



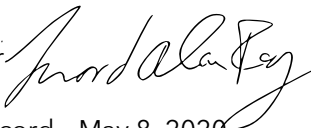
WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

CHAIRMAN Michael Fairbanks **SECRETARY-TREASURER** Leonard Alan Roy
DISTRICT I Raymond Auginaush, Sr. **DISTRICT II** Kathy Goodwin **DISTRICT III** Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts

May 8, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: White Earth Reservation Business Committee Members

FROM: Alan Roy, Secretary/Treasurer 

SUBJECT: Finance Memorandum for Record - May 8, 2020

The Continuity of Government (COG) workgroup held a discussion that covered the Cares Act and the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. A financial analysis of the General Fund and other RBC revenue streams showed that the pandemic has greatly affected the financial stability of the Band.

To alleviate the financial impact of COVID-19, the RBC has received funding that is specified to mitigate or respond to the virus. In other words, any associated funds received by the RBC must be used for its intended purpose.

Simply said, the closure of the Shooting Star Casino has been profound, and far reaching. It has been our main source of revenue for jobs and programs since its inception, and its continued closure jeopardizes jobs, programs, services, and the financial recovery of the Band. However, we must always prioritize the health and safety of our members and employees. Medical providers and the EOC are actively assessing the risk of opening the casino and a date remains undecided.

The impact to White Earth Nation's General Fund is now and it affects the lives of our members and employees. Financial analysis has shown that it may take up to 2 years for financial recovery. It has been recommended that revenue generated from gaming entities be reinvested into gaming operations to support anticipated revenue recovery.

An economic recovery team has proposed other business ventures so that the financial well-being of White Earth Nation and the Shooting Star Casino is fully supported and accelerated. They have proposed business opportunities related to renewable energy, defense contracting, and construction. The team anticipates that over 150 jobs will be created over the span of two years.

When combined with the gaming recovery, these other business ventures may assist with General Fund programs.

(Continued on next page)

The COG will produce the following products for RBC consideration at the next Regular Meeting to be held on May 29, 2020:

- A COVID Funding Utilization Plan and Budget(s)
- A FY 2020 budget modification and Resolution addressing financial recovery
- Human Resource policy updates

The Administration is directed to publish a copy of this Memorandum on the website, and by written copy of this Memorandum at the Reservation Business Committee Building entrance and the Administration desk entrance.

cc: Executive Director
Executive Coordinator
Human Resources
Shooting Star Casino
Tribal Attorney
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe