



APPROVED
4/3/02

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2002
LITTLE RIVER BAND COMMUNITY CENTER

OPEN SESSION
MINUTES

I. Opening Prayer

Tribal Council engaged in silent prayer.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Speaker Parsons.

B. Roll Call

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Present	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Present	P. Medahko – Present	S. Parsons – Present
E. Porter – Present	P. Ruiter – Present	J. Sam – Present

Quorum present

Others in Attendance:

Bill Brooks, Jessica Burger, John Bussey, Ruth Bussey, Leatrice Castonia, Kim Crampton, Bob Davis, Cornelius DeVerney, Katie Glocheski, Doris Hardenburg, Robert Hardenburg, Linda Hoover, JoAnne House, Sheri Ivens, Gary Markowski, Al Medacco, Pat Morris, Lavern Oren, Matt Stratton, Delsey Treado, Kathleen Block and Sadie Riffle.

It was noted that Bennett and Kleeman both called, they were ill.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA TO INCLUDE AN ITEM VII. A. BINOJEEUK COMMISSION REPORT; by Ruiter; support by Medahko.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruiter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

E. Porter –	Yes	P. Ruiter –	Yes	J. Sam –	Yes
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Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

D. Public Comment Period

Al Medacco stated a program honoring the WWII Veterans was planned. Susie Crawford beaded eagle feathers, drums will be present, Joe Kelsey will offer the prayer, Jay Sam will do a pipe ceremony and if possible Teresa Griffith will play the flute. The program will be February 23 at noon. There will be a catered lunch at the VFW Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Mr. Medacco stated he would appreciate Council members attendance.

DeVerney asked if a notice would be in the newsletter. Medacco stated there would be a notice in the newsletter. Currently, there are five veterans; Joe Medacco, John Pete, Frank Huston, Jake Wabinato and John Ross. If anyone else knows of a WWII veteran please let Medacco know so a feather can be made for them. Stratton stated this was going to be on the front page of the newsletter by the 1st of February. People can contact Stratton or Medacco.

The situation regarding the termination of the biologist was discussed. Some of the Tribal members in attendance expressed their concern for the manner in which the termination was handled. Pat Morris submitted a letter, from Michael and Dana Hines, commending the biologist for his contribution of expertise to their Boy Scout group. B. Hardenburgh stated three commissioners were investigating the termination to ascertain if proper procedures were followed.

DeVerney queried if a downtown building was being purchased for use by the Little River Maintenance and Construction Company. Fisher stated, at the present time, office space was being leased for the company.

Parsons announced a luncheon would be served following the commissioners swearing in today.

III. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Health Clinic

Jessica Burger reported for the Health Clinic. Burger gave statistical data for the Clinic for December 2001. Burger stated the fact the clinic now has a full-time physician there has been a notable increase in services provided to the membership. The importance of complying with federal regulations was stressed. Non-compliance, in some cases, can mean loss of service, which could mean a loss of Federal money. Spousal coverage

was discussed, Burger indicated unless a non-native spouse was pregnant with a descendent they cannot be covered. She also noted once the child was born the spouse was no longer covered. It was noted the Tribe has set aside monies for helping its membership, however, access to the program would not be available for a few months. Membership will be notified when monies are available.

Speaker Parsons thanked Burger for her report.

B. Grants and Contracts

John Bussey reported, during the past year, 22 grants and contracts requesting funds totaling \$11, 110, 463.00 were submitted. Seventeen grants and contracts were funded totaling \$4,385,073.00. The following were the program goals and objectives for the year 2002: 1) develop a Grants and Contracts Manual 2) begin a five-year plan 3) secure three million dollars in grant revenue 4) seek Economic Development grants 5) conduct the Tribal census 6) develop a Grants Training Program for Directors 7) develop a grants monitoring system 8) assist Tribal Directors in grant writing 9) make External Resources a team effort 10) present an Annual Report 11) work with other departments to conduct a Capital Needs Analysis. The program strengths and weakness were discussed.

Sam asked Bussey to express the importance of the planned census. Bussey stated Medacco had alerted membership, through the newsletter, the census would be happening. Bussey stated the data from the census, i.e., how many members, where they were located, what their needs were, health issues, housing issues, will assist many departments. Sam requested Tribal members in attendance take the message of the importance of participating in the census back to their respective families.

C. Housing

Ruth Bussey reported for the Housing Department. Bussey stated the main goal was to plan, design and construct homes for Little River Band of Ottawa Indian Tribal members. Road construction at Akimaadziwin was ahead of schedule. The next step for the Akimaadziwin project would be to obtain an architect design and award bids for the housing project. Others areas of concern were: 1) the advertising of low income rental out of the area 2) have other Tribal housing units been visited 3) payment method of energy bills 4) percent of income allowed for rental. A discussion, regarding the rental charge, was held, it was pointed out there may be some regulations attached to monies received that govern the cost of rental. It was suggested a written explanation of how costs were determined be distributed to the members. It was suggested the material could be distributed at the membership meeting in April.

Speaker Parsons explained the luncheon and the swearing in of commissioners. Judge Jonnie Sam was present to administer the oath. Speaker Parsons called a recess in order to proceed with the swearing in of commissioners, and the feast.

The meeting reconvened. A quorum was still present.

MOTION TO TABLE SECTIONS IV AND V UNTIL AFTER THE BINOJEEUK COMMISSION REPORT; by Parsons, support McCatty

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruitter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

VIII. A. BINOJEEUK COMMISSION

Joan Spalding, Kim Crampton and Delsey Treado reported for the Binojeeuk Commission. Plans were to meet quarterly with representatives from MICWA concerning the status of children in need within the Tribe. The Tribe's ICWA Specialist was now involved with the licensing of a home for foster care. This would enable children needing foster care to be placed within Tribal homes. Whenever one of the Tribe's children was with the MICWA the case worker for that child will be coming to the Binojeeuk Commission meetings to discuss case reviews and report their involvement with the child.

The Tribal Council was cautioned against signing any Agreement with FIA until the contract is thoroughly investigated.

Speaker Parsons thanked members of the Binojeeuk Commission and Family Services representatives for being in attendance.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE ITEMS UNDER SECTION IV AND SECTION V; by Parsons, support by Fisher

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruitter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

A. Report of the Tribal Ogema

1. Financial Report

Bob Davis presented the Financial Report. Davis stated this was not the final report, however, a final report would be presented soon. Sam stated because there will be something forthcoming explaining the variances she would recommend waiting for this report. Deficits were discussed. Porter stated, in her opinion, first-time budgets were established, underestimated and no adjustments were made during the year, therefore at the end of the year negative figures were appearing. Quarterly reviews were discussed.

MOTION TO POSTPONE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT UNTIL A LATER DATE; by Porter, support Ruiter

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruiter – Yes	J. Sam – No

Motion carried (6-1-0-2)

B. Director of Operations Report

Bob Davis reviewed first quarter goals with the Council members. Davis stated he was attempting to assist in building a more structured Executive branch of the Tribal Government. Davis stated, in his opinion, the Departments did a good job with annual reports. Sam queried if the report Davis had presented was to be distributed to the membership. Davis stated it would be a better report they planned to give to the membership. Sam requested the Tribal Council preview the report prior to delivery to the membership. The purpose of the preview was to allow Tribal Council members an opportunity to preview the report and be familiar with the report enough to field questions if necessary. Merit raises and cost of living issues were discussed. Davis indicated there was need for the positions of Risk Manager and Public Relations to be filled as soon as practical. Other positions were eluded to as positions to be filled during the year. Davis estimated a 10% increase in staff over the next 12 months. McCatty stated there had been monies set aside for different programs for the membership, however, these plans were still in draft form. Members were calling requesting information regarding these set asides. McCatty requested the next newsletter contain an article telling the

membership the programs do not exist yet and they were not contemplated being in place until the end of the first quarter.

MOTION TO POSTPONE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT UNTIL THE JANUARY 30, 2002 REGULAR MEETING; by Sam; support by Porter

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruiter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

MOTION TO POSTPONE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ATTORNEYS REPORT AND MOVE THE REMAINDER OF THE AGENDA TO THE JANUARY 23, 2002; by Ruiter, support by Sam

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruiter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

IV. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. Next Regular Tribal Council Meeting: January 23, 2002

B. Public Comment

None

V. ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN; by Medahko, support by Ruiter

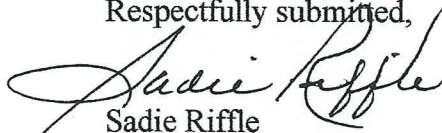
Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	Fisher – Yes	T. Kleeman – Absent
L. McCatty – Yes	P. Medahko – Yes	S. Parsons – Yes
E. Porter – Yes	P. Ruiter – Yes	J. Sam – Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sadie Riffle
Transcribing Assistant


Janine Sam
Tribal Council Recorder

January 18, 2002

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,

We are extremely disappointed at the loss of Turtle Bill (Bill Parsons) as a DNR worker. Last winter we had the privilege of seeing one of his presentations on turtles for Cub Scout Pack 4144. The boys found him to be very educational and fun. He arrived with a slide show, visual aids and a baby turtle. He was very professional in his presentation and was more than willing to talk to the boys about turtles. His presentation helped the boys earn their Bear badge. He was a great asset to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and it is a great loss that he is no longer working there. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Hinds
Dana Hinds

Michael and Dana Hinds

Added to the Record by
Pat Morris - 1/18/02
in Public Comment -
Read by Janine during Public
Comment.