



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Southern Plains Regional Office  
Post Office Box 368  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
Tribal Government  
(405) 247-1534 or (580) 560-4463

June 4, 2022

## SECRETARIAL ELECTION NOTICE COMANCHE NATION

Tribal members of the Comanche Nation are hereby advised an election will be held on **July 9, 2022**, for the purpose of voting on the proposed constitutional amendments. The election will be conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Comanche Nation in accordance with Title 25 Part 81 of the Code of Federal Regulations (25 CFR Part 81). This election is **NOT** a tribal election and will **NOT** be conducted under tribal election procedures.

Pursuant to the requirements of 25 CFR Part 81, **only adult tribal members who register to vote** in this election will be entitled to vote on the ratification or rejection of the proposed constitutional amendments. This Secretarial Election Notice is being mailed to all members 18 years of age or older at the address listed on the current tribal membership roll with a Voter Registration Form. Some 17-year-old tribal members will receive this notice and have an opportunity to register should they turn 18 years of age by or on the election date. Only those who are at least 18 years old or older on the date of the election will be allowed to vote, provided they have registered. **Any tribal member who does not receive a Secretarial Election Notice Packet by mail, or received and misplaced their packet, may pick up one in person at:**

Comanche Nation  
Enrollment Office  
584 NW Bingo Road  
Lawton, Oklahoma 73507  
or call (580) 492-3585

OR

Southern Plains Regional Office  
Tribal Government  
100 Riverside Drive  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005  
or call (405) 247-1534 or (580) 560-4463

**THE REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAL ELECTION BOARD BY U.S. MAIL AT P.O. BOX 1550, ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA 73005 BY JUNE 24, 2022. NO HAND DELIVERED REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

This election is to be conducted by **absentee ballots only**. There will be no polling sites. If your registration form is received by the deadline, you will automatically be mailed an absentee ballot. You will not need to make a separate request for an absentee ballot.

It is particularly important and is emphasized and repeated that **only adult tribal members who register to vote in this election will be permitted to vote on the ratification or rejection of the proposed new constitutional amendments.**

Immediately after the ballots are counted on July 9, 2022, the results of the Secretarial Election will be posted at the Comanche Nation (Headquarters), Lawton, Oklahoma; Lorentino Education Center, Lawton, Oklahoma; Anadarko Outreach, Anadarko, Oklahoma; Dallas Outreach, Anadarko, Oklahoma; Anadarko Agency, Anadarko, Oklahoma; and Southern Plains Regional Office, Anadarko, Oklahoma.





# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Southern Plains Regional Office  
Post Office Box 368  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Tribal Government  
(405) 247-1534 or (580) 560-4463

June 4, 2022

## RULES OF SECRETARIAL ELECTION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 25 PART 81 OF THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS  
RULES TO GOVERN THE SECRETARIAL ELECTION TO VOTE TO RATIFY OR REJECT THE  
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OF THE COMANCHE NATION

1. **ELECTION DATE:** Saturday, July 9, 2022
2. **POLLING PLACE:** None – **ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING ONLY**
3. **ELIGIBLE VOTERS:** All enrolled members who are 18 years old or older on the day of the election and who have registered with the Secretary of the Interior will be permitted to vote to ratify or reject the proposed constitutional amendments.

**YOU MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE COMANCHE NATION SECRETARIAL ELECTION BOARD (“SECRETARIAL ELECTION BOARD”) TO BE ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.**

4. **REGISTRATION:** The Voter Registration Form must be completed and received by the Secretarial Election Board by mail (self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed) at Secretarial Election Board, P.O. Box 1550, Anadarko, Oklahoma by **June 24, 2022**. If you do not receive the registration material or it has become lost, you may pick up the Secretarial Election Notice Packet from:

Comanche Nation

Enrollment Office

584 NW Bingo Road

Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

or call (580) 492-3585

OR

Southern Plains Regional Office

Tribal Government

100 Riverside Drive

Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

or call (405) 247-1534 or (580) 560-4463

**IMPORTANT: If you do not properly register with the Secretary of the Interior, you will not be allowed to participate in this election.**

5. **VOTERS LIST:** The registered voter list shall be in alphabetical order and shall be posted for review no later than June 24, 2022, at the following locations:

Comanche Nation (Headquarters)

584 NW Bingo Road

Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

Lorentino Education Center

1608 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Lawton, Oklahoma 73501

Anadarko Outreach

602 West Virginia Avenue

Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

Dallas Outreach

1269 Record Crossing Rd., Suite E

Dallas, Texas 75235

Anadarko Agency

281 N. & Parker McKenzie Dr.

Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

Southern Plains Regional Office

100 Riverside Drive

Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

**SEE REVERSE SIDE**

6. **ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:** Any individual whose name does not appear on the official eligible voter list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written claim to the Secretarial Election Board. The right to vote of anyone whose name is on the list may also be challenged in writing to the Secretarial Election Board.

Such claims/challenges must be sent to: Secretarial Election Board, Attention: Sherry Lovin, P.O. Box 1550, Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005. Claims/challenges must be received by June 29, 2022. The Secretarial Election Board shall meet to pass or reject on any claim/challenge; **its decision shall be final.**

7. **ABSENTEE VOTING:** Registered voters will vote by absentee ballot. **Hand delivered absentee ballots will not be accepted under any circumstances. Absentee ballots must be received through the U.S. Mail.** If more than one ballot is received from any one individual, neither ballot may not be counted, discretion will be left to the Secretarial Election Board; **its decision shall be final.**

Absentee ballots must be received by the Secretarial Election Board at P.O. Box 1550, Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005, by July 9, 2022.

8. **COUNTING OF BALLOTS:** The ballots will be counted at the Comanche Nation Code Talker Room. Counting will begin at 1:00 p.m. on July 9, 2022. Individuals present for the counting are asked not to interact or distract the election officials or workers during the counting process or they will be asked to leave.
9. **POSTING ELECTION RESULTS:** The results of the election shall be posted at the Comanche Nation (Headquarters), Lawton, Oklahoma; Lorentino Education Center, Lawton, Oklahoma; Anadarko Outreach, Anadarko, Oklahoma; Dallas Outreach, Anadarko, Oklahoma; Anadarko Agency, Anadarko, Oklahoma; and Southern Plains Regional Office, Anadarko, Oklahoma.
10. **CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS:** Any eligible voter may challenge the election results within five (5) days following posting of the results of the election. The challenge must be in writing, filed with the Secretary of the Interior through the Secretarial Election Board Chairperson, and must give the grounds for the challenge with **substantiating evidence.** If, in the opinion of the Secretary, the objections are valid and warrant a recount or new election, the Secretary shall so order. The results of the recount or new election shall be final.

**CONTESTING MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 14, 2022, AT:**

SECRETARIAL ELECTION BOARD  
ATTENTION: SHERRY LOVIN  
P.O. BOX 1550  
ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA 73005

11. **RATIFICATION:** The proposed constitutional amendments shall be considered ratified and become effectively immediately, if the majority vote in favor of ratification; provided, at least thirty percent (30%) of the registered voters have cast ballots in the election in accordance with Article XIII of the Constitution of the Comanche Nation.

  
Chairperson, Secretarial Election Board





# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
 Southern Plains Regional Office  
 Post Office Box 368  
 Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMANCHE NATION Side-by-Side Comparison SECRETARIAL ELECTION – COMANCHE NATION July 9, 2022

CURRENT	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARTICLE VIII – VACANCIES AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE</b></p> <p>(Pursuant to Amendment XV, adopted April 14, 1979, and Pursuant to Amendment XLIV, adopted September 8, 2017)</p> <p><u>Section 1.</u> If a committeeman or officer of the tribe shall die or resign, be removed or recalled from office, his office shall be deemed vacant and the tribal chairman, or should this office be vacant, the tribal vice-chairman, shall immediately call a meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council to be held within twenty (20) days for the purpose of filling such vacancy for the unexpired term, except that when such vacancy shall occur within four months of the annual meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council, the position shall remain vacant until the next election when provisions shall be made to fill the vacancy.</p> <p><u>Section 2.</u> The Comanche Tribal Council may at a meeting duly called specifically for the purpose, recall any officer or committeemen for neglect of duty or conduct that has brought disrepute upon the tribe. Such a meeting shall not be unless a petition signed by 10% of the Tribal Council requesting recall is submitted to the Tribal Chairman. The Tribal Council shall consist of all members of the Comanche Nation who are eighteen (18) years of age or older. The recall of only one officer or committeeman may be initiated per meeting called for this purpose.</p> <p>(a) Following submission of an acceptable petition for a recall Tribal Council meeting, the tribal chairman shall require that a signed Bill of Particulars setting forth the elements of neglect or misconduct be submitted to the accused. The petitioner’s representative shall provide proper</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>AMENDMENT A</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARTICLE VIII – VACANCIES AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE</b></p> <p>(Pursuant to Amendment XV, adopted April 14, 1979, and Pursuant to Amendment XLIV, adopted September 8, 2017)</p> <p><u>Section 1.</u> If a committeeman or officer of the tribe shall die or resign, be removed or recalled from office, his office shall be deemed vacant and the tribal chairman, or should this office be vacant, the tribal vice-chairman, shall immediately call a meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council to be held within twenty (20) days for the purpose of filling such vacancy for the unexpired term, except that when such vacancy shall occur within four months of the annual meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council, the position shall remain vacant until the next election when provisions shall be made to fill the vacancy.</p> <p><u>Section 2.</u> The Comanche Tribal Council may at a meeting duly called specifically for the purpose, recall any officer or committeemen for neglect of duty or conduct that has brought disrepute upon the tribe. <b><i>Such a meeting shall not be unless a petition signed by two hundred and fifty (250) eligible voters of the Comanche Nation requesting recall is submitted to the tribal chairman.</i></b> The Tribal Council shall consist of all members of the Comanche Nation who are eighteen (18) years of age or older. The recall of only one officer or committeeman may be initiated per meeting called for this purpose. The petitioner’s representative shall provide proper evidence or receipt by the accused, the tribal chairman shall call an official meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council within thirty (30) days for the purpose of hearing and disposition of the case, <b><i>such meeting can be established within the</i></b></p>



evidence or receipt by the accused, the tribal chairman shall call an official meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council within thirty (30) days for the purpose of hearing and disposition of the case.

- (b) The format for the Tribal Council meeting shall be established as follows:
  - (1) Presentation of the Bill of Particulars against the accused by a representative of the accusers. This presentation shall be limited strictly to those specifics included in the Bill of Particulars as presented to the accused.
  - (2) The accused shall be given adequate opportunity to answer any and all charges of which he or she is accused. The accused may personally present or may choose to utilize the services of another to present this response.
- (c) Upon completion of these two presentations no further discussion shall be allowed and voting shall proceed immediately in a manner prescribed by this constitution.
- (d) A majority vote of those voting of the Tribal Council meeting shall be sufficient to effect recall providing a quorum is present. Should a quorum not be present the charges against the accused shall be declared null and void and no further action shall be taken on this petition.

***timeframe so noted in Section 2(a).***

- a) Following submission of an acceptable petition for a recall Tribal Council meeting, the tribal chairman shall require that a signed Bill of Particulars setting forth the elements of neglect or misconduct be submitted to the accused. The petitioner's representative shall provide proper evidence or receipt by the accused, the tribal chairman shall call an official meeting of the Comanche Tribal Council within (30) days for the purpose of hearing and disposition of the case.

***b) Acceptable recall petitions must adhere to the following standards:***

- 1. The standards of "one and only one" recall taken on a committeeman within a 120 day timeframe; all recalls must be of a grievous nature such as mismanagement of funds, not by error, but by intent, actual manipulation of documents, coercing of personnel to perform such illegal acts, and verified not by hearsay, but with actual documents; or by intentionally misleading committeemen, committee appointees or community at large to commit acts which endanger the future appropriations of funds, notwithstanding those funds be tribal, contractual or earned revenue from the various enterprises of the Nation;***
- 2. Include viable documentation that a crime or act is grievous enough to endanger the Nation or its entities and was intentionally performed by the accused;***
- 3. The particulars cannot be any subject matter not within the operational control of the accused, such as acts of nature, economic misfortune due to a national crisis, or mismanagement of program administrators (federal, state, or other contractual entity actions not within the scope of the accused), nor prior committee actions which were approved by a majority of the prior business committee members;***
- 4. The presenters of the Bill of Particulars must verify by more than 12 witnesses that they were harmed intentionally by the actions of the accused, such actions if found not***

*viable, or true to the nature presented, such recall will be declared null and void, and presenters of the particulars will not be allowed to take a recall petition on any other committeeman for a period of 18 months from the date the petition is filed. Their signature to any other petition will nullify such signed recall petition.*

- 5. Pursuant to Tribal Council authority, a petition for recall must be accompanied with a cashier's check or bank draft of \$500.00, non-refundable, to the Enrollment Director or other designated entity so named by the Tribal Council;*
- 6. No recall meeting is allowed within 45 days, prior to or after an election period is declared;*
- 7. At no time will more than 2 recalls against more than 2 committee members (only one recall per person) be allowed within a 6-month period, any such filing by any member of the Nation will disqualify such person from initiating another recall for 18 months. (The petition will be declared null and void by the Enrollment Director).*
- 8. No citizen of the Comanche Nation may take a recall against any committee member within 9 months of so doing. (A member can only take out one recall on a committee member once every 9 months.)*
- 9. Subcommittee members are not subject to the recall ordinance.*

c) The format for the Tribal Council meeting shall be established as follow:

1. Presentation of the Bill of Particulars against the accused by a representative of the accusers: This presentation shall be limited strictly to those specifics included in the Bill of Particulars as presented to the accused. ***See Section 2(a).***
2. The accused shall be given adequate opportunity to answer any and all charges of which he or she is accused. The accused may personally present or may choose to utilize the services of another to present this response.



Section 3. Any officer or committeeman who shall be found guilty by any State or Federal Court of a felony, a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or of accepting a bribe shall forfeit his office and such office shall immediately become vacant and be filled in accordance with Section 1 of this Article.

#### ARTICLE X — BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 5. No charge or filing fee shall be imposed upon any tribal member in connection with the right to petition which are provided for in this constitution. No person or committee shall be authorized to deny any tribal member the right to petition.

**3. *The accused while having the opportunity to rebuff the particulars, if interrupted at any time during her/his presentation, such charges shall immediately be dismissed, without chairman's recognition, and no future charges of the same nature can be brought forth against the accused for the remainder of their term in office.***

- d) Upon completion of these two presentations no further discussion shall be allowed and voting shall proceed immediately in a manner prescribed by this constitution.
- e) ***A two thirds (2/3)*** majority vote of those voting of the Tribal Council meeting shall be sufficient to effect recall providing a quorum is present. Should a quorum not be present the charges against the accused shall be declared null and void and no further action shall be taken on this petition, nor shall the same charges be allowed within the accused officer's term of office.

Section 3. Any officer or committeeman who shall be found guilty by any State or Federal Court of a felony, ***a grievous act involving harm or threatening harm to any other person, within or without the reservation bounds of the Comanche Nation,*** a misdemeanor involving dishonesty, or of accepting a bribe shall forfeit his office and such office shall immediately become vacant and be filled in accordance with Section 1 of this Article.

#### ARTICLE X – BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 5. ***Except for the recall petition fee provided for in Article VIII, Section 2(b)(5) (as amended),*** no charge or filing fee shall be imposed upon any tribal member in connection with the right to petition which are provided for in this constitution. No person or committee shall be authorized to deny any tribal member the right to petition.



## ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

(Pursuant to Amendment II, adopted May 29, 1976, Amendment VI, adopted June 10, 1978 Amendment XVII, adopted April 25, 1981, and Amendment XXI, adopted September 29, 1984)

Section 1. As soon as practicable after this constitution is adopted the Area Director shall call a tribal council meeting and shall hold and supervise the first nomination and election hereunder for the tribal committee and officers, as follows:

- a) The Area Director may at his discretion delegate chairmanship of the initial meeting to an employee under his supervision. A secretary for the proceeding may be provided by the Area Director from his staff or he may also designate this responsibility to a member of the Comanche Nation.
- b) At the initial meeting of the tribal council shall nominate candidates for the office of tribal chairman for three (3) years, vice-chairman for three (3) years, secretary-treasurer for two (2) years, two (2) business committee members for two (2) years and two (2) business committee members for (1) year. Nomination shall be made from the floor and accepted by the chairman. Persons duly elected at the ensuing election shall serve for the terms stated above unless their successors are duly elected prior to the expiration of such terms. Thereafter, all terms of office shall be for a period of three years or until a successor is duly elected. The terms of officers and committeemen shall be subject to the additional provisions of Article VI, Section 8.
- c) A list of nominees shall be made a part of the official minutes of the proceedings of this initial organization meeting from which determination shall be made that all such nominees are officially qualified as candidates for office in accordance with the provision of Article IX of this constitution. The Area Director will be the final authority in making such determination as to the qualifications of candidates for the initial election of officers and committeemen of the Comanche Nation.
- d) Following the initial organization meeting, an election day shall be designated to elect the business committeemen and officers from

## AMENDMENT B

## ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

(Pursuant to Amendment II, adopted May 29, 1976, Amendment VI, adopted June 10, 1978 Amendment XVII, adopted April 25, 1981, and Amendment XXI, adopted September 29, 1984)

Section 1. As soon as practicable after this constitution is adopted the Area Director shall call a tribal council meeting and shall hold and supervise the first nomination and election hereunder for the tribal committee and officers, as follows:

- (a) The Area Director may at his discretion delegate chairmanship of the initial meeting to an employee under his supervision. A secretary for the proceeding may be provided by the Area Director from his staff or he may also designate this responsibility to a member of the Comanche Nation.
- (b) At the initial meeting of the tribal council shall nominate candidates for the office of tribal chairman for three (3) years, vice-chairman for three (3) years, secretary-treasurer for two (2) years, two (2) business committee members for two (2) years and two (2) business committee members for (1) year. Nomination shall be made from the floor and accepted by the chairman. Persons duly elected at the ensuing election shall serve for the terms stated above unless their successors are duly elected prior to the expiration of such terms. Thereafter, all terms of office shall be for a period of three years or until a successor is duly elected. The terms of officers and committeemen shall be subject to the additional provisions of Article VI, Section 8.
- (c) A list of nominees shall be made a part of the official minutes of the proceedings of this initial organization meeting from which determination shall be made that all such nominees are officially qualified as candidates for office in accordance with the provision of Article IX of this constitution. The Area Director will be the final authority in making such determination as to the qualifications of candidates for the initial election of officers and committeemen of the Comanche Nation.
- (d) Following the initial organization meeting, an election day shall be designated to elect the business committeemen and officers from



among the candidates who were nominated during the initial meeting. This election day and polling places shall be declared by the Area Director. The election of committeemen and officers shall be by secret ballot. No absentee ballots will be considered at such election.

Section 2. At each annual Comanche Tribal Council meeting subsequent to the first election of officers and business committeemen, under this constitution, candidates will be nominated to compete for election to offices being vacated by reason of expiration of term of office. Determination of qualifications of nominated candidates and election processes shall be as described in Section 1 (c) and (d) of this Article except that the Comanche tribal officers and business committeemen will assume the responsibilities assumed by the Area Director the first election under this constitution and except that absentee ballots shall be considered at all subsequent elections of officers and business committeemen. No election shall be held later than 60 days after the annual meeting. Because a valid election was not completed by the Comanche Nation within sixty (60) days after the 1980 Annual Meeting, the Anadarko Agency is authorized to conduct one (1) election for the tribe pursuant to rules and regulations as prescribed by the Anadarko Agency. The Anadarko Agency is further authorized to notice, call, and conduct a special meeting of the Comanche Tribe Council for the sole purpose of nominating candidates for the vacant or expired positions that will be filled pursuant to the election.

among the candidates who were nominated during the initial meeting. This election day and polling places shall be declared by the Area Director. The election of committeemen and officers shall be by secret ballot. No absentee ballots will be considered at such election.

Section 2. At each annual Comanche Tribal Council meeting subsequent to the first election of officers and business committeemen, under this constitution, candidates will be nominated to compete for election to offices being vacated by reason of expiration of term of office. Determination of qualifications of nominated candidates and election processes shall be as described in Section 1 (c) and (d) of this Article ***except that the Election Board will assume the responsibilities assumed by the Area Director the first election under this constitution and except that absentee ballots shall be considered at all subsequent elections of officers and business committeemen. However, the Comanche Business Committee shall be the final authority in making determinations as to the qualifications of candidates under the power vested by Article VI, Section 7(b), provided that nothing herein shall be construed as permitting either the Comanche Business Committee or Election Board to modify, increase, or diminish the required qualifications for candidates set forth in this Constitution.*** No election shall be held later than 60 days after the annual meeting. Because a valid election was not completed by the Comanche Nation within sixty (60) days after the 1980 Annual Meeting, the Anadarko Agency is authorized to conduct one (1) election for the tribe pursuant to rules and regulations as prescribed by the Anadarko Agency. The Anadarko Agency is further authorized to notice, call, and conduct a special meeting of the Comanche Tribe Council for the sole purpose of nominating candidates for the vacant or expired positions that will be filled pursuant to the election.

***(a) There shall be an Election Board comprised of members of the Tribal Council. Members of the Comanche Business Committee, the Tribal Administrator, Tribal Attorney, or any candidates for those positions, are ineligible to serve on the Election Board.***

***1. The compensation, number, and other qualifications of persons that comprise the Election Board shall be determined by the Comanche Business Committee in an Election Ordinance, but in no event shall be less than six persons.***



Section 3. Should an incumbent of the Comanche Business Committee accept a nomination at an annual tribal council meeting as a candidate for a different office, that individual shall be required to resign the business committee position which he then holds. Although such resignation shall not be effective until the completion of that year's election processes. Nomination for candidates to fill the unexpired portion of such person's term of office, shall be made at the same tribal council meeting which he accepted nomination for a different office.

- 2. The first Election Board created by this subsection shall be appointed by the Comanche Business Committee and shall hold office until an election of new members may be held following nominations at the first Tribal Council Annual Meeting following the ratification of this subsection.***
- 3. Subsequent boards shall be elected for a term of two years following the election process for officers and business committeemen set forth in Section 2(b) of this Article.***

Section 3. Should an incumbent of the Comanche Business Committee accept a nomination at an annual tribal council meeting as a candidate for a different office, that individual shall be required to resign the business committee position which he then holds. Although such resignation shall not be effective until the completion of that year's election processes. Nomination for candidates to fill the unexpired portion of such person's term of office, shall be made at the same tribal council meeting which he accepted nomination for a different office.