

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Special Meeting
September 14, 2015 –9:00 a.m.
White Earth, MN**

Chairwoman Erma J. Vizenor called the meeting to order at 9:22 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Erma J. Vizenor, Chairwoman
Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer
Steven "Punky" Clark, District I Representative
Kenneth "Gus" Bevins, District III Representative

Absent: Kathy Goodwin, District II Representative

Others Present: Mike Fairbanks, Deputy Director
Desirae Stalberger, Recorder

Agenda Approval

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

RTC Meeting Minutes (8/31/15)

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

Calendar Review

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve the Wisdom Steps Discount Card request in coordination with Shooting Star, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Tribal Finance

Scott Omlid was present and provided a financial update of general fund and Tribal Council budgets. Tara requested copies of the proposed '16 budget for review.

Scott Omlid, Rodney Hill, and Cyndy Rastedt were present to discuss health insurance renewal recommendations. Employee benefits committee has been working since April on the renewal. Committee has recommended the move from CCS to Preferred One based on fees and services provided. Transition would begin October 1st; new insurance will begin paying claims at this time. There will be no interruption of service. There is now an HSA/HRA option for individuals; flex spending account is currently provided. Open enrollment for insurance will be the last week in October. Question was raised as to potential increase in insurance costs in the future; increase would be based on claims, stop loss coverage, if any.

Motion made by Gus Bevins to approve recommendation of Preferred One as the new insurance carrier, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Brief discussion was held regarding the wellness program; \$200,000 has been budgeted for next FY. Suggestion was made to have this a voluntary program. There is a new program - Zero Trends, encourage individuals to stay the same don't get any worse - offer choices. Incentives will be utilized. There is \$100,000 remaining that needs to be utilized by the end of this FY; suggestion was made to utilize for gift certificates or fit bits - offer incentives. There is a wellness committee in place; would like it to be a 9 person committee.

Gus Bevins left meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Other

Urban Elder Bus Trip Request (\$3,678.24)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve request as presented, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Business License (New – Curtis Bevins)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Tribal Health Substance Abuse Treatment Program License (Renewals):

Dream Catcher Homes

Pine Point Clubhouse

Naytahwaush Community Center

ICW Urban Office

WE Substance Abuse Program

MOMS Program (Suboxone)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Tribal Health Substance Abuse Treatment Program licenses, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve on reservation Suboxone transports, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against. It was stated that the Tribal Council is in support of Suboxone treatment.

Motion made by Tara Mason to expand MOMs program into a DADS program to be administered at acute care, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Credit Card Policy

Tabled

Purchasing Policy

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve \$5,000 purchasing limit for Directors, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Requests

State Ombudsman event requesting donation of \$50 - \$70; in event the donation committee does not donate. Motion made by Tara Mason to approve \$70, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Bush Foundation Grant

Motion made by Tara Mason to accept the Bush Foundation grant for Nation Building, Erma stated she would not accept the motion. Tara made the motion to accept the Bush Grant, Seconded by Punky. Erma stated she is not accepting the motion. Tara requested legal to be present for discussion and review of Roberts Rules of Order. Joe Plumer was present. The money from the Bush Foundation that was designated for constitutional reform was sent back, Lorna was laid off. The foundation is approving and additional \$428,000; was designated to specific project. Erma stated she will be filing an appeal with ACLU based on censorship of newspaper articles and information not being sent to members, and funding being returned putting staff/project to standstill. Erma was instructed by Bush Foundation to not sign the acceptance letter, grant is on hold. Joe stated that the second for the motion is to get the motion on the table for discussion. Tara is requesting that the vote be called. Erma stated she would not call for a vote because the funding is on hold; it is written very specifically. Joe stated that it would be a good idea to have the Bush Foundation present for discussion with all Tribal Council members. Tara stated she would like to meet with and speak to the Bush Foundation as well. Tara stated she is not retracting her motion. Punky stated he didn't know why there is disagreement with this issue because TEC already stated the constitution would not be going through. Erma stated we need a parliamentarian. Erma stated the motion and second would remain open, in the meantime she will contact the Bush Foundation. The \$428,000 is on hold at the Bush Foundation and Erma was instructed by them to not sign the award letter, Erma called for a vote - Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Adjourn

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 11:25 a.m., Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 2 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer