



# KIOWA TRIBE

P.O. Box 369 □Carnegie, Oklahoma □73015  
Phone: (580) 654-2300 □Fax: (580) 654-1788  
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATURE

---

## MEMO

**TO:** Matt Komalty, Chairman  
Charles Eisenberger, Vice Chairman

**FROM:** Renee Plata, Speaker of the Legislature, for the Legislature

*RMP*

**COPY:** Legislators  
Donald Tofpi; Executive Director  
Edward Wahkinney, Finance Department Director/CFO  
Ernest Redbird, Compliance Officer

**SUBJECT:** Receipt of Chairman's Proposed Annual Budget for FY 2018-2019

**DATE:** March 2, 2018

Thank you for providing the Legislature with your proposed Annual Budget for FY 2018-2019, which begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the proposed Annual Budget with you and the Department Directors as the Legislature prepares a final budget to present to the voters of the Tribe before the start of the next fiscal year.

### **Chairman's Proposed Annual Budget Received After the February 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline**

On February 28, 2018, the Legislature received the Chairman's 2-page proposed Annual Budget for the Tribe. As you know, the Constitution establishes a deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup> for the Chairman to propose an Annual Budget to the Legislature. We received the memo dated January 31, 2018, from your office acknowledging that your proposed Annual Budget "...will be late." We note that we received your proposed Annual Budget 28-days after the deadline.

### **Budget Hearings and Request for Information**

The Legislature has scheduled public hearings to discuss the proposed Annual Budget with the Tribe's CFO, Treasurer, key Department Directors, as well as the Interim Chief Judge and KIC Coordinator. The Constitution requires the Tribe to adopt an Annual Budget that includes all revenue and expenses for all branches of the Tribe's government, and that the Annual Budget must be approved by the voters of the Tribe before any government funds can be spent.

Pursuant to the Tribe's LAW-MAKING AND THE PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND TESTIMONY ACT OF 2017 ("Law-Making Act"), Section 1.5(a), the Legislature hereby requests information, documentation, and testimony from executive branch personnel in order to review and discuss the proposed Annual Budget requests and related issues, as follows:

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Edward Walkinney; Finance Dept. Director/CFO | March 12, 2018 at 9:30 am  |
| Donald Topfi; Executive Director             | March 12, 2018 at 10:30 am |
| George Carter; Treasurer                     | March 12, 2018 at 1:00 pm  |
| Ernest Redbird; Compliance Officer           | March 12, 2018 at 2:00 pm  |

The Legislature notes that the Law-Making Act requires the Chairman to respond in a timely manner to a request for information and testimony made by the Legislature including whether the information and testimony will not be provided by the date requested, and if so, when it will be provided.

Please note that the Legislature plans to hold the budget hearings in public via livestream (through the Tribe's website) so that members of the Tribe can view the proceedings, especially since the Constitution requires the Annual Budget to be approved by the voters of the Tribe.