

**THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Regular Meeting
May 14, 2015

A regular meeting of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee was called to order by President Norman Deschampe at 8:36 a.m. at Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Vermilion Minnesota.

Invocation: Gene Goodsky

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

Absent: Dennis Morrison, Carri Jones

Quorum Present:

Others Present: Gary Frazer, Executive Director, MCT; Mark Anderson, Legal Counsel, MCT; Sandy Blake, Rep., Mille Lacs; Caryn Day, Legislative Communications Liaison, Mille Lacs; Adam Valdez, Commissioner of Finance, Mille Lacs; Shelly Diaz, Urban Rep., Mille Lacs; Shena Matrious, Mille Lacs; Phil Brodeen, Legal, Grand Portage; Penny Devault, Rep., Leech Lake; Steven Clark, Rep., Leech Lake; Pete White, Executive Director, Leech Lake; Chris Haugen, Editor, Leech Lake; Kevin Dupuis, Rep., Fond du Lac; Ray Toutloff, Rep., Bois Forte; Karlene Chose, Rep., Bois Forte; Cory Strong, Executive Director, Bois Forte; Patty Olby, Superintendent, BIA-MN Agency; Jill Doeflner, Assistant Professor, UMD; Dennis Olson, Office of Indian Education, MN Dept. of Education; Rick Smith; MCT Staff and other interested parties.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dave Morrison. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve the minutes of February 24, 2015 with roll call vote included. Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Motion by Karen Diver to approve Resolution 61-15 regarding cooperative agreement for non-recurring funding. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 62-15 regarding application for 2014 Jag Grant. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Kevin Leecy to approve Resolutions 63-15 regarding application for 2015 Jag Grant. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve Resolution 64-15 regarding Great Lake EPA. Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Tara Mason to approve Resolution 65-15 regarding support ICWA proposed regulations for State courts and agencies in Indian Child Custody proceedings. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Carolyn Beaulieu to approve Resolution 66-15 regarding application for Eldercare Development Partnership Funding. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Kevin Leecy to approve Resolution 67-15 regarding SNAP-Ed application for funding. Seconded by Erma Vizenor. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Kevin Leecy to approve Resolution 68-15 regarding enrollment: Bois Forte Eligibles. Seconded by Dave Morrison. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Kevin Leecy to approve Resolution 69-15 regarding enrollment: Bois Forte Ineligibles. Seconded by Dave Morrison. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Kevin Leecy to approve Resolution 70-15 regarding enrollment: Bois Forte Relinquish to Keweenaw Band of Michigan. Seconded by Dave Morrison. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 71-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Eligibles. Seconded by Karen Diver. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 72-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Ineligibles. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 73-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Transfer to Grand Portage. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 74-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Relinquish from Fort Peck. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 75-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Relinquish from Lac Courte Oreilles. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Arthur LaRose to approve Resolution 76-15 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake No Parent Enrolled. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve Resolution 77-15 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs Eligibles. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve Resolution 78-15 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs Ineligibles. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve Resolution 79-15 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs No Parent Enrolled. Seconded by Carolyn Beaulieu. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Dave Morrison to approve Resolution 80-15 regarding enrollment: Grand Portage Ineligibles. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve Resolution 81-15 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Eligibles. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve 82-15 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Ineligibles. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve 83-15 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Blood Degree Change. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve 84-15 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac No Parent Enrolled. Seconded by Ferdinand Martineau. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 85-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Eligibles. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 86-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Ineligibles. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 87-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Transfer to Leech Lake. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 88-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Relinquish to Sisseton-Wahpeton. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 89-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Relinquish to Flathead Nation. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 90-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth Blood Degree Change. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to approve Resolution 91-15 regarding enrollment: White Earth No Parent Enrolled. Seconded by Tara Mason. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

QUARTERLY REPORTS:

Brian Brunelle presented the Administrative Report. He informed the Committee of a list of questions that were brought up at the ERC meeting regarding the Constitutional change. Brian informed the Committee that he would forward a copy of the questions to the Committee members.

Enrollment Personnel – refine progeny. Quarterly Enrollment hearings – Enrollment Personnel attend.

Motion by Dave Morrison to approve the Administrative Report as presented. Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Rick Wuori presented the Finance Corporation Report.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve the Finance Corporation Report as presented. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Jeff Brunelle presented the Economic Development Report.

Motion by Karen Diver to approve the Economic Development Report as presented. Seconded by Melanie Benjamin. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Billie Annette presented the Education Report.

Dennis Olson informed the Committee that enrolled 20 Indian student at the cost of \$20 million. Indian Education monies – support bureau. Tribal Equalization Project. Erma Vizenor stated the hearings are going on now regarding Indian Education. Issues: Inequity and funding for Indian Scholarship. Dennis responded there was a window of opportunity to submit comments for hearing. Erma state that she would have Joan send testimony out.

Motion by Tara Mason to approve the Education Report as presented. Seconded by Arthur LaRose. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Linda Johnston presented the Human Services Report. Linda informed the Committee that the MNSure Grant: 351 total members enrolled. She stated the other grants include: Equity Grant and Elder Care Development Grant. Linda explained the Chemical Dependency Grant had additions, standard 20 include board and lodging.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve the Human Services Report as presented. Seconded by Kevin Leecy. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS: Patty Olby, Superintendent

Patty informed the Committee of the “Partners in Action Conference” scheduled for June 23, 24 and 25th. El Toro – 26 positions. She discussed the Superintendent “Boot Camp” class that was a 40 hour course in which she participated. Fee to Trust would be sent out to the reservations next week by mail. LTRO – June 1st up and running.

Mark Anderson asked about the Natural Resources – signing contracts that were never signed before. Patty stated there are still issues. Mark asked who to direct concerns to - the Superintendent. Carlene Choses asked if it would be the Secretary of the Interior. Gary informed them this would be discussed under legal.

LEGAL: Mark Anderson

Mark Anderson informed the Committee that the Secretarial Election request was sent included a waiver. Kevin Dupuis asked if this changed the percentage. Mark responded no, doesn't change threshold, those registered can vote.

Norman asked about confusing questions – should do everything to make possible to vote. Mark – under standards of Article XII.

Motion by Ferdinand Martineau to approve Resolution 92-15 regarding request for Secretarial Election to Amend Revised Constitution and Bylaws. Seconded by Kevin Leecy. Roll Call vote: 8 For, 1 Against (Erma Vizenor), 0 Silent. Carried.

Mark Anderson presented a resolution to request an amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws by removing the Secretary of the Interior.

Mark stated that a decision would have to be made on how to handle enrollment appeals. Under the Constitution – Assistant Secretary of the Interior would still have authority to approve lease, recognize Tribal Government (Federal Law). Secretarial Election – 14 Separate questions – Secretary have specific roll under constitution. Erma – against, good and bad politics need separation of powers. Norman reminded when action was taken by TEC and over ruled by the Secretary of Interior. Erma responded should have had an independent court system. Kevin Dupuis asked is anyone eligible to vote on Constitution – what records does the BIA have that we don't have. Gary responded, if someone challenge enrollment – it comes to the tribe for research. Kevin Dupuis asked if turned down by the Department of the Interior, can they come back on something saying decision is final. Mark Anderson stated that the decisions are final, went through and changed how it would look on ballot. Need to decide how it would ballot would look. Karlene Chose requested Mark Anderson to email her information presented – checks and balances – plan.

Kevin stated the biggest change is the Constitution -what's in place. Norman responded that Ordinances need to be developed. Tara Mason stated her concern is in the process – education – getting overwhelming. What is the timeframe – steps and process to create ordinance without checks and balances. Arthur LaRose responded it needs to be comfortable for members. Erma – Ordinance/codes can be changed. Kevin Dupuis stated relinquish sovereignty. Erma Vizenor responded enhancing sovereignty. Kevin Leech stated we need a plan in place before actin on this, not comfortable with roll call vote. Leroy Staples-Fairbanks asked how it went from two questions to fifteen - people get disinterested – blood quantum issues. Gary responded since Blood quantum takes a long process.

Norman informed the Committee that there is not enough for a roll call vote – lots of questions that need to be addressed – move forward.

Motion by Karen Diver to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m. Seconded by Kevin Leecy. 9 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.