

Department of Public Welfare's decision to close Mr. O'Fields assistance cases.

RECESSED.

HEARING CONTINUED ON JULY 17, 1969

Referee: The hearing was recessed in order to give Mr. Trapp an opportunity to request some materials from the Bureau of Indian Affairs records, procedures and information led to the eventual decision of the County Department of Public Welfare in closing Mr. O'Fields Assistance cases, that his Aid to the Aged Assistance case and his Aid to Families with Dependent Children's Assistance Case. This date, on July 17, 1969 resumed the hearing.

I wonder Mr. Trapp, if you were able to obtain the information requested and if you will proceed with the information you have.

Mr. T.: I think the record should state and I don't remember whether or not we were on tape on the 3rd here, but I think the record should state that 4 representatives were here on the 3rd as well as on the 2nd, is that correct?

Referee: Yes.

Mr. T.: Yes, that's correct, but they were not here as witnesses as agents of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the discussions that we had with them are off the tape were a continent of the effort to see if they would appear here as witnesses as agents of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and perhaps what I should do at this time is read into the record a letter from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, dated July 11, 1969 United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Muskogee Area Office, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Mr. Stuart Trapp, Attorney
at Law
Box 605 E. Downing
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464

Dear Mr. Trapp:

This will confirm our telephone report to you on July 8 that the hearing of Mr. Joe O'Field will be reconvened at the direction of the referee, Mr. Harold Powers on Thursday, July 17, 1969 at 9:30 a.m. at Jay, Oklahoma. In inspection of the property this week and a review of the information furnished regarding value does not result in a change in the acceptability of the bid by this office. We will be glad to cooperate in any way deemed relevant or helpful to the State Department Hearing. At this stage we conclude that insofar as the hearing and this office is concerned value only would be of concern and involved. A search and review of the deeded land sales during 1968 and to date in 1969 does not reveal a case of a Cherokee Land Sale to an owner being 60 years of age or over who had minor children. With the information furnished previously, we believe it will be possible for the Department of Institutions Social and Rehabilitative Services to determine whether MR. O'Field meets the eligibility requirements to continue to receive public assistance. We are cognizant that the state agency involved has been most cooperative and generous in their assistance to the Indian People. The agencies and organizations concerned with the Indians of the State and one of the roles of the Bureau is to serve and assist the people obtaining the same from other sources. Any change in Mr. O'Field's application for sale of land