

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Special Meeting
March 27, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.
White Earth, MN**

Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director
Maria Bevins, Recorder

Agenda Approval with Additions

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

RTC Meeting Minutes (3/13/17)

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve with changes, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Calendar Review

Lobbyist Contract Decisions:

Discussion on Federal lobbyist contract. Tara stated that MaPetsi got us in the ACA Tribal Leaders round table discussion. MePetsi also brought White Earth to the Nancy Pelosi reception. What Tom Brierton put together at MAST was very helpful and professional and did offer White Earth receptions with a republican chairman of the House Indian Affairs subcommittee. Tara requested a breakdown between the two potential lobbyists done by the legal department. Terry was in agreement with needing further information.

Enrollments:

Brief discussion on Fees / Vehicle registrations. Tara would like to look at cost again before making a decision on this. Ken will contact enrollments for the cost of Fees / Vehicle registration and bring back the information for the next meeting.

Meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:26 a.m.

Veterinarians cooks

Brief discussion for food reimbursement.

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

White Earth Tribal College

Merlin Deegan present. Terry asked how many staff did we lose at the WETCC. Merlin is a Board member for the college. Merlin stated that the bylaws assist, however, have no say in the operation of the WETCC. Board members assist with Policy & Procedures. Hiring & firing is the Interim President's job, Tracy Clark. Tara asked about the college President search. Merlin stated they offered to Interim President Tracy Clark for 2017-2018 School year. President search can take up to 6 months.

Brief discussion on keys for the RTC buildings. Kathy stated that after working hours it is hard to try and get into a building if needed. Ken will talk with Bernie regarding this matter.

Brief discussion on the veterans bill of [REDACTED] Tribal council agreed that Veterans Board pay 1/2 and Housing pay the other 1/2 of the cost that is due.

Land Resolutions

Megan Bakkan present for Land Resolutions. Documents for approval is as follows:

2 Home sites: Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carries, 4 for, 0 against.

5 Lakeshore: Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

2 Business: Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Agricultural (Table again at next meeting, April 3rd): Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Kathy Goodwin left meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Mental Health Licensing

Kandi Burr-Fisher present from Mental Health. Kandi is the new Mental Health manager. Kandi stated that the Licensing Board met to renew Tribal license and too license three new mental health professionals. Merlin Deegan is new to the license board. Renewals are good for three

years, however, they will be required once per year. Renewals for Tribal License and new Tribal License is as follows:

- 3 Renewals for Tribal License & 3 New Tribal License

Eugene asked if there are any natives working within the mental health program. Kandi informed the council that three UND Doctoral Students will be interning with White Earth Mental Health Program who are native.

Tara asked the question of what is the process for licensing and are we going to start considering a standard level at our level through R.T.C., cultural and traditional practices. Also interviews/oral exams should primarily happen for the cultural piece. Kandi stated it is a three hour process, they also ask questions regarding the cultural services. Tara asked about standards for their licensure. The process in standardized Tribal Licensure; Pass State test and need to be at the clinical level; MH Professional require they have Tribal Licensure; Small component with one class on culture. The most important part is the cultural aspect. CEU's written into the standard process; World View Training; Experts in their field; everyone in the program is to meet these requirements. The Native American Cultural Awareness Training will be at the Shooting Star Casino in April and will be offering CEU's for this training. Tara anticipating on documentation for standards. Kandi's goal is at the end of summer for standardized process.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Meeting recessed at 11:35 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:46 a.m.

Tribal Premium Sponsorship Health Care

Pat Butler & Laura DeGroat present for Tribal Premium Sponsorship Health Care Pilot Project. Constituents to be in the market place to have health care. Sponsoring 200 people with criteria.

- Identifying and target population
- Select preferred plans
- Create a Premium Sponsorship Table
- One person enrolled in the family

This sponsorship project is a program to sponsor private health insurance for a limited number of eligible tribal members and their dependents. When tribal members enroll in coverage they are able to improve their access to care through increased options for health care. Patients still need to go through Purchase Referred Care (PRC) to be referred out for services. They need to start at I.H.S for PRC dollars. Tara asked for a monthly breakdown. Pat stated the annual premium broken down by house hold size/income, the larger the house hold the better the plan is. Propose 638 and \$200,000.00 from I.H.S to cover the cost.

Laura stated Third party billing revenues collected by the tribe are identified as part or all of the funding sources, however, I.H.S recommends Medicare and Medicaid collections are intended to be used first to maintain compliance with the respective program. the State won't pay, however, I.H.S can waiver through Medicare to get help with Insurance. Through this Pilot project, they need to indentify people who are eligible for Medicare. Case Managers are need to follow-up with this process.

Tara asked how many of the R.T.C employee's would this cover. Pat was unsure of a number. Tara also asked what they needed to start. Pat stated that they want to target 50 of the population. I.H.S money for Natives only will be funded 30%. Based on enrollments and staffing levels, estimate the funding requirements and the availability of funds. Pat also stated they don't want patients to go uncovered and only have I.H.S. 638 will be part of the money to be referred out of the \$200,000.00. Pay Premiums for families and buy their health insurance. Tara asked who can navigate. Pat stated they can mentor High School students. Navigators will be the first initial contacts for the patients. Council approved to move forward with the process.

Artic IT / Final Approval

Jesse Fain present for updated on the Artic IT project. Laser fiche for administration was discussed. Laser fiche charter email that the council is endorsing, emails will be monthly. This includes the ability to share information with WELSA, Land (Probates) and Enrollments. October 1st to be completed. Terry asked once this is in place what will be the cost in the following year. Jesse stated payment schedule goes through in December. First three payments absorb software costs. If it exceeds there will be additional costs. Budgeting tools create templates which will go through to Scott, then will go back to the programs. This will be digital, no paper. It takes 4 – 5 months now and once complete it will take one month or less.

Main goal:

- Move forward
- Integrate with accounting
- Integrate with word/outlook
- Track in system

Terry asked how this this will work with the casino. Jesse stated online portal for the casino and what will go to the rewards member:

- Meals
- Comps
- Tickets
- Players money

Tara asked the annual cost for Laser Fische licenses. Jesse stated per license \$500.00/\$600.00. When Brian left MCT he was working on data, however, being he is not currently there Joel Smith wants to be updated on this process. Jesse is willing to provide a presentation for this purpose. Provide a demo to MCT enrollment review board and Joel on our plans to replace HAE Progeny database we currently use.

Enterprise Agreement:

- Paying for Microsoft
- 3 year agreement
- Pay what you deployed
- Pay at a lower rate

Paying annually moving forward instead of on a piece by piece basis. The highest point of failure is to end user adoption and need tribal council support to be successful. Annual maintenance is what we are already paying: Microix; WECARE; Accounting. GPS tracking currently implemented in vehicles. Tara stated I.T should keep track also Directors and Programs. Tara stated financially what we are looking at is:

- BIA looking at cuts
- Another option 3rd party billing
- After payment what it ties back to; indirect, portion now/August

Artic IT 1st payment is April

Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Legal

Lenny present from legal. Brief discussion regarding the need of one more judge to hear cases for Court of Appeals for White Earth.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Meeting recessed at 1:28 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:47 p.m.

Other

Resolution – '17 Rough Fish/Bow Fishing

Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve Resolution #057-17-003, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Resolution – Blandin Foundation (Broadband)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #016-17-006, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Business License [REDACTED]

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against.

The French Frog [REDACTED]

Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against.

MOU Rainy River First Nations- Consensus approval & signed
Wild Rice Donations:

Mahnomen Indian Education-Donating 5 lbs.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against

Native Services non-profit agency in Rapid City, SD-Donating 5 lb.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against

Donation Request to Food Distribution-Council approved \$250.00

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against

University of Minnesota / Karl Lorenz

Brief discussion on WE host request. Tara wanted to know the councils thoughts on contracting with [REDACTED] for the Nibi and Manoomin Wild Rice working group. Tara is in agreement with contracting with [REDACTED] and hosting event, Conference & Meals (Contact Dan LaFrinier).

Motion made by Steven Clark to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against

Cell Phones

Discussion on cell phones. Tara stated to have it discussed at the managers & directors meeting. Ken stated program employees are being reimbursed \$30.00 for employees who use their personal cell phones. Tara wants to see what the directors & managers have to say because of safety concerns and certain programs need to have cell phones. List of suggestions by each program. Recommendations to come from them by the end of April.

Additions

Rule 10

Terry stated this is in the Supreme Courts hands.

NICWA

Brief discussion on NICWA donation letter. [REDACTED]

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 against.

[REDACTED]

Letter to Zinke regarding Memo
Brief discussion regarding memo. Tara stated to have legal start a draft letter. Tara's is thinking about communications and budget. Terry was in agreement with legal drafting a letter and hearing the Tribal Councils concerns.

The 11th Annual Natives Studies Summer Workshop for Educators (NSSWE)
Brief discussion on NSSWE. Approved by council to host the Native Studies Summer Workshop.

Adjourn

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 2:22 p.m., Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts.
Motioned carried, 3 for, 0 Against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer