

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Quarterly Meeting
May 19, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Rice Lake, MN**

Vice-Chairman Steven "Punky" Clark called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Steven "Punky" Clark, District I/Vice Chair
Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer
Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative

Absent: Kenneth "Gus" Bevins, District III Representative

Others Present: Ken Fox, Executive Director
Tabitha Chilton, Recorder

Agenda Approval

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, seconded by Tara Mason. 2 for, 0 against.

Quarterly Meeting Minute Approval (February 18, 2016)

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, seconded by Tara Mason. 2 for, 0 against.

Program Updates

White Earth Indian Health Service

Alan Fogarty, Chief Executive Officer, present for IHS. Two weeks of cleaning at Naytahwaush. Got rid of bats and insulation. Facility needed to be shut down for cleaning. Vacuumed out duct work. Monday it will be open and ready for business. Many complaints at the Pine Point Quarterly Meeting, committee was put together to address issues. System is being looked at to be easier for the elders and community as well. Let IHS know where there needs to be improvements. Two more contract providers to double appointment capability, effective next week. Continue to work on patient wait times and continual updates for prescriptions. Constantly watching the time between when a patient enters to when they exit, doing the best that they can. Accreditation next Thursday and Friday, when evaluations are complete, they will be shared with Council and community. Working out schedule to assist elders with Medicare and help guide through process since it can be confusing. Once through accreditation there will be looking to address extended hours for the clinic. Constantly working with staff on customer service and patient service to be top notch. Important to have service that is wanted. Concerns from patients are standing in the hall when they get their medication, want to be called into the room when ready. If there are many people in line. Looking to put waiting chairs in the hallway for any people that are waiting. Air quality test should be done in NTW, unsure if there is a test

for air quality, but it will be looked into. The situation will be remediated completely before any patients or staff are let into the building again.

White Earth Housing Authority
Not Present

White Earth Tribal & Community College

Debra McArthur is present for WETCC, she will be Interim until June 6th and Tracey Clark will be taking over as interim. Graduation was on May 14th with seventeen students who graduated with their two year degrees. Sue Bishop's GED program graduated twelve students and are hoping to be future students at the college. Student Services is now recruiting at the Career Fair, RTC and the SSC. Also visit different schools and regional high schools to show the benefit to higher education. Tribal extension office is on campus. Encourage a lot of mentoring with youth and promote gardening, cooking, preserving foods, arts and different ways to engage students. Funding from spring for Math and Science camp, 19th or 20th year. Students took first place at University of Duluth Ojibwe Quiz Bowl. Regular Council trustees meet second Monday each month. Approve tuition rate change for college. Least expensive college to attend in the State of Minnesota. Keeping the tuition at a low rate to receive better funding from different sources. Two students are getting special recognitions. Continuing work with distance education, actively pursuing different ways to offer distance education. Share courses with different colleges. Participating at the parade and have presence at different pow wows in the area. Base construction will be completed by the end of June to centralize students. No date for dedication ceremony yet. Short term training will be looked into. \$150,000 grant to repurpose old administration building to turn into an art area. Elders sewing center will be able to teach crafts.

White Earth Public Works Division

Eugene "Jeff" Vivier, WE Public Works Director, present for Public Works. A lot of work for the next several years. There are five divisions within the departments Water and Sewer, WE DOT, WE Transit, WE Facilities department and WE Fleet Department. Water and Sewer consists of two separate divisions. June 2016 will be submitting yearly consumer confidence reports to EPA. No violations on any public water system on the reservation that will be reported. Community water systems are going through and cleaning old water towers. NTW recently had their water tower cleaned and inspected. The filter was also inspected and installed new controls inside the filter. Water appears to be clearing up, looks to be increasing. Rice Lake community water system will be getting their water tower cleaned this summer and the filter will be replaced. Pine Point is scheduled after budgets are approved, will be cleaned in the fall and White Earth will be inspected as well. Indian Health Service funded a project to hire a new contractor to go around to the water plants to modify plumbing in NTW, Rice Lake, Pine Point, White Earth and Elbow Lake. Well project funded by IHS to have the wells inspected, as well as well pumps, well casings and the wells will be test pumped and logged. Awarded to contractor in Duluth, Rice Lake, NTW, Pine Point and White Earth. Good sized project in NTW that will be starting to replace water main west of county road 4. Project is schedule to go from June to October. Plastic PVC pipe and brining in new services to homes. North County 21 will be having

new piping and will be worked on from in house and under budget because bidding came in too high. Scattered wells and septic, 2015 out finishing yards, topsoil, seeding and mulching. 36 sites in 2015 were served. 2017 crews will be starting new work orders for wells and septic tanks after June. Minimum of thirty sites this summer to be served before the ground freezes. The list is very long. Chippewa Ranch project was open for bids and came over budget, working with HIS and asking EPA for additional \$300,000. Won't know anything until the end of May. Project started in 2015 on Pine Point Lower Sewer main just finishing up, 98-99% complete. Came in below budget.

TARA LEFT AT 11:12 a.m.

TARA RETURNED AT 11:14 a.m.

Major things that would like to purchase is items for future replacements, utility fences and background generators. Homeowners in need with funding from IHS for new and like new home construction. Applications for programs can be obtained from Betsy Smith. WE DOT has bids going out for upcoming projects. Advertising in local newspapers. Projects are paving Giwanimikin center parking lot, elbow lake streets and substantially completed in August. Fall will start the pavement projects for roads in NTW west of county rd 4. Rice Lake roads are going to be worked on as well.

KATHY LEFT AT 11:16 a.m.

KATHY RETURNED AT 11:21 a.m.

Updating plans from 2008. Highway 200 project is scheduled to start June 3rd, 2016. Department has worked extensively with MNDOT. Working towards Phase II, widening shoulder lanes on road and implementing turning lanes from Mahnomen to Roy Lake. May 18th, WEDOT conducted a meeting and wants meetings twice a year with local transportation departments to increase communication for economic development and public safety. 150 miles of roads are being worked on at the moment but funding has been low lately. Looking for different ways to increase funding. Increasing safety on the roadways. Crews started working in NTW. WEDOT has building expansion due for this summer. WE Transit has ten routes, seven run Monday thru Friday and three routes operate on Saturday. Looking into new Transit Facility, estimated cost is 5 million dollars and looking to be relocated in Waubun, MN. Purchase of 20 acres. Working on grants for two buses and two propane conversion kits. Class D CDL license program working with workforce and development center. More opportunities to keep training locally. Buses recently were DOT certified for safe travel for the public. Working on route to Bagley and planning to extend services with Becker County. WE facilities is currently working with Economic Development to work on assessments of current buildings, inspections of 122 facilities. Overview of major building components, GIS map of facilities. Constructed a small building near RTC for MIS department, completed by May. Addition at the Rice Lake Community Center will add nine offices, bigger classrooms and more bathrooms. SE corner of reservation irrigation of fields are causing medical problems, need testing of water. Contact natural resources to find out exactly what to look for. Not able to test every well, but can test every

other to determine problems if there aren't any. Jeff will attend Pine Point Community Council to discuss concerns of chemicals from the fields.

KATHY LEFT AT 11:27 a.m.

KATHY RETURNED AT 12:31 a.m.

LUNCH BREAK AT 12:31 a.m.

Fleet Department working on fifteen buses for Head Start. Department staff just got certified for bus lift systems, will be able to work in house. Department is scheduled to install GPS systems in certain vehicles. Added credit card machine inside the facility.

White Earth Public Safety Division

Mike LaRoque, Chief of Police, present for WEPD. Motor Vehicle, Community Service, Dispatch and Police Department. BIA Highway Safety Grant is looking for a highway service officer. Funding for two highway safety officers that do nothing but traffic, but too many complaints. Cops hiring grant to subsidize some of the police officers that tribal council fund. FEMA grant with Ed Snetsinger. Cops anti heroine task force grant. Tribal law and order act, good news, white earth police department was one of the first departments in the nation to concur federal jurisdiction. Prosecute cases in White Earth on a federal level, 2013 is when jurisdiction was assumed. No help from FBI since 2013. Senator Al Franken to reauthorize the Law and Order Act. Community policing has been actively accepting challenges from community to play basketball with high school kids. Getting together to play softball with Pine Point. Invite Rice Lake to play as well. Get officers out into the community to interact. Meet Public Safety Department in the last issue of the Anishinaabe Today Paper. Curtis Rogers is working with Joan Lavoy and Pam Fairbanks for a 1.5 million grant for over five years and native youth initiative. Trying to get press releases out on drug issues. Executed NTW warrant and arrested six people to charge with third degree possession. Tip line reporting drug activity is usually being done on the low, keeping it quiet to get it accomplished. Actively seeking out confidential informants for people who are dealing drugs in the communities. Either get a confidential informant, get a search warrant and get them charged or sit outside their house and stop it before it starts. It's hard to get into some communities that are so tight knit. Family first week, bouncy houses for each community and assisted with bike rodeos. Working with White Earth Housing on drugs with garbage being dumped and activity, lots of tips from Housing. Paul Peterson is elder and fraud investigator. LaRoque goes through the tips and get them to the department that they need to go to. DMV lost one of their longstanding employees, but had another employee fill her position. Busy with leech drawings and hunting at the moment. Taser training and defense tactics training. Hired a patrol sergeant within the department, had one officer and one dispatcher leave. Monthly report of stats to RTC, separated by calls of service and incident reports. Average of 60 calls of service a day and average 25 a day for incident reports. There is a house in the new Pine Point projects that are flying a confederate flag.

Community Council Updates

Elders

Lucille "Teedo" Silk present for elders. 22 Candidates showed up for the candidate forum and went well. No arguments and no fighting. The beadwork that the tribal council donated to the Elder Council is going to be used as a donation to the silent auction. Questions about the White Earth Council of Elders and how it represents the entire reservation, not just White Earth. Working with all the different communities. Use meeting as a way to hearing the elders from different communities. 27 tickets total donated to attend the Brule concert. May 2nd invited Minneapolis group to White Earth, White Earth and Pine Point elders sponsored. May 3rd held elder council meeting. IHS is working with elders on issues at the clinic. Wisdom Step conference June 14th - 16th. National Indian Council of Elders in September. Paying for 18 people with a registration fee of \$150 each that will be paid by the Elders. Requesting \$4000.00 for rooms in Niagara Falls. \$470.00 for round trip airline tickets plus baggage and travel from airport to hotel. Each member bring a written report back. Lack of doctors that are at the clinic. Working on resolution to have more funding at the IHS. Need for more inpatient care. PCA fraud and scams. Grandparents raising grandchildren. Muriel Alvarez is the secretary for white earth elders. Different types of fundraising to help out the Elders council. Muriel put the rooms on her credit cards. Sam Crowell present from Pine Point Elder Council. Not proper representation for the Pine Point Elder Council. Pine point community council is the only council that has a bus. Meetings are second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. ENP is being threatened to be sued. Tuesday, June 7th is next meeting at 11:30a.m.

Callaway

Not Present

Elbow Lake

Not Present

Iron Range

Louie Johanssen present for Iron Range Community Council. Louie Johanssen is Chair, Nadine Stich is Secretary/Treasurer. Meeting with Joe Plumer last week to get community center built on an 80 acre parcel. Filing for LLC and looking at enrollment for grants.

Mahnomen

Not Present

Northeast White Earth (Cass Lake)

Leo Blair present for Cass Lake. Great thoughts on upcoming project.

Naytahwaush

Not Present

Pine Point

Gerald Roberts is present for Pine Point Community Council. Family first day was a success, good turnout. Toys from police officers and to help load and unload. Community cleanup is tomorrow and Saturday, there will be help from Monica Hedstrom. She will send trucks down to help haul. Hire six people to help from the transfer station. Bingo went well, made around \$400.00. Always looking for new Bingo players. Pine Point pow wow is second week in August along with the demolition derby. Meetings are second Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the old school.

Rice Lake

Melvin present for Rice Lake Community Council. New to the community. 28th having a demolition derby. Sunday will be the memorial Pow Wow and the Rice Lake Boys and Girls Club. Walk from Roy Lake Store to Pow Wow grounds. All community council meeting with Elders Council, Housing was discussed to place the event in October. Have a sit down with all community council members to discuss ways of working together and give ideas for different activities. Each council can request up to \$10,000 yearly. June 21st, 22nd and 23rd will be the Housing Retreat at the SSC.

White Earth

Sandy St. Claire is present for White Earth Community Council. SOS committee had five kids contend. Working on cleanup right now and finished scholarships for the schools. Waubun Bombers was given money for kids that improve their grades. Elementary school was also given money for grade improvements, sports jerseys. COLA was given money for Booster Club. Certain times of the year for certain things. No goals for next year yet, always looking for volunteers and listen to suggestions. Softball field is still waiting for switching grounds to switch directions of the way the ball is hit. Mike LaRoque and Curtis Rogers looked at the grounds and it should be used for little league instead of softball. Looking into putting in horseshoe pits as well. Can't get through the mound unless if it is leveled out.

White Earth (Urban)

Not Present

Veterans

Not Present

Adjourn

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to adjourn at 1:26 p.m., seconded by Tara Mason. 2 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer