

**THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE  
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Special Meeting  
December 17, 2014

A special meeting of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee was called to order by President Norman Deschampe at 10:10 a.m. at Crowne Plaza, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Roll Call: Norman Deschampe, Dennis Morrison, Kevin Leecy, Dave Morrison, Carri Jones, Arthur LaRose, Karen Diver, Ferdinand Martineau, Melanie Benjamin, Carolyn Beaulieu, Erma Vizenor, Tara Mason.

Quorum Present:

Others Present: Gary Frazer, Executive Director, MCT; Mark Anderson, Legal Counsel, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; Kathy Goodwin, Rep., White Earth; Ray Toutloff, Rep., Bois Forte; Corey Strong, Executive Director, Bois Forte; Steve White, Rep., Leech Lake; Barb Brodeen, Executive Director, Leech Lake; Levi Brown, DRM, Leech Lake; Rich Robinson, DRM, Leech Lake; Rob Hull, Rep., Grand Portage; John Morrin, Rep., Grand Portage; Phip Brodeen, Legal, Grand Portage; Shena Matrious, Mille Lacs; Shelly Diaz, Mille Lacs; Diane Rosen, Area Director, BIA-MAO; Patty Olby, Superintendent; BIA- MN Agency; Roger Heger, OST, BIA-MN Agency; Jill Doeflner, Asst. Prof., UMD; Jim Jones, Cultural Resources Specialist, MIAC; Reid LeBeau, Legal; MCT Staff and other interested parties.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve the agenda with additions. Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

**PERSONNEL:** Brian Brunelle

Human Resources

Action for TEC Approval

Personnel

Motion by Karen Diver to approve the following hires:

(2) Case Manager Positions, Human Services Division, base salary level 4.

Earlene Buffalo, Leech Lake (Cass Lake Area)

Priscilla Smith, Leech Lake (Duluth Area)

Administrative Assistant, Human Services Division, base salary level 6

LeRoy L. Fairbanks, Leech Lake

(all hires are contingent on the results of a background check)

Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Motion by Karen Diver to approve Resolution 27-15 regarding application for EDA Planning Grant. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve Resolution 28-15 NCAI including all Tribal Executive Committee members. Seconded by Erma Vizenor. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

## **ADULT DAY SERVICES LICENSE**

Motion by Ferdinand Martineau to approve the Adult Day Services License. Seconded by Carri Jones. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

## **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: Mary J. Owen, M.D.**

Dr. Owen informed the Committee that UMD has the seconded highest number of native graduates in the nation. Met with Phil Norgard and the current issues are babies born addicted to Methadone/opiates and the environmental toxins effect on Minnesota Tribes. Request a letter of support 1. Indian Health – diabetics/cancer, letter to release data. Erma stated Bemidji area is the lowest funded. 2. Letter to health disparities – tribes know areas of research and stating types of research tribes want done. A letter from Norman Deschampe requesting Indian Health Service release date on trends, tribes want research on.

Motion by Karen Diver to draft resolution for approval to release data on diabetic rates and cancer rates at the next Tribal Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Erma Vizenor discussed the resolution regarding the Constitutional Amendment that was presented at the last Tribal Executive Committee and Legislative Subcommittee meetings that was not passed. Utilized the language – Election on Constitution Reform. Norman stated the language should be included in the resolution. The Tribal Executive Committee cannot act on issue not supported by all the White Earth Tribal Council members. Erma stated the Tribal Executive Committee won't support or consider per Tribal Council or White Earth. Tara Mason stated that the issue needs to be discussed at White Earth, concerns haven't been discussed.

**BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS:** Diane Rosen, Patty Olby, Roger Heger

Patty Olby informed the Committee that Diane Rose would be retiring on December 31, 2014. Presentations made to Diane Rosen in behalf of Tribal Executive Committee and bands.

Patty Olby discussed the fee to trust, the Buy Back program has 4 staff working on allotments. She informed the reservations that the TAMMS computers are being set out and Theresa Estes would provide assistance on site. Probate – Judges Order requires appraisal. Patty stated January 27 -29, 2015 would be Fee to Trust Training, January 15, Budget formulation in Bloomington, MN. Retirement party for Diane Rosen would be held January 14, 2015.

Roger Heger discussed the second payment of the Cobell monies went smoothly. Currently Fond du Lac and Bois Forte are working on the Buy Back Program.

Roger informed the Committee that three tribes have returned unclaimed per capita monies; Leech Lake is in the process and still waiting on Grand Portage and White Earth. The Bureau would be returning the ineligible money to the respective Tribes. Patty stated that it's a case by case basis; she believes it's a reservation decision.

**LEGAL:** Mark Anderson

Comment on Secretarial Election. Memorandum to Tribal Attorney/judges to implement court systems. EPA – Ray Toutloff and Levin Brown as alternate.

ICWA – Tribal State Agreement lacked enforcement need to modify parts of the agreement. Needs to be codified, not currently law. The language needs to be restored to the Tribal State agreement, write letter to the Commissioner. Norman state support legislation tell them about the language issues. Carri Jones stated the task force is informed. Kevin responded need caucus on board. Reid stated any support from the Tribal Executive Committee would help. Erma stated submitted support on Tribal State Agreement. Resolution to support ICWA reform bill. Draft and circulate. Kevin stated act on resolution at next meeting or sooner if needed.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve Resolution 29-15 supporting the Indian child welfare legislative proposal of the Tribal-State-County Workgroup. Seconded by Tara Mason. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Gary suggested date for the Legislative Dinner, February 18 or February 24 – consensus for February 24<sup>th</sup> with TEC meeting held the same date.

Motion by Tara Mason to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.