

White Earth Reservation Business Committee

Quarterly Meeting

September 7th, 2018

White Earth, MN

Chairman Terrence “Terry” Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Terrence “Terry” Tibbetts, Chairman
Leonard Alan Roy, Secretary/Treasurer
Raymond Auginaush Sr, District I Representative
Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative
Eugene “Umsy” Tibbetts, District III Representative

Others Present: Ron Valiant
Ayecia Kemp, Recorder

Agenda Approved

Motion made by Eugene Tibbetts, Seconded by Leonard Alan Roy. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Meeting Minute Approval

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin, Seconded by Raymond Auginaush. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Community Council Updates

Elders:

- There are over nine hundred enrolled elders living on the White Earth Reservation; however, most get their food through USDA Elder Nutrition Program
- Elders would like to have the door put back on in the Pine Point food shelf room
- Elders want the ENP sites to comply with other non-tribal sites
- Brief discussion held on the Elders bus, how they need a new bus. Sam Crowell brought up a concern for an elder who does not receive their lunch until 2 in the afternoon, by the time their lunch arrives it is cold
- Leonard asked Terry if they could have Police Officer up at the Congregate
- Kathy Goodwin mention that the Elder Nutrition Program is busy helping Head Starts, Boys and Girls Club, and all throughout the Reservation for the Elders lunch, that is why they receive their lunches later in the afternoon
- Eugene Tibbetts had received a call from an Elder in Ogema that they have not received their lunches, Eugene has been calling LaVon Larson, has no heard back all day, Eugene told the community members that he has reached out to her, to get to the bottom. There is a total of three concerns with LaVon Larson

- Terry had talked to Lucile “Teedo” Silk about the bus, they’re not going to put money into the bus and Kenneth Bakken stated he is going to find a grant to find a bus for the Elders

Program Updates

White Earth Housing Authority:

- Steven Howard has the report; however, he was having car issues. Terry asked what the holdup is with houses and being vacant for a long period of time
- MHA Inspection was done, housing has passed, Terry asked if the funding is available
- Hiring someone to watch the house or have them temporary so no one breaks in or vandalize them, Eugene has asked how it takes so long to get out people in the housing home, Kimberly stated it’s the qualifications
- Steven Howard is giving a brief discussion held on the money amount FYET, FY ’18 and the available funds
- Next week on 9/12/18 they are going to discuss the minimum and maximum on the rent of housing homes
- Eugene has asked Steven Howard if they do have a Grant Writer up at housing, Steven replied that they do not have Grant Writer; however, they do apply for grants and they do receive grants. There is a total of 24 house boarded up
- Tax Credit 5 house vacant for 7 months in Pine Point
- Attendants are required to take a class which is held every month
- New furnaces will be put in each home, Terry stated they should apply for Grants

Meeting recessed 10:34 am

Meeting reconvened 11:00 am

White Earth Indian Health Service:

Laura Degroat and Dr. Nicholson is present to give an update

- Brief update on Pine Point and Naytahwaush Clinics, they have doubled in numbers as of last year
- They are actively working on the NTW Clinic will be open October 1st, 2018 the Clinic will be open 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. They will provide Pediatrics care 3 days out of the week
- Dr. Nicholson is giving a brief update about his job description, and will be at White Earth Clinic
- Brief discussion held on IHS billing, community members are having to pay their medical bills, IHS is not paying the bills, they’re sending the bill directly to the person, they can talk with Bev Robbins about the Medical payments

White Earth Tribal Community College:

Lorna LaGue is present to give an update.

- 2018-2019 academic year with 128 students
 - They’re down 117 Students
 - Add/Drop date is Friday
- Last Spring, they transitioned to one-degree program

- They have used AA degree with an emphasis on 7 different areas. Moving to on AA degree (Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences- General Ed)
- Customized Education
 - SBA is there till October 29-30 for entrepreneur business and training
 - Tony St. Clair partnering on a series of Inspirational Leadership trainings
 - Discussion on a “welcome to White Earth” session to help acclimate new staff to our area, customs, culture and traditions
 - Tribal Mental Health has been working with them through he customized ed program to provide staff in-service
- Registration will start October 22nd for the Spring Semester which begins in January
- Tuition Waiver
 - Offered to the Community
 - Culture Waiver is available for cultural related courses
 - Elder Waiver is available for someone who is over 55 to take any course
- Working on grants they have received an emergency assistance grant for student, a USDA equipment grant, and a 4-yearUSDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant that helps fund programming in the Extension office
- Both USDA and the American Indian College Fund provide funding for the remodeling of the building Giizhiigin Arts is in now and ABE will be moving shortly

Meeting recessed 12:32 pm

Meeting reconvened 12:55 pm

Community Council Updates

Naytahwaush

- Cyndy Raestdt stopped at their meeting they held on 09/06/18 addressing safety issues for to Community members.

Callaway

- Not Present

Elbow Lake

- Not Present

Iron Range / Stipends

Taken care of last Quarterly

Mahnomen

- Not Present

Northeast White Earth (Cass Lake)

- Not Present

Pine Point

- Not Present

Rice Lake

- Not Present

White Earth

- Brief discussion on when Mike LaRoque and Sandy had held an event they had put on at the White Earth Community Center

White Earth (Urban)

- The first Tuesday of the Month at the Urban office in the cities is their monthly meeting
- Elder lunch and bingo is held every six months
- Brief discussion held on budget for the White Earth Urban Office
- Emergency housing is always open. There are over 12,000 members down in Minneapolis area.

Veterans Employment

- Brief discussion held on paid leave for the Reservation Business Committee and Shooting Star Casino and recognizing each one of the Veterans
- Rob Highelk mentioned when he took leave, they'd only allow 15 days on paid lead, the rest he would have to use his annual leave. Rob Highelk had read the personal handbook, it showed only a paragraph for the veteran and current employee that is active in the military, what happens if the person gets a call and is gone for 6 months
- Gordon Boswell concerns is that there is nothing in the handbook about disability for applying for the Shooting Star Casino
- Don't qualify for SNAPS, Energy Assistance, or any other programs available for them, to make a change to this for the future so they're able to apply and be qualified for the programs
- Mindy from Shooting Star Casino Human Resources and NaKoa from White Earth RTC Human Resources with a Policy and Procedure Manual

Meeting recessed at 1:48 pm

Meeting reconvened at 2:04 pm

Quarterly Financial Report

- Brief discussion held on the report that Leonard Alan Roy has provided for us.
- Fiscal Year 2019 will be presented to the RBC
- FY'19 Budget press release
- Tribe had transferred \$18,000,000

New Business

Kathy Goodwin left 2:38 pm

Other Government Project

- Brief discussion it's going to take some time to go through and complete all projects; however, Star Lake has been put to stop from building the casino
- Quote for completing the project Gordon Construction will have to do paper work due to not moving forward with Star Lake Casino
- Brief discussion held on Star Lake taxes

Audits

- Brief discussion Leonard will be asking for the Audits, will ask Council if it's okay and want 100% across the boards, and will have the Auditors be there as well.

Buy Indian Resolution

- Brief discussion held on the Resolution
- Legal Department will have to draft up the Resolution

Fee Press Resolution

- Brief discussion held on the Press Resolution, for the newspaper
Legal department will need to draft a Resolution

Rob Tibbetts, Language Revitalization

- Brief discussion held on our Language, the Ojibwe ways, Ojibwe Marriage Ceremonies, Funeral Ceremonies, a lot of number of things how we can heal ourselves
- Our Language is a learning process on where our ancestors came from, how we should be more Indigenous
- Ojibwe language can help kids learn that have certain disabilities and overcome objects in life.
- Attendance has improved for Native American kids

Motion made by Raymond Auginaush to approve Emersion School and to except Ojibwe Language Revitalization, Seconded Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

No later than September 22nd, 2018, Send Press Release and to have communications to send out Self-governance appointment

Leonard Alan Roy to be the nominee

Motion made by Raymond Auginaush, Seconded by Eugene Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Doug Lee

- Brief discussion held on Economic development and HEMP, suggested as project coordinator, where the hemp project is at, when we can license to grow. As of right now for selling hemp is on the back burner until further notice.
- Brief discussion held on broad band

Motion made by Eugene to adjourn meeting 3:35 pm, Seconded by Ray. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Leonard Alan Roy Secretary/Treasurer