

Pawnee Nation Governing Documents Committee
Quarterly Report to the Pawnee Business Council
Third 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; Walter Echo-Hawk, Co-Chair; Denise Miller, Member; Lisa Gover, Member; Joseph Reed, Member; Victoria Lefthand, Member; David Kanuho, Member and Terance Fields, Member.

III. Meetings:

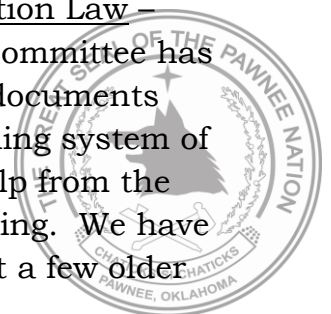
The Committee has met on the following dates during the third quarter: July 26, August 9, August 16, August 30, September 13, September 20 and September 27.

IV. Committee Report:

Pawnee Nation Governing Documents Committee Webpage – The Committee now has a webpage where we have posted all of our committee work, agendas, minutes, etc. We will be posting documents that have been recommended for revisions and comment periods. Visit our page at <https://pawneenation.org/pn-governing-documents-committee>.

PN Governing Documents Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) – The Governing Documents SOP was approved by the Committee on August 16. The SOP includes a procedure for governing documents to be brought to this committee for review and guide the governing body through the comment period, then make the recommendation for PBC approval.

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



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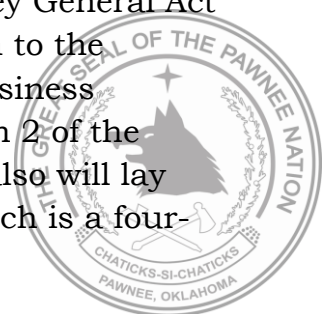
documents put in digital form. We anticipate the completion of this process to be by the end of 2021. This will include the process of reviewing all the existing laws (governing documents) and indexing them as well. This has been a long process, but we feel it will be a benefit in once we have completed this project.

PN Governing Documents Scholarship Program – The Committee had no applicants for the scholarship program and we will continue to advertise for next years submission. Some of the tribal community had concerns about not meeting the grade point average of a 3.0. This does not mean that the applicant cannot apply. The grade point average is part of a point system (outlined in the GD SOP). We encourage everyone who wants to apply to do so. They will still be considered for the scholarship.

PN Government-to-Government Consultation Statute – This document was passed by the PBC on June 5th and was sent to the Government Agencies such as the EPA. Thank you to the Pawnee Business Council for the approval and implementation of this law.

Pawnee Nation Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act – This document for support and implementation of the Act (Statute) has been submitted to the Pawnee Business Council for review and possible action. There will be several events throughout the Nation on this document. The first event is to held on November 10th. More information about this educational workshop will be posted on the website. The committee along with President Echo-Hawk and the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, has published a briefing paper that is on the webpage, to aid in the education of what this support and implantation will consist of. This Act does not change any Treaties, form of government, the Constitution of the Pawnee Nation, or sovereign immunity; and it will not have a measurable impact on future or existing laws and policies.

Pawnee Nation Attorney General Act – The Pawnee Nation Attorney General Act was submitted to the PBC for consideration. This Act is to assign to the Pawnee Nation's Attorney General those duties as the Pawnee Business Council may prescribe by law as provided for in Article IV, Section 2 of the Pawnee Nation Constitution and Law and Order Code. This Act also will lay out the duties of the AG, and also sets terms for the position, which is a four-year term.



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Pawnee Nation Rakurâraçih̄tisu (Declaration of Respect) – The Pawnee Nation Rakurâraçih̄tisu (which means “respect” in the Pawnee Language) is a Declaration of Respect and was created to ensure all Pawnee Nation elected and appointed officials have a shared understanding of the principles to make good decisions for the Pawnee Nation and expectations of conduct and behavior toward all persons based on Pawnee cultural values and attributes. By sharing, understanding and endeavoring to meet these expectations, their work will be more effective, positive, constructive, and rewarding in serving the Pawnee people and protecting and promoting the Pawnee Nation. This document has been submitted to the PBC for possible approval.

Revisions to Governing Documents and Comment Period – The Pawnee Nation Tax Commission submitted a revision to the PN General Revenue and Taxation Act. The revision of Chapter 10, Section 1012, Military Duty Personnel was recommended by the Committee for PBC approval and was approved by Statute #21-03.

Pawnee Nation Constitutional Convention – The Committee has started the process in revising the Constitution. The Governing Documents Committee will be posting a survey for Tribal Member input on discussion. The Committee has been asking for Tribal member participation and we will be adding members to the committee. More information on this project during the fourth quarter.

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. PN GDC Standard Operating Procedures – COMPLETED
4. Constitution of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma – Constitutional Convention – THIS PROCESS OF PLANNING HAS STARTED
 - a. Blood quantum
 - b. Secretary of Interior Approval
 - c. Nasharo Council



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5. Pawnee Nation Law and Order Codes Codification – EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE IN DECEMBER
6. PN Law and Order Codes Revisions – START SECOND QUARTER 2022
 - a. Review of Casino Jurisdiction
 - b. Finalization of filing PN Law(s)
7. Pawnee Nation Land Into Trust Statute – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED A HANDBOOK TO THE COMMITTEE
8. Pawnee Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (PNDRIP) Act – SUBMITTED TO PBC
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
11. Pawnee Nation Election Act – Revisions (Withdrawal of a Candidate) – START IN FOURTH QUARTER

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. Closing:

The Governing Documents Committee has been working with Committees, Commission and Boards on revisions to their governing documents throughout the year. There are few revisions and comment periods coming up in the fourth quarter.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Butler, PBC Seat #1
PN Governing Documents Chair

