

**Preamble**  
**To**  
**The Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council**

**Philosophy**

The philosophy of the Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council is one that values tribal self-determination and self-governance, to better plan and develop strategies, and to serve our communities. For decades, the federal government sought to identify the transportation needs of Native Americans only to plunge tribal governments into a state of dependency. The rich culture and tradition of Native Americans dictates autonomy. Tribal governments have shown that they can maintain roads, bridges, and transit services given the necessary funding. The Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council was organized and established to further this cause.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council is to provide a mechanism through which Oklahoma Tribes can access funding and other resources from the Federal, State, and Local Governments through the following objectives: to develop a means to access foundation resources; to assist tribes with data and information collection; to encourage members of Congress to consider the transportation needs of the Oklahoma tribes; and, to be an organization that seeks active participation.

**By-laws  
Of The  
Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council, Inc.**

**Article I. Name**

The name of the Council shall be the “Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council, Inc.” hereinafter referred to as the “Council”.

**Article II. Purpose**

The purpose of the Council is to advocate on behalf of Oklahoma Tribal Governments for improved transportation funding, programs, and coordination.

**Article III. Objectives**

The objectives of the Council shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Assess the overall needs of the tribes for transportation services, which may include vehicles, roads, planning, and funding.
2. Identify and recommend resources that may be available for tribes for any of these services.
3. Review and comment on the local, state, and federal transportation plans.
4. Advocate for legislative changes that will allow direct state and/or federal funding for tribal transportation programs.

**Article IV. Offices**

The principle office site of the Council, and such other offices as may be established, shall be located within the State of Oklahoma and designated by the Executive Board.

**Section 1. Duties of Officers**

**Chairman** – The Chairman of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Council and Executive Board; he/she shall have the power to call Special Meetings of the Executive Board for any purpose; and, as Chief Executive Officer of the Council he/she shall generally perform all acts related to the Office of Chairman that are authorized or required by law. The Chairman shall be an Ex-Officio non-voting member of all committees, except in the case of a tie.

**Vice-Chairman** – The Vice Chairman of the Board shall preside over the Council meeting and of the Executive Board and the absence of the chairman and shall perform such other duties as may be authorized from time to time by the Executive Board.

**Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall perform all duties customary to that office and shall have the care and custody of the funds and securities of the Council and shall have the

general supervision of the books of account and give such bonds for the faithful performance of duties as the Executive Board may determine.

**Secretary** – The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Executive Board Meetings, and shall affix the same to documents when authorized to do so. The Secretary shall perform all other duties usual to the office.

### **Section 2. Removal of Officers**

Any officer may be removed from office for cause at a meeting of the Council by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

### **Section 3. Vacancy of Office**

Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term only at a meeting of the Council by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

## **Article V. Membership (as amended)**

The membership of the Council shall be comprised of no more than two voting members from each of the Federally Recognized Tribes of Oklahoma. Approval from the tribal government is required to be a voting member. Associate memberships (non-voting) will be accepted upon completion of successful application. Associate members may be appointed to serve on committees, but shall not serve as chairman of any committee.

### **Section 1. Membership Dues**

The membership dues of voting and associate members shall be determined by a vote of the Council.

### **Section 2. Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of 51% or more members in good standing at Council Meetings and Executive Board Meetings.<sup>1</sup>

### **Section 3. Attendance**

Members who fail to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without a valid reason shall be subject to replacement on the Council, after his/her tribal leader is notified.

## **Article VI. Voting**

Each member in good standing is entitled to one (1) vote on all policies, positions and general orders of the Council. A member who is going to be absent may designate a proxy voting right for that specific meeting by notifying the Chairman in writing before the meeting is called to order.

---

<sup>1</sup> Amendment No. 4 – Changed quorum requirements on June 13, 2000

## **Article VII. Executive Board**

The Executive Board shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Board Members shall hold this position during the term of office. Three (3) members of the Executive Board at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.<sup>2</sup>

## **Article VIII. Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Council shall be determined at the end of each meeting. The Chairman or three (3) members thereof may call special or Executive Board meetings. The quorum shall be 51% of members present.<sup>3</sup>

## **Article IX. Order of Business**

The order of business at a meeting of the Council shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Declaration of Quorum
4. Welcoming Remarks
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Announcements
11. Designate Next Meeting Date/Time/Place
12. Adjournment

## **Article X. Election and Duties of the Executive Board**

### **Section 1. Election of Officers**

Officers shall be voting members in good standing. There shall be an annual election of Officers the first scheduled meeting in October and in each succeeding year. Offices shall consist of a Chairman-3 years, Vice-Chairman-2 years, Secretary-1 year, and Treasurer-1 year.

## **Article XI. Contracts, Checks, Loans, Deposits, Audits (On Approval by the Council)**

---

<sup>2</sup> Amendment No. 5 – Executive Board defined on June 13, 2000

<sup>3</sup> Amendment No. 6 – Meetings clarified on June 13, 2000

**Section 1. Contracts**

The Executive Board may authorize any officer or officers to enter into any contract or to execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Council.

**Section 2. Loans**

No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Council, and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name, unless approved by the Executive Board.

**Section 3. Checks, Drafts, Etc.**

All checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Council will be signed by any two, the Treasurer, Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman.

**Section 4. Deposits**

All funds of the Council shall be deposited to credit of the Council in such bank, trust companies, or other depositories as selected by the Executive Board.

**Article XII. Committees**

The Executive Board may establish appropriate committees and designate by a majority vote of the members of the Council who will serve on these committees. Generally, the committee may consist of Council members, advocacy groups, or other personnel as deemed necessary.

**Article XIII. Corporate Seal**

The Executive Board shall provide a Corporate Seal, which shall be circular in form and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the Council and the words, "Corporate Seal".

**Article XIV. Amendments**

These By-Laws may be amended or repealed and new By-Laws May be adopted by a majority vote of the members of the Council at any Regular or Special Meeting of the Council.