

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council
Special Meeting
August 8, 2016 –9:00 a.m.
White Earth, MN**

Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:08 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 with additions, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

RTC Meeting Minutes (8/1/16, 8/2/16)

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve 8/1/16 meeting minutes with changes, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve 8/2/16 meeting minutes, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Calendar Review

Wild Rice Update

Liz Foster-Anderson/Monica Hedstrom were present. The narrative for wild rice harvest 2016, financials, and purchase history was reviewed. Highlights are that there are 5 new wholesalers, there is a Walking on the Wild Sides - Wild Rice Festival in Park Rapids October 22, 2016. Tara requested a list of planning committee members for this event. There was a USDA Add Value Grant awarded in May; new equipment, new promotional marketing, new packaging and increased trade shows.

Recommendation is to purchase 42,500 lbs green at \$2 per lb. USDA nutrition bid will require 1 & 2 finishing with wood - hand parching and mechanical parching; 10% mazon minimum. Bidding 25,000 lb in the food nutritional project for '16-'17; Leech Lake is the other bidder.

Wild rice purchase history was reviewed. Refuge looks down this year; is still early. Punky stated Rice Lake looks good.

Recommended purchase for green wild rice was reviewed. Terry suggested increasing the purchase amount to \$100,000 overall; purchase rice a little later in the season. Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to purchase at \$2 per lb, up to 50,000 lbs, Seconded by Punky. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Deer Request (Wild Rice Camp)

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve 2 deer, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Kathy Goodwin is requesting 200 filets, 2 deer, and 30 lbs for Naytahwaush Harvest Fest. Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve, Seconded by Tara Mason. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against. [REDACTED] will be individuals for special permit to get deer.

Meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:44 a.m.

WE Strategic Affairs

Alan Roy was present.

8/10/16 Meeting Update - with legislators. Request is being made to not discuss the hospital issue. Law enforcement discussion is still a topic on the table. A request was made for the names/members/structure of the hospital board; are they elected or appointed.

WEIBDS (WE Integrated Business Development System) - grant was awarded at \$500,000. A request is being made by Alan that \$150,000 be seed money for local entrepreneurs that don't have access to other programs to utilize. Tribe, County, City will be involved.

Alan is still working on SNAP and TLOA; Terry asked who was writing the grant and that it should come to the Tribal Council - Alan stated he would gather information from Jeremy Cossette.

Capacity Building Grant (Match Request)

Donna Fairbanks was present. A request is being made to waive the TERO fee on Tax Credit 5 project; 2% fee - approximately \$400,000 - \$500,000. Tara requested that a review of the project/budget to be presented and reviewed. Tara stated that MCT housing finance should leverage funding for grants such as this capacity building grant for its member Tribes. Donna asked if Shakopee could be approached; it was stated that housing is an umbrella of Tribe and may be considered max. request. Kathy stated that the TERO program needs to be reinvested into; they are the first ones to be cut - they could be pulling in a lot of dollars if run correctly. Punky requested a motion for the 1 to 1 match; \$100,000 for capacity building grant match for WEHA. Request dead due to lack of motion.

*Terry Tibbetts left meeting at 11:37 a.m., family emergency.
Steven "Punky" Clark will Chair remainder of the meeting.*

Meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:13 p.m.

Economic Development Update

Michael Neusser and Dawn Sherk were present. Michael reviewed proposed organizational chart. Business development department was reviewed; Gizhiigin Artistic Artisan Accelerator, sustainable food systems, hemp advisory commission, public utility commission, IBDS, Mahnomen Food grade facility lease, WE technology solutions 8a, expanded billing services medical 3rd party administration (TPA). Further review of business development department was done; alternative medicine commission, foreign trade zone, clinton global initiative, retention mentorship recruitment, global market, MAICC purchase consolidation, Iron Range Cultural/community center, 1855 Treaty Authority, work force development WETCC relationship solidification, WE renewable energy solutions WERES, museum, skate park, justice center, Mahnomen hospital revitalization/purchase, Mahnomen liquor store property.

Planning department was reviewed (WEDO); solar project - Rice Lake Community Center, daycare, elbow lake community center, building assessment project, tribal transit formula/discretionary funds application with federal transit authority fy'14, emergency generator project (dove/dialysis unit), Naytahwaush Pow-wow grounds (phase I), Naytahwaush drum hall (Phase II), transit facility (Waubun), Native community development institute (Homeless Shelter Project), facilities condition assessment project, master transportation plan, land use plan, WE development organization.

The facility condition assessment was presented and reviewed. There are currently no maintenance budgets in place for any of the buildings owned by the Tribe; 2%-4% of building value should be put in to a maintenance budget. Question was asked if Council is willing to lean towards more professional assessments for field data and reports needed. Tara would like for this to be put into the general fund budget, if agreeable with all council - need to see if it would also qualify for indirect cost. Kathy agreed it needs to be done immediately to eliminate issues such as congregate. Tara stated she would send information to Don Dalve to add to budget; RFP late winter/early spring for process to begin. A request is being made from WEDO committee to have approximately \$55,000 to utilize for potential future projects to cover shovel ready costs up front.

Jodan Rousu's request for letter of support/fiscal sponsor for Ogema Organics food program was presented by Michael Neusser; First Nations Development Institute - \$20,000.

WEPD Incident Follow up

Mike LaRoque/Beau Shroyer/Brad Teich/Merlin Deegan were present.

Meeting recessed at 2:46 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 3:04 p.m

Brief discussion was held regarding retention mentorship recruitment.

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve the letter of support and to be fiscal sponsor for the Ogema Organics White Earth Food Sovereignty Project, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Other

Resolution – NIHB Research Continuation

Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #064-16-017, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Mental Health Licensing

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

Business License Renewal

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

Donation (Men’s Gathering)

Motion made by Umsy Tibbetts to approve \$1,000 donation, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Special Gaming Commission Meeting

TICS Approval- special meeting requested for 1:00 p.m. Tuesday August 9 at SSC.

MCT Resolution (12/9/15) – WE Position Statement

Tara presented a summary of position on the TEC resolution No. 27-16 clarifying the list of Federally Recognized Tribes; the resolution requests the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs to clarify the list of federally recognized Tribes published in the Federal Register, reflecting that each component reservation of the MCT is also independently federally recognized. The summary of position was reviewed and will be presented at the upcoming MCT/TEC meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 3:25 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin.
Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer