

**White Earth Reservation Tribal Council  
Special Meeting  
December 13, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.  
White Earth, MN**

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Chairman Terrence "Terry" Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 9:11 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, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

**RTC Meeting Minutes (11/28/16)**

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve with changes, Seconded by Punky Clark. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

**Calendar Review**

Brief discussion was held regarding 1/2 day holiday for employees on the Friday prior to Christmas Eve day. Tara stated that although we appreciate all staff it is costing approximately \$155,000 per day for salaries if there is a shut down.

Motion made by Kathy Goodwin to approve 1/2 day off on Friday December 23 for all RTC employees, Seconded by Umsy Tibbetts. Motion carried, 3 for, 1 against.

**Financial Update**

Scott Omlid was present and provided a copy of the general fund expenditures for review; there is not a lot of change that stands out. Tribal Council members budgets are currently under budget, no concern. Tara made comment of the capital expenditure line item that was to be added for district representatives only; Chairman and Secretary also had the addition-miscommunication. Scott stated that at this time none of it has been spent. Tara made comment of travel authorizations; question was asked when [REDACTED] would be back. There are outstanding TA's that need to be addressed. [REDACTED] will need to provide a credit card

report as to monitor that Tribal Council expenses fall within credit card policy; she will need to establish a form for reporting.

**WEHA Audit Report**

Lenny Fineday was present. A draft report was provided for review. There a lot of substantial individual findings, however there are recommendation for policy changes, training, and internal audit procedure that is needed. Tara asked why the audit took so long; Lenny stated that it was the firms internal issue as well as lack of documentation needed. Tara asked how the Tribal Council feels about providing the draft document for the WEHA board to review. Terry suggested bringing the WEHA board in to have a discussion regarding this audit. Tara suggested WEHA fall under the compliance division; Terry and Kathy were in agreement. Lenny is asking that he be present when the report is disclosed to the WEHA board as to explain the process and what went into the audit. The auditors have offered to do a joint presentation to discuss the overall findings and to discuss the process. The auditors did not put it in the report, but the attic, document storage area has a ton of paperwork that is not documented, sorted, filed. Consensus of Tribal Council is to schedule a meeting with the WEHA board this week, Thursday at 1:00 p.m. if possible. Lenny stated one of the reasons for providing the draft report was to see if there are areas that need more clarification. Tara mentioned the section 8 vouchers; there were findings in the single audit reports not the forensic audit.



Brief discussion was held regarding the Cass Lake Legion purchase agreement. A request is being made that the lower level storage area be allowed for inventory and memorabilia; sounds like it would be ongoing. There should be a statement made that the storage could be utilized until the area is needed for expansion. Lenny suggested a separate agreement be made stating contingent upon continued agreement upon both parties.

***Meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m.***

***Meeting reconvened at 10:43 a.m.***

**Tribal Forestry**

Mike Smith was present to discuss the '17 Harvest Plan. There are 8 timber sales, has been the same the last few years. Terry mentioned preservation and hard wood management; there is a need. Kathy asked about funding allocation for replanting. Recommendation made for Mike to meet with Monica, land office to look at projects and to evaluate what we have on reservation.

Suggestion made by Tara to appoint Punky to speak to BIA to get specifics on what we have, as well as BIA staff that could be utilized for other things other than fire management.

***Umsy Tibbetts left meeting at 11:27 a.m.***

***Umsy Tibbetts re-entered meeting at 11:28 a.m.***

Tribal Council wants to Table the '17 Harvest Plan for Mike to review/present to Monica. Terry suggested approving the harvest plan exempting some of the sales in question. Motion made by Tara Mason to approve all of the aspen cut projects, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Mike Smith reviewed the '17 Forest Development Projects. Motion made by Tara Mason to approve Resolution #055-17-001, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Suggestion was made that Mike bring this information prior to the week of timber sales in the future. The sale which was scheduled for this week will be held off and rescheduled once the information is provided to Monica for review and discussion.

#### **HR Policy Updates**

Nakoa Graff was present to discuss updates and summary of changes. There were three hot topic policies that need to be addressed.

***Meeting recessed at 1:05 p.m. for meeting with Arctic IT.***

***Vice-Chair Steven "Punky" Clark reconvened the meeting at 4:13 p.m.***

#### **Other - All Tabled until next work session**

Child Care License (Renewal – Syverson)

Cass Lake Legion Building

Deer Request (Anishinaabe Nutrition Curriculum)

Shake Tent

Employee Christmas Party (MC Coments)

Compliance Division (Issuing Investigations)

Update Current Public Works

Alan Roy's Emails (11/20 & 12/6)

MCT RFP's Attorney

Strategic Planning/Legislative

WEHA Crime Prevention Funding

Motion made by Tara Mason that all RTC meeting minutes be placed on website no later than 2 days following the meeting, also provide copies for elders at nutrition sites, Seconded by Kathy Goodwin. Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

Tara is requesting that a special meeting be scheduled to finish today's agenda; suggestion 2:00 p.m. tomorrow. Provide copies of RFP for MCT attorney position.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Tara Mason to adjourn meeting at 4:19 p.m., Seconded by Kathy Goodwin.  
Motion carried, 3 for, 0 against.

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Tara Mason, Secretary/Treasurer