

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
February 29, 2016 –9:00 a.m.  
White Earth, MN**

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Vice-Chairman Steven "Punky" Clark called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Steven "Punky" Clark, District Representative (Vice-Chairman)  
Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer  
Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative  
Kenneth "Gus" Bevins, District III Representative

Others Present: Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

**Agenda Approval**

Motion made by Gus Bevins to approve with addition, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

**WE Fire Department Grant**

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve matching funds of \$2,100 for WE Fire Department grant, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

**RTC Meeting Minutes (2/22/16)**

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Gus Bevins. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

**Calendar Review**

- RTC Welcome – HEP C Summit (5/11/16 – 5/12/16) - Tara
- RTC Welcome – Career Fair (3/3/16)

**Tabled Business**



Motion made by Tara Mason to go into executive session, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

***Regular meeting agenda reconvened at 10:01 a.m.***

Scott Omlid

Financial Update - Budgets were handed out for review. HAP transfer was completed last week: [REDACTED] WEHA audit can now be completed. Tara would like to have a meeting held with Pam and Tracy to make sure that portion of rent payments are being placed in to annual reserve. WEHA needs to make sure that there is a system in place for the reserve account deposits. [REDACTED]

Implementation plan for HUD VASH is due soon; has Tribal Council came up with any housing plan options? Tara's concern was the voucher use (veteran's); will they be utilized. Planning department was asked to provide options; suggestion was to purchase an apartment building and renovate to save some cost.

FEMA Trailer Homes - May 1st is deadline for the homes to be removed from Mahnomen trailer park. Condition of homes is not known. There is issue of lot rent not being paid. Joe Plumer or Lenny Fineday needs to be notified; WEHA holds the title and paperwork for the mobile homes. There may be a court order in place for the [REDACTED] home.

Scott had discussion with Roger Heger regarding individuals not receiving Nelson Act money [REDACTED] It is the Council's decision on what should be done with remaining funds. Tara's recommendation would be to bring the money back and be placed into a separate account; individuals are entitled to their money.

Resolution – Affordable Care Act

Previous discussion was held regarding health insurance; claims paid for current year was reviewed. Tara stated that a discussion should be held on health insurance plan for all Tribal members. Tabled for further review.

Congregate update was given; kitchen work almost complete. Project is \$159,000 over budget at this point. There is a need to remove mold from kitchen floor area; to complete project would cost \$74,000. All issues have and are being addressed. Scott will follow up on timeframe on when project will be complete. There are 27 rooms remaining that need to be completed. Motion made by Tara Mason to move forward with mold remediation in kitchen area to complete the project, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

***Meeting recessed for break at 10:52 a.m.***

***Meeting reconvened at 11:08 a.m.***

Merlin Deegan/Ben Bement

Elder Advocacy Program/Budget - Tribal Council assigned the task of developing a program that will specifically meet the needs of our elders. When individuals are reaching out for assistance the response needs to be at a level of crisis, leading to reactive ways of helping due to critical nature of the requests coming from our elders. The program will give our elders the opportunity to receive mental health services along with an array of support services and traditional, spiritual healing. This approach is geared at assisting elders in having more control over their need for services and in the setting they felt more comfortable in. Goals of the program are to establish an infrastructure with clear responsibilities and actions, create a viable community support delivery system, efficiently use existing and future resources, increase accountability for services and funding, seek and include input from Tribal programs and elders for further program development. Kathy referenced the Leech Lake program and having a member within each community that would reach out to the elders and their needs. It was stated that the Leech Lake program is not running smoothly; losing out on money. There are cultural and other activities that can be billed into a case plan. Ben and Merlin will take suggested options back to the committee for review and discussion. Flow chart for program possibilities was requested.

Brief discussion was held regarding the National Baseline Study resolution request. White Earth will not be able to obtain statistical information specifically for White Earth. Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #064-16-006, Seconded by Gus Bevins. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

***Meeting recessed for break at 12:09 p.m.***

***Meeting reconvened at 12:17 p.m.***

Carlene Hisgun

'16 State of the Nation

Tribal Council will coordinate on writing the speech; need to look at other dates available to accommodate full event center.

**Other**

Resolution – Tobacco Prevention Research Study (Youth)

Motion made by Gus Bevins to approve Resolution #064-16-007, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Resolution – Consultation/Documentation NAGPRA Grant

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #057-16-003, Seconded by Gus Bevins. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Shooting Star Donation Request ( [REDACTED] )

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve request up to \$150, Seconded by Gus Bevins. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Elder Electric ( [REDACTED] )

Updated invoice needed; electric or propane request.

**Legislative Update**

Alan Roy was present to give an update of the Bernie Sanders campaign event. Alan asked if the Tribal Council was interested in having the other candidates in the area to address Indian country. Consensus was to pursue having candidates address stakeholders if possible. Legislative affairs; 10 items have been identified at the State level. Economic disparities; there is \$300,000,000 surplus that has not been distributed. Bill Haas is working on a plan to move forward. A letter of support is being requested for (SF 524 Bill) addiction problems. Steve Green wants to develop a relationship with Tribe; Punky stated to seek Green's support for Lessard Sams. Strategic Planning - framework is being developed and outlined. Transition will work in to department visits; clear goals and ideas will be identified. Developing strategy for Lessard Sams; background information is been looked at to develop a strategy to move forward. Time frame needs to be identified before next vote on Lessard Sams; move forward with changes for this year's vote.

**DOC Sweep (Warrants)**

Brief discussion was held regarding arrests for outstanding warrants.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 1:24 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

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Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer