

**White Earth Reservation Business Committee  
Special Meeting  
November 27, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.  
White Earth, MN**

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Vice - Chairman Steven "Punky" Clark called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present:        Steven "Punky" Clark, District I Representative (Vice-Chair)  
                  Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer  
                  Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative  
                  Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts, District III Representative

Absent:                Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts, Chairman

Others Present:     Mike Fairbanks, Deputy Director  
                          Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

**Agenda Approval**

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve with additions, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

**RTC Meeting Minutes**

Approval - 11/15/17

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Clarification – 3/6/17

Tara provided an overview of change needed for roll call vote; the Second by Punky Clark needs to be added.

Calendar Review

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to allow full day off on December 26th, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Discussion was held regarding quarterly meeting rotation, next meeting will be in Naytahwaush at the old community center.

**Land Resolutions**

Megan Bakken/Sarah Bekkerus/Monica Hedstrom were present.

Homesites: Motion made by Umsy Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Service Line Agreements: Motion made by Umsy Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Lakeshore Lease: Motion made by Umsy Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Business Leases: Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Snowmobile Permits: brief discussion was held regarding the business aspect; trails are groomed and helps in keeping snowmobilers on trails. Question was asked about lease amounts; should be reevaluated. Question was asked about maps; land use plan should identify protected areas. Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 2 for, 1 silent.

***Meeting recessed at 10:07 a.m.***

***Meeting reconvened at 10:20 a.m.***

#### **Public Utilities Commission**

Joe Plumer Jr/Antonio Solorzano were present. Joe provided an overview of the research that has been taking place; seeking direction of how the RBC wants to proceed. A list of priorities needs to be identified. Joe provided seven examples of codes that have been identified with other agencies. Kathy raised the issue of broadband; this is a much needed service. Kathy stated arvig receives federal funding that is not being utilized for on reservation. It was also stated that the Naytahwaush area is constantly having power outage issues. Joe and Antonio were asked to research the Wild Rice Electric establishment; Tribe ownership. There are issues with Wild Rice shut offs and deposits. Tara is requesting more time to review the information that was provided; authority needs to be identified as well as jurisdiction. There needs to be a solid foundation with authority. Once the board is established it can help in identifying pieces needed. Kathy stated that a request was made over a year ago for Joe to look into licensing of non tribally owned businesses on reservation; as well as shut off issues. Pesticides and chemicals needs to be added to water quality portion. Question was asked about jurisdiction over transportation; railroads as an example. This will be looked into as well. Establish in the code the relationship with Business Committee for updates/reports; quarterly reports.

**Kathy Goodwin left meeting at 10:55 a.m.**

Some regulation issues were briefly discussed.

***Kathy Goodwin entered meeting at 10:57 a.m.***

Incorporation of TERO will be included in the code as well; part of their responsibility.

### **Mississippi Pillager LLC**

Joe Plumer Jr was present and provided an overview of the amended changes to the operating agreement for the LLC. Joe is seeking direction on how to find the board members needed. Tara asked if there is a code or anything needed; Joe stated that an amendment by resolution would be needed. Joe feels like the ball has been dropped within the economic development department; there are provisions within the agreement that would identify the economic development having involvement. The economic development plan, as requested, has yet to be seen. The hemp project has been passed off. There was a partnership with the WETCC, it was stated that a new application needs to be done by Tribe. The pilot project required an institution of higher learning to accomplish the pilot project. It was brought to the attention that the chip factory payment is behind and has not been made. The business lease for the factory has been passed off to the land office. A business plan for a property management company was asked for 6 months ago; residential, businesses, office space - both on and off reservation. There needs to be separation between business enterprises and the revenue generated. Joe would like to assist in establishing the board members. Joe will be unavailable Mid January through February to focus on bar exam. Tara suggested an application process; qualifications should be identified. Umsy stated that there should be some experience in business management. Kathy requested that something be drafted seeking members for publishing in newspaper, on facebook; Tribal members on/off the reservation, with qualifications. Kathy requested that Joe Plumer provide follow up on 501C3 status. It was stated by Joe Jr that there is potential for food grade projects to utilize the Mahnomen factory space. Tara asked that since the facility is for profit could it be changed to nonprofit to save on property taxes, etc.

***Meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m.***

***Meeting reconvened at 12:14 p.m.***

### **Other**

WEHA FY' 18 IHP Amendment

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve. Tara thought that the mold remediation match was not budgeted in prior. Steve Howard joined the meeting via conference call to answer questions. Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Child Care License (New/Variations)

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Harvest Request (Pow-wow Committee – New Year's Sobriety Pow-wow)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

#### Senate Tax Reform Support

Consensus of Tribal Council is to forward to lobbyist for follow up.

FYI- Governor's Tribal Youth Gathering (Hannah Brunelle)

Mary Otto joined the meeting via conference call. Mary is in the process of seeking a male representative as well; there are candidates between the school and clubs just need to identify.

Tara stated that it would be nice to have representation from someone that lives here on White Earth. Umsy stated that the other schools should be included for potential candidates as well.

MAICC Banquet (Attendees)

List of names was identified.

#### Garbage

There is issue with the garbage at the Naytahwaush site; fence was taken down over month ago. Jessica Johnson joined the meeting via conference call. There is an issue with transfer station power for Naytahwaush; trying to find out how to keep people from dumping. Dean Bishop is going to the location today to see what can be done. Umsy suggested keeping the box empty n putting a new one there to eliminate some of the dumping. Discussion was held regarding staff at the sites who should be making notification that the boxes are full and need to be removed. There has been same ongoing issue for some time. [REDACTED]

#### Confidential Information

Tara stated that there needs to be consensus of the Business Committee to have the vulnerabilities of confidentiality addressed by the compliance division. Follow up is needed on concerns of COLA, update on SNAP, MOMS/MATS report. Discussion was held regarding live stream of work session meetings; restructure of the agenda would be needed. Recommendation was made to utilize our marketing division for live streaming, utilizing the Tribe's facebook page.

Kathy wants WEPD to utilize Tribal members for towing; individuals have to pay a lot for vehicles taken off reservation. [REDACTED] Punky stated there was an issue with personal property being stolen from vehicles that weren't in secured area.

#### Adjourn

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 1:37 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

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Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer