth some of his views. He received a reply of which we received a copy. Is that right?

Chairman Martin: Yes.

Mr. Hardin: About the middle of October we received a letter from the Muskogee Area Office transmitting a copy of plans that had been prepared at a meeting in Albuquerque in July of this year. This plan detailed what would be provided in the way of buildings. Facilities would provide for 200 high school students. It would include six classrooms, an all-science laboratory, one two-unit home economics classroom, an instructional materials center, an administrative suite consisting of two private offices, one general office space for three, work and lounge area. A new dormitory building for 60 girls. Provide two isolation rooms, one office and a counsel room and one two-bedroom matrons quarters. A new multi-purpose room with standard gym floor, locker and dressing rooms; seating in bleachers for 600; elevated stage, storage rooms, band practice room; three music practice rooms, band instrument space, concession area; administrative office area with two private offices and general office for counseling, three private offices and general office space for school staff and a health room, bank and vault. The present farm shop building is to be used as a practical arts classroom for the high school children. The present water supply and storage facilities are inadequate and new wells and tanks are needed. A new fire station for one truck, with hose drying facilities is also required, etc. That was sent to us with the request that we review it and make any comments we felt necessary.

"I called a meeting of the education staff along with notifying the Council Chairman, and was able to get a few of you other members in. We went over pretty much the same as this. We discussed location and at that time, much of the discussion you heard this evening transpired. It was not known at that time how far along or in which year we might expect these buildings. Mr. Smith and I

have been doing some thinking and planning as to how we will meet next year's need because it will require additional classroom at least. At one time we thought we might move a building from Red Water, but we came up against problems of moving such a building and decided it would not be feasible. We are in the process of making arrangement for one additional classroom,

"Yesterday morning I called Muskogee to discuss with them our problem , heating in the new dormitories. The heating units are not functioning satisfactorily as yet. In the course of the discussion with Mr. Manners who heads up the construction, we discussed some of the problems and need for making arrangement for additional facilities next year. I asked how long we would have to make use of temporary facilities. He told me that new facilities was scheduled for Fiscal Year 1964 which will begin this July. It is scheduled for construction within that year. I had not known how far along planning was until that time, so, evidently considerable work has been done on drawing up plans which includes the use of facilities you already have.

"You will notice that additional kitchen and dining room facilities are not being considered at this time. If the Pearl River location is not used, then these would have to be planned. I am sure that the Choctaw's feelings as to where the high school will be located will be considered. I am sure the planning is at the stage now that a change in location would cause some delay, I am not sure how long. Mr. Manners was also concerned as to what a change in location might do in delaying construction. Topography maps have been made of the Pearl River sight and no doubt plans are being drawn using this location. Additional facilities will also be required if you do not build at Pearl River. I have mentioned some. There would no doubt be some changes in dormitory planning. Plans were drawn to utilize the existing dormitory facilities.

"I thought I should bring you up-to-date as to how far along we are in the building planning.

Chairman Martin: Thank you very much for bringing the factual information concerning this. We are happy that we have these information and that you are not keeping these information to yourself. Sometimes that has been the case where we didn't get involved in something like this. We would have had this settled six months ago if we were properly informed. I was not sure how you felt concerning education matters so this resolution was prepared for your consideration. If you think that this is a good resolution, and good enough that you are willing to stand a little delay in order to get what we want or if you want to go along with the plans that Mr. Hardin read to you, you can do that. The people back in your community are the people you want to be concerned with, not with your own personal interests or little group. The main objective we should have in mind is the future opportunities for the children because that is what this school is going to be for. Not us. It is going to be the responsibility for us to keep our children in school in order for them to get all of the advantages we didn't get.

Future

"This country has and is progressing. The people have progressed to the extent that they are trying to send people to the moon. They have progressed to the extent that industries have become highly technical. Even little jobs that

ordinary labor use to could handle has been taken over by machinery. In the past years we could make a living on 20 to 40 acres of land with one mule and one plow. Even that is gone. The drop in agriculture and forestry employment has decreased to the extent that our people can not find jobs in their own locality. It all points out to one thing. Our children are going to need education, technical training, and higher education to compete for better jobs and better living. That is all there is to it. It is our responsibility to decide which is the best course to follow and whatever you people decide is what it is going to be. That is what I am going to try to work for. We have got to think further than today. As Emmett said, "we might not live to see all the progress that will be made, but our children are going to be here". I rather hear what you people have to say.

Emmett York: I still say that since it is in the form of expressing our thinking, I go along with the resolution. It don't say that if they go ahead and put the high school at Pearl River we won't cooperate. It doesn't mean that.

Chairman Martin: There is nothing in the resolution that says we are opposing a high school. We are pointing out that it shows certain limitation if it were built at Pearl River.

Mr. Hardin: Whatever action you take in expressing your wishes in that matter, this would have to be pointed out and I think you are all aware that there will have to be decisions made in terms of money available, how much delay will be caused by changing it, etc. Whatever and whenever that decision is made, they will consider it in terms of what is best for you. I am sure you feel that way about it when you express a desire contrary to the way it was planned. People involved will make the decision with the best interest in mind. You are saying that you will accept it as that and make good use of it.

Emmett York: Someone is going to have to make the decision to our advantage and to theirs. For my personal feeling, I am not fighting this high school. It doesn't matter where it is put because we have asked for it for a number of years, but I would like to see it built where the Choctaw people will be proud to have good facilities available to them.

Jim Gardner: I am not saying that I am not in favor. I just let out what I feel. Whatever you feel is best, I will go along with it. You probably see what might happen 15-20 years from now--the future for our younger children. I am not fighting it at all. I am going to go along with you whatever you think, but there is no harm in expressing my views of happenings today.

Clement Chickaway: The resolution is alright. A good many of our children have left and few have come back. Regardless of where it is located, I am in favor of having a high school here for our children.

Mrs. Zina Thompson: Wherever it is located, let it be where transportation will be furnished. I am not against it. We do need a high school. I haven't heard about this very much and what information I have heard here tonight regarding this high school, it is good and I am glad to know about it.

Mrs. Nettie Jimmie: I would like to express my views of what I see. Today our boys and girls are advancing more and more to modern ways of the non-Indian fashions. For example, those who have taken the ways of the non-Indians by changing from Choctaw dress to modern dress will, more than likely, never return to wearing Choctaw dress. We are learning how to speak English and with this in mind, 15-20 years from today, we will probably have few children speaking the language. We should plan for the younger generations coming up. Things we do and decide in our organization is mainly for the thoughts of what we want for our children, not for us. I believe we should all look at it that way. We are the ones who will need to start opening the way for our children and their children perhaps. We know that just because we build a high school here in town that everything will change. We will have to start little by little paving the way for them. Perhaps 15-20 years from now they will thank us for what we did for them. Again, they may not. We might wish we had built the high school in town or we should have built it at Pearl River. But that is true with anything. Even industries have that feeling when they build an industry somewhere. Perhaps I should have built it somewhere else. Majority of our younger children will not carry on the old Choctaw customs because they already are leaning toward the other way--non-Indian ways. While we have the opportunity we should push forward.

Houston Allen: Mr. Chairman, I would rather bring this matter with the parents back in my community and let them decide what they would like to do after they have had a discussion about it. Let me think it over and tell you my decision. I think all of us here would rather hear what they have to say. I will let somebody else say something about it. I just would like to hear what some of you think about this matter.

Jim Gardner: Whatever decision is made we are going to have to do something about these non-Indians ruining our younger girls today. You all know that it is happening. This is happening right in my own community. With this happening, what will happen if we have a high school here in town?

Chairman Martin: As far as having children in the city limits, they will be in direct control of the school authorities. They will have rules and regulations to follow.

Dean Wilson: This will be presented to the Commissioner, is that right?

Chairman Martin: Yes. Somebody has to make a decision. We are just asking for consideration pointing out location with a real objective of what we may attain. That is what this resolution is asking.

Dean Wilson: If it is approved.

Chairman Martin: What we are doing here is we are expressing Council's vote. There are lots of information that we would like to know. How we vote will reflect how we feel. With the new location, I believe it would better serve the people. Mr. Hardin, do you have the letter with you from the Commissioner?

Reading of the letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by Chairman Martin:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington 25, D. C.

September 21, 1962

Mr. Phillip Martin
Chairman, Tribal Council
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Route 4, Box 365
Philadelphia, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Martin:

Mrs. Thompson, Chief of the Branch of Education, following her visit in August, reported favorably on the progress that the Choctaw people are making in education. She was impressed with your summer programs to teach the younger children English. She also reported to us your ideas about high school plans and your reasons for locating a high school at the agency rather than Pearl River.

We want to work with you and the Choctaw people on the planning of both the high school program and its location. All points of view will be considered in such discussions, and together we can come to agreements. Your points in favor of the location at the agency are well taken.

We trust that the replacement and expansion of the school facilities now in progress at the three day schools meet with the approval of the Choctaw people. This expansion, plus the high school now in the planning stage, will provide good school facilities. We know that with your leadership and the growing interest of the Choctaw people in education, good use will be made of these facilities to serve many Choctaw children.

Sincerely yours,

Sgd. Philleo Nash
Commissioner

Chairman Martin: According to this letter, no decision has been made by the Commissioner. Do you want me to read the resolution again?

Dean Wilson: Since we are going to delay it, I make a motion to talk with my people in the Red Water community.

*take
back*

Emmett York: Since your community appointed you to make these decisions, you have a right to make the decision for them. They appointed you to represent your community. If they could come here themselves, they wouldn't have elected a representative. You are officially appointed by them to make these decisions for them and handle tribal affairs.

Dean Wilson: I think I better wait.

Chairman Martin: Since the other plan is well underway, it is important to present our views to the Commissioner through this resolution. I am sure all of us have been very much concerned about our education problems through the years. It maybe that you haven't given much thoughts about location, but you should have been thinking about the need. If you have been giving some serious thoughts about education, it should not be hard for you to make a decision tonight. That is why I called you people here together.

Mrs. Zina Thompson: When you say Philadelphia, would it be right in town, edge of town, or where do you have the exact location in mind?

Chairman Martin: We have been thinking that it should be erected around the Agency. The Public Health Service is planning on building a new hospital nearby. Where their exact location will be, that I do not know yet. Public Health Service feels that the Choctaws will need a hospital for a number of years to come. I know the Bureau of Indian Affairs is aware of the situation here in Mississippi too. We are the only Indian tribe under their jurisdiction who are not accepted locally to go to public school. I am not going to tell you how we should vote. I was elected same as you people. I am not paid anymore than you are paid. We all have the responsibility of making a decision.

Mrs. Zina Thompson: I believe that we should all think about the future for the younger generation. With this in mind, I make a motion that we adopt the resolution. (Seconded by Rufus Wesley.)

The motion was voted on and was carried by six voting in favor. Five who did not vote are as follows: Mrs. Cleddie Bell, Mr. Jim Gardner, Mr. Dean Wilson, Mr. Houston Allen and Mrs. Mary Lou Farmer.

Chairman Martin: Resolution is adopted as read. I would like to present another resolution. This resolution concerns a meeting with the Commissioner and Public Health Service officials.

Reading of resolution Cho-12-63 by Chairman Martin.

RESOLUTION

Cho-13-63

WHEREAS: The Constitution and By-laws of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians specifically grants power to the Tribal Council in Article VII, Section (1a), "To negotiate with the Federal, State and local Government", and

WHEREAS: It has become necessary for the Tribal Council to confer with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on various Tribal problems that need more immediate attention, and

WHEREAS: These problems are found to exist in the area of administration, economics, education and health, and

WHEREAS: Specifically in the area of education we desire to discuss fully the content in the Tribe's resolution Cho-11-63, and the overall educational program for the Mississippi Choctaw Indian people, and