Officers Are Named by Coushatta Ballot

ELTON, La. - The Coushatta Indian tribe of Louisiana met at the Indian Church of St. Peter in the Coushatta community north of here to elect a new board of trustees for their non-profit Louisiana Indian corporation, the Coushatta Alliance.

New trustees are Ernest Sickey, J. D. Langley, Solomon Batiste, Leonard Battiste, and Roland Sylestine. The new board of trustees was authorized to act for the Coushatta Indian tribe of Louisiana in all tribal matters in addition to the Coushatta Alliance Corporation, and they were requested to submit a constitution and bylaws to the secretary of interior. The Constitution and by-laws for the tribe were approved at the meeting.

After the meeting of more than 100 members of the tribe, a special meeting of the board of trustees was held and officers elected.

Sickey was elected chairman of the board and president of the Coushatta Alliance. He was also given the office of chairman of the Coushatta tribe. J. D. Langley was elected vice-chairman of the board and executive vice president of the Coushatta Alliance; he is also vice chairman of the tribe. Leonard Battiste was elected secretary, Roland Sylestine treasurer and Solomon Batiste vice president.

The new trustees amended the corporation bylaws to extend membership to one quarter blood Coushatta Indians and passed five resolutions. The resolutions petitioned the secretary of interior to accept their constitution, appointed Barbara Langley to assist the secretary, authorized a CPA to aid the tribe, petitioned Indian Health Service for help, and authorized a committee on awards recognizing friends who help the Coushatta people.