

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
July 17, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.  
Ponsford, MN**

**AGENDA**

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Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:12 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  
Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts, District III Representative

Absent: Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director  
Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

Kathy Goodwin entered meeting at 9:14 a.m.

**Agenda Approval**

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

Kathy Goodwin left meeting at

*Terry Tibbetts left meeting at 9:20 a.m.*

**RTC Meeting Minutes (7/12/17)**

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

Calendar Review

**Tabled Business**

ICWA - discussion was held regarding individuals appointed and training that is needed. Umsy and Tara both have one vacancy that needs to be filled; will work on names this week. Laurie York needs to be informed that staff needs to start returning calls, if not there needs to be a direct number that needs to be established and monitored. Kathy discussed an individual case; board really needs to be established to help families - case plans are continually being added to after case plan goals are being met. Brief discussion was held regarding background checks. This board really needs to be put in place soon. There are concerns with billing for respite workers; taking too long for payment.

### **Tribal Council Rumors**

There was mention of another Tribal Council member that had a copy of criminal record or background of another Tribal Council member. It was stated that it is not true.

### **Funeral Insurance**

RaeAnn Smith was present to provide burial insurance update. There has been difficulty in getting quotes due to number of carriers that do not like to write policy for Tribes unless it is done through employee benefits policy/programs. Met Life provided a contingency package based on Tribal enrollment numbers; there needs to be census done to provide accurate numbers. Terry stated he had discussion with funeral director in Mahnomen; RaeAnn stated she will be meeting with Kelly in near information. Funeral home will also need census information as well. Membership versus current employees may be an issue. Terry stated he would like to see insurance begin on reservation and then open up to off reservation. It was stated that it would be [REDACTED] for 18,000+ Tribal members currently; restrictions and qualifiers need to be identified. RaeAnn also worked with the constituent service program and pulled funeral assistance request numbers. Leech Lake provides funding from casino monies to assist with Tribal member funeral cost of \$5,000. Terry stated Tribal members deserve more than the \$400 that is provided through the program currently. Mille Lacs provides both health and life insurance for their Tribal members. Research is being done so that the insurance may be able to run through a Tribal program. Service area needs to be identified; are there any options of insurance companies willing to work with Tribe as beneficiary. RaeAnn stated that there is but census information is needed for accuracy. Terry stated guidelines will need to be set for on or near reservation to begin with. Question was raised as to number of deaths being averaged per year through the constituents program. RaeAnn will need direction as to restrictions and guidelines to provide as much information as possible to identify census numbers. Question was asked about Tribal employees; how will their insurance be addressed. RaeAnn stated that consistency between casino and government side should be addressed. If the burial insurance is run in to Tribe would there be cost saving benefits by doing so. RaeAnn will provide a follow up report the end of August; she will also complete paper work and work with MCT request to provide more enrollment information.

### **Steve Howard - VASH Program**

Steve Howard was not present.

### **Other**

Resolution – ANA Native Americans Youth I-LEAD Grant

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #016-17-012, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin.

Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Sponsorship Request – Ethan Berry Memorial Golf Tournament (9/9/17)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve \$1,000, two lunch sponsorships, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Motion made by Tara Mason to recess meeting at 10:32 a.m., Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to reconvene meeting at 12:11 p.m., Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

#### **White Earth Housing Authority**

Steve Howard to discuss the VASH Program.

#### **Other**

Tribal Court - discussion was held regarding impounding of cars, contempt of court. Previous discussion was held and Joe Plumer was to provide more information. Motion made by Tara Mason to suspend impounding of cars for legal review, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Tribal Court Review Committee Follow up - program committee members was discussed, WEHA, Natural Resources, DOVE, ICWA, Motor Vehicle. Committee should meet twice per year, or as needed.

HR will be asked to provide the Tribal Council with information as to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] general fund picks up increase. There needs to be some time to review the organizational structure as well. Tribal Court code needs to be reviewed. Tabled for further discussion.

Jeff Wark is looking for additional funding for bathroom installation for Roy Lake park; seeking [REDACTED] Punky stated they're looking for different departments that could assist. Ken was asked to follow up with an email to departments; donation committee and class II gaming could be used.

Naytahwaush Water/Sewer - there are issues with sewer backups. Kathy was asked to follow up with Steve at housing or public works regarding MHFA funding that could assist with water/sewer issues. There are individuals that want to work and help fix up homes in communities. Kathy stated that housing hired two additional people for maintenance. Punky stated there needs to be contractors hired to get the houses fixed, Kathy and Tara were in agreement. Consensus was to look at contractors to contract house projects. MHFA funding and guidelines needs to be reviewed; individuals that haven't been assisted from last year's program.

#### **Adjourn**

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 12:53 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

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Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer