

# ELECTION CANDIDATES

**MARCH 1ST, 2025** 

**Election** 

Peoria Tribe Headquarters 7am-12pm

Peoria Annual Meeting (General Council)

Peoria Showplace
Doors Open 10am | Meeting Begins 1pm

Special Meeting & Referendum to follow

#### PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

# 2025 ELECTION CANDIDATES

- 1 Notice of Annual Election
- 2 Second Chief Candidates
- 4 Second Councilman Candidates
- **6** Grievance Committee Candidates
- 12 Upcoming Referendum and Special Election for Chief

### **RUN-OFF LIKELY**

In accordance with the Peoria Election Ordinance Article XIII - Section 4:
In the race for Grievance Committee There are six (6) candidates. One candidate must recieve no less than 50.1% of the total vote in order to be declared the winner.

Failure to do so will result in a run-off election between the two (2) who have received the most votes.

In the event of a Run-Off Election, more information will be announced at General Council.

P (918) 540-2535 F (918) 540-2538



CHIEF Rosanna Dobbs

SECOND CHIEF Vacant

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL ELECTION PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

#### Saturday, March 1, 2025

The Election Committee of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma announces the Annual Election is scheduled on Saturday, March 1, 2025. Positions to be filled are Second Chief, Second Councilman, and two seats on the Grievance Committee, each for terms of four (4) years.

Two candidates filed for position of Second Chief, Two candidates filed for position of Second Councilman, and Six candidates filed for two seats on the Grievance Committee. Election Ordinance of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. Each will serve a term of four (4) years.

Any member of the Peoria Tribe, as defined in Article III, Section 1 – MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE, of the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, shall be eligible to vote, provided the member is eighteen (18) years of age or over on the date of the election. Each member will be required to show proof of identification at each election in the form of a government issued photo identification showing their name to match the Official Voters' List provided by the Tribal Enrollment Office. (Peoria Tribe Election Ordinance, Article VI-VOTERS, Section 1)

Polling place on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>March 1</u>, <u>2025</u>, will be at the Peoria Tribal Administration Building Conference Room, 118 South Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, Oklahoma, from <u>7:00 a.m. to Noon.</u>

Candidates for offices are:

SECOND CHIEF: Paul J. Attocknie Jr.

Rosanna Dobbs

SECOND COUNCILMAN: Kara D. North

**Darcie Shultz** 

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE: Mark Davey

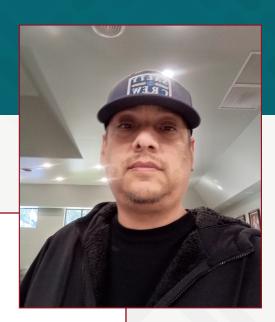
Zeth R. Hedges Anna Johnson Heather Kahalewai Patrick Morris Korie Payton

In the event no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election will be conducted between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes. The Election Committee will immediately proceed to call for a run-off election by announcing the time polls will open. Polls for a run-off election will remain open for a period of two (2) hours. Announcement of the run-off election will be made at the Peoria Tribal Office and at the Showplace at Buffalo Run Casino at the Annual Peoria Council Meeting. Balloting will continue until one candidate receives a clear majority of total votes cast.

Voting results will be announced immediately at the Peoria Tribal Office and during the Annual Peoria Council Meeting at the Showplace at Buffalo Run Casino scheduled to convene at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2025.

### **SECOND CHIEF CANDIDATES**

## Paul J. Attocknie Jr.



Aya.

My name is Paul J. Attocknie Jr. I'm running for Second Chief of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. I would like to ask for your vote as the Second Chief of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. I'm the great grandson of Mary Olsen Blalock. I believe the tribe is making great changes and benefits for our tribal members which I believe that I could continue making those changes and benefits for our tribal members. If you have any questions or would like to talk about anything, please call or text anytime.

Paul J. Attocknie Jr. 539-577-1391 attockniepaul@gmail.com

#### **SECOND CHIEF CANDIDATES**

#### **Rosanna Dobbs**

Aya my fellow tribal citizens,

I am Rosanna Dobbs. For those of you not familiar with me, I am a lifelong resident of Miami, Ok. I am married to my best friend of nearly 14 years. I have three children and five grandchildren, and they are the compass and influence in my life that directs my desire to serve our tribe. My family descends from the Peckham line. My great grandmother was Erma Peckham, tracing our lineage back to the Wea Tribe.

My career has been in serving our local tribes in some capacity for over 25 years. The complexities of tribal government and importance of continual tribal growth have inspired me to never stop learning. It has been an honor to work within the tribal realm, both in governmental capacities and in serving all tribal citizens. The experiences and lessons learned have not only enriched my understanding but also deepened my commitment to serving our citizens and community. I am proud of not only our tribe but all the tribes and tribal partners in our local community as we continue to work together to thrive and grow.

I have had the privilege to serve our tribe as your Second Chief for more than 3 years now. During that time, I have also served on the Economic Development Board and the Northeastern Tribal Health Systems Governing Board. This current Business Committee is unified, and goal-oriented with great respect for one another. Each of us is only one voice amongst 7 of our tribal brothers and sisters to come together to make decisions for the benefit of our tribe. While our tribe has grown substantially in its footprint, we now need to focus on economic development and growth. Diversifying revenue streams is crucial for long-term sustainability and prosperity. Through strategic planning, exploring new opportunities and leveraging our unique strengths, we can build a robust and resilient economy that ensures the well-being of our tribe for many generations to come. This is the Business Committee and staff to put it to task, and I am proud to be a part of it.

As we are quickly approaching the 2025 Annual General Council Meeting, I want to again announce my declaration for candidacy to continue to serve you as your Second Chief and ask for your support on March 1, 2025.

May our great tribe flourish and find prosperity and peace moving forward together.

With gratitude and respect,

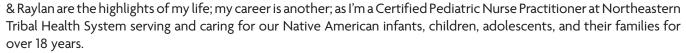
Rosanna Dobbs Second Chief, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

#### **SECOND COUNCILMAN CANDIDATES**

### Kara D. North

Dear Peoria Tribal members.

I'm Kara North, proud Peoria tribal member, descendent of my late grandfather's Thomas Miller, Albert Miller, George Hirum Miller Sr., George Hirum Miller Jr., and mother Karen Miller Johnson. My children, Marlee, Jordan,



As a Business Committee Member, in the role of Second Councilman for the past 7 years; Vice-Chairman of the Housing Board; and member of the Economic Development Committee; it's been a complete blessing and honor to serve you; our tribe, Peoria Tribe of Indian's of Oklahoma. With that being said, graciously I'd like to request for your renewed and continued support as I once again announce my candidacy for this elected position.

During my years as Second Councilman for the Peoria Tribe, I've assisted in maximizing the talents and experiences of my fellow office holders to ensure that our Peoria Tribe builds and maintains a reputation of excellence. I've assisted in ensuring that our tribe executes a vision of leadership, visibility, and cooperation with other tribal officials who are dedicated to the advancement and well-being of our tribe. I feel it imperative to continue to build upon the hard work of the previous and current tribal leadership and take the Peoria Tribal council to the next level by working in a harmonious collaboration with other office holders. It is our responsibility to ensure that we invest in our people, our future, and generations that will succeed us.

Our tribe's growth and achievements are extremely notable, with many projects aiding in food sovereignty, early childhood education, and increased revenue coming to fruition to include, but not limited to the following (along with ARPA Emergency Relief Aid funding): Successful acquisition of allotted tribal lands; Early Childhood Woodland Campus/Rockdale Expansions; Natural Resources (Peoria Cattle Ranch & Aquatic Facilities: Cattle; Freshwater Mussels; Buffalo); Greenhouse addition; Food Distribution Center addition; RV Park addition; Elder Care & Disability Programs; Other reimbursement programs; Revitalization of Peoria Language Program and Cultural Department; Etc. With the aforementioned, to say that Peoria Tribe of Indian's of Oklahoma have Department of Finance, Department of Commerce; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Early Childhood; Department of Cultural Preservation; Department of Natural Resources; Department of Construction; Enterprises to encompass Buffalo Run Casino, Buffalo Run Hotel, Peoria Ridge Golf course; Peoria Housing Authority; and multiple tribal programs is OUTSTANDING! Gratefulness and Gratitude; our tribe is Blessed!

With the assistance of the Peoria tribal members through ideas, suggestions, and recommendations, elected officers, and the entire Council, I know that we can continue to build a legacy for our future and make our Peoria tribe proud.

Respectfully, Kara D. North



#### **SECOND COUNCILMAN CANDIDATES**





Fellow Citizens.

aya eeweemilakakoki! aya ceeki aweeya. Darcie Shultz weenswiaani. I am excited to announce my candidacy for the position of Second Councilman and would like to share some key points about myself that demonstrate my qualifications. I am a business owner. In 2020, I opened Books & Burrow - an independent bookstore in Pittsburg, KS that highlights Native authors and stories. I serve on the Downtown Advisory Board for the City of Pittsburg, I am an adjunct at Pittsburg State University where I teach dance, and currently, I am the general manager of Memorial Auditorium for the City of Pittsburg (prior I served on the auditorium's advisory board for four years). In addition, I have a Master's in Arts Development and Program Management.

I believe in representation, community, and shared experiences! I am a proud citizen and welcome the opportunity and honor to serve all of you. I humbly ask for your support and vote on March 1. If you have any questions, please reach out at any time.

My values: Equitable Access Collaboration Engagement

mihši neewe Darcie Shultz

darcieshultz@gmail.com 417-522-9944

## **Mark Davey**



My name is Mark Davey and I am a candidate for the Grievance Committee position. The tribal scholarship program helped me to advance my education and earn an Aerospace Engineering degree from Oklahoma State University in 2002. I continued my studies and earned a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2004. After graduation I got a job in the defense industry and have spent the past 20 years delivering innovative solutions to complex challenges for the US government and its allies. While in college, I regularly attended tribal meetings with my grandmother, Mary Lembcke, and have continued to make the trip up from Fort Worth, Texas to participate in tribal activities. I have previously served three terms on the Grievance Committee and I would appreciate your vote so I may once again serve our tribe.

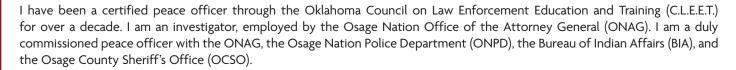
Thank you.

## Zeth R. Hedges

#### Hello!

My name is, Zeth Hedges. I am excited to announce my candidacy for one of the two positions on the Peoria Tribe of Indians' Grievance Committee. I am committed to serving our people by fostering fairness, understanding, and accountability in all aspects

of our tribal governance. Here are some details about me that I believe will be important to consider when choosing your next Grievance Committee Member



Since starting my career, I have obtained my Police Science degree from Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City. I have also obtained the Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country certification, which is training administered by the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ).

Throughout my career, I have embraced opportunities for personal and professional growth. Beginning in 2013, I started my career in law enforcement as a reserve deputy sheriff for the Nowata County Sheriff's Office, advancing to the position of Reserve Sergeant. Later, I became a full-time Peace Officer and was employed by the City of Nowata as a patrol officer. I again advanced to the rank of Patrol Sergeant. When afforded the opportunity, I transferred to the Osage Nation Police Department and was in the patrol division. Later, another opportunity within the Osage Nation became available. I was blessed to be offered the Office of the Attorney General investigative position. I accepted the investigator position and that is where I am currently serving the community.

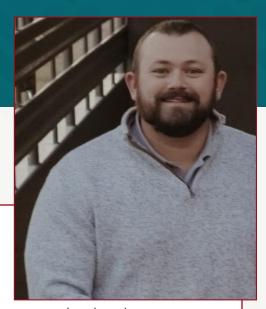
For the duration of my career, I have had a wonderful support system. My wife, Julia Hedges, and I have been married for nearly ten years. We have added five members to the Peoria Nation, our daughters, Adeline (6), RyLynn (5), Kaylene (3), Elsie, and Josie (1).

We are active members of Spirit Church, where my wife serves in Awana and the children's ministry and I serve on the safety and security teams. We enjoy spending time together as a family. We connect during outdoor activities, such as outdoor games, bounce houses, playgrounds, and anything else active and fun. We also enjoy bonding over board or card games, even if it is Monopoly!

We often make the short drive to Miami to attend some of the events, committee meetings, or gatherings. My wife and I regularly enjoy our date nights at Coal Creek, finishing with dessert at The Bistro! We thoroughly enjoy being active in the communities that are so important to us!

I believe the training and experience I have gained throughout my career in law enforcement will accentuate the duties of the Grievance Committee. I am dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and fairness to all Peoria members. We all strive for a well-positioned Peoria Nation for our elders, children, and grandchildren. On March 1st, 2025, I look forward to your vote at the General Council meeting, allowing me to serve our Peoria Nation.

Thank you for your consideration! Zeth Hedges



### **Anna Johnson**



My fellow tribal members:

My name is Anna Johnson and I am 74 years old. I live in Joplin, Missouri with my husband Bill. I have worked in financial related jobs for 45 years. I retired from UMB Bank in Joplin after 34 plus years of employment. My mother was Reba Jo Miller, a previous member of the tribe before her passing. I am very proud of my Native American heritage and I am very interested in the well being of my tribe.

I am applying for a position on the Grievance Committee. The importance of cooperation between our tribal members, tribal government and tribal staff cannot be stressed enough.

I will be there for you, my tribe, with only you and your interests at heart. I feel that together we can accomplish many great things.

Please vote for Anna Johnson for Grievance Committee!

Thank you

#### **Heather Kahalewai**



Hello, I am excited to announce that I have declared my candidacy for the position of grievance committee in the upcoming election on March 1, 2025. I feel that it would be a great privilege to serve my own tribe and that my compassion, skills, and dedication would be a great asset to the Peoria tribe as we mobilize toward the future.

I grew up in Fair Grove, MO and have been a resident of Grove, OK since 2000. I graduated from Fair Grove High School and obtained my bachelor's degrees in general business and human resources from Missouri Southern State University. While at MSSU, I helped implement the Joplin chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) as a founding member and served as the chapter's secretary.

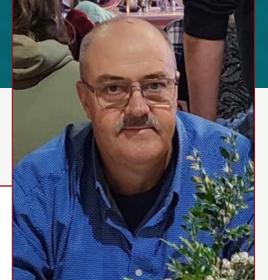
In the past I obtained certifications as a certified nurse aide, certified medication aide and pharmacy technician. I started my service to the Native American community at Northeastern Tribal Health System in 2006 and have worked there in many different capacities for just shy of 19 years. Having worked within medical, lab, pharmacy and purchased referred care, it has given me a great understanding of the inner workings of Indian Health Services and the needs of our patients and community. In 2010, I was a recipient of the IHS Director's customer service award related to my performance as a ward clerk with the medical staff. I am very blessed to be able to help and serve the native community in this capacity. I enjoy being able to help patients obtain the care they need or find necessary resources.

I am a single mother of a beautiful daughter whom I adore. I have spent a lot of time serving the local community by volunteering as a cheer coach for the NDCAA little league squad in Grove from 2018-2023.

I would like every tribal member to feel confident that their concerns are being heard and taken seriously. I believe that effective communication is essential between members of the tribe and tribal administration. I would be honored to become an advocate for tribal members.

Thank you for your consideration for me as a candidate for grievance committee.

Sincerely, Heather Kahalewai



#### **Patrick Morris**

I am excited to announce that I have declared my candidacy for a position on the Grievance Committee for the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma in the upcoming Election on March 1, 2025.

I am a lifelong resident of Fairland, Oklahoma, in Ottawa County. I am married to my wonderful wife Michelle of 27 years, I have five children, and five grandchildren. We were raised and live in a community of nine federally recognized tribes that are rich with Native American pride, culture, and tradition. The impact of the nine tribes in terms of program services, employment, and economic opportunities to the entire community is significant and indispensable every day.

I pursued my education at the University of Ottawa in Elementary Education. After 3 years of education. I then served our Country in the Military for 6 years and 5 months. My employment after the Military started at the United States Postal Service where I worked for 24 years. I am also an active firefighter and have been for 26 years as well as, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for 10 years. Now I am happily retired where I can tend my up most full attention to fishing, my newly developed greenhouse, and of course, those precious moments with my kids and grandkids.

One thing that is very heavy on my heart is the leadership and the growth that comes out in our Native American youth today. I am heavily involved in our tribal children exploring their options and growing into our way of life, I am very involved in our annual Ottawa County fair that takes place every August, for the reason that it teaches our youth multiple important life lessons over priorities, discipline, and responsibilities.

As a parent and a proud tribal citizen, I want to see the tribe move forward as a team and grow so our elders, relatives, and youth know that they have a place they can gracefully belong and not feel left out or discouraged.

It would be my honor to serve and help move our astonishing tribe forward, it's our job to not only preserve our past but to nurture and care for our present in a way that grows our future in a greater manner.

It is a privilege to have this opportunity, and I am kindly seeking your support at the polls on Saturday, March 1, 2025, Your voice, and vote matters.

Grievance Committee

Yours Faithfully, Patrick Morris

#PeoriaProud

## **Korie Payton**



Aya.

My name is Korie Payton, granddaughter of Clara McNaughton. It is my hope to advocate for our People through my candidacy on the Grievance Committee beginning March 1, 2025.

I worked for the Peoria Tribe from 2020 to 2024. I have been utilizing our programs, as well as advocating for our programs throughout the last decade. I have other experience working in nonprofit and Indigenous spaces since my time as an undergraduate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In my career and in my personal life, I have a passion for social work, Indigenous spaces, and advocacy.

Regarding my declaration of candidacy, I am interested in consistency of our processes, increased attention to our constitution, and transparency throughout these practices. I have read concerns, questions, and commentary on all our platforms throughout the last 5 years, and I believe there is a lot of work to be done to strengthen our Nation. To empower our People with knowledge. To increase consistency and process. To motivate citizens with ways to get involved.

I will remain an unwavering advocate for these practices if I am elected the opportunity to serve our Nation in this capacity. I will remain dedicated to following processes according to our Constitution, and I will work to empower our citizens with facts when faced with any questions. It would be my greatest honor to serve our Nation.

I encourage us all to get out on March 1, place your votes and join our People for the 2025 General Council Meeting.

korieapayton@gmail.com 918.961.1004

# REFERENDUM REGARDING **ONGOING LITIGATION**

A Special Meeting will be held after General Council on Discussion/Approval of the following:

SHALL THE PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA CONTINUE WITH ONGOING LITIGATION REGARDING TONY HOLDEN, DAVID QUALLS, AND/OR STUART CAMPBELL

Voting will take place after Special Meeting in the greenroom at the Peoria Showplace.

### **ANNUAL ELECTION**

**MARCH 1, 2025** 

**Election** 

Peoria Tribe Headquarters 7am-12pm

Peoria Annual Meeting (General Council)

Peoria Showplace Doors Open 10am | Meeting Begins 1pm

Special Meeting & Referendum to follow

### SPECIAL ELECTION FOR CHIEF

**MARCH 29, 2025** 

**Special Election** 

Peoria Tribe Headquarters 7am-12pm

Candidate filing period is January 28- February 12, 2025

Please watch facebook.com/PeoriaTribe or PeoriaTribe.com for updates.

