

**TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

A special meeting was called to order at 10:11 a.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023, by President Catherine Chavers at the InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront, St. Paul, Minnesota

Invocation: Kevin Dupuis

Roll Call: Catherine Chavers, Tara Geshick, Faron Jackson, Leonard Fineday, Robert Deschampe, Michael Fairbanks, Michael LaRoque, Kevin Dupuis, Robert Abramowski, Melanie Benjamin, Sheldon Boyd.

Zoom: April McCormick,

Quorum:

Others: Phil Brodeen, Virgil Wind, Richard Jones, Michael Northbird, Mick Finn,
Zoom: Emily Johnson, Valerie H-W (Harrington-Wind), Darcie Bigbear, Joel Smith, Jean Skinaway.

Secretary-Treasurer Fineday discussed Leech Lake RBC talked about enrollment people, discussion on enrollment.

This is done every year. Phil stated delegate have enough to look at.

Secretary-Treasurer McCormick and Chairman Deschampe request remove enrollment ordinance, add election board, lacking in training.

Motion by Chairman Deschampe to approve the agenda with changes. Revised enrollment Ordinance removed. Seconded by Chief Executive Benjamin. 11 For 0 Against, 0 Silent. Motion carried.

Anita Fineday JD, MPA

President Chavers stated, tribe updates and get updates more often.

Erin in charge of the children's cabinet. What are we hearing and what can we do to better our children. Think about structure to prioritize. Spin of DHS.

Chief Executive Benjamin recommended helping with housing, one of the most basic needs.

Chairman Dupuis, tribal policy office, who from the tribes are going to be part of this according to tribal policy. Complaint ICWA, out of home placement? Concern about a one stop shop. Homelessness. Separating again.

Chairman Dupuis – it's by statute, what happens if the new office doesn't follow statute. If not in compliance what's going to happen?

Chairman Jackson stated it's a federal law, there would be some serious repercussions.

REVISED ELECTION ORDINANCE: Phil Brodeen

Gender specific, makes it clearer in criminal record – one big change.

Secretary-Treasurer LaRoque did you discuss the way the background checks are being done. Maybe each tribe could utilize the BCA regarding full criminal records. Suggested we stick with state agency that do it. Can't have one time doing it one way and another a different way, uniform for each tribe.

Chairman Jackson like idea of being uniform for the certification process. If you've ever been convicted of a felony, it affects you for life. We want to empower our people, take a serious look at that. Felony of any kind. Our people will never be able to run for office the way it's written today.

Motion Secretary-Treasurer Fineday to approve the Revised Election Ordinance changes. Seconded by Chairman Fairbanks. 11 For 0 Against, 0 Silent. Motion carried.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Fineday to approve the 2024 Election Calendar. Seconded by Chief Executive Benjamin. 11 For 0 Against, 0 Silent. Motion carried.

ELECTION BOARD TRAINING:

Executive Director Drost informed the Committee that People in office don't know what Gary was doing in the training. She stated that she is confident that she could do it.

Secretary-Treasurer Fineday asked about the forensic audit, stating support and give you the tools to help you be successful. It's clear that you're the Executive Director. You're the one making the decisions. Executive Director Drost stated that she would benefit from a conversation with Gary on this. Pay for his time, allow her to ask him questions outside of this. I would have my outline for doing this and would love to have this.

Secretary-Treasurer LaRoque stated once training election board there will be lots of questions following. Executive Director Drost stated she would need him to decipher his notes.

Phil stated the goal is to formalize without having to rely on Gary. Joel informed the Committee that Gary is open to assist if the company is open to it.

Executive Director Drost stated with everything going on its nice to bring to this committee.

Executive Director Drost informed the Committee that the next subcommittees and TEC meetings are scheduled for January 30th/31st Tuesday/Wednesday.

Jean Skinaway requested to be added to agenda, in regard to issue that they have with Mille Lacs band. Phil responded there will be discussion in executive committee.

President Chavers stated Sandy Skinaway be added to the January agenda.

Executive Director Drost talked with everyone and had not realized they are held at the end of the month and the July meeting is according to the Constitution.

Chief Executive Benjamin informed the Committee that Mille Lacs State of the Band is held the second Tuesday of every January.

Executive Director Drost suggested January 10th and 11th at Grand Portage. Secretary-Treasurer McCormick began checking for availability.

Motion by Secretary-Treasurer Fineday to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 a.m. Seconded by Secretary-Treasurer LaRoque. 11 For 0 Against, 0 Silent. Motion carried.