

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Special Meeting
October 30, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.
White Earth, MN**

Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts, Chairman
Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer
Steven "Punky" Clark, District I Representative
Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative
Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts, District III Representative

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director
Mike Fairbanks, Deputy Director
Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

Agenda Approval

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve with addition, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

RTC Meeting Minutes (10/25/17)

Motion made by Punky Clark to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Calendar Review

3D Design/Joint Venture Update

Scott Omlid/IHS/DSGW were present and provided an update on the project. Steve Knutson, Mike Laverdure, Laura Degroat, Pete and Scott of IHS. Kathy asked about drive up service for pharmacy; it was stated there is potential for drive up if it was a priority. The final drawings/renderings will need to be finalized prior to spring. Building at [REDACTED] total project cost of [REDACTED] without financing. Question was asked of anyone has heard back from Gavin Clarkston regarding BIA funding.

Finance Department

Brief discussion was held regarding open positions within the finance department. The a/p manager was open within the department; there was discussion regarding promoting within the department and the work schedule needed to fulfill the position. There were only two candidates who applied. Kathy stated she thought personnel issues would be up to the director and the HR department for decisions, as previously decided upon by council. [REDACTED]

recommended the [REDACTED] and stated that the individual for the position needs to be full time.

Other

Special Meeting

Motion made by Tara Mason to rescind last week's motion of press, all MCT members, all employees can attend upcoming special TEC meeting, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 1 against.

Discussion was held regarding the previous comp issues with [REDACTED]. It was stated that licensing was never acted upon. Joe Plumer was asked some time ago to provide the information. The action should have taken place on the gaming side to terminate the licensing. Joe was also asked for the draft information for the gaming commission ordinance and the separation piece. Joe Plumer entered the meeting.

Tara met with Shawna Ellis and she stated that the licensing was never revoked. Joe Plumer stated that the licensing was revoked; will provide letters and documentation that he has.

Tara Mason left meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Umsy Tibbetts left meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Umsy Tibbetts entered meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Terry stated he would like to move forward with separation of Tribal Council from gaming commission. Joe was asked to email the draft document.

Joe had brief discussion regarding [REDACTED] has three months remaining for temporary practice within Tribal Court.

Meeting recessed at 11:37 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:58 a.m.

Mississippi Pillager LLC Board (WE Enterprises)

Joe Plumer, Jr was present. Joe Jr provided an overview of how he is working half time with land and half time with economic development. Joe Jr has not had time to follow up with economic development as of yet. One big issue is the enterprises and the operating funds. It was stated that businesses are not operating under their own operating agreements and finances need to be addressed. Under 5.2 of the LLC agreement, Tribal Council needs to be removed; amend agreement to appoint an individual. It was stated that the economic development department should be involved and assisting in the management. Joe Jr stated the business issues need to be addressed. Joe Jr is seeking direction on how the Tribal Council wants to proceed. First step will be to address the LLC board issue; restructuring needs to be addressed. Terry stated that he would want to see the treatment facilities affected.

Kathy wants to see a functional board and a working business plan from the economic development director addressing chip factory, hemp, food sovereignty. Kathy is requesting that economic development provide quarterly reports on progress. Joe Jr will follow up with Joe and ask for some guidance and will bring the document back to Tribal Council.

Properties

Katherine Warren/Monica Hedstrom were present. Katherine is seeking direction on the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Katherine stated the land use plan is not comprehensive; also need strategic plan. Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to purchase the [REDACTED] property at \$335,000. Punky asked about RV sites; Katherine stated it would need to be designed and part of the project plan. Motion seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Katherine provided an update on opportunity to purchase fractionated pieces through the probate process. Katherine is seeking direction on whether or not to reach out to some of the allotments that may be identified. Consensus of Tribal Council is to move forward with potential allotments.

Joe Olson's landing was briefly discussed. Katherine reached out to Brad Athmann. Provided brief update on new law for purchasing. Question was asked if Jeff Wark could be utilized on some of the RV discussion options.

Terry asked about the Strawberry Lake Retreat purchase; there is an individual who has a mobile home on the property - question was asked about location. Katherine informed individual to be ready to relocate but could remain on location until spring; decision will all come down to land use plan.

[REDACTED] property is currently being negotiated.

Katherine is asking whether or not there is interest in purchasing the [REDACTED]. Tax value is at \$403,000. Monica suggested that Katherine do some soil testing on this location now, prior to offering. Brief discussion was held regarding Bartos Baits and Hilltop Supper Club. Monica stated there may be some fuel tank issues; Bowzer could provide updated information on where it is at.

Katherine provided an update on other land purchases that have taken place.

Meeting recessed at 1:31 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:46 p.m.

Other

Tabled Business - Descendant Hunting (Punky)

Punky has been receiving questions from descendants about why they are not allowed to get license for hunting. Why is it not being allowed. Request is being made to have legal review. The issue would be if citation was issued within reservation boundaries but on State land - if not State licensed citation would stand. Punky is asking that information be provided to the public explaining why descendants cannot be licensed.

Legislative Issues/White Papers

Tribal Land Fee to Trust

Farm Bill (Sulfide/Feeding Programs)

FTA

Bed Amendment - DHS

Right of First Refusal (State Level)

COPS TLOA

Child Care License (Renewal – Mahnomen Child Care)

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Resolution – NCAI Membership

Tabled until next meeting.

Employee Issues

Discussion was held [REDACTED] Punky stated it was stated in emails that Punky and Ken were to blame. Punky stated he was previously in agreement that the issue would be investigated because the funding utilized was federal funding, Terry was in agreements as were other Tribal Council members.

Nibi Manoomin Symposium Contract

Brief discussion was held regarding the contract. There was no Tribal Council approval prior to the contract being signed. Joe will follow up with [REDACTED] on the contract.

DEBWE Gathering/Pow-wow

The Pow-wow funding is only utilized for on reservation events. The request was not approved. Consensus was to approve 10 lbs of wild rice for the event. Suggestion was made to have DEBWE submit to the donation committee for consideration.

WERTC Employee Christmas Party

Consensus to approve gaming coupon for employee/1 guest only, guest fee \$10, no kids.

Weather Related Office Closings

Off site offices were discussed.

Other

Motion made by Punky Clark to send letter to FBI and OIG regarding the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 2 for, 1 against. Umsy would like to see more detailed information. Joe Plumer will provide documented information.

Adjourn

Motion made by Punky Clark to adjourn meeting at 2:54 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer