

NOTICE TO RESCHEDULE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL AND ELECTIONS

It is with great pleasure that the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma can announce that we have not had any confirmed positive cases of COVID19 among our tribal members or employees. After many discussions and lengthy conversations, it has been decided to postpone the 2020 Annual General Council and Elections until June 27, 2020. We were notified on June 2, 2020 of the outbreak within the Osage Nation and their closure and on June 3, 2020 of the outbreak within the Pawnee Nation and their closure due to multiple positive cases. It is our hope that we can maintain the health and safety of our tribal members and staff, especially our elders and autoimmune compromised. By postponing the general council and elections, it will allow us more time to plan for alternate points of entry for those of you interested only in attending to vote and exit with no exposure to members wishing to attend the general council meeting. In the event we were not able to reach a quorum on Saturday June 6, 2020, the votes that were cast would be null and void. Your vote will count on June 27, 2020 regardless if we are able to reach a quorum or not. Therefore, to minimize possible exposure duplicate times and ensure your vote counts it is in the best interest to postpone until June 27, 2020.

Attached is the approved resolution (Resolution I-20-42) declaring a General Emergency allowable under Article VI Section 1 in the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Constitution.

This is in the best interest of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Tribal Members.

Sincerely,
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee



Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

335588 E. 750 Rd.
Perkins, Oklahoma 74059
(405) 547-2402
Fax: (405) 547-1032

RESOLUTION I-20-42

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A GENERAL EMERGENCY UNDER ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE IOWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AND MOVING THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FROM JUNE 6, 2020 UNTIL JUNE 27, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M. WITH POLLS OPENING AT 9:00 A.M.

WHEREAS, The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized pursuant to the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, and has a Constitution approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and,

WHEREAS, The Business Committee has the power to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Tribal Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Business Committee declared a state of emergency within Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Indian Country due to the Spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, On April 6, 2020, the Notice of Election was placed in the United States mail as required by the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, Because of the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic and questions raised by Tribal members, on April 8, 2020, the Business Committee published a letter to all tribal members addressing the Annual Meeting and election of the General Council; and,

WHEREAS, The letter stated that the Constitution requires the annual meeting of the Council be held on the first Saturday of June except "in the event of a general emergency"; and

WHEREAS, The Business Committee stated in the Letter that it was the intent to conduct the meeting on June 6th as required by the Constitution but that the impact of COVID-19 pandemic could necessitate a change; and

WHEREAS, On May 26, 2020, the Notice of the Annual was provided to all Tribal Members as required by the Constitution, giving notice of the time the polls would be open, the time for the start of the Annual Meeting and stating that lunch would be provided; and

- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee and Tribal staff continued to make plans for the Annual Meeting through the morning of June 3rd including the ordering of the meals for the Annual Meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** On the evening of June 2nd, the Business Committee began to receive information that a COVID-19 outbreak had arisen in the Osage Nation which was being directly attributed to the annual meeting and elections held by the Osage Nation on June 1st; and
- WHEREAS,** On the morning of June 3rd, the information was confirmed, and further information was received that, as a result of the virus spread, the Osage Nation had closed its offices; and
- WHEREAS,** Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution requires the Annual Meeting of the Council to be conducted on the first Saturday in June except “in the event of a general emergency or a failure to achieve a quorum”; and
- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee is charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of Tribal members and persons related to Tribal members who attend the Annual Meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee has considered the events that took place at the Osage Nation two days prior to the date of this resolution and concerns expressed by Tribal members about personal safety at the Annual Meeting as it relates to COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee has also considered the fact that should a quorum not be secured at a called June 6 meeting, then the election of officers would be continued to a future date (June 27) which would result in Tribal members having to be potentially exposed to the virus at two separate Annual Meetings to exercise their right to vote;; and
- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee has determined that it is in the best interest of the Tribal members that a General Emergency be declared as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and that the Annual Meeting be rescheduled as authorized under the Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** The Business Committee has determined that the June 6, 2020 Annual Meeting which will not be held because of this resolution declaring a General Emergency will be rescheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and polls will open at 9:00 a.m. for voting, and
- WHEREAS,** The continuance of the Annual Meeting to June 27, 2020, will not impact the term of all newly-officers as the installation of officers takes place on the third Friday in July consistent with the Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee does hereby proclaim and declare that the COVID-19 pandemic poses a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the members of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, their family members and others who may accompany them to the Annual Meeting of the Council or to the Chena Building as the member exercises his/her right to vote in the annual election of tribal officers;

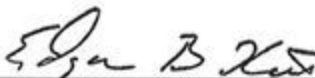
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee, consistent with the authority granted it under Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution, does hereby proclaim and declare that the threat to the health safety, and welfare of all persons who might attend the Annual Meeting or appear at the Chena Building to cast a ballot constitutes a **GENERAL EMERGENCY** which necessitates the continuation of the duly noticed Annual Meeting of the Council to a new date not more than thirty (30) days following June 6, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee does establish June 27, 2020 as the date of the Annual Meeting and Election with the polls opening at 9:00 a.m. and the Annual Meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m.

CERTIFICATION

We, Edgar B. Kent, Jr., Chairman of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma and Lydia Renee Lincoln, Secretary of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the above Resolution I-20-42 to be a true and exact copy as approved at a special meeting held on June 3, 2020 by a vote of 3 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent and 1 abstention.

Lydia Renee Lincoln, Secretary
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma



Edgar B. Kent, Jr., Chairman
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma