

Sunday, March 24, 2007



REPRESENTATIVES OF Chilocco tribes and Oklahoma State University-Multispectral Laboratories signed an agreement for the use of lands on the grounds of Chilocco Indian School. Shown, from left, are C. Michael Harwell, Otoe-Missouria Tribe chairman; Dan Jones, chairman of Ponca Nation; Gary Gallagher, OSU-UML; Ron Rice, president of Pawnee Nation; Lisa Otipoby, CCCT executive director; and Guy Munroe, chairman of Kaw Nation.

Local Tribes Sign Agreement

On Tuesday, the chairmen/presidents of the five local tribes who compose the Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes met with Oklahoma State-University Multispectral Laboratories representatives Tim Reynolds, manager of business operations, and Gary Gallagher, director of facilities, to sign a five-year agreement for use of the lands located at the campus of the Chilocco Indian School, north of Newkirk.

The agreement will allow the OSU-UML lab to utilize certain areas of the campus for the testing and evaluation of sensor, safety and security systems and for user operational training.

The OSU-UML sensor laboratory will implement state-of-the-art security technology, help in maintenance and operation of some of the utilities and buildings, and assist in maintaining the campus grounds.

"It's a win-win for both parties," Reynolds stated. "We were especially interested in the Chilocco campus because of its proximity to our lab and because it has the requisite features that we need for some of our sensor testing. Our requirements aside, we can begin to help with some of the immediate challenges at the campus."

Ponca chairman Dan Jones, speaker of the Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes, agreed, "We're excited to be partnering with such a pres-

tigious university as OSU and their Multispectral Laboratories. And their use of the campus will not intrude in any future development plans there."

The Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes consists of the Kaw Nation, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, the Pawnee Nation, the Ponca Nation and the Tonkawa Tribe.

Together the CCCT has almost 6,000 acres around the campus, with the Cherokee Nation holding another 8,000. All total the CCCT have jurisdiction over 135,000 acres, employ more than 1,300 people and add an economic impact

of \$648,000,000 to the state's economy.

The OSU-UML lab has established partnerships with a number of the leading universities throughout the United States and is actively engaged in a wide variety of projects for the government and military.

"All the tribes have development plans for the area, including possible oil and gas development and wind energy development among other plans," added Otoe-Missouria chairman C. Michael Harwell, "as well as preserving, restoring and developing the campus."