

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Special Meeting
May 1st, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.
Mahnomen, MN**

Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called meeting to order at 9:13 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

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

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director
Michael Fairbanks, Deputy Director
Maria Bevins, Recorder

Agenda Approval with additions

Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts to approve, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

RTC Meeting Minutes (04/17/17)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve with changes, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Calendar Review

WE Powwow June Celebration

Lew Murray present for brief discussion on the WE Powwow June Celebration vendor, [REDACTED] Leu stated [REDACTED] wants to be a vendor and have an information booth for medical marijuana and resources to hand out. Last year [REDACTED] was a vendor, however, the message he is sending is not a positive one for our youth. Our youth see this as cool and do not understand the concept of medical marijuana, they only see the recreational use of it. Lew also stated that last year [REDACTED] was loud and causing a lot of ruckus that people in the area were videotaping the events that took place. Leu spoke with the Powwow committee and they are in agreement with not having him as a vendor this year. Lew stated this is a drug and alcohol free event and the 3rd largest powwow in the area. Leu would like the council's approval to not allow him as a vendor at this year's celebration. Tara made a motion "No" marijuana/shirts or items with marijuana leafs on them during Powwow events. Lew stated any of these items in the Powwow, they will be escorted out.

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

Meeting Recessed at 9:56 a.m.

Meeting Reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Other

Loan Resolution - USDA Naytahwaush Water Improvement Project:

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

Child Care Licensing Renewals:

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

Pine Point Demolition:

Brief discussion on demolition. Eugene stated the demolition will consist of removing the backside of the Old School and adding the new addition on the east side. With the construction they will save money by not removing the basketball court and building a new parking lot. Eugene also stated that the Old School has a lot of mold in the building and during construction they will also close off the tunnels as well. Tara stated to have a community meeting to keep them updated with the construction. Eugene stated he spoke with the community council and they approved with the demolition of the building.

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

Brief discussion on Property Management. There are 4 buildings in the metro area. Tara stated she would like ██████████ to work with this, ████████ has a Business degree. Tara also stated to have ██████ work with Michael Neusser in Economic Development and work on a Business plan.

Brief discussion on the Garbage Truck for Solid Waste. Ken was asked to follow up on this.

Brief discussion on Pam Fairbanks and Donna Fairbanks request to see the 2016 audit, also the feasibility study for Bagley Casino. Tara stated the 2016 audit is not complete at this time, Tara will speak with Scott Omlid to check on progress. For the feasibility study they can contact Nick Valentine for this request.

Kathy commented on the Land Office and how she asked them twice now regarding the little white houses that need to be removed in NTW. Ken was asked to follow up with Kathy Warren on this issue, also invite her to the next work session meeting on Monday, May 8th.

Volunteer Position:

Tara stated her an Eugene talked briefly about this, we need a volunteer coordinator for each community and to identify whether there are people to help pick up the garbage/help in their communities. Tara also stated they need someone to identify these issues such as; helping the same community member more than once. Brief discussion on these issues. Council approved to move forward with the volunteer position.

Indian Health Service /Joint Venture:

Kathy wondering on the process for the loan. Tara stated talk with Michael Triplett regarding the loan. Mike Fairbanks was asked to follow-up on this. Kathy stated she has to travel to Portland to attend the Indian Health Service Direct Service meeting regarding cancer statistics. Council would like to visit Gila River, Ken fox to follow up with this travel.

Wild Rice Electric:

Joe Plumer, Legal present for discussion on Wild Rice Electric. Kathy commented on the Electrical/Vendor pay that Wild Rice Electric is having people pay. Kathy stated is this legal to double the persons electrical cost/ deposit cost. Kathy stated she understands that people need to be accountable, however, this doesn't seem right to double a person's electrical costs and what can we do. Joe stated the cold weather rules were lifted, he suggested to have a meeting with Wild Rice Electric regarding these issues. Ken was asked to follow up with a meeting with Wild Rice Electric. Tara stated it would be nice to have a break down on cost for this.

Terry left meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Returned at 10:50 a.m.

Kathy left meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Returned at 10:55 a.m.

Star Lake:

Joe Plumer, Legal present for discussion on rules in place for Referendum Ordinance on Star Lake. Discussion on how the voting will take place for Star Lake. Tara stated that the voting for this should be on the reservation only and if tribal members off the reservation want to vote, they can come to the reservation to vote as walk-ins. Joe stated that Leech Lake sent their votes

by mail. Discussion on mail in votes. Joe referred to the Referendum Ordinance; Section 5 (Submission by Reservation Business Committee) and Section 6 (Submission of Petition of Eligible Voters). Eugene stated that he would like to have off reservation votes as well and they can have their absentee votes notarized. Joe stated if that's what the RTC wants as a rule and leave to one day of voting it is their discussion as a council. Joe referred to the Referendum Ordinance; Section 5 (Submission by Reservation Business Committee). Kathy stated she would like to see this on reservation only, also getting the notices out to come home to vote. Tara stated that they are not denying them their right to vote. Steven stated Referendum vote, reservation only. Terry stated this will be open for discussion. Joe stated that the council can define and set the rules. Brief discussion on putting the Constitution on the Web. Tara stated looking at a time frame, need to have a decision on this. Council agreed to table again at the next work session, Monday May 8th and vote.

Shooting Star Casino Hotel:

Joe Plumber, Legal present for brief discussion regarding the Facebook picture at the Shooting Star Casino Hotel. Eugene stated the hotel manager should be responsible for checking the rooms. Ken stated the Quality Assurance supervisor should be checking these rooms as well. Joe will contact the hotel managers and make sure they have a process in place for checking rooms. Scott Stevens is also aware of this situation. Terry stated we can lose business due to this matter.

Potlatch Purchase Agreement:

Tara asked about other property such as; Cedar Crest; Elbow Lake; Mahnomen; Christian Retreat and what are our priorities. Kathy stated need assessments on lands here on the reservation, what we are looking at, project costs and review on taxes. Brief discussion on the 1,319 acres left on Clearwater and Becker counties. [REDACTED]

Meeting Recessed at 11:37 a.m.

Meeting Reconvened at 11:54 a.m.

Brief discussion Donation Committee. Tara read over the Bylaws, then policies, there are changes that were made to these documents. Tara will give copies to the Tribal Council to look over and review. Terry stated that the money in this committee is the RTC's. A total of five committee members sit on this board. Terry stated he is upset with donations going off the reservation and denying every donation that is local. Ken referenced what was approved and denied for donations.

Resolution Bridges Program Grant:

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve Resolution #064-17-003, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motioned carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Housing:

Motion made by Tara Mason to extend and approve service area to Cass Lake, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motioned carried, 3 for, 1 silent.

Kathy commented on the [REDACTED] request to Purchase Home in the NTW area. Kathy stated that this home could be used for a RTC Program.

Motion made by Tara Mason to go into Executive Session, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin at 1:06 p.m. to adjourn, Seconded by Steven Clark. Motioned carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer