

APPROVED

3/6/02



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2002
LITTLE RIVER BAND COMMUNITY CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Community Center on February 16, 2002. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

I. Opening Prayer

The Tribal Council engaged in a silent prayer.

II. General Business

A. Call To Order:

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting of Saturday, February 16, 2002, was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by Speaker Parsons.

B. Roll Call

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

Quorum established.

Others Present: Kimberly Alexander, R. Barnette, Sterling Barnette, Bill Brooks, John Bussey, Leatrice Castonia, Jim Clements, Bob Davis, Chad Gehrke, Katie Glocheski, Albert Hardenburgh, Robert Hardenburgh, JoAnne House, Nancy Kida, Sheri Ivens, James Jones, S. Lauer, Alice Linscott, Pat Morris, Linda Parham, Dale Power, H. Price, Helen Price, Lee Sprague, R. Tate, Yvonne Theodore, and Sadie Riffle.

C. Approval of Agenda

Sam presented the following additions to the printed Agenda:

- VII. Item E – Binojeeuk Commission Report and Minutes of 1/27/02
- VIII. Item A – CMT Report
- Item B – Little River Maintenance and Construction Company Report

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 16, 2002 AS AMENDED; by Kleeman; supported by Ruiter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

D. Public Comment Period

None

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Legal Services

Nancy Kida reported on the status of the Legal Assistance Program. Kida stated this program initially served Elders, however, at the present time the general membership was also using the service. Kida explained this was an informational service not a court service. Kida was in her office to give advice or referral service information to those requesting assistance. Kida gave some examples of her interactions with local law officials. As an outcome to these interactions some training of law officials may take place. Sam queried the number of hours Kida was committing in order to qualify in dollars the service provided the membership. Kida reported approximately one-third of the clients are face-to-face in her office. A member of the audience queried why there was a need for Kida's service when there are other attorneys on staff. Brooks stated there were two main reasons 1) Kida's expertise in the area she was serving and 2) Tribal Office legal staff does not carry malpractice insurance, which was necessary in the area Kida serves. Medahko inquired if Kida has return clients. Kida responded some cases have been open since she joined the staff in July.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE LEGAL SERVICES REPORT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

At this point in the meeting Speaker Parsons asked those in attendance to conduct personal introductions.

IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. External Resources – Economic Development

Lee Sprague stated the Economic Development Department had been working with Professional Development & Training Department to provide assistance in preparing Business Plans for Tribal members. The Economic Development office and the Education Department will be planning a one week Entrepreneurship camp for Tribal membership youth. The Economic Development office has been working with the Legal Department regarding the establishment of codes to regular business on Tribal land. They were attempting to identify Tribal land available for business use.

Sprague announced Jim Clements has attended Manistee Township meetings. He has talked with the zoning people regarding the laundromat. In Sprague's opinion the interaction has strengthened the communications between the Tribe and Manistee Township.

The Modular House Company was slightly behind schedule.

The Little River Station Store was progressing satisfactorily and it now was under the direction of the Project Management Team.

Discussion regarding the establishment of a Tribal owned Laundromat was held. Many thoughts and ideas were expressed regarding location of the facility, whether to build or try to find a building to purchase. The consensus of Council and members present was to locate the facility on trust lands. Davis reported a cost comparison had been completed and it appeared owning a complex would save the Casino a considerable amount of money. It was discussed if the facility should be for Casino use only or open to the public. Sprague stated the facility was still in the planning stage and all of the concerns would be addressed.

Sprague announced a wind farm was being considered which would supply electricity for the Tribe.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE EXTERNAL RESOURCES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT; by Sam; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

B. Family Services

Sheri Ivens, Director of Family Services, reported on status of program. Goals for 2002 included: 1) Program development – General assistance, child care and foster care 2) Participation with other tribal departments for unified service delivery 3) Develop a data system for record keeping and projecting future needs 4) Develop M.O.A. with nine county F.I.A. offices for case management and 5) Expand direct services program within nine county area. She discussed Goals and Objectives completed for 2001. Listed as the programs strengths were: 1) staff with diverse experience in tribal programs 2) direct contact with tribal members 3) positive working relationships with referral resources 4) standardized records and case files. Some of the weaknesses stressed were 1) familiarity with extensive nine county resources 2) data recording systems 3) incomplete policies and procedures and 4) community education on program services. Two Tribal Council members stated they personally knew of cases where the Department was involved in a very positive manner. The Council members expressed their gratitude to Ivens.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE FAMILY SERVICES REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 16, 2002 AS PRESENTED; by Sam; support by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

C. Commodities

Yvonne Theodore reported on the need for a larger warehouse. Theodore would like the capability of supplying fresh produce to recipients. Also, would like to ability to “tailgate” to the Muskegon area. Both Theodore and Gehrke have completed and passed forklift tests. The audit has been completed and approved by USDA. Inspection of the warehouse has also been favorably completed. Theodore stated some of the strengths of the program were: 1) order food twice a month 2) deliveries are within two working days and 3) office has become self sufficient with copy machine, fax etc. Two weaknesses stressed by Theodore were the warehouse was too small and the uneven driveway was not very safe for forklift operation.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE COMMODITIES DEPARTMENT REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2002; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

V. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

A. Report of the Tribal Ogema

1. Financial Report

The financial report was presented Bob Davis stated he could not speak to the contents of the report. Tribal Council members stressed their concern with the use of a signature stamp as opposed to an original signature on the report. Tribal Council requested the Recorder to prepare a memo to the Ogema regarding the use of a signature stamp. Concern was expressed, by members of the audience, as to why the Ogema or the CFO was not in attendance at the Tribal Council meeting. Speaker Parsons stated an open invitation had been issued to the Ogema, but Council cannot mandate his presence.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE FINANCIAL REPORT DATED JANUARY 31, 2002 WITH THE UNSTANDING THE INFORMATION REFLECTED IN THE REPORT DOES NOT INCLUDE PAYROLL OR BUDGET INFORMATION; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

B. Director of Operations Report

Bob Davis presented the Operations Report for January, 2002. The Tribal Council expressed their appreciation of receiving the report early. Davis reported the Accounting Department was extremely busy during the month of January. The Capital Project Account was currently up-to-date and reconciled. They were working toward a quarterly report to comply with the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance.

The Education Department awarded 17 Tribal members Higher Education Scholarships during January. College book stipends were issued to 46

Tribal members. There was other activity such as: 1) students received senior expense for this academic year 2) a vocational education assistance grant was awarded 3) seven Tribal members have applied for Adult Education Incentive Grants 4) Vocational Education Assistance grant awarded.

The Enrollment Department activities for the month included: 1) 230 address changes 2) mailed 245 Bereavement forms 3) issued 18 new Tribal ID cards 4) mailed 35 applications for membership 5) enrolled nine new Tribal members 6) rejected 12 applications for membership.

External Resources will be presenting an indirect cost training session to Tribal Council. A Family Violence Prevention Grant was submitted in January. Notice was placed in the newsletter for Tribal members to watch for their "red" envelope containing census materials. Dan Shepard has been working on several planning elements.

The reports of the Family Services and Commodities were covered in individual presentations.

The Health Department clinic served 158 patients for the month of January. Diabetic education continues to be needed. A representative attends monthly Elders meetings to help keep Elders informed of services available.

Contract Health Services served a total of 202 patients in January. The Extended Health Assistance Program received 26 requests for new applications during January. Behavioral Health has averaged ten new intakes per month since June 1, 2001. During that same time period 201 referrals to specialty and related mental health services were made. Three staff members earned Dale Carnegie Training certificates.

Natural Resources Department had the following activity during the month of January: 1) 2001 Fish Data for the Technical Fisheries Committee 2) prepared the Commercial Fishing Training/Education/Development Program 3) Commercial Fishing Licenses/Permits 4) Solicitation of Tribal Commercial Fishing Consultants 5) started revisions to the 2002 Great Lakes work plan.

Professional Development and Training will be offering the following Anishinaabe culture classes: 1) smudge 2) tend and keep fires 3) have pipes 4) make prayer ties 5) display items 6) display feathers 7) display the Medicine Wheel 8) general protocol and 9) Dance, Drum, and Sing. Also, an Anishinaabe culture class regarding how the Tribe became "The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians" and an introduction to Anishinaabe life will be offered.

Public Safety Department made 198 resident checks during the month. Other activities included: 1) 61 business checks – day 2) 235 business checks – nights 3) nine assists to other agencies 4) five warrants. 5) five death investigations 6) 45 commercial fish shore time.

Kleeman queried why the newsletter was not mentioned in the report. Davis responded it was an oversight and it would be included next month. Kleeman stated recent newsletter have contained material submitted to Chapman. Kleeman asked what Chapman does to secure news articles. Bennett asked what classes Chapman attends. Tribal Council members requested a report regarding what the membership was requesting be included in the newsletter. Chapman was reporting at Tribal Council meetings she has been receiving calls from the membership, however, there was no way to substantiate what these calls were concerning. The membership attending, from Chicago, stated they appreciated the Council minutes that were being published.

McCatty questioned some printed material in the report that bordered on a personnel matter. The person referenced had submitted it on her own report as a matter of procedure, therefore, it was not considered as a personnel issue.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2002 AS PRESENTED; by Sam; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

C. Attorney Report

Bill Brooks presented the Attorney Report. Brooks indicated he had participated in several meetings to discuss development of a Commercial Fishing Education, Training and Development Program. In Gaming Operations Brooks indicated he was continuing to review, draft and comment on several proposed contracts. Helen Ann Yunis was still working with the Election Board assisting them to re-draft regulations for the General Election. Brooks was working with BIA staff to finalize documents to take Custer, East Lake and Dontz Farm B into trust by the Department of Interior. Helen Ann Yunis continued to work as lead attorney working with the Housing Commission. Brooks has responded to several interpretations of the contract with Cunningham-Limp and the

CMT responsibilities. Brooks reported he had been in negotiations with representatives of the Michigan Attorney General's Office and the Department of Treasury regarding sales and use tax issues.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE ATTORNEY REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2002; by Medahko; supported by McCatty.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

I. ACCEPTANCE OF COMMISSION REPORTS

A. Gaming Commission – January 2002

Sam voiced her concern with the section under “Activities of the Past Month” regarding the NIGC Minimum Internal Control Standards change. Sam stated according to the Ordinance the Commission was suppose to forward that information to the Tribal Council. Sam will correspond with the Gaming Commission in regard to procedure. Sam referred item four under “Concerns, Requests” stating the outside lighting at the Gaming Commission office is not adequate to Bob Davis.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE GAMING COMMISSION REPORT DATED JANUARY 2002; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

House stated, as a housekeeping matter, Reports and Minutes should be presented as package. This was stipulated in the new Commission Ordinance.

B. Enrollment Commission

Katie Glocheski reported for the Enrollment Commission. Glocheski asked if the Tribal Council members had a copy of the monthly Report. The Council members responded in the affirmative. The matter of closing enrollment was discussed. It was stressed, at the present time, this was not an option. Glocheski requested a larger space for the Enrollment Office.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE ENROLLMENT COMMISSION MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2002 AS PRESENTED; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

II. ACCEPTANCE OF COMMISSION MINUTES

A. Enrollment Commission: 1/8/02 and 1/17/02

01/08/02

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE ENROLLMENT COMMISSION MINUTES DATED JANUARY 8, 2002; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

01/17/02

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE ENROLLMENT COMMISSION MINUTES DATED JANUARY 17, 2002; by Porter; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

B. Gaming Commission: 12/27/01, 1/8/02, 1/12/02 & 1/29/02

12/27/01

Pat Ruiter stated, in her opinion, the minutes did not contain enough information. Speaker Parsons asked Porter if she would carry the message

to the Gaming Commission. Porter stated a new form for minutes was being discussed by the Gaming Commission.

It was suggested to accept all four sets of Gaming Commission Minutes at one time. Speaker Parsons asked if there were any objections to considering all four sets of Gaming Commission Minutes at one time.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE GAMING COMMISSION MINUTES OF DECEMBER 27, 2001; JANUARY 8, 2002; JANUARY 12, 2002 AND JANUARY 29, 2002; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

C. Housing Commission: 12/3/01, 12/10/01 & 12/17/01

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE HOUSING COMMISSION MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2001; DECEMBER 10, 2001 AND DECEMBER 17, 2001; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Ruiter expressed concern in regard to passing the Minutes in a group. Sam reminded the Council members there will be a meeting with the Housing Commission the following week and any concerns could be addressed at that time. Sam stated, in her opinion, this would be the most appropriate way to handle the situation due to the fact there was no representation from the Housing Commission at the meeting.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

D. Natural Resources Commission: 1/9/02

1/9/02

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2002; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

E. Binojeeuk Commission Minutes

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE LITTLE RIVER BAND BINOJEEUK COMMISSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2002 AS PRESENTED; by Sam; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE BINOJEEUK COMMISSION REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 16, 2002 AS SUBMITTED; by Sam; supported by Porter.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES & REPORTS FROM OTHER ENTITIES

A. CMT Report

Chuck Fisher stated he had just received the CMT report this morning. Therefore, he had not read it for content.

MOTION TO POSTPONE THE ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING THE CMT REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 15, 2002 UNTIL THE FEBRUARY 20, 2002 REGULAR MEETING; by Kleeman; supported by Porter

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

B. Little River Maintenance and Construction Company Report

Lisa McCatty inquired if Little River Station was one of the six outstanding bids. Fisher indicated the Little River Station has not been put out for bid. Sam commended the author of the report. She stated, in her opinion, the information contained in the report would be very helpful to Tribal Council. Sam asked if the construction company would have a problem with subcontractors because of waiting for financing. Brooks indicated that none of the subcontracts have been let. He also stated all subcontracts will be with the Tribe not the Construction Company. Fisher stated the Little River Station was now being overseen by the PMT and he was not a member of that group. Therefore, he cannot answer some of the questions the Council members were asking.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE FEBRUARY 12, 2002 REPORT OF THE LITTLE RIVER MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY REPORT AS PRESENTED; by Kleeman; supported by Porter

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

C. February Report

JoAnne House gave a summary of activities in her office during the month as follow: 1) Commission Ordinance Training 2) Employment Laws (Employee Grievance Ordinance, Employment Delegation Authority, Indian Preference) 3) Enrollment Commission Regulations 4) Gaming Commission Regulations 5) Budget and Appropriations Regulations 6) Little River Casino Resort Employee Handbook.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE LEGISLATIVE REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2002; by Kleeman; supported by Porter .

Roll Call

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

IV. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. Next Regular Tribal Council Meeting: February 20, 2002

B. Public Comment

Speaker Parsons thanked all present for attending and apologized for not having an ample supply of materials. Parsons stated if anyone in the audience wanted copies of any of the materials presented let their request be known and copies would be made available for them.

V. ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN; by Kleeman; supported by Bennett.


Roll Call


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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sadie Riffle
Transcribing Assistant


Janine Sam
Tribal Council Recorder

