

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

Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:13 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
Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative
Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts, District III Representative

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director
Mike Fairbanks, Deputy Director
Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

Agenda Approval

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve agenda with additions, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

RTC Meeting Minutes (1/9/17)

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

Calendar Review

911 Dispatch Proposal

Mike LaRoque and Jeremy Cossette were present to discuss contracting for Emergency Communications Services with Mahnommen County. Goal of the proposal is to consolidate Mahnommen County Emergency Dispatching (PSAP Center) over to WE Public Safety Dispatching services. The benefits of this consolidation are to enhance the quality of the emergency response, leverage acquisition of the latest technology and reduce operational costs. 911 funds are State generated and cannot be utilized for salary needs, only 911 related expenses. Consensus of the Tribal Council was to move forward with the proposal that was submitted and reviewed.

Mike updated the Council on an incident that took place over the weekend as well as an employee issue that needs to be addressed.

Meeting recessed at 10:12 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Realty Agent Contract

Monica Hedstrom/Kathryn Warren/Nicole Hendrickson were present. A draft agreement for realty brokerage services was presented for review. The purpose of the agreement is to allow the contractor to provide realty services in the areas of land acquisition on behalf of White Earth by allowing parcel sale details, fair market values, estimates or appraisal information and assist with negotiations and closings regarding property of interest for purchase. The contractor would work off commission of sales, not hired as an employee. Individual would be exclusive to White Earth, assist with purchasing documents, certificates of real estate values, title commitment closing/insurance, negotiations for pricing, keep buyer identity confidential, anything related to real estate purchasing. Question was asked about the 21st Century and involvement with Star Lake Purchases, Kathryn stated that the name could be changed. Kathryn will follow up with Joe Plumer on official name change. Tara stated that there is an individual in legal department that showed interest in assisting the land office with legal issues. Tara asked about the land use plan; where is the department at with it. Kathryn stated that ideas and concerns need to be reviewed and discussed; all land needs need to be identified with more of a comprehensive plan. Draft target date would be approximately in one month. Legal, land use plan, hardwood management plans need to be addressed.

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve Contract as presented, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Economic Development Department

Michael Neusser/Dawn Sherk were present to discuss the WEDO Tribal Building Assessment. WEDO is meeting with Taracon; group selected for community building assessments. There are 9 facilities that have operating budgets, there are no buildings with a maintenance budget. Tara stated that ultimately this should be under the facilities maintenance manager; budgets have been requested several times but nothing has been provided. There are 23 buildings that will be assessed; Bernie has been a part of the RFP process and project.

Resolution – Tribal Real Property Acquisition

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #016-17-003, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

New WEHA Director

Lenny Fineday and Steve Howard were present. Steve provided an overview of his work history and background. He has been reviewing current programming at WEHA; there are some issues that need to be addressed. One of the programs is the mold remediation; has been in place for approximately one year. Terry addressed some of the issues with previous directors. Question was asked on staffing; Steve stated he has not had the chance to dig into staffing at this point in time - this would be his next step. One of the main issues is housing inventory; there is nothing currently in place. The time structure for the maintenance department needs to be looked into

and addressed. Suggestion was made to keep the WEHA board highly informed with everything that is taking place. Steve stated that he will fall back on policy and procedure that is in place. Lenny provided brief update on the auditors; they will be present the second Thursday of February.

Umsy Tibbetts left meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Ramps - Ken stated that \$15,000 was set aside to purchase metal ramps for community needs. Steve was asked to follow up on this. Tara stated there was previous match with housing to accommodate ramp needs.

Steve stated that his next step will be to look into the financial information, as well as individual employee responsibilities. There needs to be processes in place; training is needed.

Kathy made a request to work with HUD in Chicago to accommodate other areas within the mold remediation projects.

Tara suggested some type of social service program to assist with the number of evictions from the WEHA homes; partnership should be looked at with ICW. Steve asked why the residence services or occupancy specialist are not assisting with these types of issues.

It was mentioned that White Earth is implementing a new computer software system to accommodate needs; phased approach. WEHA needs to come on board with this new system. It was stated that WEHA has a computer system but all of the modules are not being utilized; inventory module.

Steve stated that once he has had more time to learn more about what is happening, he will be providing at least monthly reports to the Council.

Meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:49 p.m.

Legal Department

Joe Plumer was present to provide an overview of Workman's Comp issue with an employee. The individual has a choice of going through workman's comp or vehicle insurance. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Tribal workman's comp needs to be followed. The individual needs to make the decision of which one to use. Recommendation is being made to update the current workman's comp policy; it has been several years since changes were made. Marsh McClellan is working on numbers from the reporting side; should we stay self regulated or look at going back to different program and adopting more of what MN follows. In order to do this, the Tribal and Casino side would need to provide numbers. Tara asked how long it would take to

get an analysis; self insured vs another program. RaeAnn stated Marsh McClellan will be providing some of the recommendations next week.

LLC Winona LaDuke (Ojibwe Hemp)

Motion made by Punky Clark to put a moratorium on any hemp licensing, if any licensing is approved in the future it must abide by the WE Hemp Code, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

LLC Purchase (Urban Property)

Joe stated the process is moving along. Terry asked if another inspection needs to be done; one of the properties has some cement work that needs to be done.

Joe stated that he received paperwork for WELRP parcels that were supposed to be transferred to the Tribe some time ago. Joe is recommending the land be transferred to the WELSA Land Acquisitions LLC.

Tribal Driver's Licensing

Cannot be any different from State licensing. There would need to be a reciprocity agreement in place. Driving after cancellations would be an issue. Motor vehicle registrations needs to be looked at. Tara requested that Joe draft a document. Tara requested that Joe provide copies of court cases.

Other

Enrollment Resolution

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve Resolution #020-17-016, Seconded Tara Mason. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Conduct & Decorum Policy

Policy was reviewed.

OPOS Tours & Travel (Sonja Turner)

Invite to meet with Tribal Council.

Resolution - NIGA Renewal

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #090-17-001, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

MCT Legislative Dinner List

Reviewed, changes made.

Flag Request (Mpls Schools)

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

\$5 Million (Facilities) - Tabled

Pine Point School is on the assessment. Tara stated the funding would be coming from lawsuit money that would be coming in.

Ricky White Apology

Ken will provide to Gary for newspaper.

Meeting recessed at 2:16 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:33 p.m.

Travel Updates

Tara is requesting that recaps take place on meeting agendas. Tara attended NAGPRA, Terry and Umsy attended State Capital meetings last week. Terry stated that everything went good with legislative meetings. Met with Bill Haas prior to meetings. Land purchases through potlatch were discussed; approximately 1000 more acres. Lessard Sams dollars were discussed with Bill, suggestion made to move forward using Tribe's dollars - less stipulations. ICW issues were discussed; \$1 million in funding should be provided to Tribe. Legislative meetings were only approximately 10 - 15 minutes each. State transportation from TERO programs was discussed. Met with Kent Eken; supportive. Tara provided an update on her travel; museum tour at prep school in Andover was visited. There is a war staff that should be returned to White Earth. There was an interview/podcast that will be sent for review; repatriation was discussed. Meetings were held with recruiters of prep school; ongoing relationships should continue. Trip was made to Harvard; exhibit was visited - WE War Pipe was seen there. There was also a scroll and some other items that belonged to White Earth. Items can be repatriated if they are identified to a Tribe; it will be a process - a joint effort with MCT and Red Lake would be beneficial. Kathy provided an update on survey for IHS 638 planning meeting.

Wild Rice Request (Upcoming Community Meetings)

4 lbs for each community and \$250 Donation (Community Meeting Expense). Motion made by Punky Clark to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Quiz Bowl Request

Consensus of Tribal Council was to approve from the SSC RTC joint account.

Snowplowing (Handicap)

Policy information was provided for review. The budget for the year is \$95,000; should be at \$57,000 but are at \$87,000 for the year. Approximately \$7,000 remaining for the year.




Background Check Information was presented for review.

Adjourn

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to adjourn meeting at 4:05 p.m., Seconded by Punky Clark.
Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer