

Pawnee Nation Governing Documents Committee  
Quarterly Report to the Pawnee Business Council  
Second Quarter – 2021

**I. Program/Office/Project Name:**

Pawnee Nation Governing Documents Committee (Committee) – The Committee assists in reviewing documents and making recommendations for revisions for Commissions and Boards.

**II. Executive Summary:**

The PN Governing Documents Committee is composed of the following members: Cynthia Butler, Chair; Vacant, Co-Chair; Denise Miller, Member; Lisa Gover, Member; Joseph Reed, Member; Victoria Lefthand, Member; and David Kanuho, Member.

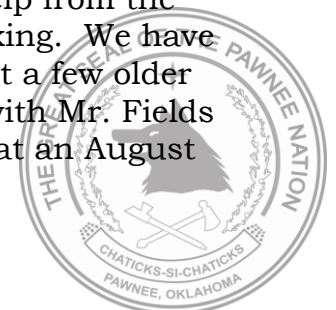
**III. Meetings:**

The Committee has met on the following dates during the first quarter: April 5, April 12, April 26, May 17, May 24, June 1, June 7, June 14 and June 28.

**IV. Committee Report:**

PN Governing Documents Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) – We have seen the need for the Committee to develop an SOP to use as a guide and to define the role of the Committee. The Governing Documents Committee has been developing a process to bring all PN governing documents to this Committee for review and recommendation to the Pawnee Business Council for approval. Also outlining the processes for filing documents, recommendations to the PBC for approval, the comment period, Scholarship Program and selection, and budget procedures for adding funds from fundraisers and donations. The Committee is looking at a final approval by the end of the third quarter. The Committee is still working on specific procedures in review the Pawnee Nation Governing Documents.

Pawnee Nation Law and Order Codes - Codification of Pawnee Nation Law – Resolution #20-101 was passed on November 23, 2020 and the Committee has been working on the preparation of a system for filing governing documents within the Law-and-Order Codes. Also, by assigning a number filing system of each Title, Chapter and Section. The Committee has received help from the Education Department in finding an intern to help with the indexing. We have contracted Mr. Terrance Fields to assist with the Codes and to get a few older documents put in digital form. There was a meeting scheduled with Mr. Fields at the end of June and hope to get him started in July. Looking at an August 31<sup>st</sup> date for completion.



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PN Governing Documents Scholarship Program – Advertising for the Scholarship program was sent to High Schools, local Colleges and clients of the Pawnee Nation Higher Education Program. The applications have been posted on the Pawnee Nation Website and social media sites to get the information out to the membership. We have not received any applicants yet and we are continuing with advertisement. The Committee has extended the deadline to August 1<sup>st</sup> and is looking to decrease the GPA from 3.0 to 2.5. We are encouraging applicants to still apply if their GPA does not meet the current requirements.

PN Government-to-Government Consultation Statute – On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Committee submitted for PBC review and approval the Pawnee Nation Government-to-Government Consultation Statute. This statute, once approved will be sent to Agencies who want to engage in consultation with the Nation.

**V. Goals for 2021**

The Committee will be focusing on the following priorities in 2021.

1. Review of Corporate Charter of the Pawnee Nation - COMPLETED
2. Pawnee Nation Government-to-Government Consultation Statute – COMPLETED - APPROVED BY PBC
3. Finalization of PN GDC Standard Operating Procedures – STILL UNDER REVIEW FOR APPROVAL BY COMMITTEE
4. Constitution of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma – Constitutional Convention – BEGIN PROCESS END OF THIRD QUARTER
  - a. Blood quantum
  - b. Secretary of Interior Approval
  - c. Nasharo Council
  - d. Grievance Policy for PBC
5. Pawnee Nation Law and Order Codes Codification – FINALIZATION BY AUGUST 31<sup>st</sup>
6. PN Law and Order Codes Revisions – START FIRST QUARTER 2022
  - a. Review of Casino Jurisdiction
  - b. Finalization of filing PN Law(s)
7. Pawnee Nation Land Into Trust Statute – START BY END OF THIRD QUARTER
8. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Statute – UNDER REVIEW FOR PBC RECOMMENDATION
9. Pawnee Nation Gaming Commission Ordinance – PNGC License, Dual Licensing – UNDER REVIEW FOR RECOMMENDATION TO PBC
10. PN TDC Articles of Incorporation – UNDER REVIEW
  - a. PBC as Board Members, Removing provision
  - b. PBC oversight of Budget process, removing provision



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We anticipated a busy year for 2021 and it has been busy. This list is not in order of which will be done first. The Committee will review the list and provide a timeline for working on these documents and make recommendations for PBC approval.

**VI. Financials:**

The Committee has deposited \$400.00 in donations that will go toward scholarship awards. The awards will be given during the first week in August.

The Committee has also sent for approval to the PBC the Committee 2021 Budget to reflect the funds that have been raised for the scholarship fund.

**VII. Closing:**

The Governing Documents Committee will be working on other small projects throughout the year and has been looking forward to collaborating with other Committees on drafting documents to be introduced into Law. With an outlined process of the review of all Pawnee Nation governing documents, we anticipate by the middle of 2022 to have reviewed and suggested revisions to strengthen the government for all Commissions and Boards.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Butler, PBC Seat #1  
PN Governing Documents Chair

