

THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2019

A Regular Tribal Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by President Chavers at Fortune Bay Resort & Casino, Vermilion, Minnesota.

Invocation: Gene Goodsky

Moment of Silence observed for Norman Deschampe.

SWEARING IN OF OFFICER:

President Chavers sworn in Marie Spry, Vice Chair, Grand Portage

Roll Call: Catherine Chavers, Chairwoman, Bois Forte; Dave Morrison, Secretary-Treasurer, Bois Forte; Marie Spry, Vice Chair, Grand Portage; April McCormick, Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Portage; Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive, Mille Lacs; Sheldon Boyd, Secretary-Treasurer, Mille Lacs; Ferdinand Martineau, Secretary-Treasurer, Fond du lac; Faron Jackson, Chairman, Leech Lake; Arthur LaRose, Secretary-Treasurer, Leech Lake; Terrance Tibbetts, Chairman, White Earth; Alan Roy, Secretary-Treasurer, White Earth.

Absent: Kevin Dupuis, Chairman, Fond du Lac (excused)

Others: Eugene Tibbetts, Rep., White Earth; Faith Algren, Niigi Radio, White Earth; Peter Boney, Rep., Bois Forte; Barb Brodeen, Realty Manager, Bois Forte; Steve White, Rep., Leech Lake; Laurie Harper, Education Director, Leech Lake; Tammy LaRose, Enrollment Director, Leech Lake; Dale Green, Leech Lake; Wally Storbakken, Leech Lake; Emily Johnson, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator/Deputy Assistant, Mille Lacs; Nora Benjamin, Special Events Coordinator, Mille Lacs; Shelly Diaz, Urban Rep., Mille Lacs; Patty Olby, Superintendent, BIA-MN Agency; Annabell Kingbird, Realty Specialist, BIA-MN Agency; Jane Harstad, Director MDE; Mary Otto, Tribal Liaison, MN Dept. of Commerce..

President Chavers said a few words on behalf of Norman Deschampe and the impact his life had throughout Indian Country.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve the Agenda with additions. Seconded by Chairman Jackson. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve the minutes of October 30, 2019, regular meeting with corrections. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve the minutes of December 18, 2019, special meeting with corrections. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Roy to approve Resolution 33-19 regarding Grant Application for Rural Health Network Development Planning Program. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve Resolution 34-19 Health Reimbursement Agreement Plan. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer McCormick. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison to approve Resolution 35-19 regarding enrollment: Bois Forte Eligibles (11) Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison to approve Resolution 36-19 regarding enrollment: Bois Forte Ineligibles (3). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 37-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Eligibles (38). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 38-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Ineligibles (21). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 39-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Transfer to Leech Lake (4). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 40-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Transfer to Bois Forte (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 41-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Relinquish to Choctaw Nation (2). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 42-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Blood Relinquish to Rainey River Reserve First Nation. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 43-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth Blood Degree Change. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Tibbetts to approve Resolution 44-19 regarding enrollment: White Earth No Parent Enrolled (4). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 45-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Eligibles (43). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 46-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Ineligibles (32). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 47-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Relinquish from Red Lake (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 48-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Relinquish from Sisseton-Wahpeton (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 49-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake Blood Degree Change (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 50-19 regarding enrollment: Leech Lake No Parent Enrolled (2). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRose, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau to approve Resolution 51-19 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Eligibles (11). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau to approve Resolution 52-19 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Ineligibles (12). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau to approve Resolution 53-19 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Base Roll Correction (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau to approve Resolution 54-19 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac Blood Degree Change (1). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau to approve Resolution 55-19 regarding enrollment: Fond du Lac No Parent Enrolled (2). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve Resolution 56-19 regarding enrollment: Grand Portage Eligibles (4). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer McCormick. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve Resolution 57-19 regarding enrollment: Grand Portage Ineligibles (2). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer McCormick. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 58-19 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs Eligibles (49). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Boyd. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 59-19 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs Ineligibles (24). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Boyd. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 60-19 regarding enrollment: Mille Lacs No Parent Enrolled (13). Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Boyd. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve Resolution 61-19 regarding State of Minnesota DHS Grant for Substance Use Disorder Training. Seconded by Chairman Jackson. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve Resolution 62-19 regarding Tribal Adoption Parity Act. Seconded by Chairman Tibbetts. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 63-19 regarding Norman W. Deschampe Day Proclamation. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Martineau. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Phil Brodeen presented Resolution 64-19, a formal invitation to the Governor's Liaison to attend the Tribal Executive Committee meetings. Phil offered to prepare a cover letter for President Chavers signature to the governor's office along with a copy of the signed resolution.

Chief Executive Benjamin discussed Sovereignty Day at the Capitol, Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan stated a new position created, Tribal Liaison for the Lieutenant Governor and Governor. This position is posted and open. At the Natural Resource Subcommittee meeting they discussed the wild rice taskforce topic. It would be a good idea to have governor's liaison present at meetings for better communication.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 64-19 regarding invitation to Governor's Liaison to attend Tribal Executive Committee meetings. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Boyd. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

President Chavers sat in on the Human Services/Education Subcommittee meeting. She stated that we need to pay close attention to education numbers, they are not good. Jane Harstad would get report out on status; the outlook for Native Americans is not good. We do need the Indian Education Director position.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 65-19 supporting the structure of Office of Indian Education Director. Seconded by Vice Chair Spry. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

President Chavers discussed the Indian Programs Advance Appropriations bill stating it would provide continuous funding for services provided by the Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs if there was another government shutdown. Currently, IHS and BIA funding is discretionary. She supports bill in getting passed. Impact of the government shutdown was felt throughout Indian country. Phil will draft a cover letter to accompany the resolution.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve Resolution 66-19 supporting Indian Programs Advance Appropriations Act. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer McCormick. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Phil informed the Committee of legislation to circulate through congress. He drafted and received input from legal counsel of individual bands. This is a new part in relation to Minnesota Chippewa Tribe trust land review/transfers. Follow up to resolution presented in 2018. This would be a formal adoption of legislation. Approval of language for Minnesota

Chippewa Tribe trust land transfer. The Bill language is included in the packet, and noted the addition of section (d) as added by Mark Anderson.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve Resolution 67-19 regarding Transfer of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Trust lands. Seconded by Chairman Tibbetts. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Phil will set up at call with lobbyist to discuss legislation.

Secretary-Treasurer Roy brought forward the veterans resolution passed by White Earth. He stated as tribes we need to take care of veterans as necessary. Secretary-Treasurer Roy requested a veteran read the resolution, George Goggeye read Resolution 68-19.

Secretary-Treasurer Roy called for veterans to stand up in recognition and thanked them for their service. This resolution was created in White Earth to better serve their veterans. There was a gap in services at the tribal level. These policies reflect gratitude for their service. Veteran's Spouse and children are often forgotten. Secretary-Treasurer Roy stated that he hoped down the road to revisit this annually, as document is not perfect and updates may be necessary as well as additional provisions. He is honored that the Tribal Executive Committee has taken interest on the resolution.

President Chavers thanked Secretary-Treasurer Roy for bringing forth the resolution.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Roy to approve Resolution 68-19 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe support of Veterans. Seconded by Chairman Tibbetts. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Administration: Joel Smith

Joel Smith presented the quarterly Administrative report. Noted the minutes of management meeting due to government shut down were included in the packet. Provided a handout report on enrollment statistics (totals) by reservation since 2001 for information.

Secretary-Treasurer Roy requested a breakdown from 2001-2018 enrollment statics including deaths be provided at the next meeting. He thanked Joel for the breakdown that he presented. He would like the trend for enrollment status by bands as follows: 1. Transfer statistics among the bands/out of the tribe by band. 2. Breakdown of deceased by band. To gain a better understanding of how numbers are fluctuating by band. Secretary-Treasurer McCormick requested clarification on Secretary-Treasurer Roy's statistics breakdown: all of the years

presented in the chart or for example, a period of four years? Secretary-Treasurer Roy stated statistics for whole period from 2001 – 2018.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve the quarterly administrative report as presented. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Human Services: George Gogleye

George Gogleye presented the quarterly Human Services report. He informed the Committee that more Elders are staying home and requesting meal delivery. The Elders preference is native people to work with instead of other individuals. He would like support from the Committee through the Office on Aging, to continue operations as we have since 1980. George presented a handout with a breakdown of numbers. He wanted to provide numbers to show the different services utilized. There are certain criteria to be met for services provided to people on this list.

Chairman Jackson stated the number of elders are increasing, need to reach out for these dollars. Want to keep practicing native ways. Need to get a little more active with elder communities. Don't want them sitting at home alone, want them to come out and socialize. He suggested Tribes put in donation to get ADS building up and running. Secretary-Treasurer LaRose stated that we do have a few events for the elders in our area, elders enjoy getting out and socializing. Secretary-Treasurer LaRose stated we have good turnouts for elders activities on Leech Lake. We need to pick it up not just on our end but also through the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Chairman Jackson stated the Leech Lake Elders Christmas party was packed. The elders always enjoy getting together and socializing. George stated that MIAAA supports events and participates on some level. Chairman Jackson responded Leech Lake is home to elders from each reservation. Leech Lake provided the opportunity for all elders to participate in these events. Elder meals factor is transportation, they use to transport elders to meals and back home. Chairman Jackson suggested a signed transportation contract with Leech Lake, willing to work with other reservation on a contract for transportation. George responded that he used to drive for ENP back in the 1990's, elders were less homebound then, now there is a trend we are seeing an increase in numbers of elders who are homebound. The numbers from federal government do not reflect the increase, they identify the different units. In July 2018 the numbers dropped. Leech Lake wanted numbers to reflect what is going on, told the state what they are panning to do.

Chief Executive Benjamin asked about the job counselor case load. Do you have numbers for a couple years back to see the trend, also grant writing resources? I don't see much with elder funding requests. It is difficult to secure funding from other resources. Chief Executive Benjamin and President Chavers set up a meeting with the Board on Aging to discuss the different individuals that are being served. The Governors budget was presented yesterday, maybe we can get additional appropriations. President of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe has direct

line in to the governor's office. We need to pay attention to the elders; Mille Lacs provides a lot of supportive services for them. Chairman Jackson stated hopefully we can be of some support he was disappointed when adult day services program ended and building closed. Hopefully Mille Lacs can assist in some manner. George stated he could go back and see the trend and provide numbers. Representative John Persell wanted to look at plan and resources available. Working on a bill to present at the Legislative Dinner. President Chavers would be willing to meet with director of MIAAA. President Chavers also noted that she did apply to be on the Board on Aging. The funding is still going to county for elders and the tribes are not getting access to the funding. Any funding going to county need to go to tribes also. Secretary-Treasurer Roy – George – do we have on file somewhere, an elders/eldercare resolution – if not, let's work on an elder's resolution. White Earth is aiming for a summit for/with elders programs and better coordinate services for elders such as annual planning (events, trips, etc.) done in advance. Aim for more advocacy for our elders. A more coordinated effort for the band and elders will produce better results. Elder care resolution - Secretary-Treasurer Roy would like to get together with George on this. George referred to Executive Order 13-10 regarding consultation. What role does MIAAA board play in this? They seem to think it doesn't apply to them like other state agencies. Our elders are completely different from others – we are not minorities as defined by the State. President Chavers stated Executive Order 13-10 tribal consultation is ending pretty soon, looking at re-authorization and to include all agencies. Will discuss with Lt. Governor Flanagan. Would like feedback from the tribes before solidifying. Secretary-Treasurer Roy stated consultation and coordination at our level, clarification.

Motion by Chairman Jackson to approve the quarterly Human Services report as presented. Seconded by Vice Chair Spry. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Economic Development: Jeff Brunelle

Jeff presented the quarterly Economic Development report.

Chairman Jackson asked about the six business plans developed. What does it mean two were closed out? Jeff informed the Committee that it means they financed two businesses. Normally they are looking at business loans for clients. Chairman Jackson asked are these loans only in the Cass Lake area? Jeff responded, no these are throughout the reservations and state as that is our service area.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve the quarterly Economic Development report as presented. Seconded by Vice Chair Spry. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Finance Corporation: Jeff Brunelle

Jeff presented the quarterly Finance Corporation report.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve the quarterly Finance Corporation report as presented. Seconded by Vice Chair Spry. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Education: Billy Annette

Billie presented the quarterly Education report.

Billie informed the Committee of a concern about identification of Native American student numbers differing at the state level; accuracy/inaccuracy of the numbers of Native students. We should have direct access to identification of Native American students. Identification changes depending on the funding source. There are several ways students are identified because of this (ex. JOM, Title I programs and self-identification.) Tribes should be the entity that determines identification of our students.

The National Indian Education Association (NIEA) conference is coming home to Minnesota where it began (Minneapolis) for the 50th Anniversary. Dates for the conference is October 8-12, 2019. It would be nice to have a good showing.

Science standards are up for review – academic standards change every 10 years. ESSA requires that American Indian contributions be included. There is opportunity online to comment to what has been written thus far – there is a survey to provide comments. It is suggested to contact our science teachers and educators and urge them to review and comment. TNEC is requesting results of the survey.

There are so many education initiatives/areas that impact our students – maybe Tribes would want to consider something like a State Indian Education Department or State Indigenous Education Department (where we would collect our own data such as numbers of Native students).

Comment by Dale Green – TEC consider how information (numbers and self-identification) is powerful. We cannot give up on how we identify our children. Change won't occur unless we determine our own identity.

Comment by Laurie Harper – what is the “Northern Position” on Indian Education? Working with MN Department of Education on schools that need improvements. Lots of schools with native kids are on the list. MDE is looking to hire someone this summer, but non-native. With Executive Order 13-10 reauthorization coming up, it is important for us to be at the table. President Chavers stated that MIAC meeting next week – we will raise the issue there. Chairman Jackson stated there was a January 31, 2019 meeting scheduled at Walker high school, but got cancelled. A teleconference was held instead. OIE/TNEC. School pow-wow in the spring – said Walker school district wouldn't support it, so it's been moved to Onigum

community center. Working on getting meeting with Walker school district – need better communications.

Motion by Vice Chair Spry to approve the quarterly Education report as presented. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Roy 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Break 10 minutes 10:50 a.m.
Resumes 11:10 a.m.

EPA Gap/Environmental Program: Michael Northbird

Michael Northbird presented the quarterly EPA Gap report.

Michael stated that he's specializing in environmental capacity training. His job is to train reservation staff. At the previous Tribal Executive Committee meeting a resolution was tabled on Enbridge Line 3. He is currently working to update the resolution to present to the Tribal Executive Committee at the next meeting.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to approve the quarterly EPA Gap report as presented. Seconded by Chairman Jackson. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

BIA MN AGENCY: Patty Olby

Patty informed the Committee that she was glad to be back to work after shut down. There was only one staff at agency during this period. There is a current backlog due to the shutdown, the Mission critical programs are: 1. saving lives 2. ICWA 3. Protection of property, fire management and trust assets. Current vacancies at MN Agency are: Fire Management Officer, a selection is currently pending. Administration Officer, Amy Hunt moved to another position at the Regional office. The Administration Officer position is pending at HR waiting for a list of eligible. Budget – expended carryover funding – some of our requests have been funded. Those not funded went to central office for review, top priority. FY 2020 budget request - there are two Bands that have not submitted under the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, due date is March 1st, if you need help filing out survey, please call. Budget formulation WebX conference call scheduled for March 13th. The Agency getting ready for buy back program reconciling title. Agency staff from Realty would help with outreach, to give the land owners a full picture of what it is to be a land owner. There are 36 fee-to-trust cases pending with three specialists working on them. St. Louis County and Becker County. Currently have active applications for every Band. Chairman Jackson stated that Leech Lake had four applications pending. Not broken down by counties. Probate: research on family and case prepped 1,354 estates with a staff of four. Working hard to keep up and prioritize.

Roger Heger OST

Roger stated that June through August, 2019 Fond du Lac and Bois Forte would start their buyback program. Office of Special Trustee is currently sending out letters for individuals with address unknown. Tribal purchases at probate – Fond du Lac is in taking the lead, he encouraged any tribe that would like to do purchase at probate to contact him. White Earth has gone through the process; need to submit to the court within time limit. With Purchase at Probate there is 30 days to consummate the sale, recoup program. Chairman Jackson asked who does appraisals of the land? Roger responded the Office of Appraisal Services within Office of the Special Trustee. Chairman Jackson asked, do you have any issues on appraisal of individual land itself? Roger responded no, not involved in appraisals. Chairman Jackson stated Leech Lake has found a difference in value, how do you get this resolved. Roger stated the beneficiaries can bring the issue up to the Administrative Judge. Generally read the orders. Chairman Jackson stated Cass County, Leech Lake areas, the tribe is looking to purchase small tracts of land. At the County level the land price goes up when the tribe wants to be involved (price gouging). He would like to get a better appraisal on the land. Roger stated would be happy to come to Leech Lake and work with their offices. He would make a point to contact Leech Lake Realty/Land Department.

Tribal State Relations Bill: Chief Executive Benjamin

Chief Executive Benjamin informed the Committee of Executive Order 13-10, affirming the Government to Government relationship between the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Tribal Nations. Providing for consultation, coordination and cooperation, rescinding Executive Order 03-05. She informed the Committee that six years ago, Linda Aitken and Tadd Johnson started training with state employees. Included are recommendations on improving Executive Order with discussion on getting this order into law, when presented again in the governor's office. Hopefully get support, Executive Order 13-10 reauthorized and get bill introduced. Phil will draft.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to pursue work on getting Executive Order 13-10 passed. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

LEGAL: Phil Brodeen

Phil read into record Resolution 66-19:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee is the duly elected governing body of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, comprised of six member reservations (Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, and White Earth), and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Executive Committee, comprised of the Chairpersons and Secretary/Treasurers from the six bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, is the duly elected governing body of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a government-to-government relationship with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and each of the six bands that is premised on treaty-making and the federal trust obligation; and

WHEREAS, the federal trust obligation requires the Federal government to provide for the health and welfare of Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Federal appropriation bills have not been enacted in a timely manner resulting in partial government shutdowns which has caused significant hardships for the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the six constituent bands; and

WHEREAS, Advanced Appropriations represent an important budgetary solution to this failure to uphold the Federal trust responsibility and do not require Congressional appropriations committees to count Advanced Appropriations against their spending cap; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe believes that moving to the Advanced Appropriations process would protect our governments and their direct service units from cash flow problems that regularly occur due to delays in the enactment of appropriations legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Programs Advance Appropriations Act is currently pending before Congress and would provide Advance Appropriation authority for certain accounts of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, and the Indian Health Services Departments; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee supports the Indian Programs Advance Appropriations Act and urges Congress to enact the legislation into law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

Phil stated that he had two ICWA cases for the Committee's information. ICWA Supreme Court case March 15, 2019 – Brackeen v. Texas. The federal government filed a motion to dismiss the case. Plaintiffs filed another amendment complaint.

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe signed on to an amicus brief.

Phil informed the Committee of a Treaty Rights case – Herrera vs. Wyoming. The issue being a Crow tribal member hunting out of season. The tribe argued the hunt was legal under the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie which guarantees the Crow “the right to hunt on the unoccupied lands of the United States so long as game may be found thereon and as long as peach subsists among the whites and Indians on the border of the hunting districts.” The court said the treaty was invalid under a 120 year old Supreme Court case. National Congress of American Indians has submitted an amicus brief.

Phil discussed the Election cycle and asked for proposed amendments to the current Election Ordinance. He stated that each band should appoint certain people to ad hoc committee to address problems with the Election Ordinance. Information would be provided at the October/November TEC meeting. Grand Portage Special Election would be held in July of this year. Think about who you would like sitting on ad hoc Committee. Executive Director Frazer stated few bands didn't appoint until right before meeting last election. We are setting this far enough in advance so by next meeting there will be someone selected for the Committee. Chairman Jackson stated that it was a good idea, Counsel representing the Tribal Executive Committee is required to enforce the election process, also there is no action process for the candidates. Leech Lakes issue with 2016 election was candidate certification, someone was certified that didn't meet the one year residency requirement. Also the felony issue was resolved through appellate court system. We want to make sure we are following the Constitution. Pushed back to being a Leech Lake issue, need to be unified on Election process otherwise there is no strength to it. We want to have a fair reservation election process that follows Minnesota Chippewa Tribe requirements.

Phil stated majority of election issues were around this. Look at place where there was trouble in the past, the language is critical. Make recommendations for solutions. Chairman Jackson responded we need to hold each other accountable, if it doesn't come from the reservation itself it should come from this body. At a public meeting, hearsay and accusations of violations were made. When someone is cleared of accusation of violations it should not be allowed to be continuously brought up. The individual(s) petitioning should be accountable for the cost incurred. Secretary-Treasurer Roy responded verify how many folks we can appoint to ad hoc committee. Executive Director Frazer stated that the reservations should have attorney or someone from election board along with community member; he would send something out in reference to the ad hoc committee selection.

Executive Director Frazer informed the Committee that it was suggested the officers meet and discuss matters more often. President Chavers stated she believed in team effort and agreed to meeting monthly on budgets and other things going on at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe to better understand the process they are taking.

UPDATE CONSTITUTION REFORM: Executive Director Frazer

Executive Director Frazer introduced Sidra Starkovich, Bois Forte Delegate. Sidra informed the committee that they had a list of topics to be brought up. A letter was sent to Executive Director Frazer by Mille Lacs band requesting resolution on behalf of the Tribal Executive Committee that stated they had called for a Constitutional Convention and directed the band governing body to select delegates. Currently, the delegate groups are being faced with no recognition from their reservations. Some delegates need support (financial, personal time off from work, etc.) The hand out is a copy of the letter from Mille Lacs. The delegates have general questions and are without guidelines to start. Since November, delegates have been getting things together and moving forward. The question is “who’s establishing guidelines on how they operate and who decides how this is done.” We are currently operating by ourselves, operating separate from tribal government. No concrete financial support from the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Chairman Jackson stated that Leech Lake recognizes delegate committee, with the approach that Tribal Council is hands off. The community wants the Tribal Council involved as band members. If the Council member wants to attend the meetings it should be their right also. Educate everyone on Constitution and bring back to Tribal Executive Committee on what’s working and not working. There are a lot of ways to approach this. Sidra responded that the decision was instead of attaching a giant document was to break down and address in smaller portions. Because you’re Tribal Council, you should be able to attend the meetings as a member. We also need to find out about concrete financial support, currently working off budget provided at Fond du Lac meeting. The Tribal Executive Committee recommendation is for the tribes to provide financial support to delegate members. Currently there are some tribes that are providing support but there are some delegates who are utilizing funds out of their own pocket. Sidra asked the Tribal Executive Committee recommend the reservations to provide administrative leave for attending constitutional convention as delegates.

President Chavers responded they need to set operating guidelines, this is member driven. She believed the group should develop their own guidelines. Tribal leaders would not be involved as tribal leaders.

Chief Executive Benjamin responded that in talking with the delegates the issue was: what is their purpose and what are they really moving toward. No specific purpose, could move forward on that if there was something specific. There are a lot of issues to be discussed. They need their purpose and they can move forward. They need clear communication on behalf of delegates.

Phil stated they are to create and draft a proposed Constitution to the Tribal Executive Committee. How do they get to that point is another question. The underlying goal is provide a document to the Tribal Executive Committee to amend the Constitution in the future.

President Chavers stated the initial goal is to educate band members about the Constitution. How you provide outreach and education by knowing what Constitution is. Tom Cain, Red Lake worked 4 years on their Constitution reform and are close to a written document. Tom is helpful and has gone through process. He also got a lot of the work grant funded. Use him as a resource. President Chavers informed the delegates that \$60,000 was transferred into Budget for Constitutional reform. Look to Bush Foundation, Native Nations builders.

President Chavers asked Executive Director Frazer if the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe could do the grant process. Currently \$60,000 put into budget covers each meeting – room, food, and materials. Currently no additional funding to cover those other costs but will look into.

Chairman Jackson stated there are a lot of intelligent people working on this. There's staff available and able to assist on acquiring grants. Once in full motion we can set reasonable timeframes on the draft document. The first option or perhaps three different draft options.

Sidra stated that they are breaking down by article and working on that with the community. They would bring back to meetings the outcome of the section they are working on. Providing education on one article at a time would be easier for people to learn.

President Chavers recommendation to tribes to offset cost for reimbursement – can strongly recommend to the tribes. Administrative leave can be taken back to tribes for their decision.

Secretary-Treasurer Roy stated White Earth passed a “public service” resolution to support this activity. He would provide to Executive Director Frazer to distribute to other bands. Constitutional delegate can utilize unpaid leave to preform this duty.

Chairman Jackson asked when the next scheduled Constitutional Convention delegates meeting would be held.

Sidra responded March 22, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Northern Lights (Leech Lake). There are about 10 delegates for each reservation some reservations have more. Each tribe has a facilitator to host the meeting. John Morrin works with a group that may have funding to assist in the Constitution reform; they are willing to assist with the process.

Sidra responded hopefully each tribe would have information regarding their financial support of their delegates.

Chairman Jackson asked if others not attending the Convention can submit questions.

President Chavers asked have you heard from Native Nation builders.

Sidra stated they requested someone from the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe take official notes. Executive Director Frazer responded he would get minutes to the Tribal Executive Committee.

President Chavers asked for the correct time and dates.

Sidra stated that a Bois Forte band member is setting up a Constitution web page and Nijji radio broadcasts live.

Clinton Fairbanks asked where the minutes would be posted. Sidra responded there will be a Facebook page established for MCT delegates and members.

Maggie, Nijji radio asked for contact information to include audio on the website.

NEW BUSINESS: Executive Director Frazer stated there was no new business to address.

INFORMATION:

Secretary-Treasurer Morrison suggested renaming the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal offices after Norman Deschampe. Action can be taken at the next regular meeting.

Executive Director Frazer informed the Committee that under information there was an invitation to Anishinaabe Nation Gathering in Keeseekowewin, Manitoba, Canada on August 13-16, 2019.

For information: MAST Impact week March 5-8, 2019 in Washington, D.C.
Phil stated he may have bill put together for land transfer to carry.

Chief Executive Benjamin informed the Committee of a NAFOA meeting, April 14-16, 2019 in Portland, Oregon – the best training conference to discuss tribal finance. The financial responsibility tribal offices have.

Motion by Chief Executive Benjamin to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 p.m. Seconded by Chairman Jackson. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.