Ti qi ke ke
(Fall)

97th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting

Thunderbird Casino
Event Center
Norman, OK

Saturday
October 3, 2026
10:00 AM

https://linktr.ee/absenteeshawneetribe

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	Executive Committee	
4	Agenda	
5	Organizational Chart	
6-7	Director's	
8-20	Minutes	
21	**Office of the Governor**	
	22-47	Department of Public Safety/Tribal Police Department
	48	Food Pantry
49	**Office of the Lt. Governor**	
	50-54	Office of Environmental Heath & Engineering (OEH&E)
	55	Agriculture Department
	56	Maintenance Department
	57-58	Language/Culture Department
59	**Office of the Secretary**	
	60-62	Enrollment
	63-65	Human Resources
	66	MIS
	67-69	Indian Child Welfare (ICW)
	70-71	Domestic Violence
72	**Office of the Treasurer**	
	73-75	Finance
	76-78	Procurement
	79-82	Realty
	83-85	Social Services
	86-87	Grants
88	**Office of the Representative**	
	89-91	Education
	92-95	Historic Preservation
	96-98	Tribal Youth Program
	99	TERO
100-103	477 Program	
104	Building Blocks	
105-108	AST Health System	
109	Thunderbird Entertainment, Inc.	
110-115	AST Housing Authority	
116-119	Tax Commission	
120-121	AllNations Bank	
122-123	Election Commission	
124	Media	
125-126	Enterprise Content Management	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



GOVERNOR
John Johnson



LT. GOVERNOR
Diane Ponkilla



SECRETARY
Misty McGirt



TREASURER
Joseph Blanchard



REPRESENTATIVE
Anthony Johnson

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

97th SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL

THUNDERBIRD CASINO, NORMAN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

10:00 A.M.

AGENDA

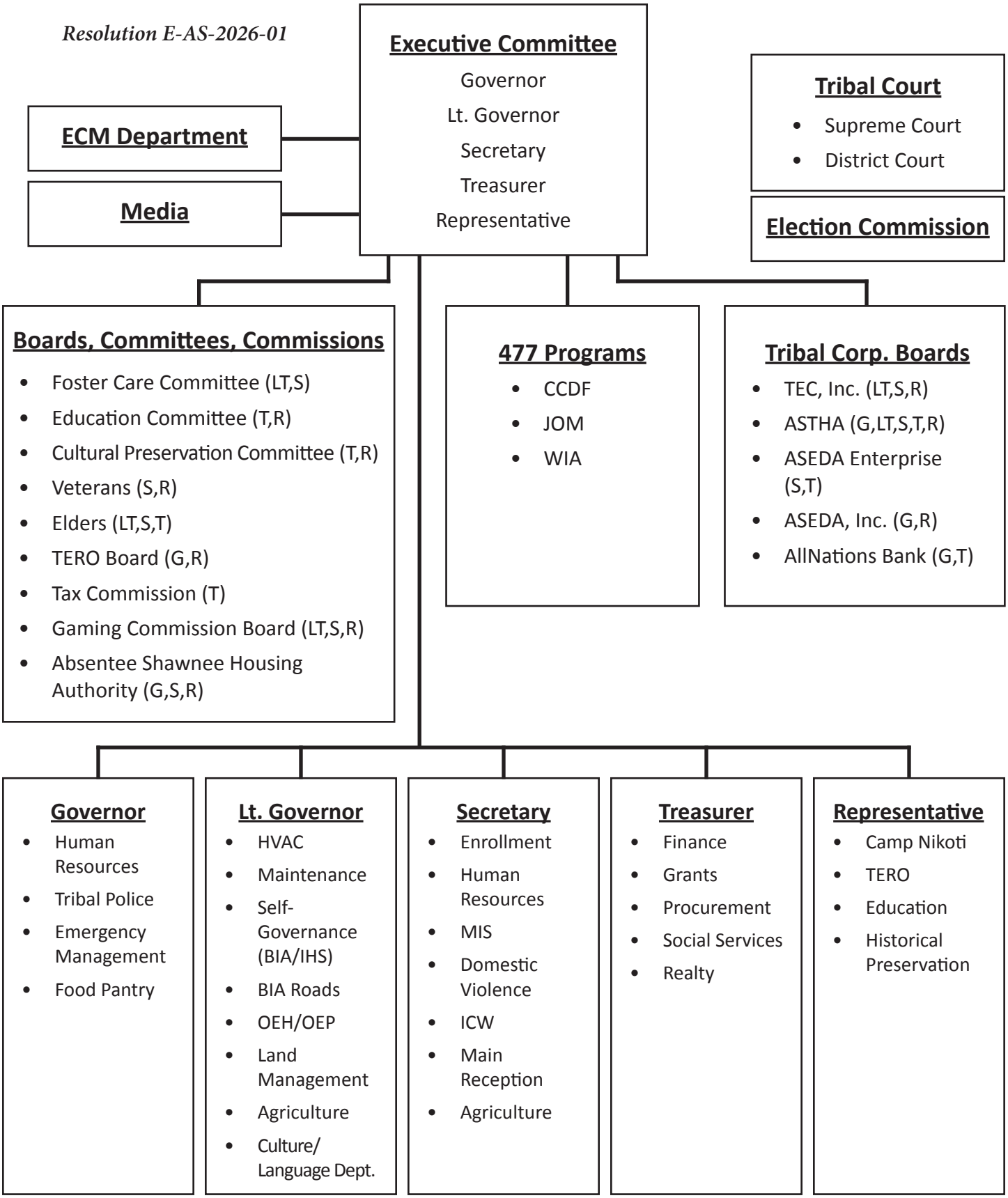
I.	CALL TO ORDER	Governor John Johnson
	a. POSTING OF COLORS	AST Color Guard
	b. INVOCATION	
II.	CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM	Secretary Misty McGirt
III.	DECLARATION OF QUORUM	Secretary Misty McGirt
IV.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES (April 2026 GC Meeting)	Secretary Misty McGirt
V.	SPECIAL REPORTS-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	
	a. Governor John Johnson	
	b. Lt. Governor Diane Ponkilla	
	c. Secretary Misty McGirt	
	d. Treasurer Joseph Blanchard	
	e. Representative Anthony Johnson	
VI.	THUNDERBIRD ENTERTAINMENT, INC.	Che Downs, GM
VII.	AST TRIBAL HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY, INC. (both locations)	Marty Lofgren, Director (acting)
VIII.	ALL NATIONS BANK	Jill Maple, CFO
IX.	ELECTION COMMISSION	James Spybuck, Jr.
X.	TRIBAL MEMBER QUESTION/ANSWERS- OPEN DISCUSSIONS	

(Tribal Members are respectfully limited to 3 minutes at the podium)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Organizational Chart

Resolution E-AS-2026-01

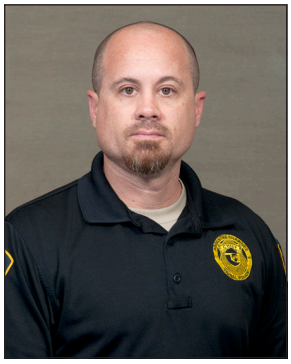


( ) Indicates *Ad Hoc* for board meeting purposes. All EC will have oversight of all boards, committees and commissions.

DIRECTOR'S & EC ASSISTANTS



Casey Adams-Beesley
Human Resources



Brad Gaylord
AST Police Chief



Trevor Brinker
Emergency Management



Falon Powell
Food Pantry



Stacy Coon
Maintenance



Twyla Blanchard
Self-Governance



Jarrod Lloyd
OEH



Scott Miller
Language/Culture



Amanda Webb
Enrollment



Randy Austin
MIS



Lacey Carey
Domestic Violence



Paige Little Charley
ICW



Chelsi Peacock
Agriculture



Kyle Coody
Finance



Kryste Carter
Grants



Brayden Queen
Procurement

DIRECTOR'S & EC ASSISTANTS



Annie Wilson
Social Services



Taylor Carter
Realty



Sarah Lawerance
TERO



Tresha Spoon
Education



Carol Butler
Historic Preservation



Briana Ponkilla
477 Program



Mindy Longhorn
Media



Rafael Rodriguez
ECM



Amelia Grass
Tax Commission



Barbra Pope
Building Blocks II



Renee Richardson
Building Blocks III



Ashley Hudson
Court Clerk



Alvina Barnes
Governor's Assistant



Deric Spoon
Lt. Governor's Assistant



Alexas Rosales
Secretary's Assistant



Keesha Mason
Treasurer's Assistant



Amanda Vandenburg
Representative's Assistant

ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
96th SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
AST HEALTH MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA
Saturday, April 11, 2026

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The 96th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was called to order by Governor John R. Johnson on Saturday, April 11th, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

INVOCATION AND POSTING OF THE COLORS

Posting of Colors: Absentee-Shawnee Tribe Color Guard
Invocation: Deric Spoon

II/III. CERTIFICATION AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Secretary McGirt called for a quorum from the Election Commission. Secretary McGirt confirmed a quorum was present with 90 Tribal Members present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Secretary McGirt asked if there were any comments or discussions. Secretary McGirt entertained a motion to approve the October 4, 2025 Minutes:

Motion to Approve: Eastman Switch
Second Motion: Billy Bayliss
The Following vote was recorded: 46 Yes, 0 No, and 3 Abstentions.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. **GOVERNOR JOHN JOHNSON** - **(Report on page 17)** Governor Johnson starts by welcoming the Tribal Members to General Council. He redirects everyone to look at the screen where there are pictures being shown on the construction of the new Shawnee Clinic. This is located on Benson Road right next to the tiny homes. Governor states that Dr. Lofgren was going to elaborate on this, but he is not feeling well and is not present. Next, Governor shows a picture of the new building #3 going up and elaborates on this project. He states the cost of repairing the initial building was more than the cost of a new building. The new building will be a two-story building and include the following departments: Enrollment, Human Resources, Domestic Violence and Court. Governor states that Court will be housed in building #3 temporarily as they are currently looking at a prefabricated building to be placed between the Bank and the Police Department. He goes on to confirm that the Tribe has purchased the old Arrow Café in Tecumseh. The building was purchased for the new location of Title VI. Once Title VI moves out of their current building Finance can then utilize that space to grow as well. Governor Johnson goes on to state that in the future they are looking to tear down the

Governor's Building and rebuild. This is projected to take place within the next 3-4 years. He states that the foundation of the building is not solid, and they are worried about the structure of it holding up. He goes on to state that back in late February, Kryste Carter hosted a two-day event for Strategic Planning. This was to get input in different ways and positive impacts the Tribal Directors and Departments can have to benefit the Tribe. Governor states that Kryste Carter is going to come up and elaborate on the details of this event.

**** Kryste Carter – Director of Grants Speaks at the podium****

- **<u>Kryste Carter – Strategic Planning</u>**
  Kryste starts by giving thanks to Governor for allowing her to put this plan together. She then goes on to explain the beginning of this plan that was started by sending out a community assessment survey last fall. In Addition, they also utilized other Tribal Data from internal Departments such as; Enrollment and the AST Tribal Health System and Realty. They then hosted a two-day planning session which was attended by Tribal Leadership and Department Directors where they reviewed the community assessment results and other government data. This planning session was key when it came to opening communication and making goals internally to better help the Directors understand values of leadership, initiative and new ways to instill prosperity within the Tribe.

Governor Johnson asks that all the Directors stand up and to give them a round of applause for the great work that was put into the two-day planning session. Governor goes on to state that the "HAF" – Housing Assistance Fund program will be ending November 26, 2026. If there are any Tribal Members who have not used this program, he highly recommends they do so because the funds for the program will be ending. This program helps with things such as; Property Taxes, Property Insurance, Mortgage and Utilities. Governor Johnson goes on to mention the status on Solar Energy and the previous discussion of solar panels at the last General Council in October where he had Pete Vernham speak. He states he was really looking forward to getting that started but unfortunately that fell through, but he is still looking at other avenues regarding solar panels. Governors wrapped up by stating that they are looking to continue to move forward and move the Tribe in the right direction for the future.

B. **<u>LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DIANE PONKILLA</u> - <u>(Report on page 47)</u>** Lt. Governor Ponkilla starts off by stating a focus for her has been direct assistance for Tribal Members. They have received a total of 30 applications for the safe shelters. She goes on to state that she is trying to get roadways in the Little Axe, Tecumseh and Horseshoe Bend area lined up for Spring Cleaning. The Maintenance Department is looking into the request for handicapped port-a-potties at the Dance Grounds. Lt. Governor goes on to introduce a new Department of Language under her oversight. She is looking for Scott Miller who is the Language Director, but he is not present. She brings up Deric Spoon to speak on his behalf.

**** Deric Spoon – Lt. Governor's Executive Assistant speaks at the podium****

- **<u>Deric Spoon – Language Department</u>**
  Deric Spoons starts off by stating the new development of the Language Department which is now separate from Culture Preservation. Overall, roughly 150 Tribal Members signed up for the Language classes. There are both in-person classes as well as virtual classes. The in-person classes are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Tuesday and Wednesday the classes are at the Little Axe Resource Center. On Thursday the classes are held here in Shawnee at the Mult-Purpose Building. The virtual classes are on Mondays from 6 PM to roughly

8:30 PM or 9 PM. Deric states he teaches the virtual class on Monday evening's and the in-person class on Thursday nights. The average turnout is sporadic and seems to be various ages, which is great to see. He enjoys being a part of teaching language and he loves to see Tribal Members who want to learn the Shawnee language. Deric wraps up by stating he encourages everyone to learn to speak Shawnee language.

Lt. Governor goes on to speak about Twyla Blanchard – Director of Self-Governance/BIA and her accomplishments within the Department. Twyla has completed the Thunderbird Casino Parking lot, the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, Cleveland County District 2 she completed 2 miles of overlay and stripping from 168th street and HWY 9 to Indian Hills Rd, in the City of Norman an "Always Stop Conversion" at 36 Ave NE and Robinson Street as well as completing the design on Porter Bridge. Lt. Governor goes on to elaborate on the upcoming projects and goals that Twyla will be working on within the Self-Governance/BIA Department. Next, she goes on to speak about the Agriculture Department with Chelsi Peacock being the Director. The Agriculture Department has plowed 15 gardens for Tribal Members. They have planted corn, potatoes and onions. They look forward to the distribution coming up in the early month of May. During this calving season the Agriculture Department has had 43 calves. The department has been working on reinforcing fence lines and putting up hot wire to get ready for the bulls for the next round of calving season. The Maintenance Department has officially started mowing as of April 1st. There are 9 Tribal Members in the Little Axe area and 26 in the Shawnee area. Lt. Governor goes on to state that she is wanting to fill up the boards, specifically the Foster Care Board. She states that it is very important to get Foster Homes for the children. Lt. Governor goes on to inform the Tribal Members on how to go about applying for the Boards and encourages those who are interested to please do so.

C. **SECRETARY MISTY MCGIRT** - **(Report on page 56)** Secretary McGirt starts by stating that her office recently wrapped up their annual tax preparation season. She gives thanks to the volunteers and helping hands that make it happen for the community. This year we had a total of 260 tax returns prepared, 87 of those returns were AST Tribal Members. This is an increase from the previous year. We helped save a total amount of $30, 807.00 in tax preparation fees. The Absentee-Shawnee Tribe is 1 of 2 Tribes in the state of Oklahoma that utilize the Vita Tax Program. Secretary McGirt does state that due to the program being a federal program, it does have to be open to the community. However, we do take certain action to ensure that the AST Tribal Members are ensured to get in promptly. Secretary McGirt moves along to speak about the Human Resources Department. The Tribe currently has 638 employees with a 51% of the total being Native American. Human Resources has hosted different training courses for Directors and Managers to ensure that they get the resources and training material that is needed to succeed. Secretary McGirt mentions that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. She stated that 44% of Native American men report sexual violence in their lifetime and 51% of Native American woman experience sexual violence in their lifetime. There are actions we can take to better help create a safe place for those in need. The Domestic Violence – Rising Warrior Department has some upcoming events, Secretary McGirt elaborated on the upcoming events and details for the Tribal Members. Secretary McGirt proceeds to state the Tribe currently has 4,773 Tribal Members and is growing stronger each month. She mentions that the month of April is not just Sexual Assault Awareness Month but also Child Abuse Awareness Month. Secretary McGirt states the importance of filling our Boards. Especially, the Foster Care Board for the children. Lastly, Secretary McGirt gives thanks to the Tribal Members for allowing her the chance to serve as the Secretary for the Tribe and she looks forward to growing and learning as she continues this journey.

D. **TREASURER JOSEPH BLANCHARD** – **(Report on page 67)** Treasurer Blanchard starts off by stating that it has been a great opportunity to represent the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe not just here in our local community but on a national level. He goes on to state that this past November he was elected to the NCAI as the Southern Plains Regional Vice President Alternate. Which means he is second in charge for the Tribes within Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. That comes with a lot of dialogue with the Tribal Leaders across the region. Treasurer stated that it is a great opportunity for the Tribe and provides another platform for the Tribe to speak at a national level. Additionally, as a member of the National Council he receives information about updates on things that are happening on a national stage at an earlier sequence, which allows the Tribe to get ahead on things that may or may not affect the Tribe. Treasurer Blanchard mentions the purchase of Arrow Café in Tecumseh. They are always looking for opportunities and new ways to improve the atmosphere, increase the Tribal properties, increase Tribal holdings and increase job growth. Treasurer Blanchard acknowledges the individuals who currently serve on a Board and the Commissioners. Those members have submitted a letter of interest and based on their qualifications have been selected to help advance those Boards and continue to provide input during their terms. They come from various fields across different economic dynamics. Treasurer Blanchard elaborates that the various fields often bring in different viewpoints and new ways to conduct business. He acknowledges the Directors that are also present for General Council. Treasurer Blanchard states that they understand there is a public platform to speak on issues within the Tribe for Tribal Members regarding certain Departments, he encourages everyone to look at the positives and not so much the negatives. He highly recommends that Tribal Members take the opportunity to have a conversation with the Department Directors. The Directors are there and open to feedback and communication with our Tribal Members to better ensure we continue to progress. Treasurer Blanchard touches base on the Strategic Planning session that Governor had previously mentioned. He states that for the past 5 years he has been trying to instill this planning session and get the Directors and programs to move that project forward. The AST Health System instilled the same plan roughly a year and a half ago, so he was grateful that the Governor showed support and helped push that forward. Treasurer Blanchard states to keep in mind this is a draft strategic plan and that it has not been voted on or approved as of right now. He goes on to reiterate that the HAF program will be coming to an end as of November 26, 2026 and to check if you meet the requirements to utilize the program and its services. Treasurer Blanchard states that he was recently in Pheonix, Arizona for Self-Governance conference. He was the only Executive Committee member to have attended that conference. He goes on to say that attending the conference brought affirmation that the Tribe is heading in the right direction. There is always room for growth and different ways to instill communication and collaboration within the Tribe overall. Treasurer Blanchard wraps up by saying that he enjoys speaking to fellow Tribal Members, Directors, family and friends and having the discussions that need to be had to move forward.

E. **REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON** – **(Report on page 83)** Representative Johnson starts off by stating the Departments under his oversight which include: Education, Historical Preservation, TERO and the Youth Camp. He states that Tresha Spoon – Director of Education has attended many consultations this past year. With the state of the Federal Government here recently the funding has been a new challenge, and they are continuing to look at new avenues to help with that. Representative Johnson gives thanks to the Police Department for coming out to assist with the Safety Initiative event that was held by Education earlier in the year. He then goes on to talk about Historical Preservation. Lt. Governor Ponkilla and Representative Johnson had recently split a department and created what is now two Departments which are: Cultural Preservation and Historic Preservation. They have consultations regarding Historic

Preservation from roughly 25 states once a week. Representative Johnson goes on to mention the TERO Program. He states they are currently working on revamping the Ordinance for that Department which is in the works to be passed by resolution in the upcoming months. He goes on to say that in regard to the camp, they are still looking for funding sources to help with that. They have had different Federal programs recently shut down due to the loss of funding, so they are looking at new avenues to continue to help with the funding of the camp. Representative Johnson states that since the strategic planning they have been working on outreach and working with different organizations. They have been working with Hanover College in Madison, Indiana and are looking at a possible partnership. Representative Johnson wraps up by stating that they will be getting back the Spybuck painting which has been restored and framed so they look forward to presenting that very soon.

VI. CASINO REPORT

Che Downs, General Manager **(Report on page 110)**

Che Downs, General Manager begins speaking by introducing himself and the Board of Directors and then introduces the Management of the Casino. Che then discusses the amount the casino was able to generate in 2025 in the amount of**:**

$4,050,000.00 – Gaming Tax
$2,302,954.00 – Licensing/Regulatory Fees
$127,885.05 – Sales/Business Tax
Making a total amount of **$6,480,839.05**

Che then goes on to discuss the number of payments that the casino has made to the Tribe as of April 2026:

$1,000,000.00 – Gaming Tax
$588,855.00 – Licensing/Regulatory Fees
$21,977.00 – Sales/Business Tax
Making a total amount of **$1,610,832.00**

Che then goes on to speak about the current operations that are comprised of the following:

724 Electronic Gaming Machines (Between both casinos in Norman and Shawnee)
5 Table Games
2 Food Venues
1 Gift Shop - Norman
2 Bars
199 Team Members Total
Over 1/3 of the Team Members are Native American
Over 35% of the Native American members are Absentee-Shawnee Tribal Members

Che continues by stating that the Human Resources Department has been teaming up with other HR Departments within the Tribe to host Job Fairs. They have recently been hosting Job Fairs with local community entities to help fill vacancies. The Marketing Department has also been teaming up with other Marketing Departments within Health and the Tribe to help expand on marketing ideas for the casino and better ways to get information out to Tribal Members. Che continues to elaborate on how involved they are with events within the Tribe. They have been very generous at donating items to events that have occurred within the Tribe such as; AST Annual Easter, 477 Donations, Fishing for Nutrition and Safety Bash along with many others. Back in November the Casino held a golf tournament, and they were able to raise funds to go towards the AST ICW Department. This is an event they plan on doing once a year going forward. Che continues by stating that the Casino recently filled two management positions with AST Tribal Members. The Casino is looking at different ways to work with the 477 Department so they can fill more positions

within the Casino with AST Tribal Members and Native Americans. That is something they are exploring to hopefully make that program work in the near future. Che does mention that the Casino has a hiring bonus and encourages Tribal Members to apply. Che states that the Tribal Members get $10.00 of free play once a week and will get an additional $10.00 of free play at the Casino booth in the back for attending General Council. Che gives thanks to Twyla Blanchard – Director of BIA and Andrew Magnuson – Director of Business Operations who have been working together to repair different areas of the Norman parking lot and will continue to work together to hopefully get more repairs done in the future. The casino is still currently looking at development possibilities to expand revenue in the Norman Casino area. Che states that prior to 2022 the Casino would often be down and experiencing technological issues or cyber issues, so into 2024 and 2025 the Casino has started to invest more in technology and upgrades of the systems and servers within the Casino. Here lately the issues with technology pertain to weather issues. The casino will be making one of their biggest upgrades to one of their back house gaming systems. So, during the month of May there will be a day the Casino will be closed for roughly 12 hours, this is because they will be completing an update of all the servers and systems. The Casino is taking directions to look at possible micro-grids to help conserve energy and money within the Casino of operations. Che wraps up by stating the Casino is looking heavily into different avenues of revenue so the Casino can afford to continue to contribute more funding and donations to the Tribe.

VII. AST TRIBAL HEALTH AUTHORITY, INC REPORT

Dr. Marty Lofgren, Interim Executive Director of Health **(Report on pages 99-109)**

Newly Appointed Clinic Administrator Sandra Vaughn (Little Axe Clinic) and Newly Appointed Clinic Administrator Deana Aissouri (Shawnee Clinic) presented the General Council Report. Sandra starts by stating Dr. Marty Lofgren could not attend General Council due to being sick. She goes on to acknowledge the changes within the organization with the departure of Chris Larkin. Sandra goes on to say that the Clinic is currently in negotiations with an Executive Director replacement. The Health System has also welcomed several new leadership and administrative positions such as; McKenna Watson, who is an AST Tribal Member as the Quality Director. Johnney Johnson as the Health Grants Administrator / AOR. Alicia Miller, who is an AST Tribal Member as the Executive Director of the AST Research Center. Sandra goes on to say that there has been an expansion in the Specialty Care, they have added a Podiatrist. You can find their days of operation on page 101 in the General Council book. Beginning April 2026, the Health System will also be introducing Hematology, Oncology and Cardiology. This will be a great expansion that will further give to those in need. Sandra goes on to state another thing happening in April will be the splitting of the Purchase Referred Care Contract Health Department. This will consist of two separate structures; PRC-AST and The Referral Center. PRC-AST will manage all referrals for AST Tribal Members only. The Referral Center will manage referrals for all other patients from other Tribes and Non-Tribal patients. Lawana Martin currently oversees both divisions. However, they are looking to hire someone for the Director role of PRC-AST. Sandra states that the Business Office Operations and Revenue Activity can be found on page 103. Regarding Human Resources the Health System currently has a total of 406 employees. 74 of the total employees are AST Tribal Members. 94 of the total employees are Native American employees. Sandra goes on to state that the turnover rate for the Health System is 2.7%, which is low for the national average of turnovers for hospitals being 18%, 21% in the clinic setting. The Health System currently has openings, and Sandra encourages Tribal Members to take a look and if interested and qualified, apply. There were pictures shown throughout General Council featuring the new Shawnee Clinic. Which is currently under

construction. It's a total of 76,000 sq ft. The services will mimic the services in Little Axe. The projected opening timeframe looks like it will be about November 2026. Sandra goes on to explain that the second floor to Little Axe Clinic is looking to expand. Sandra states that the Health System is looking to start up their annual summer internship program. (Dr. Gregory Reading comes up to speak on the program) Dr. Reading states he is the supervisor over the Summer Internship program and states he loves to spend time with the kids and get a career motive started for the students who are looking to get a career in healthcare. This program is open to graduating seniors and/or college students looking to pursue a degree who are AST Tribal Members or Native American. The internship program is paying $14.25 an hour and is part-time 20 hours a week. Dr. Reading states that this program can be utilized at both the Little Axe Clinic and Shawnee Clinic. Dr. Reading wraps up by encouraging Tribal Members to spread the word and if they know of any Native American youth or Tribal Members interested to apply for the program. Sandra wraps up by stating that Health System has periodically done a strategic planning session and they currently have one planned for the upcoming month of July. Deana Aissouri speaks and thanks the Executive Committee and the Tribal Members for allowing her and Sandra to speak on Dr. Lofgren's behalf, this is her first General Council, and she is enjoying the chance to learn.

VIII. ALLNATIONS BANK REPORT

Jill Maple, CEO **(Report on page 121-122)** Steve Smith – Chairman of AllNations Bank starts by introducing himself and will be speaking on behalf of the bank. He mentions Jill Maple who is the CEO is absent due to travel. He goes on to introduce some of the bank Directors and Members of the Bank Board. He also introduces Debbie Coym who is the Branch Manager at the Shawnee location. Steve states that the bank is celebrating 125 years of banking, the bank was founded in 1901. He goes on to touch on some financial highlights. Beginning with the 5 years of growth in assets, loans, deposits, capital and earnings. The earnings this past year were the highest they have had in the bank though, it's still not as high as they would like to have, they are working towards getting that number up even further. As of March, the bank hit 85 million dollars in assets. The bank is up to 77 million dollars in deposits. The capital for the bank at the end of 2025 was at 6.6 million dollars. They have seen a 2-million-dollar growth gap since the new team came in back in 2019. For the first quarter the bank had a $262,000.00 profit. Which was a 1.34 return on assets adjusted as opposed to 0.99 which puts them up to a 16% return on equity which is top tier for banks their size. Steve goes on to elaborate on the financial highlights which is also in the General Council book for further reference. He goes on to state the bank has 3 new account options within the bank. The first account is an interest-bearing checking account for small businesses. The second type of account is a student account, which is a digital only account. This type of account does not provide checks, only a debit card. Lastly, they have added an AllNations Heritage account. This specific account is an interest-bearing account open to any member of any Tribe. Another digital feature that the bank has added which is accessible by either app or online is business invoicing. This means that a small business banking within the bank can now send an invoice to their customer and they would then receive a message that will prompt them to directly pay the invoice through a secure link that will go directly to your bank account. Steve mentions that account option the bank has for AST Tribal Members in the AST Preferred Checking account. The bank pays slightly above the market rate on this account to give back to the Tribe and its Tribal Members. They also have "Buffalo Nickel Rewards" which will pay back 5 cents on every debit transaction that is over $1.00. That rewards program is available to every Tribal Member with a bank account. Steve wraps up by stating that he encourages everyone to come out and meet the staff within the bank and check out different options for a bank account that may be best suitable for the individual.

IX. ELECTION COMMISSION

James Spybuck, Election Commissioner

James starts by stating this year has been a little rough due to the fact they didn't have any candidates. Meaning there would be no election at this time. The election is coming up for Governor and Secretary next year, and the Election Commission is prepared for that. During this process they are working on their website and getting it ready for the Tribal Members to utilize. James goes on to state that they do have a podcast episode with Mindy on "Among The Shawnee" Podcast coming up with some valuable information and answers to questions about the Election Commission and the ballots. The Election Commission has also created a new mission statement and that statement is; "The Election Commission's mission is to ensure that the Democratic process is protected, secure and strong. We strive to ensure that the voices of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribal Members are not only heard but also valued by the elected Representatives". James ensures that the Election Commission feels very strongly about the new mission statement and is going to make sure that the new mission statement is being instilled. If there are any questions about the Election Commission James states to feel free and ask. James does mention that the Election Commission is made up of 5 members. They are filled up according to article 8 of the Constitution. James encourages that if any Tribal Members would like to run for office, please feel free to do so and get in contact with the Election Commission.

X. QUESTION/ANSWER - OPEN DISCUSSION

Eastman Switch

Question: What are the profit and loss statements from the C-store and the Ice machine?

Statement: The General Council book does not include a summary of finances for the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe Housing Authority; I would like a summary of how the Housing Authority is doing.

Question: Did the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe meet with Federal Agencies?

Question: Does the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe have a voice in Washington D.C or do they have lobbyist representing the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe as a coalition that works with congress to restore Bureau of Indian Education or secure alternative funding options for Indian Education?

Answer: Governor Johnson addresses the ice machine question. It was shut down for the winter because last year a lot of the lines were freezing up which caused them to have to order parts and fix some things. So, they ended up winterizing the ice machine. They are getting ready to get the water back on and get ready to utilize the ice machine. Governor Johnson states that he will let Treasurer Blanchard speak on the financials of the C-Store. Governor Johnson states that Absentee-Shawnee Tribe has had communications with the Federal Government, there has been communications with President Trump regarding the action that the President has frozen some funds that were supposed to come to the Tribes. So, jointly through various other Tribal Nations they signed a document and will be sending it to President Trump in Washington D.C.

Answer: Sherry Drywater, Director of Absentee-Shawnee Tribe Housing Authority states the Housing Authority does have an annual packet that is available to any Tribal Member who is interested. If interested, please feel free to come to the main office at 107 N. Kimberly in Shawnee and pick up a packet.

Answer: **Treasurer Blanchard answers the financial question regarding the C-Store. Treasurer states that there is documentation of the concerns that were brought up for the C-Store. The C-Store has recently had changes within their administration. They recently went from one supervisor to three. With that transition they are working on collecting and bringing information up to date related to the financial statements for profit loss. Treasurer Blanchard explains he was just given that information right before he left for Arizona within the last couple of weeks. Due to the deadlines that were set for reports to be submitted Treasurer Blanchard cannot provide that information to the public yet. But that is a great concern for the C-Store, that information was also requested by the TEI Board so there is 3-5 years' worth of data that is being requested. The Executive Committee has also been in discussion with the TEI Board since the recent changes in administration of the C-Store. Treasurer Blanchard says they have an HR system that they can go to with applications, complaints and other issues. Additionally, they require leave, insurance and all the other things that are associated with the details. The next question was about the consultations, Treasurer Blanchard states as Governor Johnson previously mentioned they do participate in consultations. Especially at the Federal level. He goes on to state that he does his best to attend Education consultations with his prior history to being an Elected Official, he spent a great amount of time in Education. This is something he is very passionate about. Lastly, to address the last question, Treasurer Blanchard mentions that as Tribal Officials and the Governor they will receive notifications from a Federal Agency which they then hand down to various Departments and oversights and have a simple conversation as recent as this past week. The Tribe tends to utilize the email system until they can come up with an official statement.**

Question: **Can we have some figures on what was brought in for the Ice Machine from the past year and the issues with the C-Store and the profit/loss statements?**

Answer: **Governor Johnson states that the reason they didn't have any figures was because someone ran into the Ice Machine. So, they had to send the machine back to Georgia to be repaired, which was expensive and they are still currently recovering from that which is why the profit/loss for the Ice Machine is at zero.**

Michael Hood

Statement: **Matthew Hood starts by introducing himself and greeting the fellow Tribal Members. He continues to go on to express great concern for the Tribe and the direction the Tribe is headed. Matthew goes on to elaborate about his upbringing and his family background. He states that it's important to stay true to traditional values and to hand down generational traditions to the Tribal youth. He states that he is very appreciative of the fellow Tribal Members and Elders that instill leadership and paths for other fellow Tribal Members. Matthew states he is grateful to be in attendance today to see familiar faces and be surrounded by Tribal Members.**

Christy Morrell

Statement: **Christy starts by expressing concern regarding the application process for being a Board Member. She states that she applied for the Foster Care Board over a year ago and received a letter regarding the decision on the application roughly a year after the initial application was submitted.**

Edwina Butler-Wolfe

Question: Is the Tech (TEI) Board full?

Answer: Secretary McGirt responds by stating that the TEI Board currently has two vacant positions.

Question: Is everyone on the TEI Board a Tribal Member?

Answer: Secretary McGirt states all except for one.

Question: Why do we have Elected Officials sitting on our Boards from other Tribes?

Answer: Treasure Blanchard addresses the question by stating that she was put on the Board prior to her elected position. She has been a big asset and has made great contribution to the Board.

Statement: Edwina states there are AST Tribal Members that are putting in applications that are being overlooked to be on Boards within the Tribe. She goes on to state that there are Tribal Members that do want the opportunity to be a part of a Board but may not be given a fair chance.

Answer: Treasurer Joseph Blanchard states that he does value her opinion as a former sitting Executive Committee member/Governor that he does highly encourage Edwina and any other Tribal member to do the due process on applying for a Board.

Statement: Edwina states that when it comes to donations and Thunderbird hosting fundraising events to keep in mind that they do have a school in that area, Little Axe School. They are always needing opportunities to gain extra funding; they do have an Indian Club within the school. Little Axe School does have a great number of AST students that attend so please keep those students in mind.

Statement: Treasurer Blanchard states that there are 13 schools within our jurisdiction. He goes on to state that they have recently had discussion and plan to put forward a resolution on the upcoming month of May Agenda to make donations to some of the larger school in the district that have the largest amount of AST Tribal Members which includes; Shawnee, Tecumseh and Little Axe Schools.

Question: Has anything been done about the status of ID Tribal Cards? Are there any updates?

Question: The constitution revision committee that finished the constitution during that time. I think the only thing that we need to do is show what revisions were done and bring it to the people and show them what revisions were done and bring it to the vote of the Tribal Members. Has anybody looked into that?

Answer: Secretary McGirt states that regarding the Tribal Cards they are currently still looking into this to see what avenue would be more cost efficient.

Answer: Treasurer Blanchard states that there was a final report regarding the constitution revisions that was never approved. The last year that the constitution revision committee was in panel was the fall of 2021. So, they did not receive any additional funding in 2022. The report that was submitted, I have been looking for those documents pertaining to that report and have reached out to Briana as well to go through her documentation and so they are ready to have that discussion but as it was previously mentioned, the position and power to appoint members to the Election Commission, I have a problem with that. Those are to be elected positions as the Elected Official positions up here. If these are elected positions and nobody submits to those positions

roughly 4 of the 5 members are appointed, not elected. The EC did not appoint them. The EC did not give final approval for who would be on the board.

Question: Governor Johnson asks what they would like to see on the ID Card? Because he tried to use it at the airport, but they would not accept it.

Answer: Edwina states that she recently traveled to Chicago, and they accepted hers and she was just curious to see if they would accept it and they did.

Statement: Edwina states that she seen the 5-year plan that was purposed with the strategic planning, but when she seen the constitution revised committee, that was just double work and doing what was done years ago.

Statement: Edwina states that there is rumors or concerns going around The Health System that there is a million dollars missing and that someone was given a check. She states she does have insurance and the pharmacy has been trying to get her to take generic medication and within the first month the medication was not the same and the ingredients were not the same, so she went to the Health Board. She goes on to state that the Tribal Members need to be taken care of better within The Health System being as the Tribe is self-governance the Tribal Members are accounted for when it comes to the Indian Health Services dollars that are received to run the clinic. She states that Tribal Members are having a hard time getting into multiple departments within the clinic.

Question: What happened to the slots that are given to the Absentee-Shawnee Tribal Members for when they call into the clinic for emergencies? Is this still taking place?

Statement: Edwina states that it was sad to see the Governor sitting in the back of the Health Board meeting, as Governor it's important to be sitting in the front line to speak for the Tribal Members. It's a great concern that Tribal Members are waiting long periods of time to get in to see the doctor and Tribal Members need to be a priority and taken care of.

Statement: Edwina states that when it comes to the General Council books, the Tribal Members should be able to get the books sooner than the day prior, so they have more time to look over information and have time to notate their questions.

Answer: Secretary McGirt states that they are looking at the upcoming General Council to get the books done sooner so they can be available at an earlier date.

Question: What is the future time frame that you are looking at to get some answers on the land base?

Answer: Governor Johnson answers by stating they did have a meeting and have brought up the same issue about getting the land into trust. Hopefully they are going to work on that and work with Chairman Barrett, that is why we can't get our land into trust. If needed they will have to go into further litigation on the issue.

Answer: Treasurer Blanchard provides further comment regarding the land base. Back in the 90's was the last time the Tribe was able to put land in to trust. The argument with the history that's been dealt with regarding trust land is that every property the Tribe has purchased since the year 1998 the Tribe has had to pay taxes on those properties. Three years ago, they had a discussion with multiple people within the DOI/BIA and some attorneys to develop a three-step plan to send an application to DOI/BIA and request status for 10 applications, which they knew would be denied. Then process that paperwork to its full entirety and get that into the hands of leadership. The Tribe has done its due diligence to look into what is needing to be done.

Statement: **Edwina goes on to state that it was very disappointing that the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe did not do a testimonial on the dismantle of the DOI Education Department, there were only 4 of 5 Tribes that did a testimonial during the NCAI. She does hope that the EC is working with Tresha regarding Education and at the bottom level with public school a lot of things go on and if information is not being shared with the Education Department within the Tribe a lot of things go undone. All the Tribal Education Department's work together to make sure Tribal children get what resources they can and need in public schools. We as the Tribe are to fight for our children in public schools.**

Answer: **Treasurer Blanchard responds by stating that during the NCAI meeting those consultations were held off campus from where the NCAI was held. He goes on to say that he has missed some meetings due to scheduling of national meetings and thought it was more important to voice at a higher level but expects that as the sitting officials they try to split those consultations and that they are present, if possible, across the committee.**

Statement: **Edwina mentions that she sits on the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education at the state level so if anybody hears anything that is going on with Native American children or mistreatment in the schools to let her know so she can look into the situation and hopefully get it resolved. Right now, they are watching President Trump because he is allowing state level authority to cut funding as needed and that takes away from our public schools and away from our Tribal students. Edwina goes on to mention that they are currently dealing with the mascot issue, they are looking to get some legislator signatures to help with sponsors to hopefully resolve this issue. The mascots and names are degrading. She mentions that Treasurer Blanchard was at a consultation regarding two young ladies from a public school nearby who were crying about some of the remarks that were made to them in their own school.**

Answer: **Treasurer Blanchard states that the two young ladies were from McLoud Public Schools. They were asked a question regarding whether they felt there was bullying or other discrimination issue in their community and the young ladies said yes. This is an issue that does exist still to this day in numerous communities and the public-school system. When the Tribe was asked about the mascot issue in Tecumseh there was a meeting held on the Shawnee Campus where there was discussion over the Tecumseh school's mascot. The EC at the time did not encourage the use of that mascot or name used in the school. As of right now the sitting EC has not passed a resolution in support of no Tribal or Native mascots.**

Statement: **Edwina states that she is currently working on this and will be presenting that at a state level. She is hoping to do this by next session and states that she is in need of full support of the Tribe.**

Caileah Blanchard

Statement: **Caileah starts up stating that she is an aspiring filmmaker and Oklahoma is a booming area for film making. She doesn't want her Tribe and Tribal Members to miss out on the opportunity to use their voice and be heard and share their stories. She would like to get with departments like Cultural Preservation and Language, and other Tribal Members interested in sharing their own story, it's a great way to inform and teach others about our Tribe and continue the Shawnee Culture. Caileah wraps up by stating that she is open to ideas and learning from others and if anybody is interested that she would be willing to listen.**

Marita Stout

Question: When the new Shawnee Clinic opens, what will happen with the old clinic?

Answer: Darren Shields states that with the old Shawnee Clinic some of the potential plans are to partially be used as the Pharmacy mail system, it has to be tied to the trust land. Some other services could potentially be the office of AARPA Health, since they are part of the funding agreement. That might be a suggestion, right now they are looking at different options. There is possibility that other departments are included in that building there.

Question: So, there is no plans to demolish it as of right now and the plan is to re-purpose it for something else?

Answer: Darren Shields answers, as of right now that is correct.

Question: How long ago did we buy the café in Tecumseh?

Answer: Treasurer Blanchard states that the purchase was just passed by resolution within the last month and they have yet to issue payment due to all the paperwork not being finalized.

Question: Will this be paid in full?

Answer: Treasurer Blanchard answers yes.

Statement: Marita states that over the years she has found it interesting the difference between Tribes and how they are ran. She is very concerned about the direction of the Tribe as a whole and how heavily they are dependent on government funds. She is grateful to see that the Executive Committee can take accountability and own where the Tribe is as of today and that they are looking to continue moving forward. The importance of sustaining the Tribe internally with other options of businesses and revenue is also key for the long-term sustainability of the Tribe.

Donna Kay Johnson (DK)

Statement: Donna starts off by stating that if any Tribal Member has any issue with any department or even the Shawnee Clinic to take this time to go speak with the Employees or Board Members that are present and speak your concern.

XI. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Vanessa Little Axe

SECOND MOTION: Donna Kay Johnson

ALL IN FAVOR: All In Favor

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 12:34 P.M.

_____

SECRETARY MCGIRT, Tribal Secretary
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians Oklahoma
Dated this ** day of October, 2026

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

97th Semi-Annual General Council

Governor Report

MAY 2026: The Representative and I traveled back and forth to Ohio in May and June. we had a personal invitation to attend the opening ceremony of the Great Plains museum. This museum will display tribal artifacts with a monument being constructed to overlook the lake that will represent all three Shawnee tribes. It is an honor to see all the dedication and hard work they are doing to get this project done.

JUNE 2026: The Secretary, Representative and I was all invited back to attend the Great Council Heritage Celebration along with the Cultural preservation department. Great Council is a place unlike any other. Shawnee leaders met there once before—sharing wisdom, making decisions, and guiding their people. The site preserves the powerful legacy of those who lived, led, and dreamed along the river valleys long before Ohio became a state.

JULY 2026: The Executive Committee attended the 38th annual Sovereignty Symposium in OKC. Tribal leaders from all over Oklahoma were in attendance, this is a good way to strategize the challenges we face. It's always good to be able to work alongside other tribal leaders that face those same issues.

AUGUST 2026. The tribe recently signed an MOU with Hanover College for the Cultural Preservation department. This partnership will create educational opportunities for our young people and future economic development outside of Oklahoma. This collaboration will bring many opportunities for our native people. We look forward to this commitment.

SEPTEMBER 2026: Representative Johnson and I attended the Sovereign Table conference. The mission of the sovereign table is to build strong team relationships amongst tribal leaders, engage in long-term strategic planning and to create the most impactful leadership in Indian country. This conference was ideal for all tribes to work alongside one another. I look forward to the continued efforts from all tribal leaders.

This concludes my report. Should you have any questions, comments or concerns you may reach myself or my assistant at the number/emails listed below.

Thank you

Governor John Johnson
405-275-4030 ext. 3500
governor@astribe.com

Alvina Barnes
405-275-4030 ext. 3501
alvinab@astribe.com

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

2025 S. Gordon Cooper Shawnee, Ok 74801
Phone (405) 275-3200 Fax (405) 878-4535

General Council Report – October, 2026

Department Staff

Police Department

Brad Gaylord	Director of Public Safety
Jason Brinker	Captain
Steven Crisp	Captain
Rickey Jones	SORNA Officer
Jason Reid	Investigator
Josh Bledsoe	Patrol Officer
Lisa Williams	Patrol Officer
Anthony Hicks	Patrol Officer
James "JP" Neely	Probation Officer
Trevor Palmer	Patrol Officer
Jeremy Spradlin	Patrol Officer
Jamon Reid	Patrol Officer
Linda Day	Police Specialist II

Emergency Management

Trevor Brinker	Emergency Manager
John Lantz	Assistant Emergency Manager

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Police

Mission Statement

The mission of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department is to uphold the constitutional sovereignty and customs of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce the occurrence and fear of crime within our communities, and to enhance the quality of life for all people. Our mandate is to do so with honor and integrity and conduct ourselves with the highest ethical standards to fortify public trust.

Emergency Management

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates community resources to protect lives, property and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and man-made hazards that may impact our tribe.

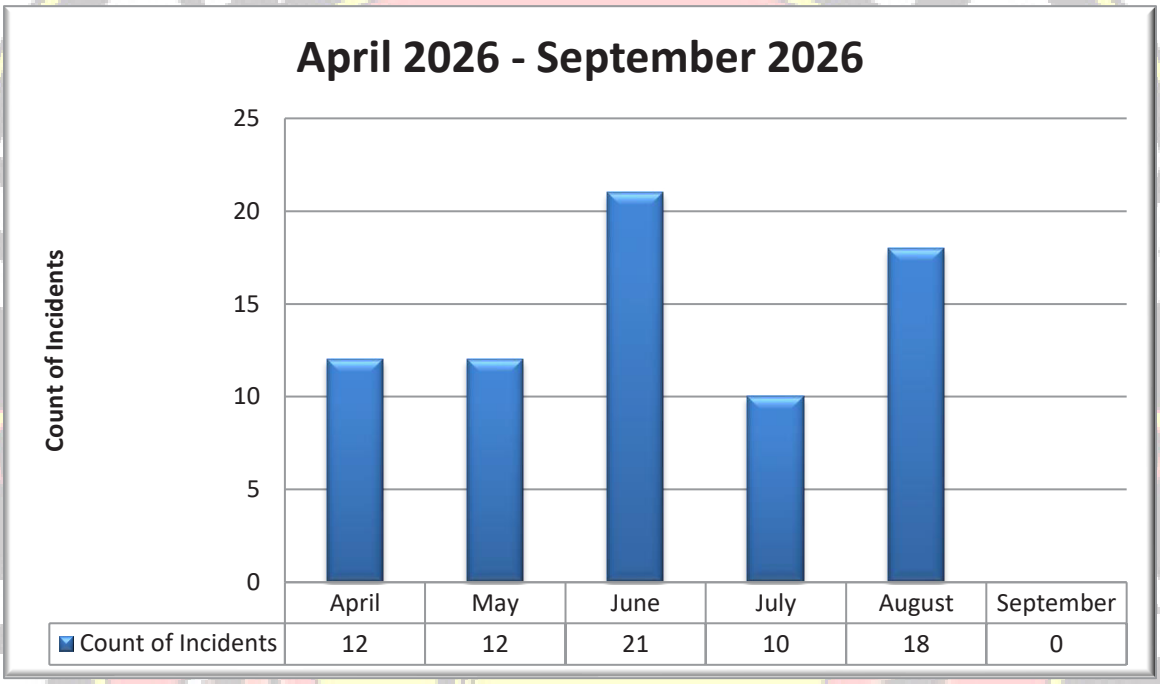
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Calls for Service

Total - 73

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department Responds to a multitude of different types of calls for service. The numbers indicated below include self-initiated activities as well as calls for service.



The Graph Above Illustrates All Calls for Service from 04/01/26 – 08/31/26

Additional Routine activities performed by the police department which are not normally documented within incident reports are as follows:

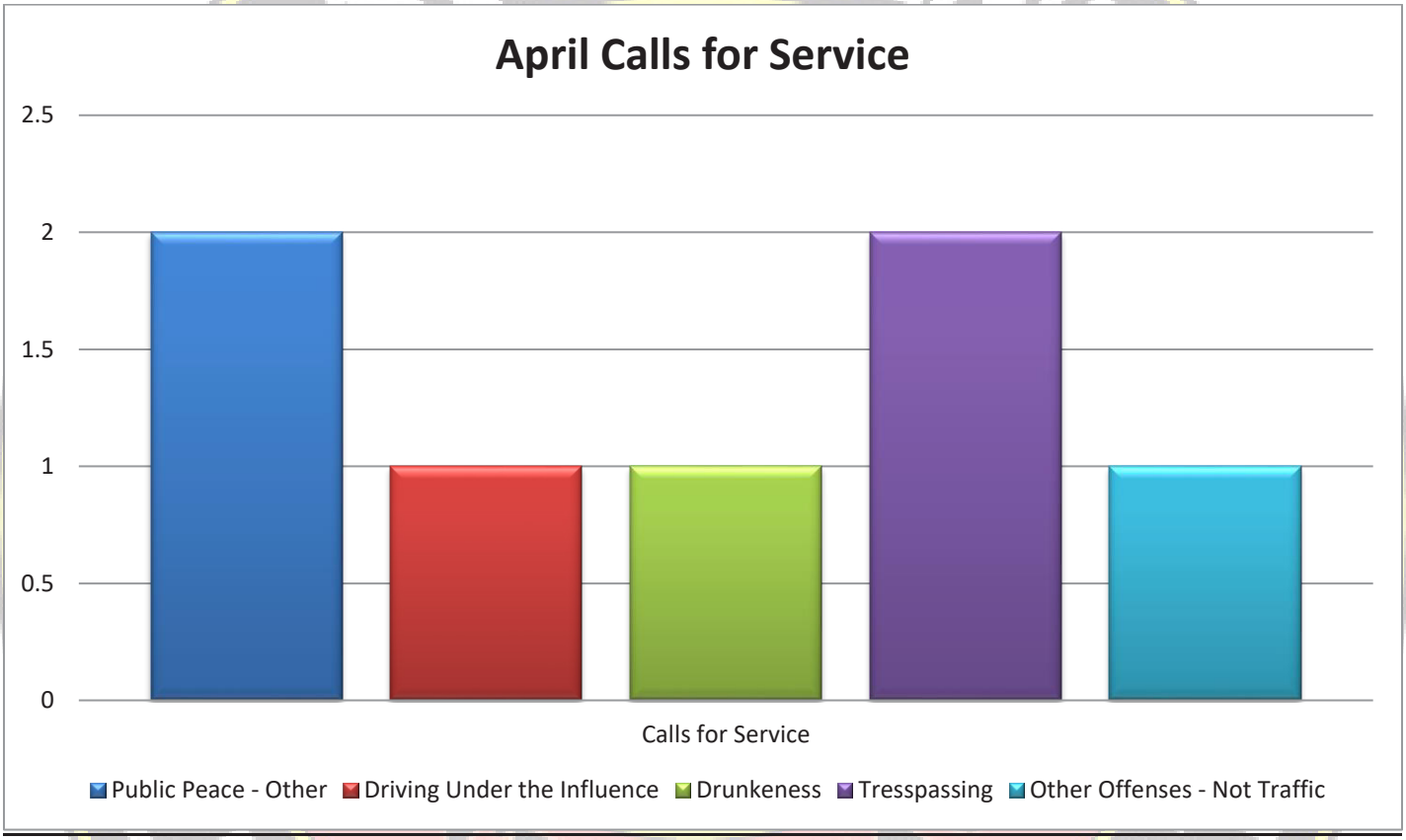
MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

- Reports to the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Police reports filed and Drug cases opened
- Thunderbird casino call reports for Norman and Shawnee
- Manager/Department Head meetings – Chief Gaylord
- Tribal Court bailiff duties
- Transports from Pottawatomie County Safety Center to Tribal Court
- Officer Training (In-house and Agency sponsored)
- Tribal Community Policing Shawnee and Little Axe
- ASHA Monthly Reporting

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

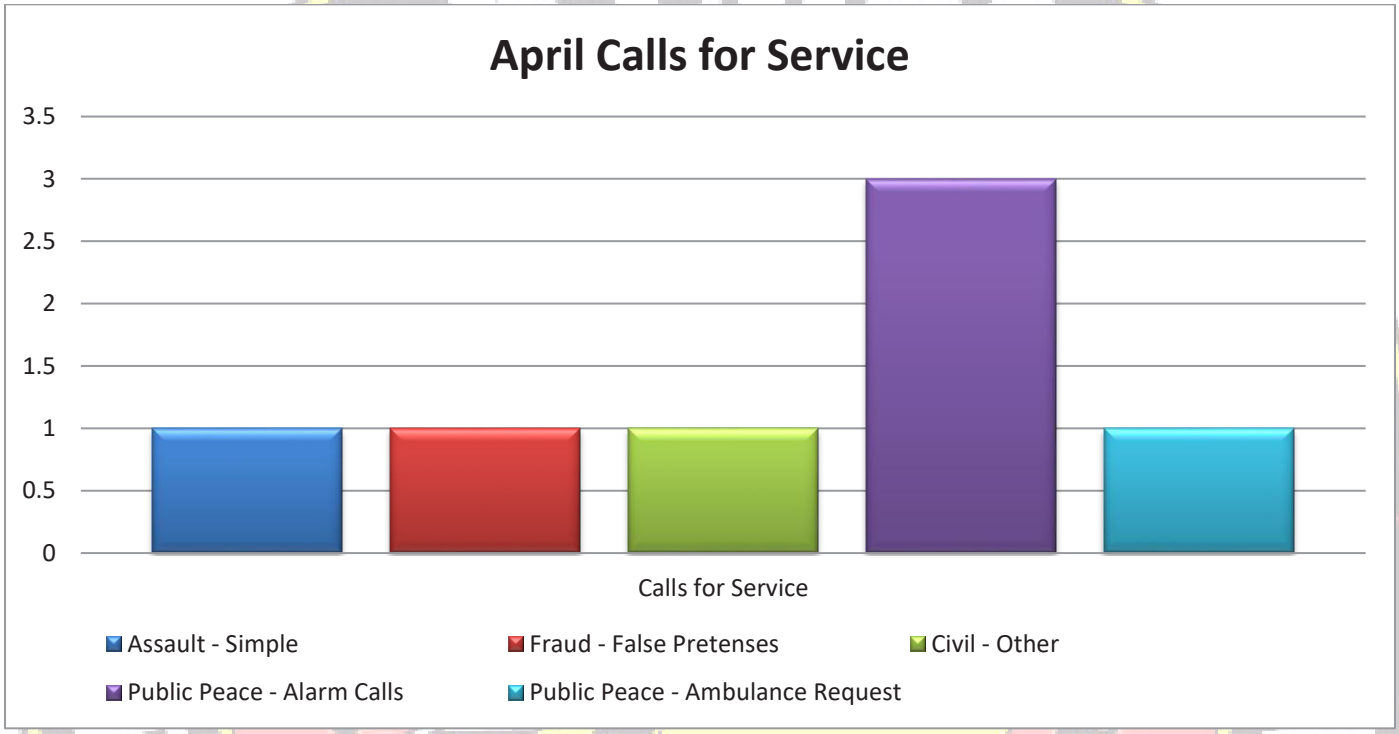
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April 2026
Total – 12



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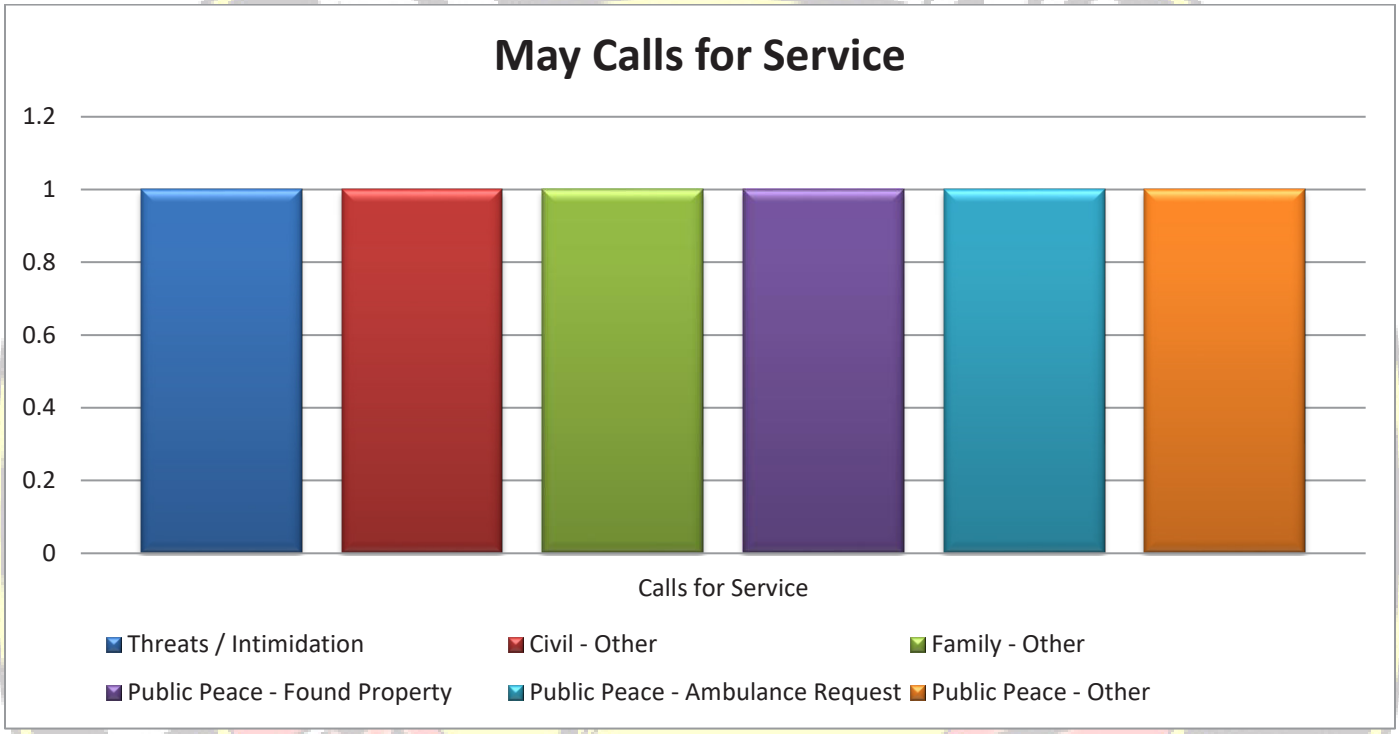
April Special Events

During April, officers from the ASTPD Participated in the annual Touch a Truck Event.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

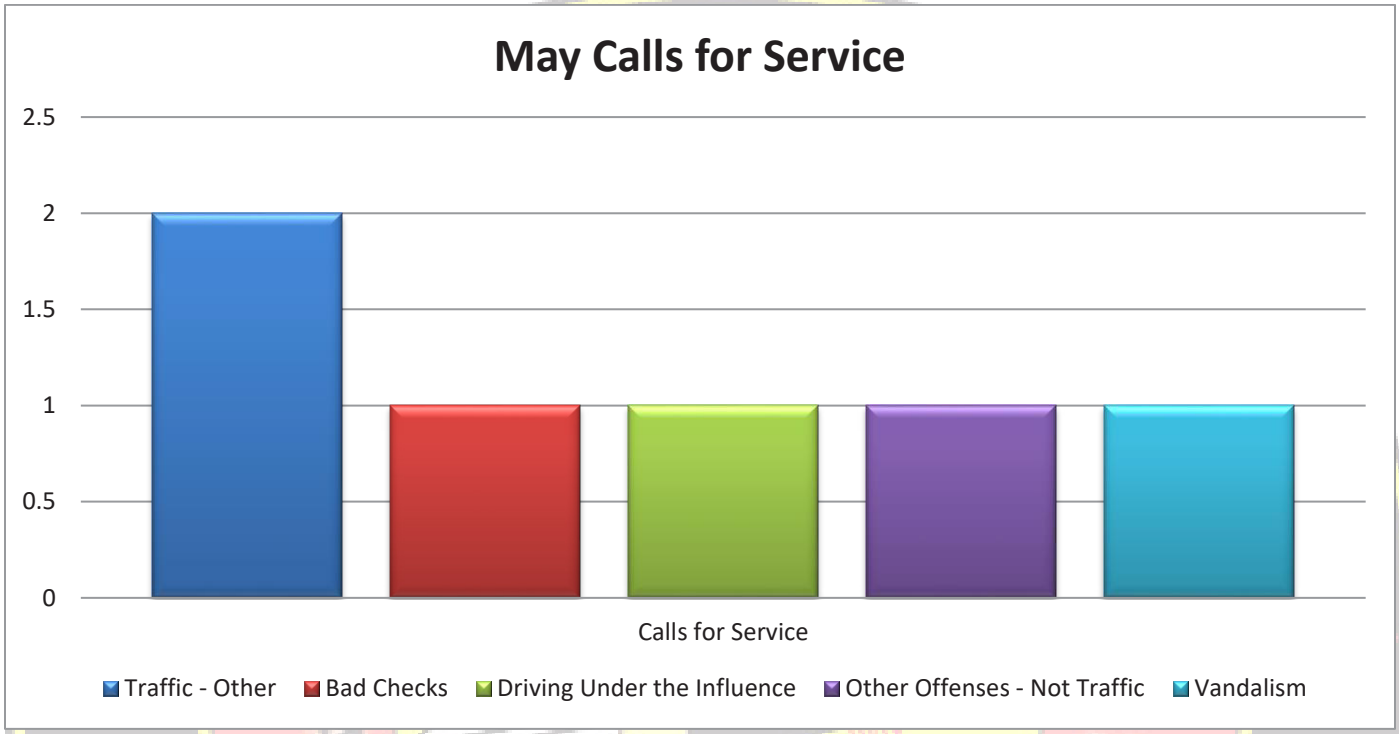
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May 2026
Total – 12



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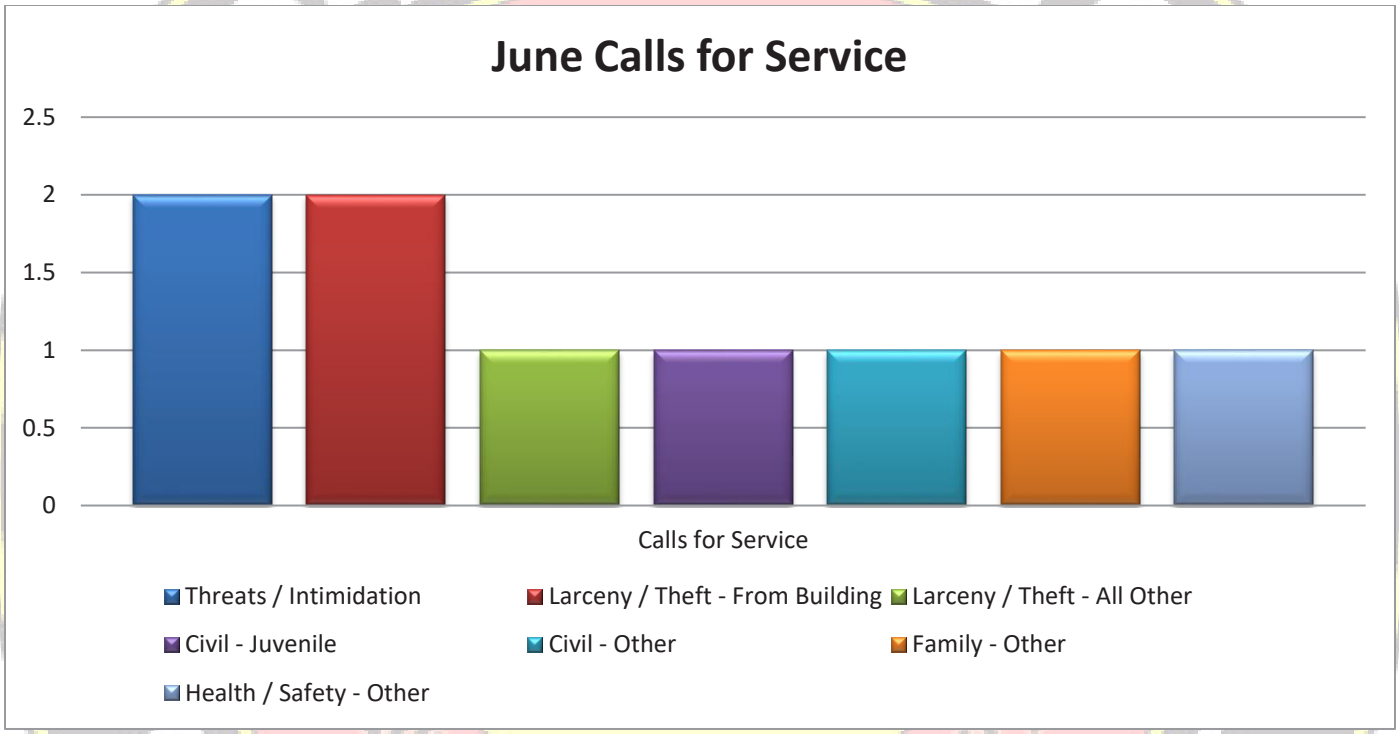
May Special Events

During the month of May, Officers from ASTPD participated in a community outreach event at Bethel Schools. We also participated in our monthly collaboration with the AST Education Department with the Youth Public Safety Club Meeting.

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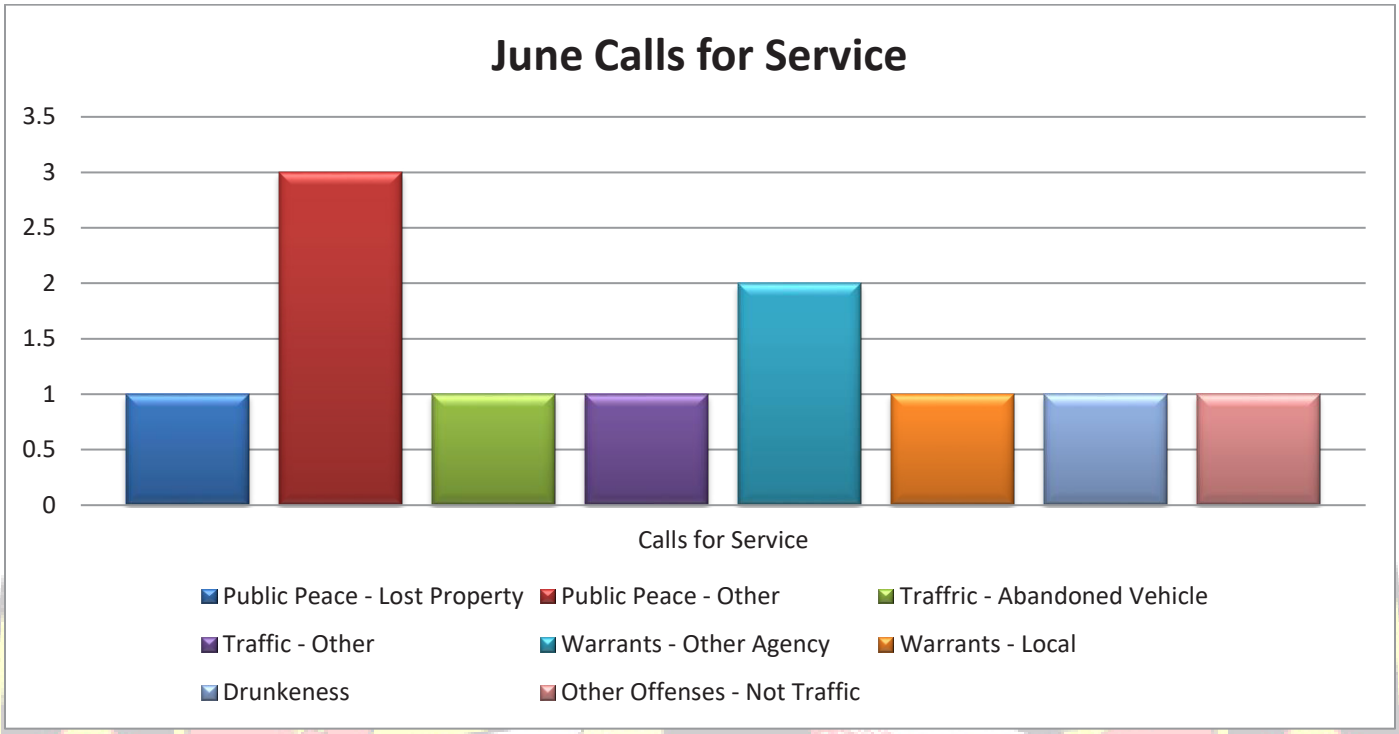
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June 2026
Total – 21



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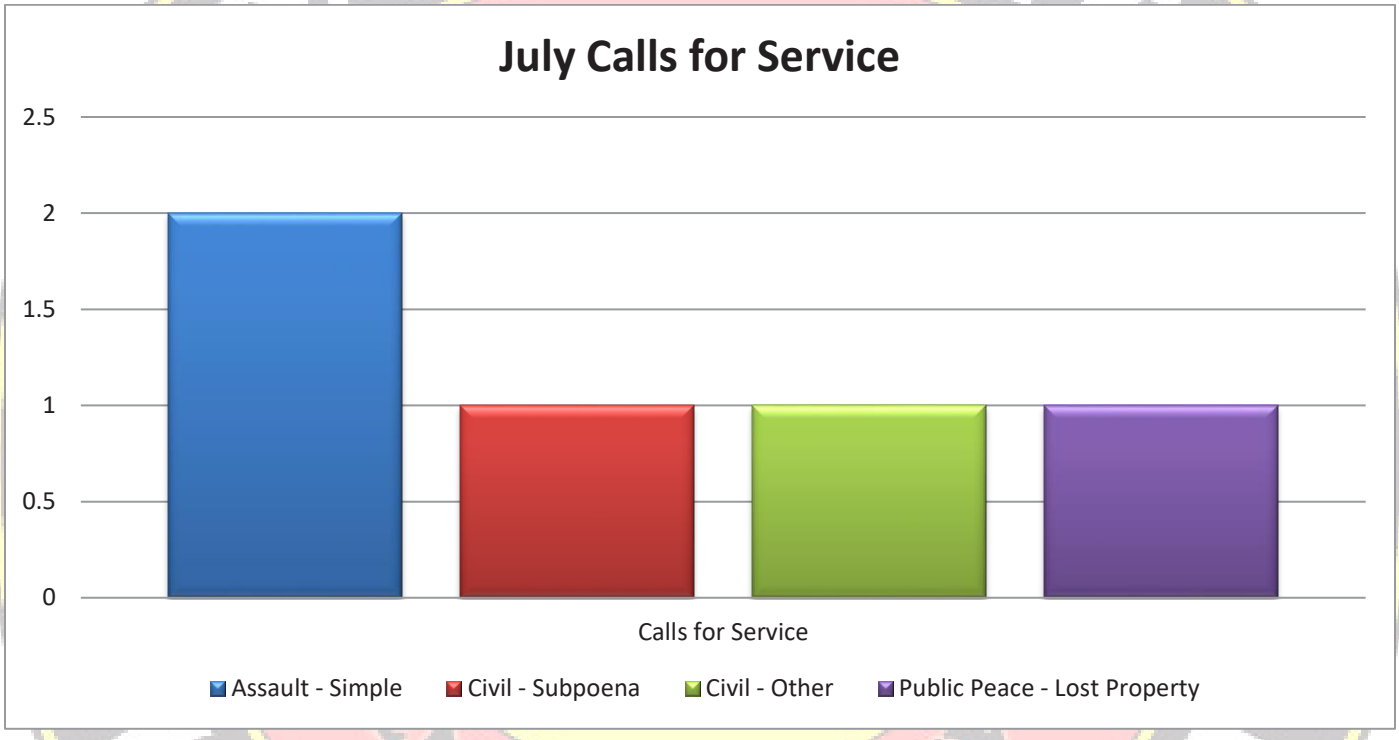
June Special Events

No Special Events took place during June.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

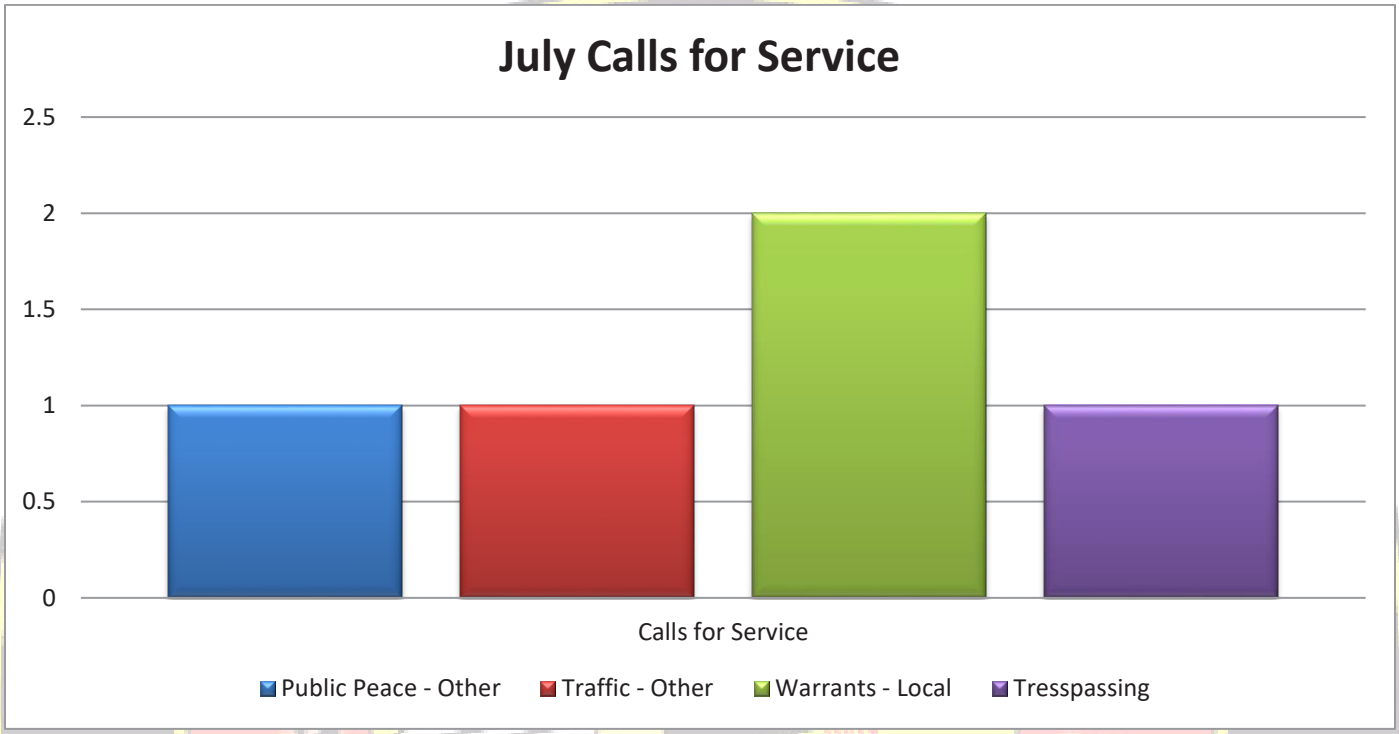
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July 2026
Total – 10



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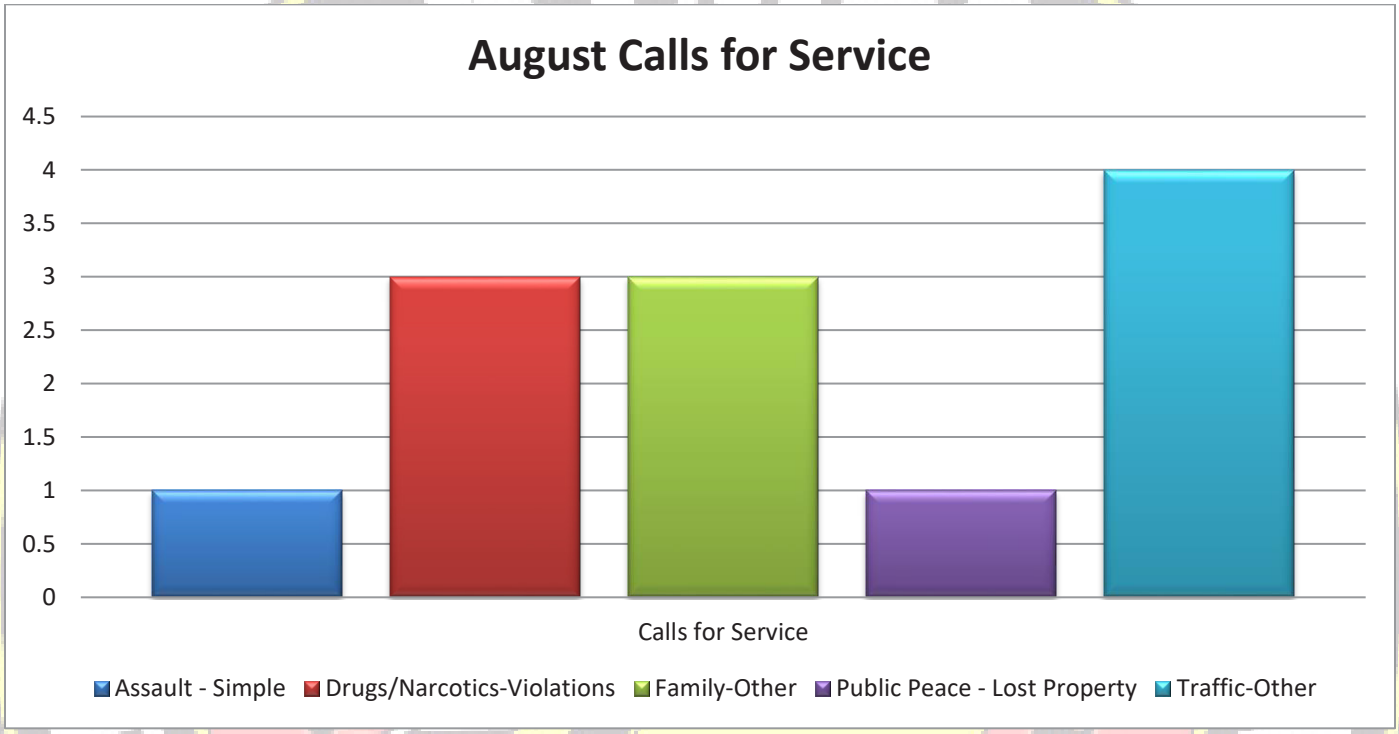
July Special Events

During the month of July, Officers from ASTPD participated in the annual Thunderbird Casino 4th of July events. Activities lasted 3 days with ASTPD providing security and support services throughout the event. Officers also took part in a joint event with Building Blocks Child Development, making a short presentation to the children and answering any questions.

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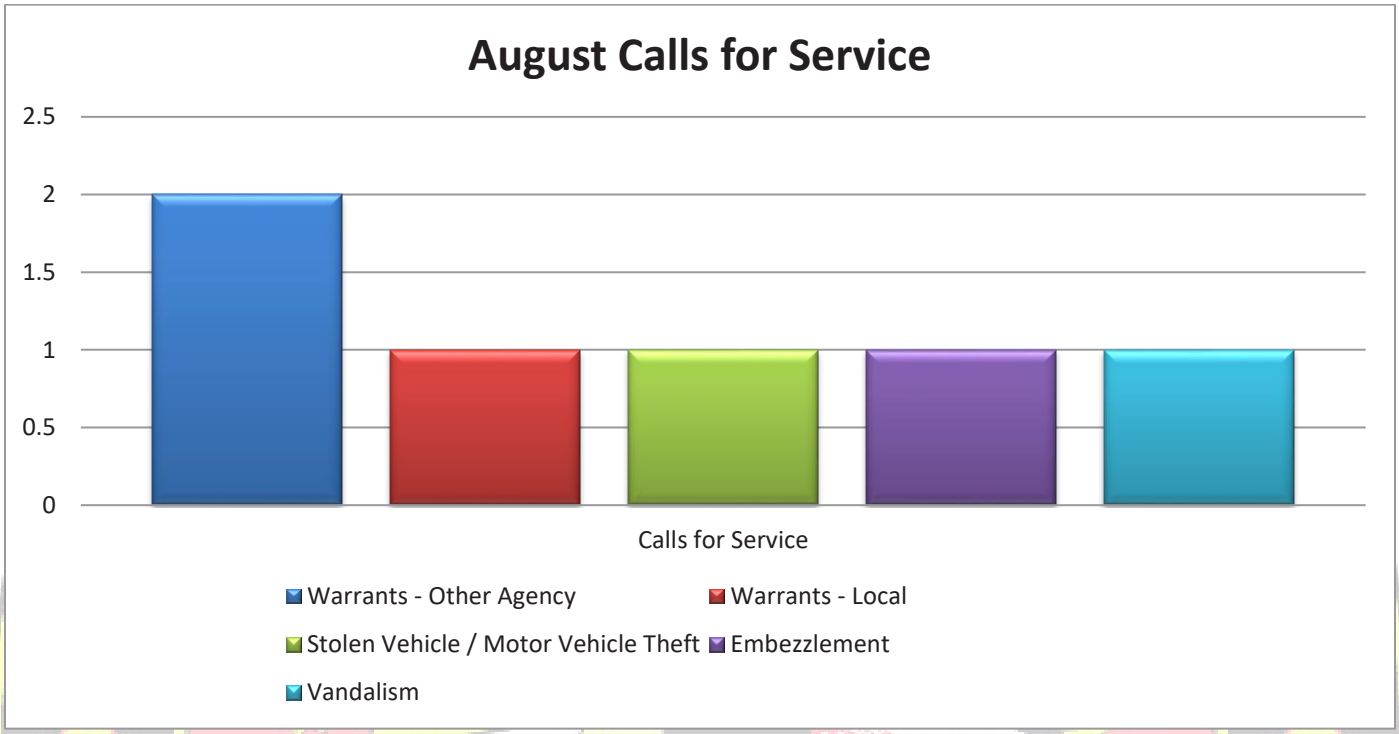
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August 2026
Total – 18



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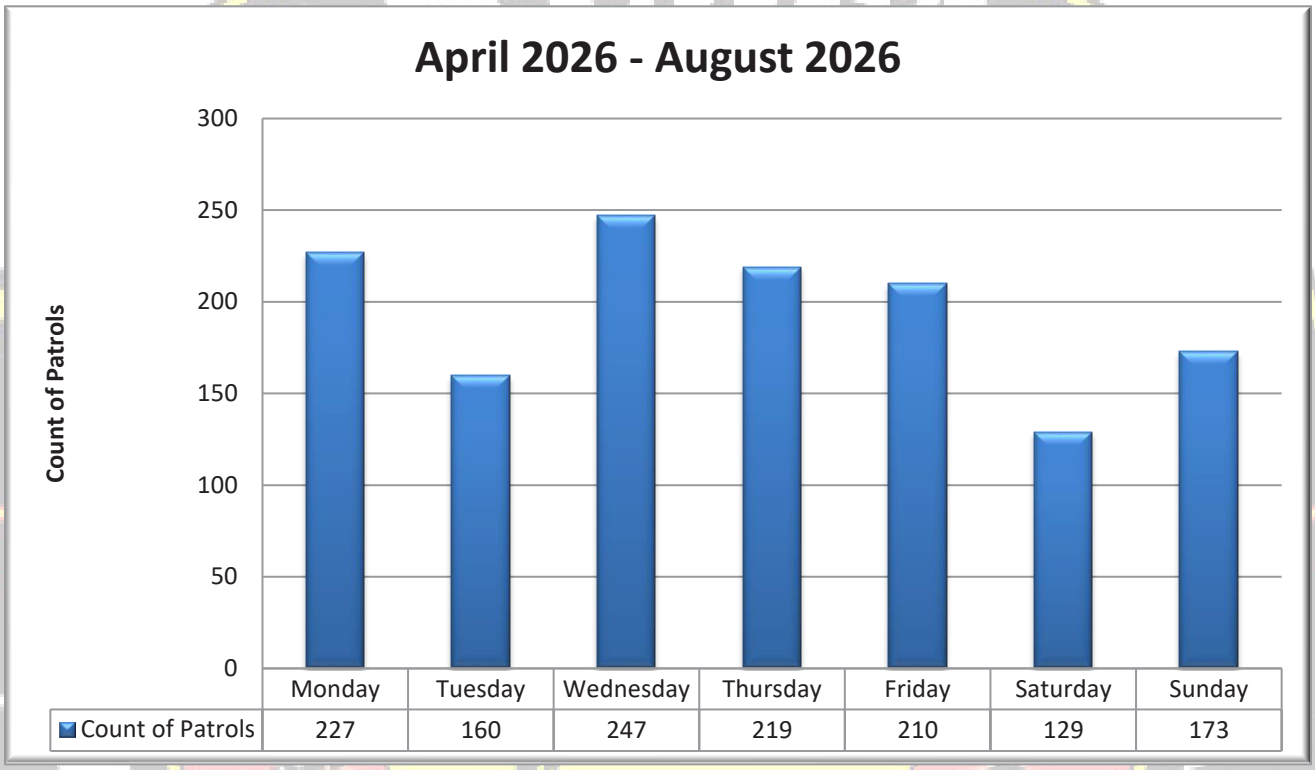
August Special Events

During the month of August, Officers from ASTPD participated in the annual Cops N Kinds Event. The event generated over 2,000 contacts with the Pottawatomie County Community.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Daily Patrols
Total – 1,365



The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department's Patrol Division routinely patrols properties owned by the tribe. During the 6 month reporting timeframe, the ASTPD performed 1,365 documented patrols of various areas. These areas include both Trust and Fee lands, housing, businesses, and residences of tribal members. These patrol areas are scattered throughout the jurisdiction and reflect a significant portion of a patrol officer's shift.

2026 GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

Trevor Brinker, Emergency Manager

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Office of Emergency Management



MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates community resources to protect lives, property and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and man-made hazards that may impact our tribe.

VISION

The Vision of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Emergency Management is to encourage and foster a disaster-resistant tribal community.

STAFF

Trevor Brinker, Emergency Manager

John Lantz, Assistant Emergency Manager



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is now located within the new AST Public Safety Center at 2025 Gordon Cooper Dr Shawnee, OK 74801. This location is intended to help the Absentee Shawnee Tribe as a whole to better respond to any emergency, natural disaster, and/or man-made disaster if and when they occur. This location houses AST Public Safety staff and is used as a base of operations for disaster planning, response and coordination and is capable of supporting multiple jurisdictions. We also have an additional back up location in Little Axe in the event our main location becomes inoperable. This allows us to continue operations in the event of emergency.

HAZARDS

To create a safer and more disaster-resistant tribal community, it is important to first understand the hazards and risks that can impact that community. The Office of Emergency Management has developed a comprehensive list of hazards to which the tribe is vulnerable. This list was compiled after evaluating historical data from scientific and news media sources, soliciting opinions and experiences from participating jurisdictions, and surveying risks in surrounding counties. By understanding our risks, we can work to mitigate the impacts of events, or even prevent some hazards from taking place.

Hazards that pose a threat the Absentee Shawnee Tribe:

- Severe Thunderstorms/Windstorms
  - Lightning, Tornadoes, Flooding, Winter Storms, Drought
- Pandemic/Epidemic
- Wildfire
- Hazardous Material Releases
- Dam / Levee Failure
- Cyber Crime
- Terrorism
- Earthquakes



PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

Achieved through a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response; the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is committed to being prepared for disasters, both natural and man-made. Working with community partners and collaborators is a key component of a successful emergency preparedness and response program. Partners can contribute to all aspects of the emergency management cycle by supporting risk assessments, communication, and other response and recovery activities. OEM, FEMA and local jurisdictions and their partners continuously plan and then exercise those plans to ensure that their skills stay sharp and they have the knowledge to help keep the public safe. These plan documents are developed, reviewed, and revised on a specific schedule.

Plans Developed:

- 2024 Jurisdictional Risk Assessment
- Emergency Operations Center Level Activation Procedure
- Functional Community Capability Resource Plan
- 2026 Annual review and update of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Emergency Operations Plan / Base Plan and Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes
- AST Complex Emergency Evacuation Routes
- AST Fire Safety Plan
- Volunteer Management Support Annex
- Crisis Communication Support Annex
- Extreme Heat/Cold Plans
- First Aid And Storm Shelter Items Within ASHA Housing

In-Progress:

- Hazard Mitigation Plan (In-Progress) with Southern Plains Tribal Health Board (SPTHB)
- SPTHB (Southern Plains Tribal Health Board) Partnerships and Planning 2025
    - Volunteer Supply Allocation
    - Emergency Resource Allocation
- Tecumseh Fire Department Mapping and Overview
- MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) With Pottawatomie County EM To Assist Each Other In Case of An Emergency
- A Grant with SBTHB For A Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Planning Project Subaward



Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition (ITEMC)

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Emergency Management is an active member of the Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition (ITEMC). ITEMC was developed in December 2004 to address the implications regarding the local, state and national all-hazards preparedness planning process in Oklahoma, home to 39 federally recognized Native American tribes.

The mission of the participating tribes of the Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition is to minimize the effects of disasters, (chemical, biological, technological, natural or man-made), upon the Indian Tribes in Oklahoma by preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against all natural and man-made disasters. We will accomplish this by implementing, exercising, and coordinating preparedness plans and by assisting other emergency response departments within our Tribes, the Coalition, and the local Emergency Management agencies. This can be accomplished with training and mitigation of disasters and by coordinating actual disaster response/recovery operations.

The Coalition is comprised of Tribal Emergency Management agencies' as well as other emergency response agencies, who share information and ideas on improving emergency response for member tribes. Participants include representatives from over 22 Oklahoma tribes and representatives from the Southwest Center for Public Health Preparedness, U.S. Attorney's Office, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, and Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.

ITEMC hosts monthly meetings and through ITEMC our AST Department of Emergency Management is teamed up with the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board and completed a 2024 Risk Assessment for the Tribe that will be implemented and used within our Emergency Response plans.



Southern Plains Tribal Health Board

We have partnered with Southern Plains Tribal Health Board (SPTHB) to provide annual Adult CPR training to our Tribal Complex employees for FREE provided by staff of SPTHB. Our first time hosting this training was October, 16th, 2025 and we have a another training for CPR, and AED OCT 7th.

What is Southern Plains Tribal Health Board?

The Southern Plains Tribal Health Board (SPTHB) is a non-profit organization based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Health Board was established in 1972 to provide a unified voice on tribal public health needs and policy for the 43 federally recognized tribes located in the states of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Board membership includes representatives from the 12 service units in the Indian Health Service (IHS) Oklahoma Area.

Last year ASTEM partnered with SPTHB to complete a Jurisdictional Risk Assessment that is used to identify and reduce risk impacts to our communities. During the wildfire response and tornado responses of the past, SPTHB has also played a large role in providing safety vests, flashlights, food and water and other necessities for disaster response.

We plan to continue our strong partnership with Southern Plains Tribal Health Board to grow and better protect the life safety of our community.

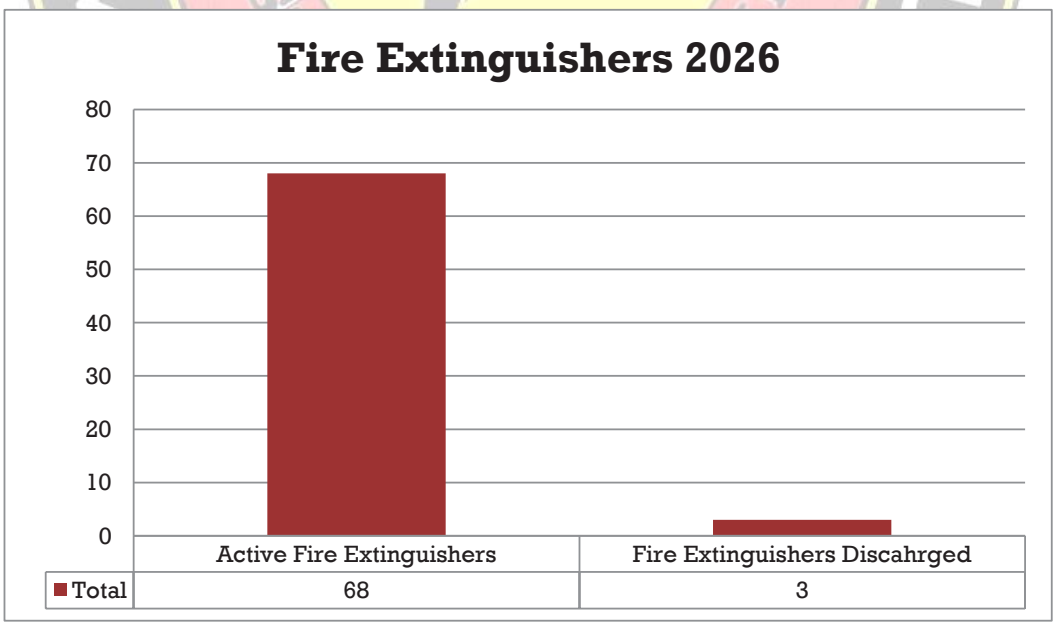


FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

ASTEM is over the fire extinguisher inventory and fire extinguisher inspections to make sure the fire extinguisher units are ready to respond at a moment's notice to any fire danger on the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex. These extinguishers are checked monthly by AST Emergency Management, as well as our annual inspection performed by our new partners A+ Fire and Safety (an experienced fire safety contractor) for any deficiencies that may cause the extinguisher to malfunction. If there are any issues with an extinguisher, it is taken out of service and sent off to be either: *recharged, repaired or replaced*. Each year since this program has been in action, we have increased the amount of fire extinguishers available in each facility and/or building.

Additionally, all AST Police Department vehicles are each outfitted with functioning fire extinguishers where multiple have been put into action to better serve and protect our community.

The Office of Emergency Management continues to work with the Human Resources Department to further develop employee safety policies that are currently in place. This is so all Tribal members, visitors and employees are safe while on the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex. All safety issues should be reported to the Human Resources department so that they may be properly handled.





LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

In 2025 The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Office of Emergency Management ended its term as Chairman for the Pottawatomie County Local Emergency Planning Committee. All community members are still encouraged to join and participate in LEPC meetings whenever capable.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is comprised of various response partners, local businesses and other stakeholders from the county. The purpose of the LEPC is to ensure local response partners have appropriate training and equipment to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials. Additionally, businesses are encouraged to actively plan with members of the LEPC to ensure efficiency in response and appropriate pre-planning for events involving hazardous materials.

In 2020 Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Emergency Management was the Co-Chair of the LEPC Training Committee. By being the Co-Chair, Emergency Management was responsible for the training and exercises of the LEPC. This includes ensuring training and exercise needs for annual grants were met.

In 2021 the AST Office of Emergency Management became the lead Chairman of the committee and maintained that role for 4 years. Our office provided updates to local planning documents as required by the State of Oklahoma as well as is the lead coordinator for the planning team for the annual Pottawatomie County LEPC exercise.

The Pottawatomie County LEPC typically meets four times a year, but as of 2023 we have planned to combine our meetings with the county's All Hazards Whole Community Working Group Quarterly Meetings. The public is not only invited but **encouraged** to attend all LEPC meetings.





TRAINING

At the beginning of 2022 the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Department of Public Safety completed the next stage of its National Incident Management System (NIMS) training implementation. All Department of Public Safety staff has completed and submitted their base NIMS Incident Command System training. With each year following the implementation of this requirement we continue to offer and provide continual education and training on additional NIMS components to our staff.

What is NIMS?

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) guides all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from incidents. NIMS provides stakeholders across the whole community with the shared vocabulary, systems and processes to successfully deliver the capabilities described in the National Preparedness System. NIMS defines operational systems that guide how personnel work together during incidents.

ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
ICS-400 Advanced Command and General Staff-Complex Incident
IS 11.c Introduction to Incident Command System
IS 120.c An Introduction to Exercises
IS 200.c ICS for Single Resource and Initial Action Incidents
IS 230.d Fundamentals of Emergency Management
IS 235.c Emergency Planning
IS 393.b Introduction to Hazard Mitigation
IS 1000 Public Assistance Program Eligibility
IS 700.b NIMS An Introduction
IS 2200 Basic Emergency Operation Center Functions
IS 800.c National Response Framework, an Introduction

Additional Training

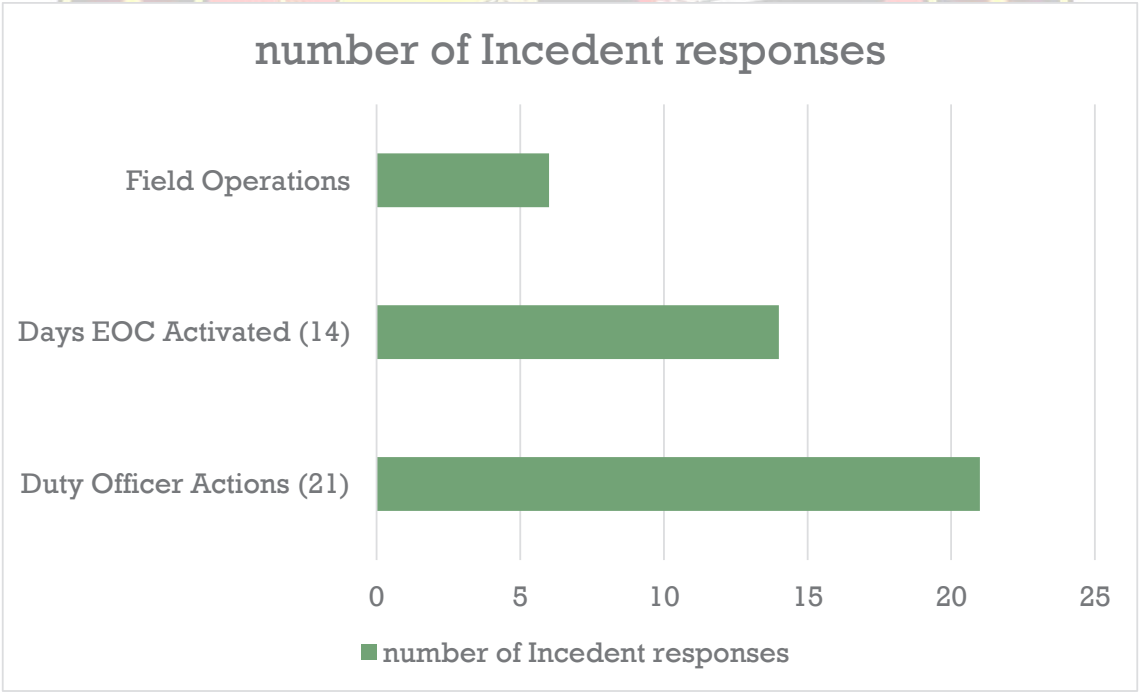
OK-First: OK-First is an outreach program of the Oklahoma Mesonet that provides Oklahoma's public safety community with weather education and access to critical real-time weather data. Since beginning classes in 1997, OK-First has trained more than 2,000 public safety officials and currently has more than 900 active members participating in the program. OK-First operates with financial support from the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety and is operated by the Oklahoma Mesonet. OK-First training and data are provided at no cost to eligible participants in Oklahoma and counties bordering the state.



2026 INCIDENT SUMMARY

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Emergency Management requires the emergency manager or his/her designee be available or on call at all times beyond normal working hours. The duty officer serves as the Oklahoma Emergency Management (OEM) primary emergency point-of-contact for the alert, notification, and initiation of a preliminary response to major emergencies and disaster events occurring within the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Boundaries. The Tribe's EOC may be activated when the Office of Emergency Management becomes aware of an incident and anticipates a need for coordination, response, and/or resource support from the EOC or Field Operations. Typically, an Initial Situation Assessment is completed by the OEM duty officer and the decision to activate is made.

Severe weather also has the potential of causing the AST EOC to activate depending on the incident type. When the EOC is activated for severe weather it involves Emergency Management to monitor the severe weather threat at all times in coordination with the National Weather Service in Norman and other local agencies until the threat of severe weather dissipates.



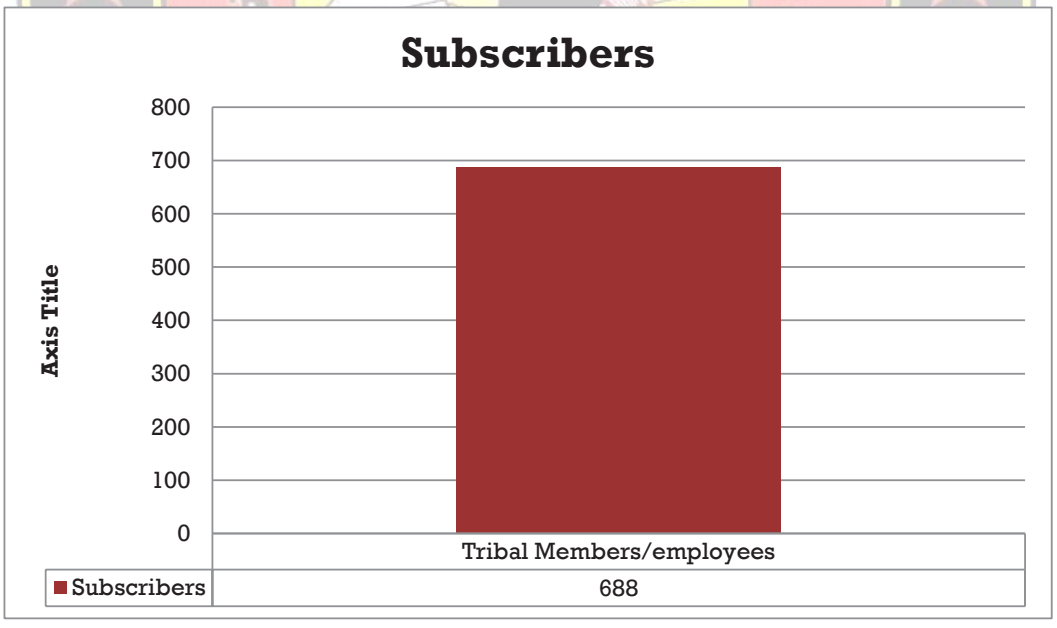


EVERBRIDGE MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Everbridge Mass Notification System was established during the COVID-19 Pandemic so that the tribe could effectively communicate critical information to the tribal members and to the employees. This system was purchased with the South Plains Tribal Health Board Grant funding.

Everbridge has been utilized on multiple occasions to notify employees of closures to the AST Complex, as well as emergency notifications for an active shooter in Cleveland County during late 2021. Automated weather alerts are sent to Everbridge subscribers whenever warnings, advisories or other alerts are confirmed by the National Weather Service.

It is important to have more than one way of receiving emergency weather alerts, so sign up for Everbridge directly from the Tribe's website, under the Emergency Management tab.





CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE: (405) 275-3200

E-MAIL: ASTEM@astribe.com

AST EOC: 2025 Gordon Cooper Dr Shawnee OK 74801

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Food Pantry

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Food Pantry first opened their doors on September 29th 2021, the food pantry initially started with less than 50 families and we have now grown to over 450 families that are enrolled in the program. We are happy to say that 280-330 families are served each month and we hope that number continues to grow. Distribution days are on Wednesdays 9am to 6pm and Thursdays 9am to 5pm by scheduled appointments. Office hours are Monday thru Thursday 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 3pm. The office is open to answer questions and make appointments along with taking new applications.

The boxes consist of all types of non-perishables, ranging from canned meats and vegetables, different types of pastas, cereals, rice and beans, juices, soups, and other select items. The food pantry serves ground beef,and stew meat from the agriculture department, chicken breast, bone in porkchops, fruits, hamburger helper, and more wonderful items to help alleviate hunger in the tribe. We hope to keep adding new items to the list that helps out with the members enrolled in our program. Our mission statement is to eliminate hunger in the Shawnee/Tecumseh/and Norman area by providing Tribal members that are in need with programs that provide food, promote the value of nutrition, increase self-sufficiency, and instill hope. In doing so, the food pantry helps to ensure that food relief has a more meaningful, enduring impact. Absentee Shawnee Tribe Food Pantry is the tribe's first food pantry; it is a nonprofit organization that seeks to alleviate hunger by efficiently gathering and distributing food to all eligible Tribal members. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Food Pantry warmly welcomes all AST tribal members to the food pantry and in hopes that your experience is a positive one.

Director: Falon Powell
fpowell@astribe.com
405-481-8640 office

Office Hours:
Monday –Thursday 9am to 5pm
Friday 9am to 3pm
Office is closed 12 to 1 for lunch

Distribution days by appointment:
Wednesday 9am to 6pm
Thursday 9am to 5 pm

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

97th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting

Saturday, October 03, 2026

Ho wa se wi pi ne (Good Morning)!

Welcome all AST Members, I would like to extend my appreciation, gratitude and honor to serve as the Lt. Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. These past 2 years and 3 months have been a challenge and big life changing experience. You would think my employment with the tribe off and on starting in 1991 as the receptionist, employed in different departments, then as the Executive Administrative Assistant with the Lt. Governor I would be full of knowledge. I admit I ask a lot of questions and do a lot of reading lately due to daily conflicts, questions and concerns from employees within the tribe. I don't have all the correct answers but I will go to the source to find it. There are employees who have been with the AST for years and are overlooked and others who are terminated due to not belong in the right circle of employees. That's where the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Administrative Manual becomes my reading source. Being in this position I see everything is not according to Policy and Procedure as stated. Executive Committee try to avoid the negative and post on travel and meetings. I know the EC are expected to put articles in the AST Newsletter monthly. I did not post in July and August due to my own reasons I did not have any positive information or nor did I do any traveling. I was embarrassed due to the June EC meeting and it was upsetting to the point I cried while apologizing to the Tribal Member. On August 06-08, 2026 I drove to Tama, Iowa to attend the Meskwaki Nation Powwow along with 10 AST elders, Treasurer and (1) Procurement staff. Within an hour of arriving I received news my nephew was killed in a car accident. I rested up Friday, August 7th and drove back to Oklahoma on August 8th, from driving to and from Iowa and attending wake August 9th and funeral August 10th I was extremely exhausted mentally and physically. I took one day Tuesday, August 11th for myself and returned to office the following day Wednesday, August 12th. During these times I still found time to check email and return any calls. I am in office daily and always available by text, email or calls. I wanted to remind Tribal Members I too have a family and struggles but I am here for you also. I'm still getting familiar with some of the policy and procedures for each department but I am also looking for ways to change or update somethings. I would like to assist more with the homeowner's emergency repairs with other repairs because what good is plumbing, HVAC, hot water tanks and electrical if your house is falling in. But as each one knows these ideals will not come to exist with only one on board, it has to be majority of the EC. I will continue moving forward with positive energy and ideals for the betterment of Tribal Members. Please send prayers and best wishes to the EC, Directors and Employees of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

The MISSION of the Tribal Government by virtue of the powers granted the Executive Committee by the Absentee Shawnee Constitution is to provide effective, efficient, comprehensive services to the members of the Tribe.

Ne yi wa,

Yvonne Diane Ponkilla, Lt. Governor

October 2026
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering (OEH&E)
Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Staff

Jarrod Lloyd, OEH&E Director
Kevin Arthur, EPA Grants Manager
Anthony Davis, Tribal Utility Operator
Jimmy Squire, Recycling Technician

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

OEH&E was established under the Tribe's Self-Governance Compact to administer sanitation and environmental infrastructure programs that protect public health. Since FY 1994, the Tribe has partnered with Indian Health Services (IHS) to provide construction of sanitation facilities and essential utility services.

Mission

To improve and protect the health of Absentee Shawnee Tribal members by providing safe water, wastewater, and environmental services.

Housing Sanitation Assistance Program

OEH&E provides assistance to enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal members residing in:

Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Oklahoma, Payne, Lincoln, and Logan Counties.

Eligibility requirements:

- Enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal member
- Reside within one of the six counties
- Own home and land (Warranty Deed or Notarized Lease through AST Realty)
- No income requirement

Homes managed by housing authorities that are not paid off are not eligible.

Services Provided

- New water wells and well renovations
- Rural or city water connections
- Water service line replacement
- New septic systems and septic renovations
- City sewer line installation/renovation
- Water treatment systems (as needed)

The program does not fund routine septic pumping or general home maintenance.

Applications are available at www.astribe.com or at OEH&E (Building #13).

Tribal Utility Operations

OEH&E operates and maintains public water and wastewater systems serving the Thunderbird Casino, AST Health Clinic, and Tribal Youth Camp.

Required monthly, quarterly, and annual water sampling is conducted and submitted to:

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

The Tribal Utility Operator oversees daily operations and ensures regulatory compliance.

Environmental Programs

OEH&E administers four cooperative agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency:

- General Assistance Program (GAP)
- Clean Water Act Section 106 – Water Pollution Control
- Brownfields State and Tribal Response Grant
- Section 319 Non-Point Source Program

General Assistance Program (GAP)

GAP funding supports environmental program development and capacity building.

Recent accomplishments:

- Completion of the Tribe's Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan

- Expansion of environmental planning and grant capacity
- Continued development of Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping

OEH&E is enhancing GIS data to support Tribal infrastructure planning, property mapping, and environmental protection efforts. Work continues on development of an interactive mapping resource for health service boundary reference.

Water Pollution Control Program (CWA Section 106)

Program activities include:

- Surface water monitoring at Lake Thunderbird and Little River
- Watershed trend analysis
- Community outreach and youth education

Monitoring efforts continue to protect and preserve Tribal water resources.

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

The Brownfields Program addresses assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of contaminated or potentially contaminated Tribal properties.

Completed projects:

- Lillard Pipe & Supply Property
- Roadside Motel (asbestos removal and demolition complete)
- Tecumseh Square/Walls Building (asbestos removal complete)

The program continues evaluating additional Tribal properties for cleanup and future redevelopment.

Section 319 Non-Point Source Program

The Section 319 Program addresses pollution caused by runoff affecting surface and groundwater.

Eligible activities include:

- Watershed planning
- Riparian restoration
- Livestock exclusion fencing
- Lake protection efforts

- Education and outreach

The program is currently identifying priority areas for implementation.

HUD ICDBG Projects

OEH&E successfully administered:

- 2015 – Youth Camp Phase I (infrastructure and dining hall)
- 2017 – Youth Camp Phase II (cabins, bathhouse, parking, utilities)
- 2018 – AST Police Safety Center (completed and operational)

All projects have been completed and are currently serving the Tribe.

DOJ Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Grant

OEH&E is working with the Tribal Grants Department on the **U.S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Grant**.

Grant funds are being utilized for construction of a **modular court building** to expand the Tribe's judicial system capacity.

The project will:

- Increase courtroom and administrative space
- Improve access to Tribal court services
- Strengthen public safety infrastructure
- Support long-term growth of the Tribal Court system

OEH&E is assisting with project coordination and infrastructure compliance to ensure successful implementation.

Recycling Program (Established 2012)

The Recycling Program continues to reduce the Tribe's solid waste stream and disposal costs.

Program infrastructure includes:

- Four cardboard recycling containers on the Tribal Complex
- Six recycling trailers located near the Little Axe Health Clinic, Thunderbird Casino, and Tribal Complex

- Recycling Facility south of the Tribal Campus adjacent to OEH&E

Currently accepted materials:

- Shredded office paper
- Corrugated cardboard
- Aluminum cans

Secure document shredding is available to Tribal members.

To date, the program has collected over 750 tons of recyclable materials, reducing landfill waste and overall solid waste costs.

Commitment to the Community

OEH&E remains committed to protecting public health, strengthening infrastructure, expanding environmental capacity, and supporting Tribal sovereignty through responsible project development and regulatory compliance. For assistance or program information, please contact OEH&E at Building #13 or visit www.astribe.com

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

STAFF

Coordinator:

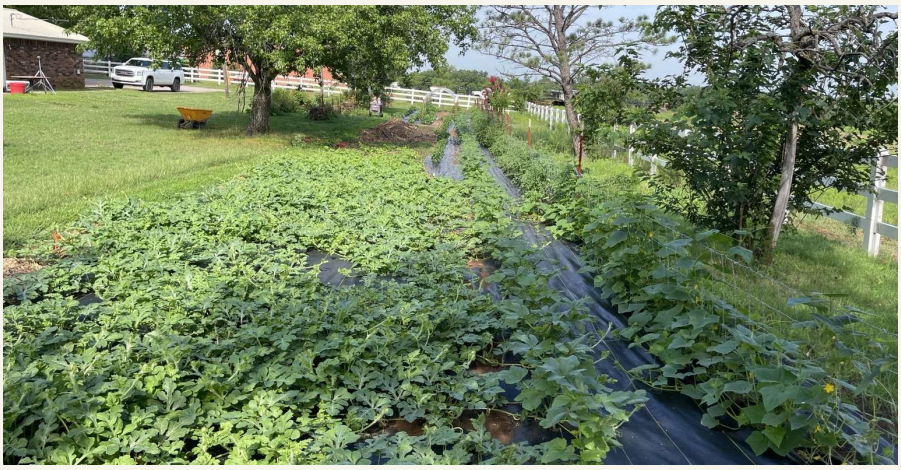
Chelsi Peacock

Farm Foreman:

John Mann

Farm Hand:

Bobby Armstrong

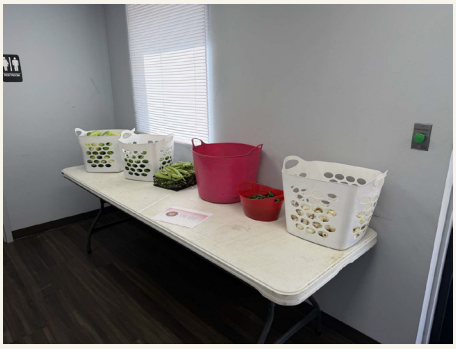


Highlights

Our Agriculture Department has been busy wrapping up summer projects! The garden continues to produce fresh vegetables, our cattle are growing well, and preparations are underway for fall activities. We're proud to continue growing programs that provide fresh food, agricultural education, and resources for our Tribal community.

Spotlight

Our garden had a productive summer! Fresh cucumbers, peppers, okra and other vegetables were harvested and made available to Tribal members.



QUICK TIPS
Too many peppers?
Fresh peppers can be frozen without blanching. Wash, dry, remove the stems, chop if desired, and freeze in airtight freezer bags. They're perfect for adding to chili, soups and other meals throughout the winter.

Fall on the Farm-
Watch for updates on our cattle program, fall pumpkin patch, upcoming community activities and what the Agriculture Department is working on next.



Community Notes

Thank you to everyone who participated in our summer Agriculture programs! Our goal is to continue creating opportunities that connect Tribal families with agriculture while increasing access to fresh, locally produced food.



FROM THE FARM- Meet #20

From Bottle Calf to The Herd

#20 started out as a bottle calf requiring extra care and attention. Today, he is healthy, fully weaned, and thriving with the herd.

AGRICULTURE@ASTRIBE.COM
405-827-6545

Agriculture Department Newsletter

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

The Maintenance Department has been busy during the summer months with daily work orders and repair projects. We have continued to follow planned processes outlined in the spring 2026 General Council Maintenance Report.

Maintenance Department consists of thirteen employees. Maintenance Director, Stacy Coon, Office Manager Robbin Rolette, three housekeepers, & seven maintenance workers, each employee have various skills and knowledge that contribute to the department.

Along with our daily tasks, the Maintenance Department main task for the past few months has been lawncare, it is our most time-consuming. We currently maintain lawncare for the Tribal Complex and 16 Tribal properties, 43 Elder lawns in Shawnee area, 18 Elder lawns in Little Axe, along with assisting with three Ceremonial Grounds when needed.

Our daily task of maintenance, are assisting the Tribal Departments, repairs of buildings, grounds, vehicles, and equipment. We also assist in repairs, special projects, as well as tasks delegated from the LT. Governor. Our daily operations include preventative, predictive, and corrective maintenance—such as servicing lighting and plumbing, repairing concrete, trimming trees, and power washing. Both Maintenance and Housekeeping have repetitive, routine tasks and inspections. We have adapted to our upgraded workorder system that has been essential in tracking the progress of repairs and assisting of Departments. At the end of August Maintenance had closed over 400 workorders for the year, and that number will increase until end of year. We also assist in Tribal Department events, such as Easter, Elder Olympics, Fishing for Nutrition, etc.

In August, Maintenance assisted in the preliminary work, of War Dance Ceremony. The Annual Ceremony takes a lot of hard work leading up to the weekend. Maintenance provided equipment, trucks, trailers, along with manpower. This not only helped with the ceremony procedures, but also gave some of the Maintenance employees the opportunity to meet Tribal Members and learn about Tribal tradition, and were appreciative of the opportunity.

If you have any Maintenance questions, concerns, or needs, please contact Lieutenant Governor's Office or Maintenance Department, Thank you.

Stacy Coon, Jr.
Tribal Maintenance Director

Absentee Shawnee Language and Culture Department

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Language and Culture Department continued implementing programs focused on Shawnee language revitalization, cultural preservation, intergenerational learning, and community engagement. As a new department, we are laying the foundation for strong language program and preserving and maintaining cultural skills and activities.

Department activities during the reporting period included Shawnee language programming through the Summer AfterSchool Program and Building Blocks Centers; participation in the Loyal Shawnee Language Fair; adult and community Shawnee language classes; cultural skills instruction; support for tribal ceremonial activities; and planning for the 2026 Absentee Shawnee Tribe Language Fair.

A significant accomplishment during the reporting period was the successful completion of the spring Shawnee language classes in May and the hosting of the Department's first Shawnee Language Recognition Event in June. The recognition event established a new opportunity to acknowledge and encourage students who are making a commitment to learning the Shawnee language.

The Department also continued hands-on cultural education through classes in making men's leggings, loom beading, and moccasin making. These activities provide participants with practical opportunities to learn traditional skills while supporting the preservation and transmission of Shawnee cultural knowledge.

These classes provide participants with direct, hands-on experience in traditional arts and skills. They also create opportunities for knowledge holders and instructors to pass traditional knowledge to younger generations and community members.

We had a tremendous amount of interest from tribal members to participated in these classes. Unfortunately, due to class size, we had to create a waiting list for each class. Please be patient, we will be offering these classes again in the fall and winter.

The Department supported participation by the AfterSchool Program and Building Blocks Centers in the Loyal Shawnee Language Fair. Participation provided youth with an opportunity to engage in Shawnee language activities in a broader community setting and reinforced language learning outside of their regular programming.

Youth participation in the language fair increased opportunities for Shawnee language exposure, interaction, and community engagement.

Planning is underway for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Language Fair scheduled for November 2026. This event will be part of Native American Heritage Month, so tribal members can celebrate

our culture and language. Activities include developing program content, coordinating activities, identifying participants and presenters, and preparing language-learning opportunities for tribal members and community participants.

Our goal is to provide a meaningful tribal-wide event that promotes Shawnee language awareness, learning, participation, and celebration. More information about the Absentee Shawnee Language Fair will be forth coming.

We had the pleasure of participating in our 4th podcast with the AST Media Department. The topic this time was on Shawnee names. General information about Shawnee names was provided, so that tribal members who are not familiar with our culture can understand there is more involved with a name than just having one.

The Language and Culture Department provided support for the Spring Bread Dances at all three ceremonial grounds and the War Dance during the reporting period. Providing support for tribal ceremonial activities contributes to the Department's broader responsibility to assist in maintaining and strengthening Shawnee cultural traditions and community practices.

The Department will also use the remainder of 2026 to identify program needs and opportunities for continued development in 2027. Areas under consideration include:

- Expansion of Shawnee language instruction.
- Development of additional Shawnee language curriculum materials.
- Continued development of youth language programming.
- Expansion of cultural skills classes.
- Increased participation in language and cultural events.
- Development of measurable language-learning outcomes.
- Increased documentation of cultural knowledge and educational activities.
- Continued development of community-based language revitalization initiatives.

Through these efforts, the Language and Culture Department will continue working to ensure that Shawnee language and cultural knowledge remain active, accessible, and transferable to future generations of Absentee Shawnee people.

Respectfully

Scott Miller

Scott Miller, MBA, MLS
Language and Culture Director
Absentee Shawnee Tribe

97th Semi-Annual General Council Secretary's Report

Greetings Tribal Member,

Welcome to our 97th Semi-Annual General Council!

My office is always busy with preparing for monthly meetings, and attending other monthly and weekly meetings here are a few conferences I have attended since the last General Council Meeting.

May: This was the month to raise awareness for MMIP (Missing and Murdered Indigenous People). I attended two walks one at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and our Rising Warrior/Domestic Violence Department held their first MMIP walk on May 27th. We look forward too many more events like this one.

June: This month was very busy. I attended an Ohio trip with Governor, and Representative for the anniversary of the Great Council State Park in Xenia. June 12th Agricultural Department had their 5th Annual Fishing for Nutrition event. I attended the Sovereignty Symposium with the other Executive Members June 15th and16th. I attend the Chip semi-annual (Pogo) Potawattomie Go meeting June 23rd.

July: I attended the Annual Thunderbird Pow Wow July 3rd-5th. July 20th-22nd, I attended the OIGA (Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association) conference the sessions were great information to learn more about gaming for me. July 26th-29th, I attended a WEWIN (Women Empowering Women for Indian Natation's) Conference.

September: I attended the 21st Annual Government to Government Violence Against Women tribal consultation September 8th-12th.

If you should have any questions and concerns please contact my office.

Secretary Misty McGirt
(405)275-4030 Ex.3505
MMcGirt@astribe.com

Executive Assistant: Alexas Rosales
(405)275-4030 Ex. 3641
ARosales@astribe.com

Tribal Enrollment Report

Enrollment Director: Amanda Webb
Enrollment Specialist II: Donna Woodfork
Enrollment Specialist: Andee Ellis

The Tribal Enrollment Office is under the direct supervision of the Tribal Secretary. It is the mission of this department to carry out the duties as deemed necessary by the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance. To follow policy while safeguarding membership files and other records pertinent to the department, and to assist current and future membership with integrity, accuracy, and the utmost confidentiality.

Enrollment Office Duties:

- Processing new enrollment applications.
- Presenting resolutions to the Executive Committee to approve or reject applicants, correct member's blood quantum, and certify the Tribal Roll biannually.
- Annotating the roll to reflect new members, relinquishments, deceased members, custody changes, official name changes, as well as address and phone number changes.
- Verifying eligibility or dual enrollment for other Tribes as well as various other entities.
- Updating expired Tribal ID cards.
- Ongoing record retention.

Announcements:

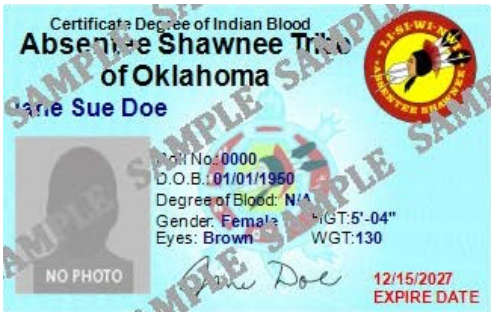
- Tribal Names "Indian Names" being added to CDIB cards- MIS has created an online form for members to submit. You can choose to have your name on your card, or just to have us store it.
- Address Update form online-MIS created an online form just for members to update their address with Enrollment, Tax, and Media. This short simple form helps keep your information up to date.
- Please keep the Enrollment Department up to date with any "life changes". It is important to update us with any changes to marital status, custody, and addresses.

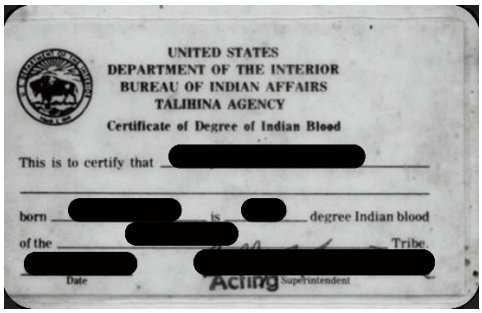
Did you know?

- The Enrollment Department doesn't issue CDIB cards-we issue Tribal IDs. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the only entity that can issue CDIB cards.
- Tribal IDs expire every 4 years.

- You should bring your Tribal ID with you when visiting the Tribe. Every single Department that provides a service will need a new copy of your Tribal ID each time you apply for services.

TRIBAL ID VS CDIB

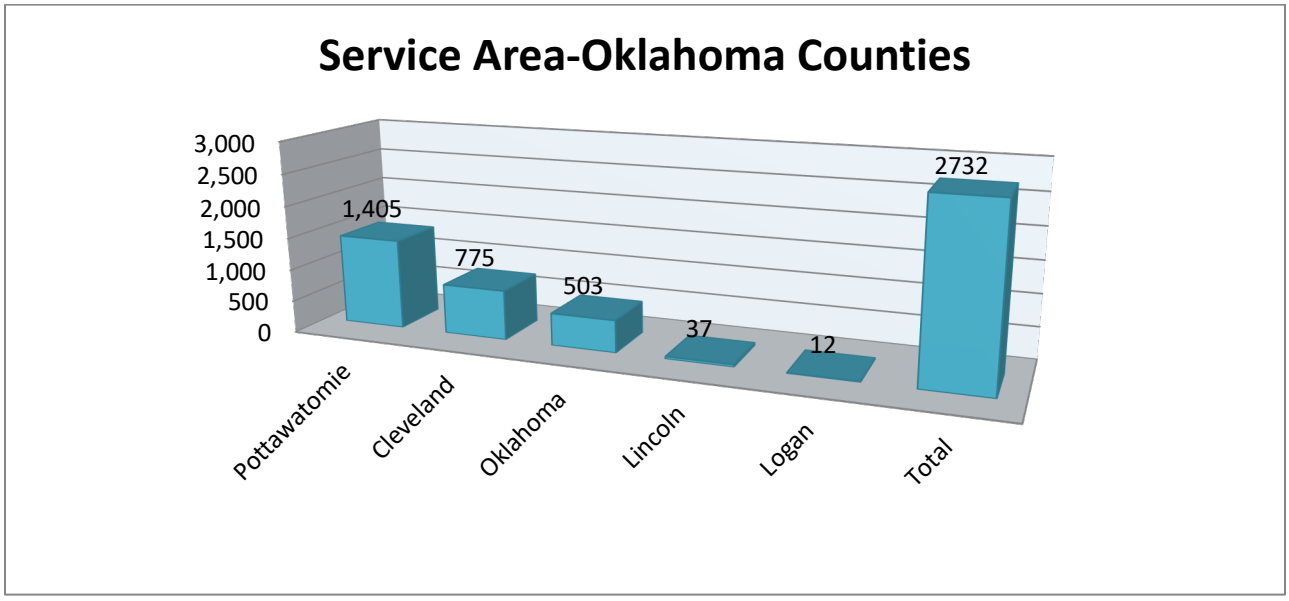


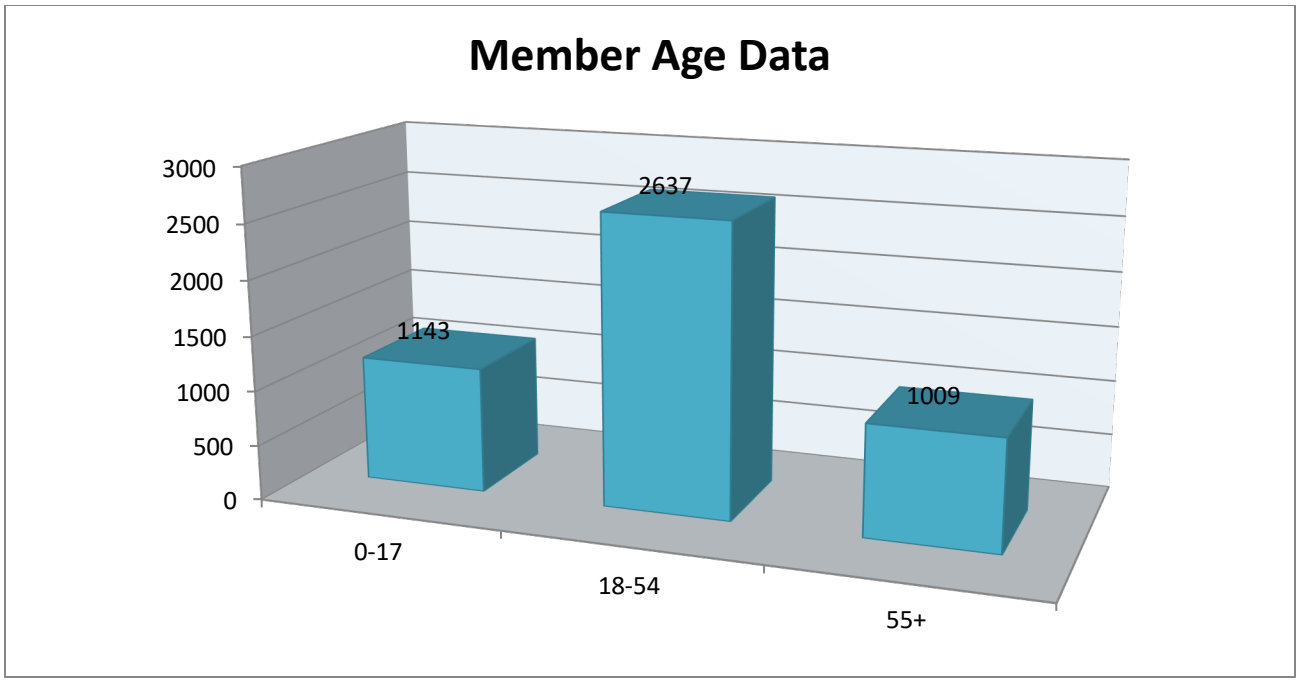


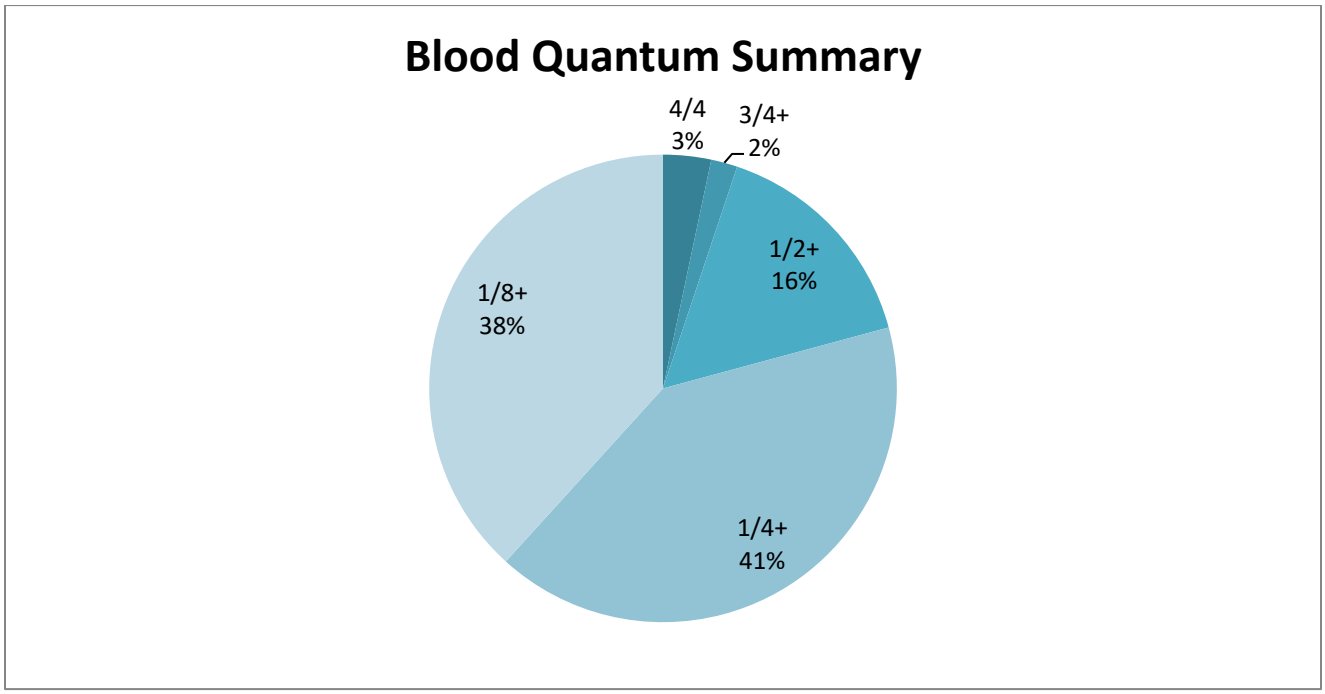
Enrollment Statistics April 2026-Present

Resolutions:

- Certification of Membership Roll: 1
- Membership: 4
  - Total New Members: 35
- Rejection: 1




Member Age Data
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
1143
2637
1009
0-17
18-54
55+


Blood Quantum Summary
4/4
3%
3/4+
2%
1/2+
16%
1/8+
38%
1/4+
41%

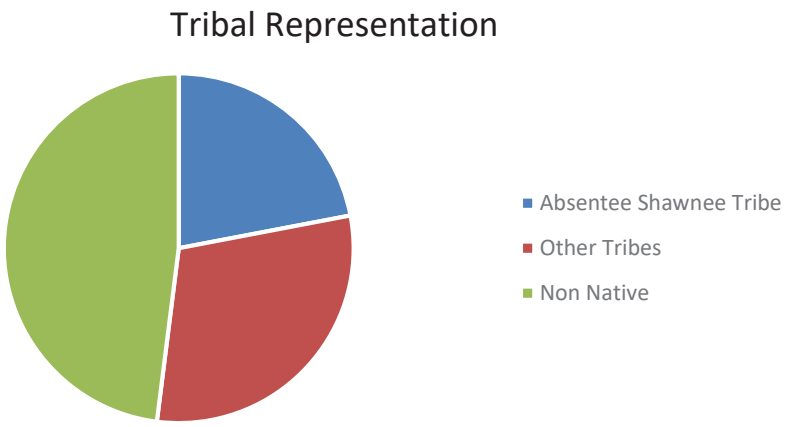
HUMAN RESOURCES

"Our mission is to provide quality human resource services to attract, develop, motivate, and retain a diverse workforce within a supportive tribal environment."

The Human Resource Department assists all Tribal departments in achieving their mission while ensuring employees are engaged and motivated to succeed. As the Absentee Shawnee Tribe continues to grow, the goal of the Human Resources Department is to continue to foster a positive and engaging work environment to help the Tribe achieve its strategic mission. We will continue to build and shape our workforce around the needs of the Tribal Departments; with a diverse team of professionals that are dedicated to serving our mission and investing in our employees, tribal members and community.

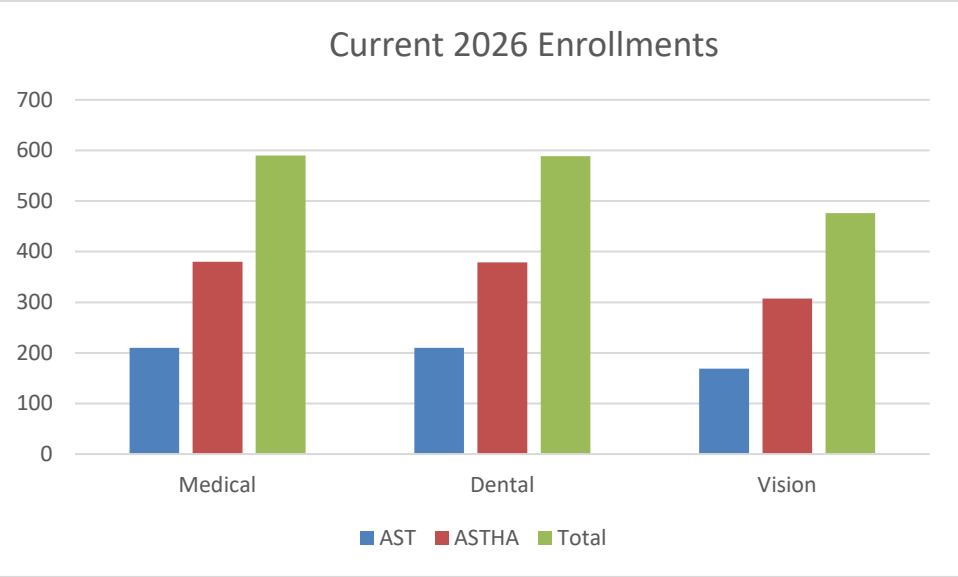
Earlier this year the Human Resource Department hosted a leadership training "Coaching and Teambuilding Skills". This training helped equip managers and supervisors with vital leadership skills to build effective teams. Participants developed skills that help cultivate a positive team culture, and promote collaboration in the workplace. The Human Resource Department has continually hosted 2-3 leadership trainings a year to target key areas from leadership essentials to communication, managing, motivating and influencing others. Health HR scheduled informational sessions throughout the year to refresh managers and supervisors on policies, employment actions, EWS, customer service, and other key programs. Our hopes are that these efforts will enhance knowledge, performance, and skills within the tribe to foster a positive impact on the tribe's growth, community and culture.

With the ever growing needs of the Tribe, attracting and retaining the best talent is important to the development of each department and program. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma currently has 685 employees; out of 685 employees, 52% of our employees are Native American.



BENEFITS

In November 2026, the Human Resources Department will host our annual open enrollment. We will host in person assisted enrollment in Shawnee and Little Axe. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe provides a healthy benefit package to its employees. The employee benefit package includes leave options, health and wellness offerings, and educational opportunities. The Human Resources Department continues to work diligently with health insurance representatives and department leaders to keep the organizations benefit package cost effective while maintaining optimal coverage for our employees.



Another part of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's benefit package is 401(k). Employees are able to contribute to their retirement plan each pay period and receive up to a 5% employer match. Employees can make their contributions Pre-Tax and / or Roth. As of August 31, 2026, the plan balance was approximately $29,719,489.31. The Human Resource Department has continued to host in person meetings with our financial broker to encourage employees to invest in their future.

TRAINING

HR has continued training on various topics to ensure we are a strong employer. It is critical for HR to stay current and up to date on all aspects of employment law. Our department is focused on recruitment and retention, employee relations, training, and managing our benefit programs. HR has a strong team with experience, dedication, and credibility.

Five staff members attended the Annual Society for Human Resource Management State Conference in May of 2026. This conference allowed for staff members to build relationships and gain invigorating knowledge in relation to the ever-changing environment of Human Resources. Three staff members

completed the Tribal Management Professional Certification through National Native American Human Resources Association (NNAHRA). One staff member also completed their THRP II Certification! This certification provides a deep dive into legal and practical issues related to Human Resource functions. THRP II provides professionals and tribal leaders with the practical knowledge and skills to handle unique employment challenges facing tribal governments and enterprises.

The Human Resources Department values the feedback of employees and Tribal Members. Feedback helps us identify services and programs that are valued or highlight areas where improvement is needed. We encourage any Tribal Member or employee with feedback to email HR@astribe.com with any comments or concerns.

In support of the Tribe's principles, values, vision, and mission, it is the goal of Human Resources to support the total operation of the Tribe by utilizing its most valuable resource – PEOPLE. The Human Resources team is committed to evaluating and meeting the needs of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal workforce. We are dedicated to providing high quality service to all prospective, current, and past employees, along with Tribal members.

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT IS SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES:

Casey Adams-Beesley, Director of Human Resources
Lauren Gladden, HR Generalist II
Rebecca Hyde, HR Benefit Specialist II
Anna James, HR Administrative Assistant
Dayna Dick, Interim Health HR Officer
Makayla Kasitz, HR Generalist II
Brenda Tiger, Health HR Specialist
Jamie Whiteshield, Health HR Recruiting Specialist
Chandler Tyler, Health HR Assistant

Human Resources Department – Shawnee (405) 275-1468
Human Resources Department – Health Clinic (405) 701-7638
HR@ASTRIBE.COM

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Information Technology Department

The Information Technology Department consists of 12 dedicated professionals who support both the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System. The department includes six Tribal employees and six Health employees and is comprised of an Office Manager, Infrastructure Manager/Architect, Cybersecurity Specialist and HIPAA Compliance Officer, Systems Engineer, two Systems Administrators, and five Helpdesk/Desktop Support Analysts.

Over the past several years, the Information Technology Department has focused on modernization, cybersecurity enhancement, operational stability, customer support, and digital transformation initiatives. During this period, the team successfully completed several strategic projects that have strengthened the organization's technology foundation and positioned the Tribe for continued growth.

Major accomplishments include the migration to Microsoft 365, implementation of enhanced identity and access security controls, expansion of SharePoint collaboration services, infrastructure modernization efforts, and continued support of critical Tribal Government and Healthcare technology systems. These initiatives have reduced organizational risk, improved employee productivity, strengthened our cybersecurity posture, and enhanced access to modern collaboration and communication tools.

One of the department's most significant achievements has been the establishment of a dedicated cybersecurity function. While still in its early stages, the security team has already demonstrated its value through proactive monitoring, risk reduction efforts, compliance initiatives, and the continued protection of sensitive Tribal and healthcare data. The creation of this team represents an important investment in safeguarding the information entrusted to us and supporting regulatory and compliance requirements.

The Information Technology Department remains committed to delivering reliable technology services, strengthening cybersecurity defenses, improving operational efficiencies, and enabling innovation across the organization. As technology continues to evolve, we will continue to invest in people, processes, and systems that support the mission of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and provide a secure, stable, and scalable technology environment for the future.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work to strengthen and advance the Tribe's technology foundation.

General Council Report to Tribal Members

Department Overview

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Department remains dedicated to preserving the safety, stability, well-being, and cultural identity of our tribal children and families. Over the past six months, our team has continued working diligently to strengthen partnerships with state agencies, service providers, tribal programs, foster families, and community partners.

Our primary goal is to ensure that Absentee Shawnee children receive the protections and services they are entitled to under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) while maintaining meaningful connections to their families, Tribe, culture, and community.

The ICW Department continues to advocate for family preservation and reunification whenever safely possible, while also ensuring that children who cannot remain with their biological families are placed in safe, stable, and culturally appropriate homes. We recognize that protecting a child's cultural identity is an essential part of protecting the child's overall well-being.

ICWA Compliance and State Partnerships

ICW continues to work closely with Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) and other state agencies including out of state agencies to ensure that the Tribe receives proper notification and involvement when an Absentee Shawnee child is involved in a child welfare matter.

The Department continues to advocate for:

- Timely notification to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe when a child may be eligible for or enrolled with the Tribe.
- Active participation of the Tribe in child welfare proceedings and case planning.
- Compliance with ICWA requirements throughout the life of a case.
- Appropriate placement of tribal children with relatives, tribal members, or other culturally appropriate placements whenever possible.
- Maintaining children's connections to their family, Tribe, culture, and community.
- Increased communication between ICW, state agencies, courts, service providers, and families.

ICW is also working to strengthen communication and collaboration with state partners so that tribal involvement begins as early as possible in a child welfare case.

Foster Care and Placement

One of the Department's ongoing priorities is ensuring that children in tribal custody have safe, stable, and supportive placements. ICW continues to recruit, license, and support tribal foster and kinship homes.

A significant challenge continues to be the need for additional foster and kinship homes, particularly for older children and children with more complex needs. The Department is actively exploring solutions to increase placement resources and to provide children with safe alternatives to shelters and group-care settings.

ICW remains committed to supporting foster parents through regular communication, home visits, case management, resources, and assistance with the needs of children placed in their care.

We encourage tribal members who are interested in becoming foster or kinship caregivers to contact the Indian Child Welfare Department to learn more about the process and available support.

Cultural Preservation for ICW

Cultural preservation remains a fundamental part of the ICW Department's work. Our children should have opportunities to know who they are, where they come from, and their connection to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

ICW is working with other tribal departments, including the Cultural Department and Tribal Attorney General's Office, to strengthen the understanding and application of culturally appropriate definitions of family, relatives, and kinship within tribal child welfare matters.

This work is important because family relationships within our Tribe may extend beyond biological relationships. Cultural and traditional family connections should be considered when determining appropriate placement and support for tribal children.

Family Support and Prevention

The Department continues to focus on preventing unnecessary removal of children from their families whenever it can be safely achieved. ICW works with families to identify needs, connect them with services, and develop plans that support child safety and family stability.

When children are removed from their homes, ICW continues to work toward reunification when appropriate and safe while also ensuring that children's emotional, educational, medical, cultural, and developmental needs are addressed.

Department Goals for 2026 to 2027

The Indian Child Welfare Department will continue working to strengthen the Tribe's child welfare system and ensure that Absentee Shawnee children and families receive the support and protection they deserve.

Our priorities moving forward include:

- Increasing the number of licensed tribal foster and kinship homes.
- Strengthening ICWA compliance and tribal notification.
- Improving collaboration with state agencies and courts.

- Increasing enrollment assistance for children involved in child welfare cases.
- Strengthening culturally appropriate placement resources.
- Supporting foster and kinship families.
- Expanding prevention and family-support services.
- Preserving the cultural identity and connections of Absentee Shawnee children.
- Continuing to advocate for safe and permanent outcomes for every child.
- Providing emergency home for children without going into shelter or group home
- Establishment of a Tribal Children's Court- This work remains in progress, with continued dialogue among tribal leadership, legal, counsel, and judicial partners to ensure the court structure supports our children's best interests and honors tribal sovereignty.

The ICW Department appreciates the continued support of the Tribal Members, tribal departments, foster families, relatives, service providers, and tribal community. Protecting our children is a shared responsibility, and we remain committed to ensuring that Absentee Shawnee children remain connected to their families, their Tribe, and their culture whenever safely possible.

Program Updates

- Foster Care and Licensing: ICW is currently operating without a licensing board. At this time, the Department has three active licensed foster homes and two emergency homes, for a total of five placement homes available to serve Absentee Shawnee tribal children.
- Family Support Services: Support Services for ICW focus on prevention, family stability, and child safety. Services are provided for clients whose children have been removed by the state or tribal authority, as well as to families identified as needing support to prevent future removal. Prevention services are offered when the state or tribe determines that children can safely remain with their parents while the family participates in recommended services and support. Support Services may also be provided in tribal guardianship cases when guardians require assistance in caring for child(ren). All clients requesting Support Services must complete an application process prior to receiving services. ICW currently has 21 support service cases per grant year.
- Court and ICWA Advocacy: ICW attends court hearings across multiple counties, ensuring tribal representation in all active cases and providing ongoing consultation on ICWA compliance to partner agencies.

To Report Child Abuse and Neglect:

Children: Occurring ON AST trust land

ICW Office: (405) 395-4490

ICW Email: ICW@astribe.com

Children: Occurring OFF AST trust land

OKDHS hotline: 1-800-522-3511

Report Prepared By:
Paige Little Charley
Director, Indian Child Welfare
(405) 395-4490
PaigeL@astribe.com

Rising Warrior Department

The Rising Warrior (DV) Departments' mission is to eliminate violence in Native country and to strengthen Native families to end the cycle of violence. It is the job of the Domestic Violence Program to help victims/survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Sex Trafficking, Stalking and Elder Abuse to overcome their trauma and live abuse-free lives. The Rising Warrior Department operates through 3 OVW (Office on Violence Against Women), 3 OVC (Office for Victims of Crime) and 1 FVPSA grants. Each of these grants allow for us to provide services to all individuals within Oklahoma, Pottawatomie, Cleveland and Lincoln counties who have recently experienced an incident of a domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, sex trafficking, stalking and elder abuse.

The services offered by the Rising Warrior Department include emergency assistance to victims, through safety planning, shelter placement into one of the local domestic violence shelters, emergency based transportation, emergency food, emergency clothing and other basic needs as they relate to the domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, sex-trafficking, elder abuse or stalking incident. Also, we work with other departments within the Tribe as well as other local Tribal and State Domestic Violence agencies in every effort to help support victims/survivors needs, to reduce domestic violence related incidents and to help victims overcome abusive situations. Our primary goal is to provide services to eliminate domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, sex trafficking, stalking and elder abuse within Indian Country. The staff of the Rising Warrior is listed below with a brief description of the work they do.

Lacey Carey is the DV Director oversees and coordinates the day-to-day operations of the department. She is responsible for completing reports, managing the budget, and attending and coordinating meetings with partnering agencies and departments. She ensures that grant goals and objectives are met, maintains compliance with grant requirements, assists in developing outreach and awareness activities, and provides direct services to victims as needed.

Kaitlyn Patterson is our Victim Advocate through OVW. She provides advocacy to victims/survivors by offering support which focuses on the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. She helps victims with emergency assistance, transportation, counseling referrals, emergency shelter, and other basic necessities. She also helps to identify safe shelter options for those fleeing violent instances and provides referrals for assistance not offered by the program when needed. Kaitlyn is also the Self-Sufficiency Coordinator through OVC. The Self-Sufficiency Program will assist survivors of intimate partner violence to establish their autonomy. This program empowers individuals with the necessary resources and skills to live in independence. This program will assist survivors in personal development like: furthering education, career and financial advocacy.

Kristy Kisor is our Outreach Coordinator through OVW. She works to identify future partners or community entities willing to assist with needs of victims/survivors. Kristy assists in crisis intervention, safety planning, coordination emergency shelter, transports on an emergency basis or if scheduled, offers referrals, provides case management and assists with coordination payments for housing and emergency necessities. In addition, she will also provide and participate in community education/awareness activities/events.

Monique Carpitcher is our Cultural Outreach Coordinator. She provides advocacy and assistance to victims of elder abuse, adult victims of child sexual abuse and survivors of homicide victims. Monique

also provides outreach/education and will be coordinating support and cultural groups to those who have experienced the above mentioned victimizations. The current ambition of the program is to continuously bring awareness to the elder abuse epidemic in our community while gaining the trust of tribal community members.

Taylor Wills is the Sexual Assault Coordinator works directly with victims and survivors of sexual violence by providing advocacy, immediate crisis intervention, confidential emotional support, and information. She is on call and accompanies victims and survivors to sexual assault nurse examinations, ensuring they receive compassionate support and guidance throughout the process.

If you or someone you know is dealing with domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, dating violence, sex trafficking or stalking, please contact our office for **confidential** support and assistance. Our intake for services is available to be completed and submitted online for easier access. You can find our intake at https://www.astribe.com/forms/victim-intake. If you have any questions regarding a specific incident and want to discuss your options, please call our office. We are temporarily located at 40208 Benson Park Road, Tecumseh, OK (right next to the AST Food Pantry) if you need to make an appointment with an advocate to discuss the case in further detail. **If you are not comfortable meeting in our office we can meet you at a public location.**

For questions or additional information, you may contact us at the following numbers:
Main Office: (405) 273-2888

- Lacey Carey, DV Director (405) 617-6964
- Kaitlyn Patterson, Victim Advocate/Self-Sufficiency Coordinator (405) 827-1796
- Kristy Kisor, Outreach Coordinator (405) 827-4213
- Monique Carpitcher, Cultural Outreach Coordinator (405) 432-9469
- Taylor Wills, Sexual Assault (405) 432-9657

Also, be sure to check out our webpage located at https://www.astribe.com/domestic-violence for additional information including events, forms and other resources. Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook at ASTRisingWarrior.

In 2025, Oklahoma recorded more than 29,000 reported domestic violence incidents —an average of approximately 79 incidents every day.

https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/oag/divisions/victim-advocacy-and-services-unit/domestic-violence-fatality-review-board-annual-report/2025%20Annual%20Report_02_11_26.pdf

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

Hello fellow AST Family and Friends:

As I begin this short report, I want to say "Thank you!" for choosing to attend the 97th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting. As mentioned in the past, this is an opportunity to hear the accomplishments of our Tribe and ongoing updates of the various programs. Also, it is a time for members to address concerns or share ideas and provide feedback.

Earlier this Summer, I began my 6th year as your elected Treasurer. This is not a task taken lightly, though difficult at times, I have enjoyed helping direct and find solutions to common problems. Many times, since coming into office, staff and Tribal members alike have expressed appreciation for the work my staff and I do. We do our best with the resources and information available. Our main focus is always to maintain accurate data, provide support, and make certain the Tribe stays compliant in all facets of our operations.

Over the years, many have heard me say, "The Tribe needs to expand our revenue base and diversify into other areas, to take advantage of our non-taxable Sovereign status." There have been many discussions and a lot of heartburn as we've attempted to find the most profitable businesses with the least amount of risk and lowest investment. That premise is still paramount as new opportunities are presented in our future. At the same time, we are realistic in our approach and how we should invest.

In the pages following this letter, find attached information from Department heads of the programs I maintain direct oversight. In my regular meetings with staff and personnel, I remind them to be professional and courteous. But I am aware of past behavior from some of our members and do not agree with them being threatened with violence or cussed at.

For those familiar, most know me to be compassionate, dedicated, hardworking, loyal, honest, and supportive. I don't do things for special favors, incentives, or recognition. This has put me in contention with folks because I hold everyone to the same standard; regardless of title or who your related to. Again, if you would like to have more specific discussion, I am happy to have that private conversation. Please call my Executive Assistant, Keesha, and we will get you scheduled with a personal visit or phone call.

Neyiwa!

Joseph H. Blanchard
Treasurer

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Finance Department

Mission

To provide timely, relevant, and accurate financial information to the Executive Committee, departments, and any third parties to support management decision-making, and demonstrate fiscal responsibility, accountability, and regulatory compliance in accordance with Federal, State, and Tribal laws and regulations.

Vision

To provide the best possible customer service to the Executive Committee, Tribal Members and Tribal Programs/Departments with the usage of the latest technology and resources available.

Finance Department

- Controller (1)
- Assistant Controller (1)
- Senior Accountant (1)
- Budget Officer (1)
- AP/Payroll Supervisor (1)
- Grants Accountant (2)
- Budget Analyst (1)
- Accounts Payable (2)
- Finance Admin. Assistant (1)

Native	Non-Native
•8 •73%	•3 •27%

2026 Budgets

General Fund Departments and Programs

Agriculture, Cultural Preservation, Education, Elders Council, Election Commission, Emergency Management, Gaming Commission, Governor, Indian Child Welfare, Lt. Governor, Media, OEH, Police, Realty, Representative, Secretary, Social Services, Sponsored Programs, Tax Commission, Treasurer, Veteran and Grants match fund consists of PPG, Title IV B Part 1, Title IV B Part 2, Tribal Opioid Settlement

Bureau of Indian Affairs(BIA) Departments and Programs

BIA Transportation, BIA Operations, BIA Transportation Planning, Courts, Education, Enrollment, ICW, Police, Realty and Social Services

Indirect Cost (IDC) Departments and Programs

Finance, Operations, Grants, Governor, Human Resources, Legal, Lt. Governor, Maintenance, Media, MIS(IT), Procurement, Representative, Secretary and Treasurer

P.L. 102-477 Program

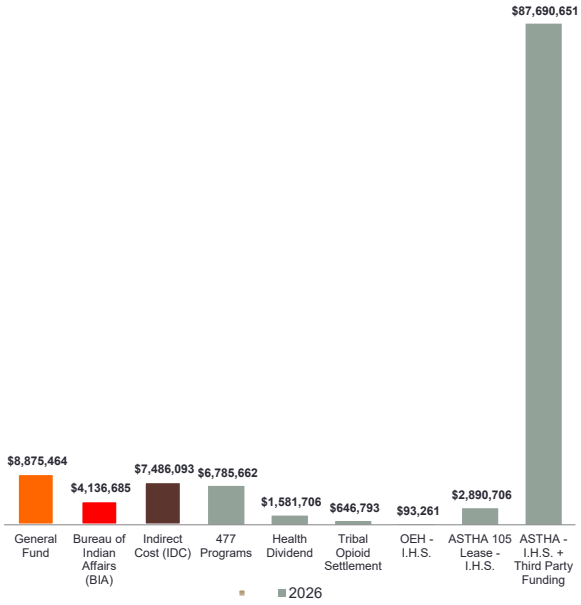
DOI/BIE-JOM, DOI/BIA-Job Placement and Training, DHHS-Child Care Development Funds (CCDF), and DOL-Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System Departments and Programs

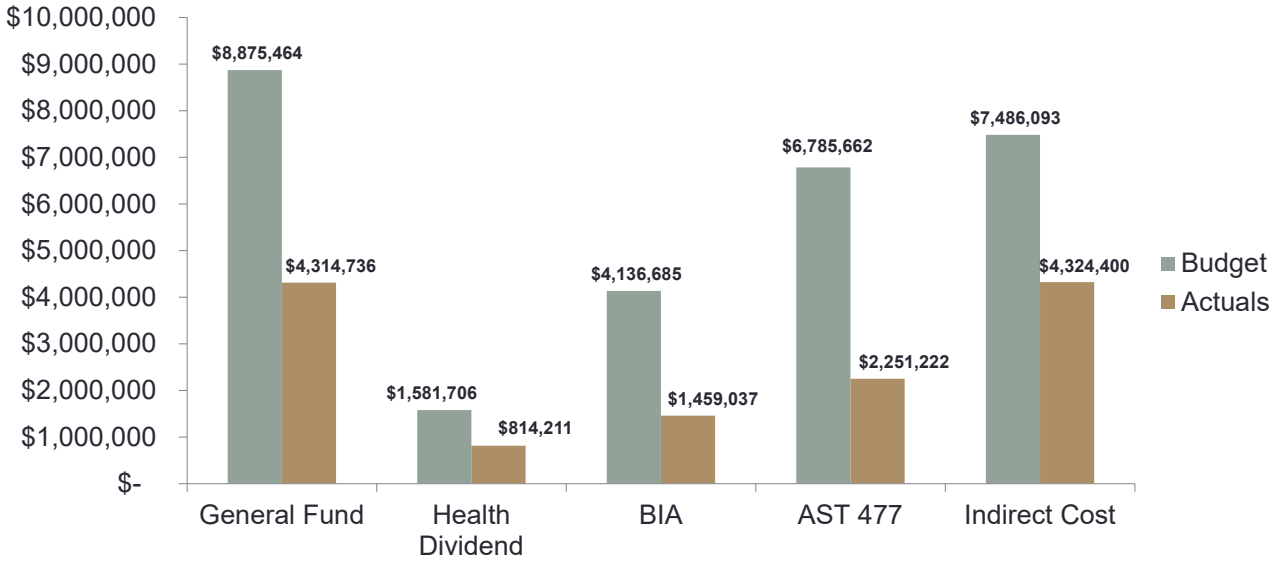
Shawnee and Little Axe Clinic, Plus Care Clinic, Radiology, Health Information Management, Pharmacy, Laboratory, Registration, Administration Behavioral Health, Business Finance, Contract Health, CME, Physical Therapy, Marketing, Title VI, Optometry, Dental, Electronic Health Record, Community Health, Specialty, Transportation and Affordable Care Act Sponsorships

Health Dividend

Current programs using the Health Dividend budget include; Food Bank, Clothing and Education (Dividend follows purposes outlined in the Indian Healthcare Improvement Act, 25 USC Sec. 1601 et. al)



AST 2026: Budget-to-Actual Comparisons YTD – 06/30/2026



AST Tribal Grants: 2026 YTD Expenditures (unaudited) – 06/30/2026

Funding Agency	Total Expenditures
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	$1,979,427
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	$1,459,037
P.L. 102-477	$2,251,222
Department of Interior (DOI) – Tribal Historic Preservation	$28,348
Indian Health Services (IHS) - ASTHA	$47,507,517
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	$112,036
Department of Justice (DOJ)	$364,352
Department of Transportation (DOT) – Safe Streets and Roads	$25,176
Department of Transportation (DOT) – OSG	$12,021
Department of Treasury – LATCF and HAF Funds	$241,747
Grand Total:	$53,980,883

AST 2026 Governmental Services - Annual Revenue vs Expense (Unaudited) – 06/30/26

Program/Fund	Revenue	Expense
Tribal Opioid Settlement (L-AS-2025-06) Passed 4/16/25	$646,793	$91,192
TERO	$55,362	$55,362
General Fund	$4,159,052	$2,602,114
Gaming Commission	$1,384,631	$804,152
Construction – Admin. Building 3	$4,986,777	$761,926
TCNS Section 106	$81,981	$81,981
Total	$11,314,596	$4,396,727
	Recoveries	Expense
Indirect Cost	$3,245,353	$4,324,400

PROCUREMENT

MISSION

The mission of the Procurement Department is to serve the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and its subsidiaries by facilitating a procurement process that is precise, efficient, and compliant with Federal Regulations and Tribal policies. In alignment with our mission, we support the objectives of each grant and department by guiding acquisition activities and procuring essential resources, ensuring that every program can successfully fulfill its own mission and effectively serve Tribal members. As a department, we are committed to upholding the Tribe's values in all procurement activities while building strong vendor relationships, ensuring responsible utilization of Tribal resources, and promoting fair and transparent competition.

FUNCTIONS

The Procurement Department manages purchasing activities for the Tribe and its subsidiaries, ensuring full compliance with applicable policies and regulations. Procurements are conducted through informal methods, including micro purchases and simplified acquisitions, or formal methods such as sealed bids and proposals. We work closely with each program to determine the appropriate procurement approach and deliver quality goods and services at competitive prices through strategic planning, research, and data driven analysis.

Our team negotiates favorable terms to protect the Tribe's purchasing power while sourcing a wide range of needs, including office supplies, technology, vehicles, equipment, construction services, and travel. We maintain a diverse and reliable vendor database and continuously seek new supplier opportunities to strengthen competition and value. Beyond purchasing, we administer the electronic purchasing system for the Tribe and Health System, provide biannual employee training, manage AST credit card accounts and service contracts, and evaluate new technologies to improve efficiency. We conduct inventory to ensure responsible stewardship of Tribal assets and serve as liaison for the Tribe's insurance coverage, including automobile, property, and general liability claims. Our central focus is to streamline the acquisition process so the programs we support can remain focused on serving Tribal Members and advancing the Tribe's mission.

2026

The same supply chain challenges experienced in 2025 continue into the third quarter of 2026. The Procurement Department continues to navigate day-to-day price fluctuations, product availability issues, tariffs, and increased transportation costs, all of which can impact purchasing timelines and overall costs.

Our focus this year is to reduce costs while still procuring quality products to support the operational needs of the departments we serve. To date, the Procurement Department has processed 1,599 Purchase Orders in 2026 and received 30,464 individual items.

Procurement continues to identify opportunities to maximize savings and deliver greater value to departments. Recent efforts include negotiating reduced costs for cellular devices, resulting in

a 14% discount on the service cost for each network device. Additionally, the annual insurance renewal provided an opportunity to reduce spending with a 12.5% reduction in premium costs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vendor Application

As a reminder, the Procurement Department has an online Vendor Application for businesses interested in being added to the Vendor Contact List and receiving notifications about future business opportunities that align with their capabilities.

The application provides a convenient way for vendors to submit key business information and required documentation, including W-9's, Native American or minority-owned business documentation, industry certifications, and proof of insurance.



Businesses interested in connecting with the Tribe are encouraged to submit a Vendor Application, available on the Procurement page of the AST website or by scanning this QR Code.

Employee Training – SharePoint

In collaboration with the MIS Department, Procurement is working to create a SharePoint page for employees. The page will feature the Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual, training materials for Microix and Laserfiche forms, and calendar updates. The page is being created to ensure all employees can access purchasing information with ease.

Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual

The Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual passed by resolution earlier this year. The updated manual aligns with the current OMB Uniform Guidance allowing Tribes to utilize their own established policies and procedures while conducting purchasing activities.

PURCHASING

As 2026 ends, the Procurement Department is preparing to support programs and departments with end of year purchases for operational needs and upcoming events and holidays. The "last day" for purchases notice will be sent out soon informing departments of the last day purchases may be submitted to guarantee arrival and that the expense is allocated to 2026 budgets.

INVENTORY

The Procurement Department is currently on the ground conducting the annual inventory of tribal assets for all AST departments and grant programs. This essential "check-in" ensures that all equipment and resources are accounted for, properly managed, and in compliance with policy. To date, the Inventory Control Specialist has completed 28 departments.

TRAVEL

The Travel Team supports departments and programs by arranging business travel for specialized training and required training for grant obligations. We want to share important updates that may impact business and personal travel.

- Baggage Fees: Many airlines that previously offered free checked bags have eliminated this courtesy. Checked bags incurring a fee will typically be the industry standard.
- Identity Verification Fee: If you do not have a REAL ID or passport, the TSA now offers an optional $45 verification fee at security checkpoints. This allows travelers to verify their identity through alternate methods to avoid being grounded.
- Mileage Rate Increase: In July, the IRS and GSA authorized an off cycle increase to the standard mileage rate due to rising fuel prices. Effective July 1st, 2026, the standard mileage rate increased from $0.725 per mile to $0.76 per mile.

REALTY DEPARTMENT

The Realty Department consists of a Realty Director, Probate Director, Realty Assistant, Realty Clerk, and a Housing Management Coordinator at the Citizen Village Tiny Homes. The types of land transactions our office oversee include: Farming and Grazing leases, Oil and Gas leases, Right-of-Ways, Residential leases, Citizen Village Tiny Homes, and Conveyances of trust property. The Realty Department also provides Probate services for Absentee Shawnee tribal members.

ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL: Other land transactions in addition to leases and rentals include: gift deeds, land purchases, land sales, and negotiated land sales. The Realty office continues to work on all requests regarding landowner's undivided interest.

For landowners who have contacted us for a Gift Deed or Negotiated Sale, our office has been receiving final approvals on those requests. We have been sending certified completion letters to those landowners who have made those requests. The estimated completion time for a request is about 1-3 months depending on paperwork being sent out and returned to our office. If you need an update, please contact our office as we can provide you with that information.

As a reminder, Mineral Appraisals with Conveyances do take more time as those reports come from BIA. Final Approval for both Gift Deeds and Negotiated Sales will come from the Regional Director at the BIA – Southern Plains Regional Office.

PROBATE: The Realty Department is responsible for research and preparation of the information and documentation necessary to submit the case file, while keeping in compliance with AIPRA, the Federal Probate Code and maintaining confidentiality. The Realty Department communicates with BIA, OHA (Office of Hearings and Appeals), Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA), and other tribes and agencies.

****Update**** The Bureau of Indian Affairs has implemented the new Electronic Probate System. It is a new system that went live in July 2026. This allows families to be able to manage estate probates through an online portal. It replaces paper-based processing with an online secure electronic submission. Once a death has a been reported and a case has been created, families will be able to upload supporting documents, family history information, and track the current status of their probate case.

Our office has a new Probate Director who will be processing our tribe's caseload and submitting to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Probate Director will continue to process the cases that been started already and create new case files for landowners under the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Our office will be contacting the families for probate case updates. The updates may include the current status, any additional documents needed for submission, and if the case has been submitted to BIA for review. Once a Probate Case has been sent to BIA, the Regional Office will review the

submitted documents and send the case to the Office of Hearing and Appeals in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The family's cooperation is crucial to the submittal process. A family data form is required to be filled out by the family and can be returned or uploaded online in order to complete the probate. There will be instructions sent with the form of any other additional documents the BIA may require. If the decedent executed a Last Will and Testament, the original must be submitted with the requested documents.

Our office has scheduled with OILS for another Wills Clinic and that will be on Wednesday **December 2nd, 2026 from 9 am to 2 pm**. This event will be in the Warrior Room at the Thunderbird Casino off highway 9. If you need any landowner documents such as an ITI Report or Title Status Report, please contact our office to receive your documents for your appointment with OILS.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) continues to assist the Absentee Shawnee Indian landowners by providing services to help prepare wills to ensure their estates are properly distributed. Please contact Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) at **(405) 943-6457** to schedule an appointment.

AGRICULTURE: The Realty Department is responsible for inspecting, monitoring, and recording the use of all trust property under the jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Farming and grazing leases provide the most activity on Indian lands. Proper planning is required and close work with the lessees is important in creating a sound improvement plan for the development of the property throughout the lease period.

Our office held the annual Lease Bid Sale on August 31st, 2026. The highest bid was awarded to the lessee and will have the lease approved by BIA for January 1st, 2027. Once the lease is approved, the payment will shall be processed and transferred into the landowner's IIM accounts on the awarded leases.

Our office will continue to monitor daily functions, farm plans, and payments for each Agriculture lease. Should you have any questions regarding payment on your tract of land, please feel free to contact our office and we can provide you that information. Payments are due at the 1st of each year by the lessee. If not paid, our office will assess a 10% late payment fee each month if no payment is submitted to the lockbox.

OIL AND GAS: Our office is currently working with one proposal with a company and will obtain approval from the BIA SPRO. Our office will be sending notification letters on the proposal and the company will be mailing out the consent forms for the landowner's signature.

RIGHT-OF-WAY: The Atoka Water Pipeline Settlement has been finalized and payments were mailed out to landowners through the **Trust Beneficiary Call Center in June 2021**. If you have not received any payment, please call the Trust Beneficiary Call Center to update your current address. The number for The Trust Beneficiary Call Center (TBCC) is listed below in the last section of this report.

Our office will continue to have Right of Way easements approved by BIA. Our office is currently working on 6 proposals. Once approved, the landowners will receive an approval letter from our office. Should you have any questions about the easement, payment, and or need to update your address information, please contact our office.

****If you have received any documents through the mail and do not understand the document, please give us a call or visit our office and we can assist you on your BIA Right of Way paperwork.**

Rental Home Properties: Our office now manages all the rental properties that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe owns in Fee Public Status. Notifications will be placed in the tribal newsletter and AST website for available rental properties. For more information, please contact our office.

Citizen Village Tiny Homes: The Realty Department has oversight of the Citizen Village Tiny Homes program. The Tiny Home program consists of two (2) separate programs. One program will be for the Tribal Elders open rental. The other program will be Emergency Housing to help tribal members that are facing homelessness until they are able find a more permanent housing solution. Both programs have qualifications that each applicant and emergency housing request must meet before approval of a Tiny Home unit.

The Policy and Procedures was approved in September 2023 by the Executive Committee to open up The Citizen Village to the tribe. Our plan for the Citizen Village Tiny Homes is to create a safe environment and structured program for all tribal members that qualify.

JD Marshal is our Housing Management Coordinator for the Citizen Village Tiny Homes. Mr. Marshall will be the main contact for all inquiries for the Citizen Village.

****Important Information****

Please be sure your information is up to date in the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA). If you have changed addresses or changed locations on where you receive your mail, please contact BTFA. If you do not contact BTFA for an address update, the mail you receive at your old address location will be returned back to BTFA and you will be listed as **whereabouts unknown** in the system. All-important information will be held and the checks you receive through the mail will be sent to your Individuals Indian Money (IIM) account until updated. If you wish to check if everything is up to date, please give our office a call and we can look that up for you.

Number for The Bureau of Trust Funds Administration is listed below:

Bureau of Trust Funds Administration
1-888-678-6836

All land transactions such as acquisition and disposal, and leasing have to be approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Plains Regional Director. The Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) is an asset management system that includes several modules such as TAAMS Title, Leasing, Payment Distribution, and Record Keeping. TAAMS is used by this department and the BIA to manage these transactions. The Realty Office will continue working to get all leases and conveyances approved.

FUTURE GOALS:

1. F&G Lease approvals for January 1st, 2027
2. Submit Probate Cases to BIA from current caseload
3. BIA Approval on all ROWs
4. Process and BIA Approval on all Gift Deeds & Negotiated Sale Requests

We look forward to continue serving the Absentee Shawnee Tribal members and the other landowners. Should you have any questions, please give our office a call @ 405-275-4030 or come by our office.

Realty Staff:

Taylor Carter, Realty Director, ext. 3593

Email: **TaylorC@astribe.com**

TBD, Probate Director, ext. 3594

Email: TBD

Yecica Gutierrez, Realty Assistant, ext. 3595

Kimberlee Billie, Realty Clerk, ext. 3596

JD Marshall, Housing Management Coordinator, ext. 3593

SOCIAL SERVICES

Over Sight Elected Official: Tribal Treasurer, Joseph Blanchard
Staff: Social Service Director - Annette Wilson Social Service Assistance – Kaylee Bemo

MISSION STATEMENT:

Strong families are the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's foundation and our future. Keeping families strong and together are goals the Social Services Department strives to achieve. By reaching out, working together and by providing affective and efficient administration of programs that will strengthen family life and foster self-sufficiency we can improve the well-being of all Absentee Shawnee families.

ELIGIBILITY:

Services are offered with the goal of self-sufficiency. All programs administered thru the Social Services target the economically disadvantaged, unemployed, or underemployed Native American Indian. An application process is required. Receipt of any assistance is dependent on an un-met need basis, meeting specific program requirements, and availability of funding. Not all services are of a financial nature.

SERVICE AREA:

The Social Services, service area extends to include Lincoln, Payne, Cleveland and Pottawatomie counties. Most of the programs are limited to the former reservation boundaries plus near reservation designation of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe or in Census Bureau terms "Oklahoma Tribal Service Area" (OTSA). This area is bound on the South of the North Canadian River, on the North of the South Canadian River, on the West of the Seminole County line and on the East of the Indian Meridian line. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe former reservation service area covers portions of the Pottawatomie, Cleveland and Oklahoma counties.

PROCESS:

An application for services in not considered complete until all required documents are received and an assessment has been administered. Based on the information contained in the application, a Case Worker will be assigned to provide individual assistance. Depending on the needs identified in the assessment, each participant's file will be reviewed by the Social Services Director for further approval. Depending on services requested or needed the Case Worker may request additional documentation or a referral will be completed. In the event the applicant is related or closely associated with the Case Worker or Director an alternate Social Services staff will be assigned. Incomplete or pending applications are held for a minimum of 30 days. After 90 days of inactivity, files will be considered closed.

WITHIN THE SOCIAL SERVICES:

General Assistance, BIA Indigent Burial Assistance, Disaster Assistance, Emergency Assistance, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Tribal Energy Assistance and School Clothing Assistance. In this component, the eligibility for the service varies depending on residence. Program funding provided may range from home energy assistance to crisis assistance to assist Indian people who have obtained a new permanent full-time job but still need help with initial expenses, as well as other miscellaneous assistance.
(Here are the following programs currently under the Social Service Department)

Tribal Programs (TEA/School Clothing/Tribal Burial.)

TEA - (Tribal Energy Assistance) – Funding agency AST Tribe.

This program is intended to assist with payments on utility bills and based Total Residence income must not exceed over the adjusted Gross of $1,861.00 – single person or $3,821.00 family of 4 per month, and need to be enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribe. A household may receive up to $150.00 for heating (November – March) and $150.00 for cooling (May – September) per fiscal year for energy needs regardless of the number of enrolled tribal members residing in the household. Total Energy assistance will not exceed $300.00 per household per year, and is a **"use it or lose it basis".**

Total Tribal Families served January – October 2026 = 175

Tribal School Clothing Program – Funding agency AST Tribe.

This clothing allowance program is designed to provide clothing assistance to eligible tribal members in the following amounts: $500.00 for Kindergarten through 12th grade. The program runs on calendar year January 1st thru December 31st.

Total AST Tribal children served January – October 2026

AST Tribal Children: 651
New Clothing Cards sent: 45
Pending on New CDIB cards: 5

Tribal Burial Assistance Program – Funding Agency AST Tribe

The Tribal Burial Assistance Program is designed to provide burial assistance to eligible tribal members in the amount of $6,000.00, which will be paid to the funeral home on his or her behalf, from the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Burial Assistance Program, financial assistance for the costs incurred in connection with the funeral and/or burial services of the named deceased. **Adoption and other singular traditional ceremonies from other tribes will not be recognized for payment.**
Financial assistance to the child of an enrolled member for funeral and/or burial if that child would have been eligible and was not enrolled in another Tribe. The age limit is from conception to three (3) months of age and availability of financial assistance is restricted to this time frame.
Absentee Shawnee Tribe gives their condolences to the families of the following tribal members.

Total Deceased AST Tribal Members 14

January – October 2026 - 14

Lula Mae Bettelyoun	DOD: 01/03/2026 DOB: 05/16/1935 CDIB: 0116
Xavier Tyvier Boyd	DOD: 01/06/2026 DOB: 04/03/2001 CDIB: 4064
William Lee Bradley	DOD: 01/13/2026 DOB: 11/29/1939 CDIB: 0205
Frank Lee Armstrong	DOD: 02/10/2026 DOB: 01/27/1957 CDIB: 0066
Orietta Faith Cuellar	DOD: 03/02/2026 DOB: 05/05/1942 CDIB: 0356
James Andrew Houston	DOD: 03/06/2026 DOB: 10/16/1982 CDIB: 4808
Rickie Dewayne Frazier	DOD: 03/11/2026 DOB: 09/30/1967 CDIB: 0510
Gary Lynn Littlehead	DOD: 04/05/2026 DOB: 02/13/1956 CDIB: 0945

Winifred L. Robertson DOD: 05/01/2026 DOB: 04/22/1947 CDIB: 0953
Infant Baby Girl (Mother CK Blanchard) DOD: 05/29/2026 DOB: 05/29/2026 CDIB: N/E
Jason Evan Spybuck DOD: 06/19/2026 DOB: 06/08/1970 CDIB: 1495
Gary Joe Charley DOD: 07/23/2026 DOB: 09/13/1958 CDIB: 0286
Gladys Jean Tiger DOD: 07/29/2026 DOB: 09/07/1657 CDIB: 1869
Crystal Faith Johnson DOD: 08/05/2026 DOB: 08/20/1986 CDIB: 2612

October – December 2025 = 9

Kellice Lee Blanchard DOD: 10/01/2025 DOB: 02/04/1966 CDIB: 0160
David Leroy White DOD: 10/10/2025 DOB: 10/25/1960 CDIB: 1802
Sky Nicole Christine Deere DOD: 11/07/2025 DOB: 05/06/1997 CDIB: 5046
Anita Louise Cripps DOD: 11/09/2025 DOB: 05/17/1938 CDIB: 0338
Wanda LittleAxe Tiger DOD: 11/25/2025 DOB: 01/18/1947 CDIB: 1505
Shawnee Sharisse Watson DOD: 12/04/2025 DOB: 01/06/1986 CDIB: 2901
Janet Lynne Snake DOD: 12/11/2025 DOB: 06/27/1959 CDIB: 1437
Jerry Wayne Squire DOD: 12/28/2025 DOB: 03/30/1943 CDIB: 1511
Glenda Carol Carpenter DOD: 12/25/2025 DOB: 10/09/1943 CDIB: 0278

BIA Programs: (General Assistance, BIA Indigent Burial Assistance, Disaster Assistance.) January – October 2026

General Assistance (GA) – Funding Agency BIA

The General Assistance program is designed to provide temporary financial assistance to needy federally recognized tribal members who reside in the Absentee Shawnee Tribes Service area. Those whom are in between jobs (going from one job to a new job) and are eligible until first full pay check is received. Federally recognized tribal members are eligible for assistance for six months out of the year. Who has applied for SSI assistance due to health related reasons or in pending status with SSI. Financial payment standards to an individual is based on 25 CFR § 20.306, Under Public Law 104-193, the Bureau must use the same TANF payment standard that exists in the state or service area where the applicant or recipient resides.

General Assistance - 1 **Denied GA – 0**
Burnout – 0
Disaster - 0
BIA Burial – 0

LIHEAP - (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for Heating/Cooling/Family Crisis Assistance.) – Funding Agency Health & Human Service

This program is intended to help with heating and cooling cost for federally recognized tribal members who reside in Pottawatomie or Cleveland counties. Funding is limited and is distributed on first-come, first-serve basis. Income eligibility requirements are based on US poverty guideline.

Cooling Assistance runs May thru September = **33**
Heating Assistance runs November thru March – 0
Family Crisis runs year round (Elder, Handicap, young children) – 3 **families served**

Federal Grant Dashboard

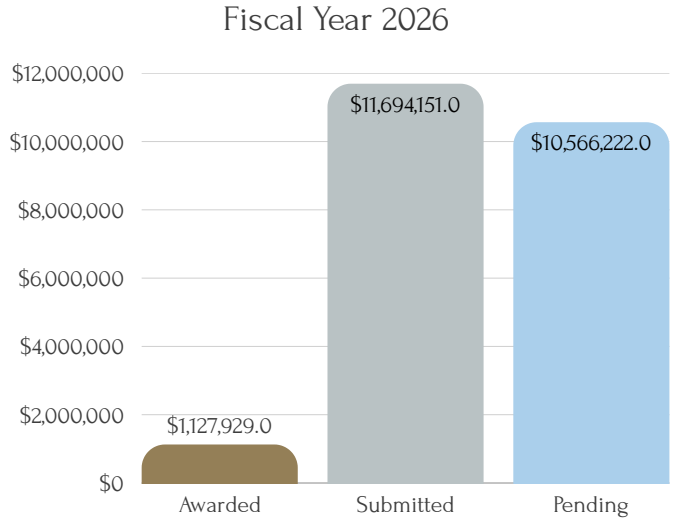
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In FY2026, the Grants Department managed a federal grants portfolio totaling $15,514,912 across 29 active awards, with 20 proposals submitted and 14 awards pending. The portfolio reflects continued diversification beyond the prior-year DHHS concentration, with current awards distributed across DOJ (40.3%), DHHS (52.9%), EPA (5%), DOI (0.8%), and other federal agencies (1.1%). This shift indicates broader departmental engagement and increased competitiveness for funding in justice, environmental, and cultural programs.

FY2026 award activity shows strong momentum, with $1.1M awarded, $11.69M submitted, and $10.5M pending, demonstrating sustained federal engagement and strategic positioning across multiple agencies.

The Tribe's grant landscape is evolving in alignment with national federal spending priorities. Federal agencies continue to expand investments in Tribal justice systems, climate resilience, broadband and digital equity, behavioral health, cultural preservation, and infrastructure modernization. DOJ's emphasis on Tribal Court capacity, victim services, and public safety aligns with the Tribe's current award distribution. DHHS continues to prioritize behavioral health, opioid response, elder services, and health systems strengthening—areas where the Tribe maintains strong performance and established relationships.

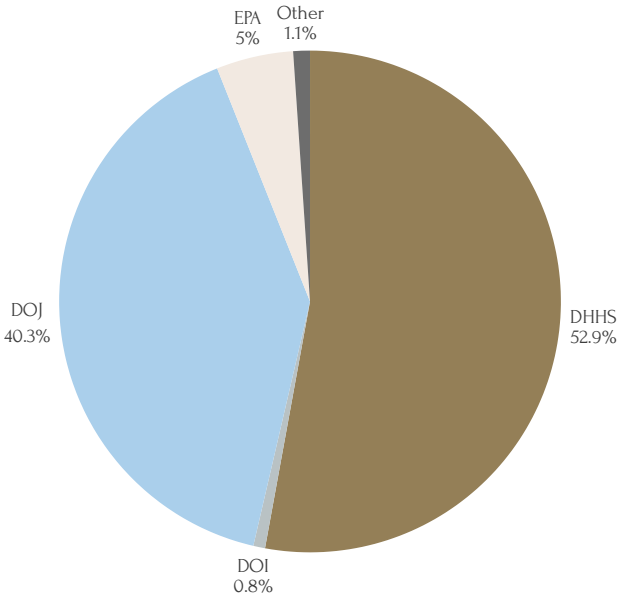
Additionally, federal initiatives such as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and Justice40 commitments have increased the availability of competitive funding for Tribal Nations in areas including clean energy transition, environmental remediation, transportation, water infrastructure, and climate adaptation. These shifts create expanded opportunities for the Tribe to pursue multi-year, cross-departmental projects that strengthen sovereignty, improve community outcomes, and build long-term capacity.



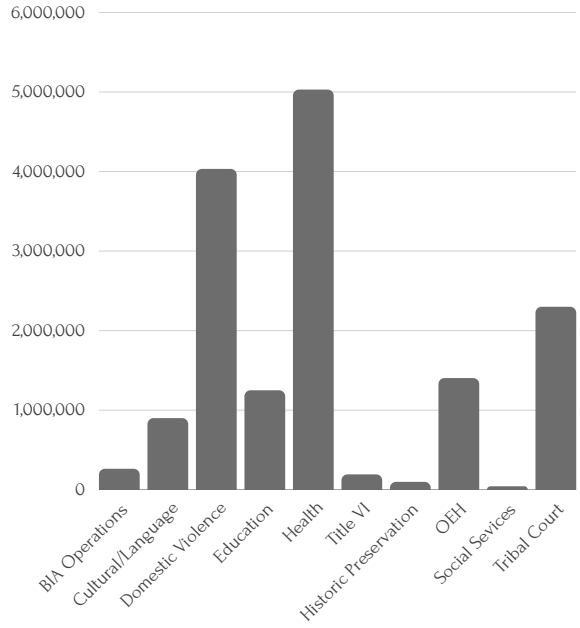
GRANTS PORTFOLIO SNAPSHOT

Active Grants	29
Total Funding Managed	$15,514,912
Proposal Submitted	20
Pending Awards	14

CURRENT GRANTS BY FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY

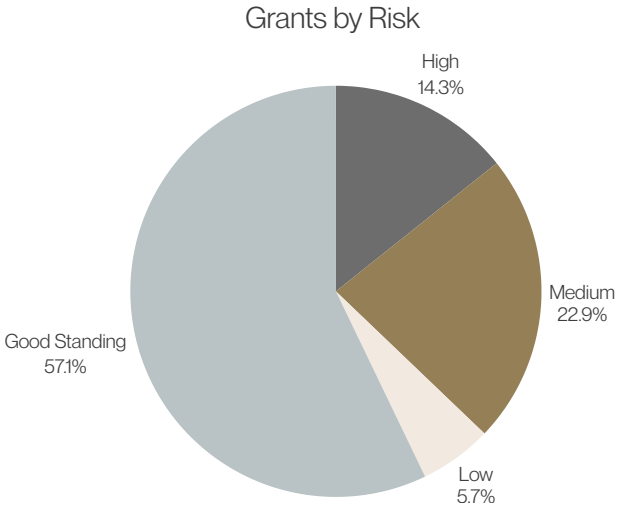


CURRENT FEDERAL AWARDS BY DEPARTMENT



Data includes all FY2026 new awards and Current Active Awards

COMPLIANCE SUMMARY



Grant Risk Summary

Late Financial Reporting	1
Late Progress Reporting	2
Site Visits	0
Desk Reviews/Audits	0

OFFICE OF THE REPRESENTATIVE

Hello Tribal Members,

Welcome to our Semi-Annual General Council meeting. The current departments that my office oversee include: Historic Preservation, Education, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), and the Camp.

Each Department overseen by my office has submitted reports on their progress to date, for this General Council Report. Thank you all for being here, today. I look forward to continuing to serve our Tribe. If you have any questions, comments, or need my assistance, please contact my office by phone: (405) 275-4030 Ext. 3512, or by email: adjohnson@astribe.com.

Sincerely,
Anthony "Tadpole" Johnson
Tribal Representative

General Council Report for October 2026

The following are current programs administered by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Education Department:

- **Academic (K-12) Program**: assists with academic related expenses, and a portion of funds can be used for school-related athletic program expenses.
- **Big Jim Youth Award Program:** for High School Seniors. Male and Female awards selected for an Athlete of the Year and Academic Achievement. Award winners receive a $1,000.00 scholarship and a trophy.
- **Zahn Program**: established from a trust fund, program can help with some graduation expenses, and awards two (2) incentives: one for GED recipients and one for High School graduates.
- **Job Training Adult Education Program**: funds for vocational training at accredited vocational institutions.
- Higher Education: **Education Incentive Award Program**: funds for undergraduate degrees, one associates or bachelor's degree, at any accredited college or university.
- **Graduate Scholarship Program**: funds for one master's degree or one doctoral degree, and can fund for one graduate admissions test.

****

Tribal members served in FY 2025: 322 (non-duplicating)

Assistance Processed:	Academic	Zahn	Job Training	Higher Education	Graduate
Spring 2025	48	22	14	60	12
Summer 2025	25	7	6	19	4
Fall 2025	62	12	22	81	12

Total amount of FY 2025 funding issued: $344,860.50

Tribal members served to date: 100 (non-duplicating)

Assistance Processed:	Academic	Zahn	Job Training	Higher Education	Graduate
Spring 2026	41	13	14	74	11
Summer 2026	12	7	3	18	8
Fall 2026 (to date)	4	1	6	43	5

Total amount of FY 2026 funding issued to date: $312,729.81

These numbers reflect students who have received assistance through at least one of the following six Education programs: Academic (K-12), Zahn, Big Jim Youth Award, Job Training Adult Education,

Higher Education: Education Incentive Award, or Graduate Scholarship Program. *ARPA EISP 2026 funds are included in funding total. budget access was approved May 2026.

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Oklahoma Council for Economic Education (OCEE): Director of Education, Tresha Spoon, has been a board member of the Oklahoma Council for Economic Education (OCEE) for 19 years. The council is involved with teacher education and various programs involving Economics and Personal Finance Education at the secondary school level. They also provide training for the PASSport to Financial Literacy which is a high school graduation requirement in the state of Oklahoma and activities for students like the Meaningful Economics and Entrepreneurship (MEE) competition. Tresha is also currently serving on the Board's OKC MEE Competition Committee.

FY23 State Tribal Education Partnership Program Grant: The Education Department is a partner in the Office of Indian Education - State Tribal Education Partnership (STEP). We work with Little Axe and Tecumseh Public Schools. Our STEP Coordinator is Breleigh Upchurch. The other partner tribe is the Kiowa Tribe and the Sac and Fox Nation is the grantee. We have regularly scheduled Zoom meetings to update all the grant partners of our progress towards the grant goals.

FY24 OJJDP Tribal Youth Program grant: The Education Department and Tribal Youth Program staff applied for Purpose Area 9: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Tribal Youth Program (TYP). The Tribe was awarded the grant on September 26, 2024. The grant is for five years and $500,000. Program staff is currently providing programming per grant requirements, regularly meeting with Technical Assistance providers, and have completed the grant's strategic plan which was approved by our OJJDP Program Manager in December 2025. Melokami/Spring Break Camp was held March 16-20, 2026.

SAMHSA Native Connections – Journey to Heal: The Native Connections Grant Project Director is Trevor Javenkoski. Native Connections staff hosted their first Youth Gathering of Native Americans Event in June 2026. NC Grant Coordinator, Lacy Carroll, completed the most recent bi-monthly grant call on June 23, 2026 our August 2026 call was cancelled. Trevor has been visiting local school districts and attending local community group meetings such as the Back to School Night at Grove School in Shawnee.

Title VI ESSA Tribal Consultations: On March 26, 2026, the Director of Education and Tribal Youth Program staff attended the EPIC Charter Schools consultation via Zoom. The Director attended the Choctaw-Nicoma Park consultation on April 6, 2026. The Shawnee Area Consultation with Shawnee, Tecumseh, and McLoud Public Schools was held on April 9, 2026, the Director and TYP staff attended. Bethany held their consultation on April 15th, the Director attended via Zoom. Elected Officials, Director of Education, and TYP staff attended the Little Axe Public Schools consultation on May 4th.

Outreach activities:

- Education Department sponsored Pizza for LAPS Indian Club meeting – March 10, 2026
- Director held snack tutorials with Spring Break Campers – March 17 & 18, 2026
- Indian Education Collaboration meeting – with Little Axe and Tecumseh staff, May 14, 2026
- Little Axe PS Title VI, LA Librarian Collaboration meeting – at Little Axe Elementary, May 28, July 29, 2026
- AST Health Diabetes and Wellness Family Fun Fitness Day – hosted a table, May 30, 2026

- AST Native Connections Youth GONA – June 9-11, 2026.
- Camp Nikoti Summer Youth Leadership Camp – June 16 – July 17, 2026
- Back to School Night – at Grove School, August 11, 2026
- Sac and Fox Nation and AST Education Collaboration working lunch – August 19, 2026

Conferences/Trainings/Meetings attended:

- OK STEP Grant Meeting Zoom - March 25, April 8, April 22, May 27, 2026
- 2026 Tribal Education Symposium – at Sac and Fox Nation, April 2, 2026
- OCEE Board Meeting – at Oklahoma Associates of Electric Cooperatives, April 8, 2026
- Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA) Board Meeting – April 8, May 13, 2026
- NC Youth GONA meeting – April 14, May 4, May 19, 2026
- OSDE Native Roundtable meeting – April 14, 2026
- Indian Parent Committee meeting – at Grove School, May 4, July 27, 2026
- Oklahoma Johnson O'Malley conference – May 5-6, 2026
- OCEE MEE Committee Meeting – May 6, August 4, 2026
- CTAS Purpose Area #3 (TCAP) meeting – May 13, 2026
- Tribal Youth Resource Center (TYRC) Technical Assistance Zoom for Strategic Plan – May 28, August 11, 2026
- Mid-Year Budget Review – July 13, 2026
- Little Axe PS Title VI and AST Education Reading Program Collaboration meeting – at Little Axe Administration building, August 12, 2026
- FY28 Office of Indian Education Budget Priority Development Tribal Consultation – Zoom, August 28, 2026

Please contact Tresha Spoon at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Education Department at (405) 275-4030 ext. 3533 or email to tresham@astribe.com with any questions or for information on current programs.

Historic Preservation Department

Sa Ki Me Ki Pa Po Ni Ki

The Historic Preservation Department focuses on the history of the Tribe and the Archeological resources/historic properties or tangible remnants of past human life (i.e. burials, villages/settlements, trails, quarries, mounds, earthworks, foundations, tools, pottery, art) and all related documentation, records, and material remains.

Vision: Preserve the History of the Culture

Mission: We aim to identify, protect, conserve, restore, and maintain buildings, sites, objects/artifacts, and landscapes with historical or cultural significance to the Absentee Shawnee People. Further, we aim to ensure the cultural integrity of these resources endure research, documentation, and physical restoration for future generations to understand and experience.

Currently, the department operates two programs to help accomplish these goals: the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) and the Absentee Shawnee Gift Shop.

Our Historic Preservation Staff

The Tribe's Historic Preservation Director is ***Ms. Carol Butler***. In this capacity, her workload focuses on handling the day-to-day operations of the Historic Preservation Department, which includes, but not limited to, managing all budgets, reviewing incoming correspondences, developing yearly department goals/objectives, overseeing the Tribe's historical archives, grant writing, and outreach. She also aids the THPO, THPO Specialist, and TCNS Coordinator on Section 106 undertakings, programmatic agreement drafts, and government to government consultations.

The Tribe's Preservation Programs Manager is ***Ms. Elizabeth Ruiz***. In this capacity, her workload focuses on the management of planning, executing, supporting, and completing assigned historic preservation projects which can range from strategic planning to artwork to archives.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO)

National Historic Preservation Act of 1996, 16 U.S.C. § 470 (2000) requires the review of any proposed project funded, licensed, permitted, or assisted by the federal government for impact on significant

historic properties and cultural resources. The agency must allow the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) to comment on a proposed project or undertaking that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. During the review process, the agency must determine if historic properties exist within the project area. If so, the agency must determine the effects on those properties and seek ways to avoid or reduce any negative effects. The tribes can officially assume the functions of the SHPO with respect to their tribal lands as a ***Tribal Historic Preservation Office*** (THPO) through cooperative agreements and appropriated funding from the ***U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund*** (HPF) grant(s.)

Thus, our Absentee Shawnee Tribal Historic Preservation Office is able to identify and protect historic places with the invaluable insight of our own traditional values and known significant histories. Our review authority over these federal undertakings provides our THPO staff with the obligation to correspond, research, and consult with federal agencies—during their preliminary stages of planning— on projects located within our Tribe's ***areas of interest*** (ancestral homelands.) Monthly, our THPO staff receives at least thirty (50) letters and two hundred (200) emails concerning projects and case notifications that fall beneath NHPA Section 106, including those with ***Tower Construction Notification System*** (TCNS)[1] and ***Native American Graves and Repatriation Act*** (NAGPRA.)[2]

Recently, with much research, our THPO has reevaluated our areas of interest and updated our databases. Our ***areas of interest*** include historic properties like village sites, mounds, burials or cemeteries, battlefields, sacred or ceremonial places, and counties of affiliation which span across twenty-five different states. These states are Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, and Virginia. Our current database projects are: GIS Shawnee Villages Map; GIS Projects and Mitigation Sites; GIS Unmarked Graves Records; Phase I of Allotment Homesteads Collection; Phase I of Tribal Medicinal Plants Collection; and Phase I of Absentee Shawnee in Indian Boarding Schools Data Collection.

Our THPO Staff

The Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer is ***Mr. Jeffery Harjo***. In this capacity, his workload focuses on Section 106 undertakings, programmatic agreement drafts, and government-to-government meetings and consultations with state and federal agencies in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Virginia. Few examples of routine correspondence include U.S. Forest Service, Department of the Interior, Department of Transportation, Ohio History Connection, Tennessee Valley Authority, and others.

[1] Allows companies to submit notifications of proposed tower constructions to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), who then provides this information to Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in the context of the NHPA Section 106 review process.

[2] Establishes rights of the Tribes and their lineal descendants to obtain repatriation (the return) of certain human remains, funerary or sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony from federal agencies or universities and museums which are owned or funded by the federal government. NAGPRA also includes provisions for: unclaimed and culturally-unidentifiable Native American human remains or cultural items; inadvertent discovery or intentional and unauthorized excavation (removal) of Native American human remains or cultural items on federal or tribal land; and, criminal prohibition on trafficking of Native American human remains or cultural items.

The Tribe's THPO Specialist is ***Ms. Julee Cobell.*** In this capacity, her workload focuses on Section 106 undertakings, programmatic agreement drafts, and government-to-government meetings and consultations with state and federal agencies in the states of Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Texas. Few examples of routine correspondence include U.S. Forest Service, Department of the Interior, Department of Transportation, Ohio History Connection, Tennessee Valley Authority, and others.

The Tribe's TCNS Coordinator is ***Ms. Darian Rhodd***. Ms. Rhodd comes to us from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation where she served in many different departments with the most recent as the Assistant THPO. In this capacity, her workload focuses on Section 106 consultations/undertaking reviews sent to the Tribe from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) via TCNS (Tower Construction Notification System) such as telecommunication tower constructions in all 25 areas of interest.

The Tribe's NAGPRA Coordinator is the Historic Preservation Director, ***Ms. Carol Butler***. She is advised and aided in the Tribe's NAGPRA matters by THPO staff. In this capacity, her workload focuses on the ancestors and associated funerary objects that are in such places as museums and collection facilities in all 25 areas of interest.

THPO numbers for the allotted time-period are reflected in the table below:

Total Consultation Calls & Undertaking Numbers (Section 106, TCNS, and NAGPRA)	
March 2026 through September 2026	**60** consultations **850** undertakings reviewed

Table 1. THPO Activity for March 2026 through September 2026

Frequently Asked Questions

Does the Tribal Historic Preservation Office host language or cultural classes? In short, no. The primary function of our Tribal Historic Preservation Office is to protect cultural resources and historical sites located on our ancestral homelands and trust lands, as outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act. However, THPO staff can assist with events hosted by our Language/Cultural Preservation Department.

Will THPO staff help me research my tribal ancestors and genealogy? No; the THPO staff does not have access to family tribal records, but we recommend contacting the Tribe's Enrollment Department.

Are NAGPRA and NHPA responsibilities the same? Both are important to the Tribe, but are two separate laws. As such, there is a difference of legal protocol for each law.

Gift Shop

Gift Shop Staff

The Tribe's Gift Shop Manager is ***Mrs. Sheila Burnside***. In this capacity, her workload focuses on all the responsibilities that come with managing a gift shop: opening and closing, documentation and responsibility of merchandise and sales transactions, and inventorying merchandise.

Merchandise

We carry a large array of different items such as yarn belts, ribbon skirts, shawls, beaded items, hides, and books. We have also ordered Shawnee-style and Intertribal skirts and shirts. In addition to these items, we also have a supply wall, still carry AST emblem items, and carry a large selection of different blankets.

We are open to all suggestions for other items you would like to see us have in the shop.

Locations and Business Hours

Our Gift Shop is located at the complex in the Historic Preservation building (building 6). We are open Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the Christmas holiday, we open the store on Saturdays.

Camp Nikoti Tribal Youth Program
General Council Report
Fall 2026

Overview:

The Camp Nikoti – Tribal Youth Program (TYP) facilitated and provided many activities and programs over the past several months. The TYP staff has worked with Tecumseh, Mustang, Norman, and Little Axe Schools this past school year. Education Department staff worked with the schools Indian Clubs providing activities, prevention information, tribal/cultural information, drinks and snacks. In May 2026, the Education Department sponsored graduation cakes for Tecumseh Schools and Little Axe Schools Indian club youth who were seniors.

Tribal Youth Program Coordinator, Blake Goodman, attended the NIEA Annual Convention in Spokane, Washington in October 2025. TYP staff have been attending and advocating for our youth during parent meetings for different schools and other consultations. The TYP Coordinator and Director of Education, Tresha Spoon, have been working close with Little Axe Public Schools Indian Education/ Title VI program to help the program stay on track and grow their program. We have been working with the Indian Education Coordinator, the Indian Parent Committee, and the Superintendent as advisors and supporters throughout the school year. We have attended many different webinars and trainings for our OJJDP TYP grant over the past several months and had a TYP Advisory Circle meeting with invested members. The Education Department staff will be attending and handing out information at the CPN college fair on September 2, 2026 and will be handing out information at the Follow the Good Path College and Resource Fair on Oct 21, 2026 put on by the KTO.

Camp Nikoti: Summer Youth Leadership Camp

Camp Nikoti's 25th anniversary summer day camp started on June 9th and ended on July 17th. Camp Nikoti is open to all youth ages 10-14 years old. Camp Nikoti collaborated with Native Connections to include a week long GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) so Camp Nikoti was for six weeks this year and three days out of the week. Forty-six (46) youth signed up for camp this year, 41 started, and 36 completed the entire camp. Out of the 41 youth that started camp, 32 were tribal youth. We brought on nine summer workers to help us with camp and seven of them were tribal.

Our youth participated in all kinds of activities such as: playing games, team building, arts and crafts, singing, gardening, cooking, prevention activities, cultural activities and more. We did one big family evening event where the kids got to invite their families, hangout, play on two large inflatables and enjoy some down time with each other. During the evening event we had a water

inflatable and an obstacle course inflatable for the youth to play on and the TYP staff grilled hotdogs for dinner.

A few guest speakers came out to contribute, present, and do activities with our youth such as: Native Connections grant, Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) grant, Domestic Violence department, Education department, Jayden Watson with public health, Diabetes and Wellness, Historical Preservation and the AST Housing Authority. We would like to thank all of the tribal staff for taking the time to come out and be a part of camp, also for their help and contributions. We would like to give a special Thank You to the housing authority for their generous donation and to the diabetes and wellness program for allowing us to use their van for our camp trips. Camp Nikoti went on several field trips throughout the summer: The University of Oklahoma's College of Education, Lake Wewoka, the OKC Zoo, Red Rock Adventure, Johnnies on Rt.66, Strother Movie Theater, and Shawnee Bowl. We took the youth who worked hard all summer and earned the right to attend the final reward day to Six Flags over Texas, Babes Chicken, and Buc-ees in Denton. The kids had a lot of fun and really enjoyed their time together.

Little Axe Afterschool Program:

The Little Axe afterschool program ended for last school year on May 21st, 2026. The program had an end of school year party for the students and provided fun snacks and drinks. The students also received little goodie bags with candy and snacks to take home. The Tribal Youth Program (TYP) staff was able to get all of their students work caught up and passing before the end of the school year. The program ended the school year with 20 students enrolled in the program, 14 of which were enrolled AST. The program provides tutoring, school support, prevention activities, healthy lifestyles, and many other activities.

The Afterschool program started this school year on August 6th, 2026. There are currently 17 students enrolled in the program. Sixteen (16) of the 17 students are tribal affiliated students and 15 are enrolled AST. There is an average of about 14 students per day and there are three staff working with the youth daily. Staff are currently working on helping students get back into the school routine and helping with homework. The Staff ordered each youth a tutoring workbook that the staff help facilitate with them daily. The program has received great support and feedback from parents whose students attend the program.

Garden Project:

The Tribal Youth Program staff just completed their fifth summer doing a youth garden. The project starts in February and lasts as long as they can keep plants alive and producing. Program staff managed to pick about 110 pounds of produce the first year, 450 pounds of produce the second year, just over 300 pounds of produce the third year and 150-200 pounds of produce last year. This year we were able to get around 450 pounds to 500 pounds of produce. The afterschool program students and Camp Melokami Spring Break camp youth helped get the garden set up and organized. The Diabetes and Wellness program and Public Health came over to help the TYP Staff

and youth get the garden put together. The TYP staff would like to Thank the Diabetes and Wellness department for helping donate things to help the youth garden be successful. The youth took the plants out and planted them in the garden themselves during program time. The produce was used during Camp Nikoti: Summer Youth Leadership Camp to provide extra snacks during lunch and as ingredients for various dishes cooked for the youth. The produce was also given to some Tribal Elders, AST Employees, Youth Families, and others. The produce also provided snacks for the Afterschool youth this school year. Youth and summer workers helped pick, clean, and cut up the produce for the different meals the staff prepared. Watermelons, cantaloupes, honeydews, bergamot flowers, cucumbers, okra, eggplants, bell peppers, squash, zucchini, various different peppers, various different tomatoes, and some other things were planted in the spring of 2026.

Little Axe Soccer Program:

The Little Axe Soccer program finished its 12th year this past June. Approximately 55 kids signed up to play this year and we had 3 different age divisions. The soccer program is a collaboration with Little Axe schools who allow us to use their practice football field to host practices and games and the Tribal Youth Program provides the equipment. Games were played Saturday mornings starting on April 4th and ran through June 6th. The season lasted 8 weeks, with each age division getting to play at least 7 to 8 games. The staff did their best to ensure all games were played and made up if needed. The final weekend we played parents against kids which everyone really enjoyed. Jayden Watson of AST Public Health volunteered to help coach the kids and provide healthy lifestyle tips.

Youth Public Safety Club:

The AST Youth Public Safety Club is designed to teach our youth about public safety and help build relationships with the AST Public Safety Department consisting of tribal police and emergency management. The TYP staff celebrated two of our officers during National Police week in May of 2026 by taking them out to eat. We wanted to thank them for their work and dedication to the community and to our program. The Club has completed two years now and is currently working to start again this school year. Meetings are one evening a month for an hour to discuss a topic or an issue of the month related to public safety or emergency management. Officer Rickey Jones and Officer JP Neely came out and discussed various topics related to the work they do. They have covered topics like public shootings, finger printing, tracking, September 11th, drugs and alcohol and basic policing. Levi Walker, former Emergency Manager, came out and spoke with the youth about what the Emergency Management staff does and allowed the youth to tour the mobile command center. He also spoke about what to do during different emergency situations and the importance of being prepared. The Club will begin meeting for the school year in September and will continue through May 2027.

TERO

TERO MISSION: *To promote and protect Indian preference in employment, training and contracting; to monitor and enforce the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance, within the jurisdiction of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; to certify Indian-Owned Firms and fill jobs with qualified Indian people.*

TERO ORDINANCE: *The need to educate all eligible Tribal Members in different fields of trades is a mainstay of our program. The employers that seek workers through our department are in need of people that want to work in a specific trade. They also want the perspective employee to have knowledge of the job either by previous jobs or by attending training, and in these cases our office refers qualified personnel to these job openings.*
(The TERO ordinance was approved February 27, 2009 by AST Resolution L-AS-2009-5.)
Updated TERO ordinance should be approved by Fall General Council.

The Tribal Employment Rights Office also known as TERO is a department that protects Tribal employees' rights and supports Tribal career development. The main focus of TERO is to put Native Americans to work by means of job placement, training and career development. Some of the responsibilities/services that we offer are:

- Completing a successful application
- Providing job search, referrals, application assistance, interview tips and job retention information
- Computer support for online job searching
- Resume assistance that pertains to the position applying for
- Educate applicants with how to find a job, what employers are looking for, ethics, & etc.
- Support on how to deal with the workforce and balance home life
- Providing information on Indian Preference and Equal Employment Laws

We strongly encourage any Tribal Member or Native American that has an interest in employment opportunities, improving careers, or developing skills in search of finding a promising career to come to the Absentee-Shawnee TERO department and apply. Our goal is to better our Tribal people, families and community so that the future is more sustainable.

If you have any further questions about the TERO program or just have a request, you can contact our office anytime Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm and we will be happy to assist you.

Sarah Lawerance (Director) 405-827-0355

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
477 Program
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801
(405)275-4030
477Program@astribe.com

General Council Report- 102-477 (477) Program
October 2026

Introduction

The AST 477 Program operates under the AST 102-477 Plan, which first became effective January 1, 2023. Over the past several years, the program has continued to grow and evolve as we implemented this initial plan. Through this process, we have gained valuable insight into the needs of our participants and the opportunities to strengthen and expand our services. The 477 program is now on its second plan cycle.

The previous AST 102-477 Plan covered a three-year period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025, and met all requirements under Public Law 102-477, the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Demonstration Act of 1992, as amended by the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act of 2006 and the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017.

As of January 1, 2026, the program has transitioned into a new five-year AST 102-477 Plan that will guide program operations through December 31, 2030. This updated plan reflects lessons learned during the first planning cycle and outlines our continued commitment to improving services, increasing effectiveness, and supporting the needs of our community. With the approved new plan we have added the Language department and will provide coordinated supportive services with the Indian Child Welfare Program. We have also added Lincoln County to our service area which brings our county total to five (5).

AST 477 Program

This year the AST 477 Program incorporates five (5) grants into one service delivery mechanism; they are Child Care Development Fund (CCDF), Johnson O'Malley (JOM), Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA), Job Placement and Training (JPT) and now DHHS Title IV-B Part 1 and 2 also known as Child Welfare Services Program and Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program. With these grants, we oversee approximately 75 Employees in the following programs/departments: 477 Program, Child Care Assistance Program, Building Blocks Child Development Center-Shawnee, Building Blocks CDC- Little Axe, Afterschool Program-Shawnee, Afterschool Program- Horseshoe Bend, Language and ICW. The 477 Program has twenty (20) staff includes the 477 Executive Director, Assistant Executive Directors, 3 Case Managers, 3 Intake Clerks, 2 Case Specialists, 1 Outreach Coordinator, 1 Outreach Specialist, 1 Operations Specialist and 4 Language Department staff. Ten (10) of the staff are AST and four (4) are other tribes. Our

offices are now located at Moccasin Trail. We now have one office building together to where we can be a true “one stop shop”.

Program Activities/Services

The AST 477 Program has shifted its focus toward implementing priorities outlined in the newly approved five-year plan. While the core components of the program remain centered on employment and training, education, and supportive services, recent efforts have been directed toward strengthening opportunities that lead to long-term employment and stability for participants.

As we move into this new period, our work continues to focus on reducing barriers that may prevent individuals from pursuing education, gaining job skills, or entering the workforce. At the same time, we remain committed to supporting tribal members through services that promote overall well-being, cultural connection, and economic independence. The new five-year plan provides an opportunity to build on the progress made during our first plan while continuing to adapt services to better meet the needs of our community.

Outreach efforts have also continued to expand, with a growing emphasis on developing stronger relationships with employers and identifying additional job opportunities for participants. Our team has been working to connect with local businesses, tribal programs, and community organizations to create pathways that can lead to employment, training placements, and supportive partnerships. These efforts are intended to strengthen referral networks and ensure participants have access to resources both within and outside of the AST 477 Program.

The program continues to provide a range of services designed to support participants at different stages of their goals. These services include assistance with job training programs such as CDL certification, educational support including GED and higher education assistance, and youth-focused supports such as school supplies, driver’s education, and assistance with extracurricular participation. Additional supports are available to help individuals prepare for or maintain employment, including work clothing, tools, transportation and gas assistance, financial literacy and budgeting classes, and small business guidance. Supportive services such as childcare, relocation rental assistance, and utility assistance may also be provided when they are necessary to help participants remain stable while pursuing employment or education.

Subsidized employment/work experience is a vital aspect of what we do. Not only are we giving participants an opportunity to gain work experience and earn income, we are also giving tribal departments and worksites opportunities to have employees. They get the added benefit of not having to pay their salaries out of their budget and hopefully find a long-term employee. We currently have twelve (12) subsidized employees and one of which is at an external worksite.

During the summer, we operated the Summer Youth Employment program. Youth ages 14-24 were able to get temporary summer employment through our program to get work experience as well as earn pay. They were also given opportunities to learn about the tribal language and culture during our AST 477 Cultural day.

AST 477 Program also oversees the building maintenance of the AST Building Blocks facilities, ASP Shawnee and ASP Horseshoe Bend facilities. As you know we completed construction on ASP HSB last year and the building has been a great asset for us for those in the North Rock Creek

school district. We are also working out plans to remodel Tecumseh Square to a child care facility to house a sick child program, blended age classroom child development center and 477 Program administrative offices. This will allow us to increase child care options in our area and for 477 Program to be closer to the complex.

Currently, the 477 Program serves 555 active participants, of which 319 are Absentee Shawnee Tribe (AST) members, representing approximately 58% of the total participants served. Among adult participants, there are 207 participants, with 104 AST members, accounting for 50% of the adult participants. The program also serves 344 youth participants, of which 215 are AST, representing 63**%** of the youth population. These numbers reflect that over half of the youth participants and half of the adult participants served through the program are AST members.

Conclusion

As we continue implementing the new five-year 102-477 Plan, much of our focus has been on strengthening the day-to-day work happening within the program. With additional staff supporting the AST 477 Program, we have been able to spend more time working directly with participants, helping them navigate services, set goals, and access the support they need to move forward in employment, education, and training. This has allowed us to provide more individualized guidance and improve how we respond to the needs of those we serve.

Internally, we have also been working to better coordinate services across the program, improve processes, and ensure that resources are being used in ways that most benefit our participants. Staff continues to assist individuals with overcoming barriers such as transportation, childcare, financial challenges, and access to training or education opportunities. By strengthening our internal operations and support systems, we are working to build a program that is both responsive and sustainable for the long term.

At the same time, we remain committed to identifying opportunities that will expand pathways to employment and stability for participants. This includes continuing to build relationships that support job placement, training opportunities, and long-term career development, while also exploring ways the program can contribute to future tribal workforce and economic development efforts within the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

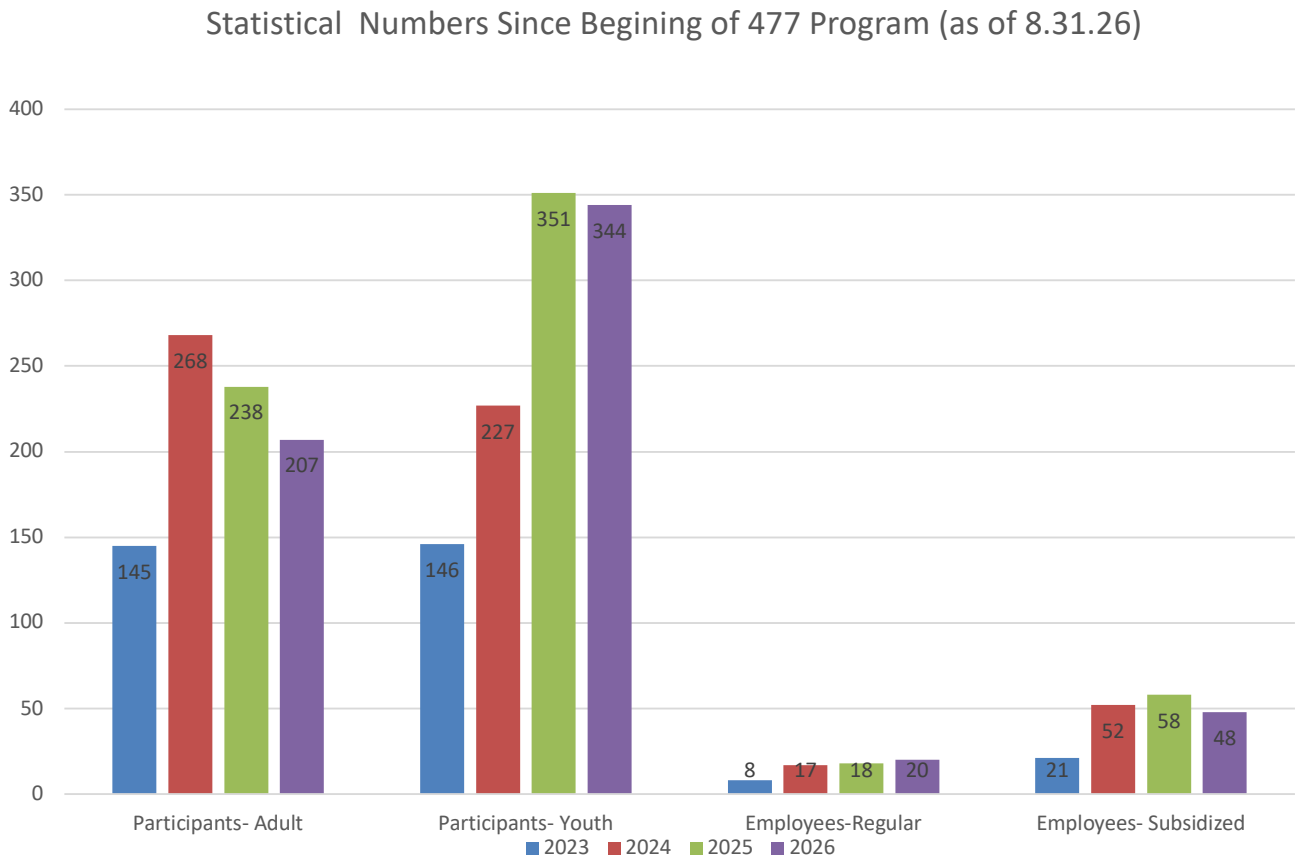
We remain encouraged by the growth of this program and the impact it can have for our tribal members and Native community. While there is still work ahead, we are confident that the steps being taken now are helping strengthen the program and the services it provides. Supporting our people in becoming self-sufficient and economically stable remains at the heart of this work and is an important investment in the future of our community and the generations to come.

Please feel free to contact me or my staff if you have questions.

Ne yi wa! (Thank you)

Briana Ponkilla, MJIL
477 Executive Director

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE 477 PROGRAM 2026 FALL STATISTICAL CHARTS



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Building Blocks C.D.C.
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
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(405) 878-0633 FAX: (405) 878-0156

BUILDING BLOCKS
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
AN ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ENTERPRISE

General Council Newsletter

Building Blocks II is an Accredited 5 Star, OkDHS Licensed Center. Building Blocks currently has 17 Employees. We currently have 34 children enrolled and 2 starting in September.

Building Blocks is accepting waiting list applications; 6 weeks through Pre-K/4 Year Olds. If you are interested in getting your child on our waiting list please call and we can email you a waiting list application or you may stop by to fill one out. You can also put in a waiting list application at https://www.astribe.com/building-blocks.

We are currently taking employment applications. Go to https://www.astribe.com/employment for job listings and to fill out employment applications. Look for BBII at AST Building Blocks, Shawnee.

Fall is upon us, bringing cooler weather for the children to do outside learning activities. We have a busy Fall ahead with lots of fun activities planned. Fall Pictures for the children are September 25th beginning at 7:30a.m. Parent-Teacher Conferences are October 19-23rd with Fall Festival on the 23rd @6:00p.m. We will Trick or Treat the AST Complex @ 9:30a.m. & Halloween Parties @ 3p.m. on October 30th.

We look forward to the holiday season at Building Blocks. The teachers enjoy doing activities with the children for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving! Building Blocks will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 26th & 27th. Also, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Building Blocks will be closed December 24th & 25th for Christmas.

Hope Everyone has a Wonderful Holiday Season!

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM
GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

August 31, 2026

Presented by:
Marty M. Lofgren, MD, CPE
Executive Director/Medical Director

OVERVIEW

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System continues to experience significant growth and positive change. Current efforts remain focused on expanding access to quality healthcare, strengthening leadership, recruiting qualified employees, and preparing for the opening of the new Tecumseh Health Center.

TITLE VI RELOCATION PROJECT

The Health System recently purchased Arrow Café to serve as the new home of the Title VI program. The facility is currently being renovated to ensure it meets the needs of the program and the individuals it serves.

During the renovation process, Title VI services remain temporarily housed at the Resource Center to ensure services continue without interruption. The Health System looks forward to celebrating the completion of this project with a grand opening in the fall of 2026.

TECUMSEH HEALTH CENTER

The facility previously referred to as the new Shawnee Clinic will now be known as the Tecumseh Health Center. This name better reflects its location and the community it will serve.

Construction continues to progress. Replacement of Benson Park Road is underway, and interior finishes, including flooring and painting, have begun. Terrazzo flooring will be installed shortly, and landscaping work has also started.

FlintCo anticipates reaching substantial completion by the end of October. Equipment and furniture are expected to begin arriving in early November, followed by several weeks of installation and setup.

The Health System has begun transition meetings with departments and is evaluating the staffing required for the Tecumseh Health Center to become fully operational. Recruitment is currently underway for clinical, administrative, and support positions.

Information regarding available employment opportunities and the official opening date will be announced through the Health System's social media pages and Absentee Shawnee Tribe media outlets.

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

Several recent leadership additions and appointments have strengthened the Health System's administrative and clinical operations. These include:

- Harrison Perry, Health System Financial Officer
- April Allen, Deputy Health Financial Officer
- Dr. Fick, Dental Deputy Director
- Jess Stockton, Director of Nursing
- Beverly Felton, Risk Manager and Patient Safety Officer
- Dayna Dick, Interim Health Human Resources Officer

These leaders bring valuable knowledge and experience to their respective areas and will help support the Health System as its services, facilities, and workforce continue to grow.

ADVANCED PRIMARY CARE RECOGNITION

On August 25, 2026, the ASTHA Leadership Team was recognized at the Oklahoma State Capitol as one of only three health systems selected statewide for exemplifying excellence in the application of Advanced Primary Care services.

This recognition reflects the Health System's continued commitment to improving access, strengthening the delivery of primary care, and providing high-quality services to the patients and communities we serve.

EXPANSION OF SPECIALTY SERVICES

The Health System continues expanding specialty care to provide patients with greater access to services close to home. Ronald Sutor, MD, is now providing cardiology services through the Specialty Services Department.

The addition of cardiology services improves access to heart-related evaluations, treatment, and follow-up care for the patients and communities we serve.

AST PRC TOWN HALL MEETINGS

AST PRC Town Hall meetings were held on July 18, 2026, at the Multi-Purpose Building in Shawnee and on Saturday, August 15, 2026, at the Little Axe Resource Center.

The meetings provided members of the AST community with an opportunity to voice concerns, ask questions, and share feedback regarding AST PRC processes. The goal was to open the lines of communication and provide a better understanding of program guidelines, PRC referrals, coordination of benefits, and the billing processes associated with claims paid to outside providers and hospitals.

Positive feedback was received following both meetings. The Health System looks forward to continuing these conversations, improving understanding of AST PRC processes, and strengthening its relationship with the AST community.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Diabetes and Wellness Team will host the Zombie Run on October 15, 2026, at Clearwater Bay at Lake Thunderbird. Registration will begin at 5:00 p.m.

A Trunk or Treat will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be hosted in partnership with departments from across the Tribe. This combined event will provide a fun, family-friendly opportunity to promote physical activity, healthy living, and tribal-wide community engagement.

CONCLUSION

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System remains committed to meeting the growing healthcare needs of our patients, tribal members, and communities. The statewide recognition

for Advanced Primary Care, Title VI relocation project, Tecumseh Health Center, expanded specialty services, leadership additions, AST PRC community outreach, recruitment efforts, and community wellness programs all demonstrate the Health System's continued progress.

Although growth and transition can bring challenges, the Health System remains focused on working together, strengthening operations, and providing quality, compassionate care to the people we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Lofgren MD, CPE

Marty M. Lofgren, MD, CPE
Executive Director/Medical Director

THUNDERBIRD ENTERTAINMENT, INC

THUNDERBIRD
CASINO

Board of Directors:

- ✔ Darren Shields, President
- ✔ Eastman Switch, Vice President
- ✔ Alice Kassanavoid, Secretary
- ✔ Delena Deere, Board Member

Management

- Ché Downs , General Manager
- Andrew Magnuson, Director of Business Operations
- Ashley Gallmore, Director of Gaming Operations
- Brandon Bass, Director of IT
- Jaz Cox, Director of Marketing
- Cyndi Taylor, HR Manager
- Angela Fixico, Compliance Manager

Payments To The Tribe 2026 (as of October)

- AST Gaming Tax - $2,859,006
- Absentee Shawnee Gaming Commission: Licensing/Regulatory Fees - $1,996,448
- AST Sales Tax/Business Tax - $78,901 (as of August 31st)

Total - **$4,934,355**

Current operations are comprised of:

- 765 Electronic Gaming Machines (between 2 casinos)
- 5 Table Games
- 2 Food Venues
- 2 Bars
- Gift Shop (Norman)
- 214 Team Members Total
- Over 1/3 of Our Team Members Are Native American
- Over 32% of Our Native American Team Members Are Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members.

Payments To The Tribe In 2025

- AST Gaming Tax - $4,050,000.00
- Absentee Shawnee Gaming Commission: Licensing/Regulatory Fees - $2,302,954
- AST Sales Tax/Business Tax - $127,885.05

Total - **$6,480,839.05**

AN ENTERPRISE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE
HOUSING AUTHORITY

Executive Director Summary

2026 Program Activity

This report provides tribal members with an overview of the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority's (ASHA) housing programs, services, activities, and accomplishments during 2026.

The Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority continues to serve low-income American Indian families residing within its eligible service area of Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Oklahoma, and Cleveland Counties. Enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe receive preference for assistance offered through the Housing Authority.

Low Rent Program

The Low Rent Program serves low-income American Indian families seeking affordable rental housing within ASHA's eligible service area. Most homes are located in the Shawnee, Tecumseh, and McLoud areas.

This program continues to experience the highest demand and the greatest level of activity throughout the program year. The waiting list typically includes approximately 40 to 50 families, with an average waiting period of six months to one year.

As of July 2026, ASHA performed thirteen (13) move-ins for low rent.

Mutual Help/NAHASDA Lease-to-Own Program

The Mutual Help/NAHASDA Lease-to-Own Program provides eligible families with an opportunity to work toward homeownership. The waiting list typically includes approximately 15 to 20 families seeking placement in a home.

Due to full occupancy of the homes managed under this program, units are offered as they become vacant or when grant funding allows ASHA to budget for and purchase additional homes. Participation in the program requires mandatory counseling, and the average waiting period is one year or longer.

The ASHA conducted two (2) move-ins for Mutual Help/NAHASDA Lease-to-Own.

Supportive Housing Program

The Supportive Housing Program, formerly known as the Safe Shelter Program, provides families with short-term, temporary housing when they are displaced for reasons beyond their control.

Through the Supportive Housing Program, ASHA works to prevent homelessness among American Indian families while helping participants transition into permanent housing. The program experiences steady activity each month, and its units remain fully occupied.

The total move-ins were thirteen (13) as of July 2026.

Resident Services

The Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority offers a variety of occupancy courses for participants to complete prior to signing a lease agreement with ASHA.

Workshops are also available based on the type of assistance participants receive. These include homeownership counseling for Down Payment Assistance participants and basic home repair education for families receiving Home Rehab Assistance.

In addition, ASHA partners with other organizations to host community events and outreach activities. These partnerships allow ASHA to share resources, connect residents with available services, and provide opportunities for residents to build relationships with one another.

2026 Resident Events

Throughout 2026, ASHA continued to engage residents through community events, educational opportunities, outreach activities, and partnerships. These events provided opportunities to share information about available resources, strengthen connections within the community, and support residents in achieving greater housing stability and self-sufficiency.

The ASHA hosted various events that reached 214 residents as of July 2026.

Resident Opportunity & Self-Sufficiency (ROSS)

ASHA's Resident Opportunity & Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program provides general case management, partnerships, referrals, and service coordination to help residents identify effective ways to improve their housing situations and work toward self-sufficiency.

During 2026, the ROSS Coordinator managed 36 participant cases within ASHA's housing programs. Case management services focused on identifying and addressing housing-related needs and connecting participants with resources that support greater stability and self-sufficiency.

The ROSS Coordinator also continued outreach within the tribal housing community by conducting needs assessments during resident outreach events.

College Housing Rental Assistance

The College Housing Rental Assistance Program provides eligible full-time college students with rental assistance of up to $300 per month while attending college.

Students must rent a home within ASHA's service area of Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Oklahoma, or Cleveland County. Assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference given to enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

As of July 2026, ASHA provided rental assistance for two (2) students through this program.

Market Rate Rental & Over-Income Lease-to-Own Program

ASHA offers rental and lease-to-own housing opportunities for applicants whose household income exceeds the median income limits established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These market-rate homes are located in Shawnee and Norman.

Lease-to-own homes are offered as they become available, with house payments determined by the appraised value of the home.

ASHA's Tiny Home Lease-to-Own Program also provides eligible applicants with an opportunity to construct a newly built tiny home on land they own.

Waiting lists are maintained for Lease-to-Own programs, and assistance is based on program income budget activities approved annually by ASHA's Board of Commissioners.

Photos included in this report highlight a few of our newly acquired or constructed homes in 2026 that will be managed by the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority.





Mortgage Assistance, Formerly Down Payment Assistance for Enrolled Absentee Shawnee Members

The Mortgage Assistance Program provides eligible enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe with $15,000 toward down payment and closing costs associated with purchasing a home.

Applicants must be enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, receive pre-approval from a qualified lender, and plan to purchase a home within the State of Oklahoma. Applications must be submitted and program funds secured before the applicant signs a contract to purchase a home.

Assistance is dependent upon funding availability each program year.

The ASHA provided one (1) household with Mortgage Assistance as of July 2026.

Home Rehab Assistance for Enrolled Absentee Shawnee Members

The Home Rehab Assistance Program serves enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe who reside in Pottawatomie, Oklahoma, Lincoln, or Cleveland County.

The program provides up to $15,000 toward eligible home repairs, including, but not limited to, electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, roofing, foundation repairs, accessibility improvements, and weatherization.

The home must be owned by the applicant, and the applicant must agree to a home repair assessment conducted by ASHA's housing inspector.

A waiting list is currently in place, and families are assisted as funding becomes available.

In 2026, ASHA assisted ten (10) families through the Home Rehab Assistance Program.

Storm Shelter Assistance for Enrolled Absentee Shawnee Members

The Storm Shelter Assistance Program serves enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe who own and reside in a home within the State of Oklahoma.

The program provides financial assistance toward the installation of a storm shelter on the homeowner's property, helping improve household safety and preparedness during Oklahoma's severe and potentially dangerous weather conditions.

The home must be owned by the applicant, and the applicant must agree to reside in the home throughout the required binding commitment period.

A waiting list is currently in place, and eligible families are assisted as funding becomes available.

ASHA assisted five (5) families through the Storm Shelter Assistance Program as of July 2026.

Looking Ahead

In addition to ASHA's ongoing programs and services, the Housing Authority continues its efforts to expand and improve housing opportunities for tribal members and families throughout the service area.

In 2026 the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority acquired four (4) single-family homes located in Shawnee and Norman for the rental and lease to own programs. Secondly. a newly constructed home has been complete in Tecumseh to serve a low rent family.

ASHA also has five additional Low Rent homes for elders under construction in the Rolling Hills Addition. This project is funded through an Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Competitive Grant awarded to the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority in 2024. The tentative completion date for this project is December 2026.

In 2025, ASHA also qualified for a construction loan at 0% interest through the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA). These funds will be used to complete Phase II of Kakile Crossing in Norman, Oklahoma. The project will add four three-bedroom, two-bath duplex units for families seeking market-rate rental housing in the Little Axe area. The anticipated completion date is November 2026.

Closing

As we reflect on the accomplishments of 2026 and look toward the future, I would like to recognize and thank ASHA staff, Board members, and tribal leaders for their continued dedication and hard work in supporting the mission of the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority.

Through our continued teamwork and commitment, we will help ensure that the Housing Authority remains sustainable and successful while providing essential housing opportunities, services, and resources to our tribal communities.

Respectfully,



Sherry Drywater
Executive Director

Board Members:

Michael Affentranger, Board Chairman (first right)
Redena Miller, Board Vice-Chairman (second right)
Alicia Engler, Board Member (middle)
Elaine Brown, Board Member (second left)
Dr. Gregory Reading, Board Member (first left)



Housing Staff:

Name:	Title:	Name:	Title:
Sherry Drywater	Executive Director	**Robert Sheppard**	Field Service Manager
Kaylon Wood	Executive Assistant	**Jarrod Gentry**	Maintenance Coordinator
Bessie Gonzales	Human Resource Coordinator	**Amanda Ramirez**	Field Service Contract Spec.
Susan Florez	Planning Coordinator	**Jamie Barse**	Field Service Admin Assist
Angela Whited	Adminstrative Assistant	**Stanley Curtis**	Constuction Technician
Shelly Porter	Finance Manager	**Jim Wolfberg**	Construction Technician
Sabrina McSwain	Assistant Finance Manager	**Evans Harjo**	Construction Technician Temp
Anesah Suke	Accounts Recievable Clerk	**Rocky Larney Jr**	Maintenance Technician
Victoria Stewart	Procurement Specialist	**Shane Mundell**	Maintenance Technician
Lahoma Roberts	Housing Manager	**Nathan Curtis**	Maintenance Technician
Melissa Reynoso	Lease Management Coordinator	**Terry Wilson**	Maintenance Technician
Kayla Ketakea	Lease Management Specialist	**Chris Welch**	Maintenance Technician
Thomas Rompf	Housing Compliance Inspector		
Caleb House	Office Assistant-File Clerk		
Tara Ann Winter	Programs Manager		
Ashley Smith	Admissions Coordinator		
Karen Fullbright	Admissions Intake Specialist		
Kimberly Morgan	Admissions Intake Specialist		
Breeahnna McCarver	Supportive Housing Intake Spec.		
Linda Gouge	Resident Services Manager		
Tara Wallace	Resident Outreach Coordinator		
Kim Vermillion	Resident Education Specialist		
Anthony Ramirez	ROSS Coordinator		

TAX COMMISSION

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Tax Commission
2026 General Council

It is the policy of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Government to provide governmental services to its members. To finance the Tribe's governmental responsibilities and regulate those operating within its jurisdiction, the Tribe has the inherent sovereign authority to impose taxes on goods and activities and to license and regulate certain conduct and activity within the jurisdiction.

The Absentee Shawnee Tax Commission was created "to carry out the duties and functions assigned to it in the Absentee Shawnee Tax Laws." [1] The Commission consists of three (3) commissioners who are appointed by the AST Executive Committee and serve a two (2) year term.

Office Hours / Drive Thru
Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
DRIVE THRU / WALK IN AVAILABLE
Closed Saturday and Sunday and any legal holiday established by rule, ordinances, training, or proclamations by the AST EC, and acts of nature/inclement weather.

Staff
Amelia Grass, Tax Administrator
Maureen Bemo, Assistant Administrator
Cayanna Blanchard, Tax Clerk

Tribal Taxes
Sales Tax
Gaming Tax
Severance Tax
Motor Vehicle Taxation and Registration
Fireworks

Office Hours: M-F, 8am- 5pm
DRIVE THRU / WALK IN AVAILABLE
No Appointment required
Office 405.275.4030 ext 9012

Tax Commission
2026 General Council

Vehicle Registration

Eligibility: Motor Vehicle tags are available to enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members residing in the state of Oklahoma. *Must provide current AST CDIB*, Valid Oklahoma Driver's License, and valid Oklahoma insurance verification.

Types of motor vehicle tags available:

Commercial	Requires Federal identification number or Schedule C of tax return
Farm	Requires Schedule F of tax return and/or an Oklahoma agricultural exemption permit
Motorcycle	
UTV	Affidavit for Street Legal Utility Vehicle
Purple Heart	Requires DD-214
Vet	Requires DD-214
Personalized	Up to 7 Characters
Collector Tags	"AB-SH" Design and "Logo" Design

New Registrations:
You can process recently bought vehicles, etc. in person only. Items needed to process a new registration: original title, purchase agreement/bill of sale, lien entry/lien release (if applicable), valid Oklahoma driver's license, AST enrollment card, Oklahoma insurance verification and/or other documents required. We accept the following forms of payment: Cash, Check, Money Order, and Cashier's Check, or Credit/Debit card (2.75% processing fee added for Credit/Debit cards.)

Renewals:
You can renew your motor vehicle tag(s) through the mail, in person, or by using the interactive link found at www.astribe.com. The items needed to process a renewal: copy of valid Oklahoma driver's license, copy of AST enrollment card, Oklahoma insurance verification, copy of the previous year's registration, and/or other documents as required. We accept the following forms of payment: Cash, Check, Money Order, and Cashier's Check, or Credit/Debit card (2.75% processing fee added for Credit/Debit cards.)

Unroadworthy Affidavit
An affidavit used to stop expired tag penalties from accruing, *if your vehicle is "unroadworthy" requiring major mechanical repairs*. The affidavit should be completed before the tag's expiration date but, may be completed at any time and penalties that have accrued up to the point of completing the affidavit will be assessed. This affidavit is for use by vehicles already tagged with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Tax Commission
2026 General Council

Duplicate AST Title/ Registration

If your AST Title &/or Registration has been lost, you may obtain a duplicate title. Duplicate titles &/or Registrations will only be issued to registered owner(s) of the vehicle. Identification must be presented. A $10 Fee will be charged.

Tag Calculation

$10.00 + 1.25% of Actual Purchase Price of Vehicle + Tag

Penalty Fees

A penalty of $0.25 per day will be assessed starting on the 31st day

Tag Prices

1-4 yrs. old: $85.00
5-8 yrs. old: $75.00
9-12 yrs. old: $55.00
13-16 yrs. old: $35.00
17 yrs. & over: $15.00

[1] Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Licensing and Tax Code, Chapter 1, §1.
[2] [3] Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Licensing and Tax Code, Chapter 1, §2 and §3.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Tax Commission
2026 General Council

Business Licenses

As a condition of doing business within the Tribe's jurisdiction, any person who engages in business is required to obtain a business license, and is required to pay the sales and/or lodgers tax of 8.5%. This license must be granted by the Tax Commission upon filing of an application setting forth the name of the business, address, ownership of the business, type of business, and the Federal identification number or social security number. License registrations must be renewed by January 1 of each year.

Vendor/Peddler Guidelines

Day Vendors, peddlers, etc. receiving money or anything of value for the sale of goods or services where an annual gross total $5,000 or less are subject to these guidelines, which serve as a supplement to the Licensing and Tax Code

1. All must register by completing a **Business License Application** form. The **Business License fee for day venders, peddlers etc. is $25.00**, renewed annual by January 1.
2. Business License Fee(s) are waived for persons, who qualify for exemptions as stated in *Chapter 3, Sec. 4 (e), (f), and (g); and for Non-Profit Organizations*.
3. Day Vendors/Peddlers, etc. selling on an irregular basis must report to the AST Tax Commission office prior to selling. A tax deposit of $25.00 must be paid be the vendor/peddler, which will be returned upon payment of sales taxes. The Tax Commission will issue a sales permit valid for that day *ONLY*. The Vendors/Peddlers must provide record of sales to the Tax Commission.
4. Vendors/Peddlers etc. returning on a regular basis must report to the AST Tax Commission office prior to selling, and in addition to above item 3 may have the option (as approved by the Tax Commission) of reporting sales and remitting taxes on a monthly basis in accordance with Chapter 3.
5. The Sales Tax rate is 8.5% of total gross sales. Sales taxes are waived for the persons, who qualify for exemptions as stated in *Chapter 3, Sec. 4 (e), (f), and (g); and for Non-Profit Organizations*.

[1] Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Licensing and Tax Code, Chapter 3, §4.

AllNations Bank

All Nations Bank

Financial Highlights

6/30/2026

	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	% Growth	12/31/2025	% Growth	6/30/2026	% Growth	3 1/2 yr % Growth
Assets	$54,330,000	$66,504,000	22%	$77,144,000	16%	$84,527,000	10%	56%
Loans	$33,502,000	$40,959,000	22%	$50,384,000	23%	$51,160,000	2%	53%
Deposits	$48,919,000	$60,273,000	23%	$69,770,000	16%	$76,881,000	10%	57%
Capital	$5,409,000	$5,951,000	10%	$6,605,000	11%	$6,934,000	5%	28%
Net Income	$514,000	$537,000		$616,000		$483,544		
Ratios								
Loan to Deposit Ratio	68.48%	67.96%		72.21%		66.54%		
Adj. Return on Assets	0.98%	0.94%		0.94%		1.14%		
Return on Equity	10.49%	9.91%		10.31%		14.65%		
Capital Ratio	9.96%	8.95%		8.55%		8.38%		

Significant Asset and Loan Growth

- Total assets reached $84 million halfway through 2026, with loans growing to $51 million.
- The Loan-to-Deposit Ratio is holding steady averaging 68%, reflecting balanced growth in deposits and lending.

Robust Deposit and Capital Increases

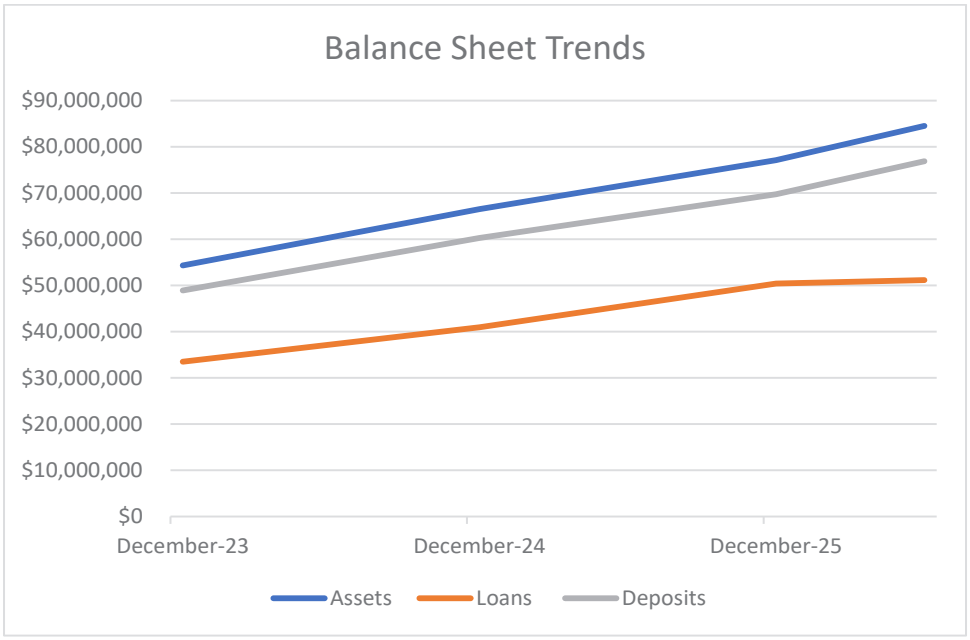
- Deposits grew to $76 million, supporting loans, indicating strong customer trust while capital rose steadily to $6.9 million, ensuring regulatory compliance and risk support.

Improved Earnings and Ratios

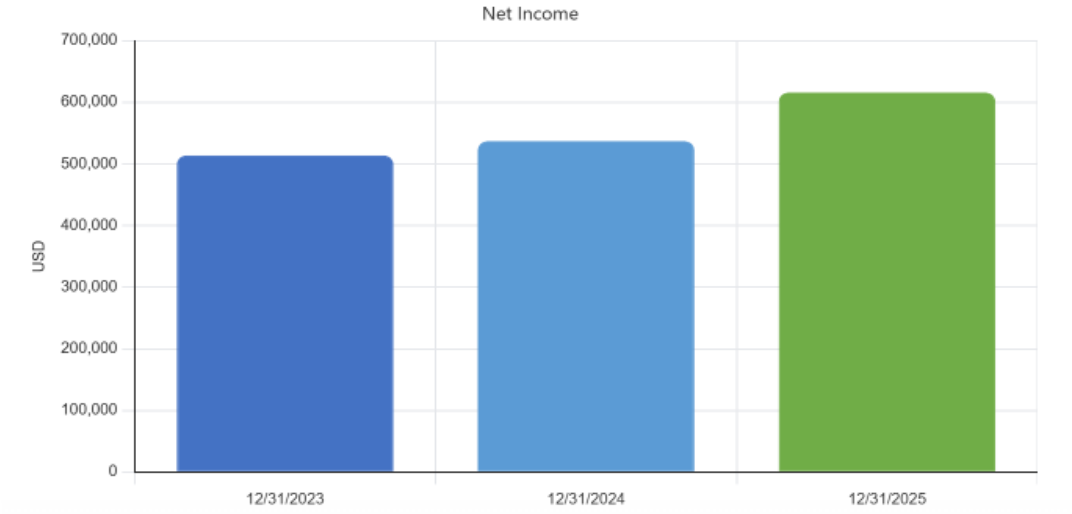
- Net income of $483,500 halfway through the year and strong ratios like 1.14% ROA and 14.65% ROE reflect increased earnings stability, improved efficiency, expense management, capital efficiency & shareholder value.

Strategic Financial Stability

- Underscores the bank's sustained financial strength and future readiness.











Member FDIC
AllNations Bank
Calumet (405) 893-2240
Shawnee (405) 273-0202
anbok.bank
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

ELECTION COMMISSION

Mission Statement

The Election Commission's mission is to ensure that the democratic process is protected, secure, and strong. We strive to ensure that the voices of the Absentee Shawnee members are not only heard but also valued by their elected representatives.

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (*Date and Times can be changed*)
Office hours increase during January, March, and June to support the election process.

Election Commission

James C. Spybuck, Jr., Commissioner
Brandi Routledge-Hunt, "Appointed" Deputy Commissioner
Lorrie Thorpe, "Appointed" Secretary
John Blanchard, "Appointed" Commission Member #1
Shirley Adkins, "Appointed" Commission Member #2

Alternates

Summary

The 2025 Audit is provided for your review.

Just a reminder: The Absentee Ballot process opens almost two full months prior to the March Primary and the June Annual (Run Off) Elections. Example: The Absentee Ballot request form is printed in the January and February newsletters and is also available on the tribal website for the March Primary.

For June, the form is printed in April and May newsletters, and is also available on the tribal website. The Request deadline is 20 days before the elections.

The Election Commission should be your first contact for any/all election-related questions.

Contact Information

Election Commission
Mail: P.O. Box 741, Tecumseh, OK 74873
Telephone: (405) 275-4030, Extension 3537 Facsimile: (405) 273-1337
E-mail: Election.Commission@astribe.com

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
ELECTION COMMISSION
2025 AUDIT

1.1.25 Beginning Balance $ 233.00

Month	Deposits	Checks
January	$ 300.00	$ 375.80
February	$ -	$ 95.00
March	$ -	$ -
April	$ -	$ -
May	$ -	$ -
June	$ -	$ -
July	$ -	$ -
August	$ -	$ -
September	$ -	$ -
October	$ -	$ -
November	$ -	$ -
December	$ -	$ -
Totals	$ 300.00	$ 470.80

12.31.25 Ending Balance $ 62.20

COMMENTS/FINDINGS:

Expenses:

2/14/2025 Payment voucher and receipt missing for Xpress Wellness drug and alcohol testing for Commissioner candidate.

Revenue:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

For program related expenses, it is recommended that a payment voucher be completed and that all supporting receipts and documentation be maintained to substantiate the expenditures.

Audit performed by:

Courtney Green

Courtney Green - Budget Officer

8/20/24
Date

Audit reviewed by:

Kyle Coody - Controller

8/21/24
Date

MEDIA

The Media Department has produced six more episodes of the podcast, Among the Shawnee:

How AST Public Health Program Supports Elders and Families
Guests - Rita Hunnicutt RN; Jayden Watson, Community Health Outreach; Terra Little Jim, Community Health Aide

Sexual Assault Awareness Month - Survivor Stories and Resources
Guests – Lacey Carey, Rising Warrior Director; Taylor Wills, Sexual Assault Coordinator; Survivor Mary Melissa

AST Housing Authority - Housing, Heritage & Hope
Guests – Sherry Drywater, ASTHA Executive Director; Karen Fullbright, Admissions Intake Specialist; Kimberly Vermillion, Resident Education Specialist

AST Elections - Why Voting Matters
Guest – James Spybuck Jr, Election Commissioner

Shawnee Names - Why They Are Important
Guests – Scott Miller, Language/Culture Director; Clayton Martinez, Cultural Specialist

AST Public Health Spotlight - Start Smart Program and Health Fair
Guests – Rita Hunnicutt RN, Sianna Morgheim, Public Health Director

Currently the website is one of the most popular ways to listen to the podcast. If you would like to listen on the website, scan the QR code. The podcast can also be downloaded on YouTube, SoundCloud, Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

There is now an online form on the Media webpage allowing members to update their address or sign up to get the tribal newspaper, https://www.astribe.com/forms/Newsletter-Sign-Up-Change-Address. Scan the QR code to sign up or change your address. Those without smart phones can still call us to change their address or start the paper.

The Media Department is also responsible for posting all news items and events. Please make sure you are checking the website, following us on our socials, Instagram - @absenteeshawneetribe and the official Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/AbsenteeShawneeTribe.

The deadline for news items is the 15th of every month and you can send in wishes/stories to media@astribe.com.
The Media office is located at 219 E Walnut in Tecumseh. We can be reached at (405) 598-1279 or media@astribe.com.

Media Staff
Mindy Longhorn – Media Director, mindyl@astribe.com
Derek Hilderbrand – Print Production Manager, dhilderbrand@astribe.com

AMONG THE SHAWNEE PODCAST

Newsletter sign-up/Change Address

Enterprise Content Management (ECM) Department Report

General Council progress update | April-August 2026

Executive summary

The Enterprise Content Management Department has strengthened connections across Tribal and Health departments of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe by using Laserfiche to organize documentation, deliver online services, automate business processes, and improve access to information.

At the core of this effort is Laserfiche, a leading enterprise content management platform. ECM uses it to design online forms, automate workflows, manage digital records, and help staff and community members submit applications, access services, and track requests without relying on manual paperwork.

From April through August 2026, ECM created or modified 30 automated forms and business processes, supporting more than 5,000 executions. The department continues to update and maintain these solutions as operational needs change.

April-August 2026 results

30

AUTOMATED FORMS AND BUSINESS PROCESSES CREATED OR MODIFIED

5,000+

AUTOMATED PROCESS EXECUTIONS

Progress since the April General Council meeting

From April through August 2026, ECM completed new builds, redesigns, workflow configurations, updates, testing, troubleshooting, and ongoing maintenance across a wide range of operational areas. This work includes both newly launched solutions and continuous updates that keep existing forms accurate, usable, secure, and aligned with evolving departmental requirements.

Operational Impact
- Reduced manual paperwork and repeated data entry - Improved routing, notifications, and accountability - Faster, more consistent service delivery

Automated Forms and Business Processes by Department

The inventory below presents 30 automated forms and business processes completed or updated across Tribal and Health departments and programs during the April-August 2026 reporting period.

Tribal Departments and Programs	Health Departments and Programs
Court - Petition for Change of Name	Administration - Code of Conduct
ECM - Lost Paws Form	Administration - Employee of the Year
Human Resources - IT Request Form	Administration - Town Hall Agenda
ICW - Angel Tree	Administration - Training Room Reservation
ICW - Information Request	Diabetes & Wellness - Zombie Run
Language - Bandolier Shoulder Bag Workshop	Human Resources - IT Request Form
Language - Puckered-toed Moccasin Making Workshop	Human Resources - New Clinic Staffing Needs Assessment
Media - Newsletter Sign up	Medical Materials - AED & Pad Tracker
Procurement - Travel	Medical Materials - Inventory Transfer Form
Procurement - Vehicle Purchase	PRC - Nurse License Review
Procurement - Vendor Sign In Sheet	Public Health - Car Seat Giveaway
Social Services - Application for LIHEAP	Public Health - Community Health Assessment
Social Services - Application for Tribal Energy Assistance	Public Health - Caregiver form
Social Services - Burial Assistance Program	Quality Services - Hand Hygiene Adherence Observations
Treasurer - Event Feedback Survey	Registration - New Patient Form

ECM services represented

Online forms and applications	Automated workflows and routing	Form updates and maintenance
Digital intake, surveys, registrations, requests, applications, and staff-facing operational forms.	Approval routing, notifications, task assignment, status handling, and repeatable process execution.	Field, layout, validation, calculation, workflow, access, reporting, and usability improvements.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to advance tribal procedures with innovative technology, advancing the Tribe into the future by organizing documentation and content, simplifying workflows, boosting productivity, supporting our team, strengthening relationships, and delivering cost-saving, efficient solutions.

NOTES

NOTES