



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022  
LITTLE RIVER BAND  
VIA ZOOM  
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

Approved  
03/09/22

**OPEN SESSION  
MINUTES**

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Good morning, everyone we're here for our Wednesday February 23rd 10 a.m. tribal regular tribal council meeting via ZOOM. Following are the minutes of that meeting. Um before we get into it, we'll go through the list of participants online and make sure everyone that is online is eligible to participate in the meeting. When I call your user handler, please identify yourself with your tribal id number or staff um first Shelly Memberto

Shelly Memberto: good morning I'm here for the uh closed session uh presentation

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay either handler Vicki

Ron Pete: um good morning this is Ron Pete 4158

Acting Speaker Wolf: okay 231-215-2739

Karen Love: Karen Love 2494

Acting Speaker Wolfe: 231-398-6824, user handler 231-398-6824

Mary Thomas: Mary Thomas

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay then 231-398-6837, 231-398-6837 we'll come back to that one it's Brad Pringler Pringle. 231-670-1050

Christy Fowler: Christy Fowler 4701

Acting Speaker Wolfe: ok 231-887-9856

Councilor Wever: good morning, Shirley Wever

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Ok Al Metzger

Al Metzger: Yes

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Just identify yourself

Al Metzger: Al Metzger 890

Acting Speaker Wolfe: thanks, Chantel Gamelin

Chantel Gamelin: Chantel Gamelin Legislative Assistant

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Chelsea Densmore

Chelsea Densmore: 3225

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Cindy Champagne

Councilor Champagne: I'm sorry I didn't have my mute off I'm a tribal councilor

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Corey Wells

Corey Wells: Corey Wells 4839

Acting Speaker Wolfe: ok thank you. Elise McGowen-Cuellar, you know that's staff attorney. Grace H

Grace Hendler: Good morning number 4121

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Thank you Krystal Davis

Krystal Davis: Krystal Davis 1100

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Sandra Lewis

Councilor Lewis: Sandra Lewis tribal council

Acting Speaker Wolfe; Sandy M

Sandy Mezeske: Sandy Mezeske 0018

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Sara Agosa

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Susan Thull

Susan Thull: 3727

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Tammy Bogue

Tammy Bogue: 3179

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Valerie Chandler

Valerie Chandler: Tax officer and uh member 236

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Venus Torres

Venus Wilson-Torres: Staff and tribal member 1102

Acting Speaker Wolfe: and we have telephone number 231-510-4296. So, we're looking at for the user handler 231-510-4296 to identify themselves? Last call for phone number 231-510-4296 please identify yourself for the record. Hearing no response, you'll be placed in the waiting room. Val M please identify yourself for the record.

Valerie McDonnell: Did you hear me? Val McDonnell 4340

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay thank you. okay so looking at the list of participants I believe everyone is eligible to be in partake in this meeting um so that brings us to item one

**I. Opening Prayer**

if Gary if you can do that for us, please

Councilor DiPiazza: Creator look after us as we go through these days wrap your loving and healing hands and arms around the ones that are suffering through this these things that we have to deal with nowadays so let us all be strong together because that bundle of sticks are stronger than one let us all work together for the betterment of all our citizens and also give praise to the ones that are out there serving us whether it's convenience store or gas station or food outlets or wherever you may go because there are a lot of them are the true heroes that being said Miigwech. Miigwech

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay thanks for that we're on to item

**II. General Business**

**A. Call to Order**

call this meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. Pam if you can do a roll call, please

Councilor Johnson:

**B. Roll Call**

T. Guenthardt - Present	C. Champagne - Present	P. Johnson - Present
G. DiPiazza - Present	S. Wever - Present	S. Lewis - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	J. Wolfe - Present	

Quorum established 8

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay then we're on to item

**C. Approval of Agenda**

I'll entertain a motion to approve the agenda

Councilor DiPiazza: I'd like to make that motion

Acting Speaker Wolfe: go ahead

Councilor DiPiazza: **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2022 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: NEW BUSINESS A APPROVAL OF THE CONTINUATION OF RE-FORECASTED AND AMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET. IN CLOSED SESSION MINUTES REMOVED C BIDS & CONTRACTS C.1. IS POSTPONED APPROVING TIP AGREEMENT ADDENDUM BETWEEN LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT AND US INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE;** by DiPiazza; supported by Wittenberg.

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Do I have support on the motion?

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Ok I have a motion on the floor by councilor DiPiazza supported by councilor Wittenberg. Any comments or discussions? Pam if you can do a roll call, please

Councilor Johnson:

**Roll Call #1**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes		

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Eight in favor it passed.

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay so then moving on to item

**D. Tribal Council Minutes None Submitted**

that moves to section

**III. Continuing Business**

**A. Grants & Contracts**

There are none

**B. Budget Modifications**

There are none

**C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

There are none. Moves us onto item

**IV. Old Business**

we have item A, B and C and those are all postponed until the budget is approved, we don't have a 2022 budget approved so we'll move on to item

**V. New Business**

And that's an add item

**A. Approval of the Continuation of Re-forecasted and Amended  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Budget for the month of March 2021**

This is being brought forward by reporter Pam Johnson I'll turn the floor to you.

Acting Recorder Johnson: um so just uh pretty basic since we are still in progress of working on our agenda and we are um at the end of the month basically Monday is the last day um just added this so that we can continue to move forward um with a with um a continuing budget so it's added on there so we can still continue on for now and process to continue that's it

Speaker Wolfe: okay thank you for that presentation. I'll open it up for discussion from tribal council. Any comments or questions by tribal council? just one comment from myself that this is the continuing budget, and it follows the same standard language and the resolutions that were passed for January and February so this will just continue on through March of 2022. That's my only comment. Open discussion for if any tribal council members? wish to abstain from the item? okay then I'll open it up to discussion from tribal members. First in queue we have Sara Agosa you have the floor

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478 my comment is I do not support this continuing budget and my question is who who gave um who gave out the confidential budget information to the individuals who filed a lawsuit before it was released to the public, I would like to know specifically who did that? thank you. That is my comment

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Any tribal council have a response? My only comment is to my knowledge there is no confidential information that was given out to people and I yeah, I don't know if there's any other comments by anybody additional because that is a pending court matter.

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay next in queue I see we have Ron Pete you have the floor

Ron Pete: okay thank you um madam speaker um I just want to say that I support this continuing budget resolution seeing how we don't have no budget right now I do support it and I do support your answer to Sara Agosa that um that that it wasn't given out so thank you

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay thanks for your comment. Do you have additional comments to make Miss Agosa?

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478. So, if that is the stance of council can I get a response from the Ogema thank you

Mary Thomas: Julie this is Mary the Ogema's not on the call right now he's in another Meeting

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Ok Sara can you save that and bring it back after in public comment then for the Ogema?

Sara Agosa: yeah, can I please make one additional comment about housekeeping

Acting Speaker Wolfe: sure

Sara Agosa: every time I listen to these videos, I always hear sidebar comments after I make a comment and it happens consistently and it just happened again is it possible just to for people to put themselves on mute. I really don't appreciate it thank you that is my comment

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay thanks for that comment. Um is there any follow-up discussion by tribal council? any follow-up discussion by tribal council or members on this agenda item?

Councilor Guenthardt: I'll make a motion

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Seeing none or hearing none I'll entertain a motion

Councilor Guenthardt: I'll make a  
**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-0223- 023  
CONTINUATION OF RE-FORECASTED AND  
AMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET;** by  
Guenthardt; supported by Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Wolfe: We have a motion on the floor by councilor Guenthardt support by councilor Wittenberg. Any additional discussion or comments on this item? Seeing none Pam please do a roll call

Councilor Johnson:

**Roll Call #2**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -No	P. Johnson -	Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes	S. Lewis - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	

Motion carried (7-1-0-0)

Seven in favor one against motion is passed.

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay then we do have one user in the waiting room we're gonna admit them user handler zoom user can you please identify yourself for the record? We do recognize that you turned your camera on looks like the audio is disconnecting can you identify yourself for the record zoom user?

Jessica Steinberg: I'm sorry madam recorder are you asking me?

Acting Speaker Wolfe: no

Jessica Steinberg: okay

Acting Speaker Wolfe: we have a user zoom user

Councilor Guenthardt: she's on mute

Acting recorder Johnson: you're on mute zoom user

Janae Shaw: Janae Shaw 4641

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay thank you

Janea Shaw: you're welcome

Acting Speaker Wolfe: we're on to item

**IX. Concluding Business**

**A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, March 02, 2022**  
that moves to item

**B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**  
Ogema are you on the call?

Mary Thomas: He is not he is still in another meeting

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay so then because the Ogema is not available, we'll move it on to item

**C. Legislative Affairs Update**  
Are there any legislative affair updates from tribal council? Councilor DiPiazza

Councilor DiPiazza: yeah, just um gosh now I forgot never mind

Acting Speaker Wolfe: ok any other councilors wish to comment on legislative up legislative affairs update? Seeing none that moves us to item

**D. Public Comment Period**  
we'll open the floor to uh participants online at first in queue I see Sara Agosa you have the floor

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478 I did have a couple questions for the Ogema so I will just ask them now as a matter of public record um my first question is regarding the Ogemas information meeting this past weekend and once again the Ogema displayed the emails of tribal members in his presentation and the members as far as I know were not in attendance and I tried to ask the Ogema during public comment if he obtained the tribal members permission to share their personal correspondence in this public meeting but he

ignored my question so my question for council is what laws govern the sharing of information and what protections do members have because I do not agree with his behavior that is my first question. My second question is also about the information meeting last weekend people online were not able to participate live and um nine county members were given this right, and he's had several information meetings now, so I wanted to ask him why the sound at the resort has not been fixed to be compatible with zoom and my final question is directed to tribal council recently a limited scope investigation was performed by the comptroller identifying properties that have been sold and the document states that the comptroller recommends to get a legal opinion if Little River Holdings bylaws and operation agreement allows them to buy or sell properties without tribal council resolution so, my question is has this been done yet or what are the plans to get this done thank you those were my comments

Acting Speaker Wolfe: I'll open it up for tribal council to respond

Councilor DiPiazza: I can respond to a couple items um people that were trying to get on of the meeting didn't have their full name or tribal id number so some were not allowed in, and I had to turn my head and then correct my neck too that hurt but I happened to see somebody's name and that was it for first name you can't they weren't gonna let you in unless you had you're actually on the rolls and actually what your tribal id set your full name and your tribal id number so that sound I can't help you with that um the other as far as the EDC I would suggest you go onto the website and research the LLC ordinance and also the uh the EDC's organizational documents and that will explain what you're after so for me to tell it to you you're not going to want to hear it so please go on there and read the LLC ordinance and also with the EDC organizational or did I get it mixed up I'm sorry there's two documents that you really need to sit down and review that's all I have thank you Miigwech

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay so next in queue we have Ron Pete you have the floor

Ron Pete: okay thank you uh once once again um Julie um I just wanted to say that that's the second organizational meeting it hasn't been a few that's the second meeting that the Ogema's had I've attended every one of them and you know I had a problem not problem driving up from Grand Haven to have to get to be involved in those meetings but what I do want to say is I I really want to say um to Gary DiPiazza to Tom Guenthardt to Pam Johnson and to Julie Wolfe I want to thank you for being there to answer the tribal members questions and what they had to do and there and I really want to say Julie you did a great job in and um and being there at that meeting so I just want to say thank you and uh Miigwech thank you

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Ok thanks for your comments I have Sara Agosa in queue you have the floor

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478 I just wanted to follow up on the limited scope investigation because in the document is that it says um the action item will be that there



will be a legal review So that is really my question is the comptroller and tribal council currently working on this getting the legal review? thank you that is my comment

Acting Speaker Wolfe: any tribal council wish to respond

Councilor DiPiazza: it's real simple I don't even think it might have been mentioned legal review I don't know read them two documents because it's laid out quite well in there what they can do and can't do there authorities the tribal council passed that and adopted them items so I don't know what a legal review is going to do other than cross *inaudible* from somebody or some place at the time but I'd say read them two documents there on the website so Miigwech

Acting Speaker Wolfe: ok we're still in public comment are there any additional members that have public comments only seeing one's still in the queue Sara Agosa you have the floor

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478 my comment is that I can read the documents but I'm not an Attorney and I feel as a member that I'm entitled to a legal review around this limited scope investigation this is really serious we're talking millions of dollars so I will follow up with a comptroller, but I think it's really important that an official legal review is done and that it's disseminated to tribal members thank you that is my comment

Acting Speaker Wolfe: thanks for your comment. Any additional participants have public comment? Any additional participants members have public comment? Seeing none that brings us closed session

***The purpose of closed session is to discuss business matters considered privileged or confidential involving consideration of bids/contracts, pending legal issues, and/or personnel matters.***

if you don't have a closed session agenda item, I would ask that you exit the call please

Councilor Guenthardt: I'll make a

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE FIRST OPEN SESSION;** by  
Guenthardt; supported by Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Wolfe: Ok so we made a motion to end first open. We have a motion by councilor Guenthardt support by councilor Wittenberg to end first open. Any questions or comments by tribal council or members? Ok seeing none we'll ask for a roll call please

Acting Recorder Johnson:

**Roll Call #3**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)  
Eight in favor it passed

Acting Speaker Wolfe: So, we ended first open at 10:28am thank you everybody

**XI. Open Session**

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay so we're here to enter open session I'll entertain a motion to go into second open

Councilor Guenthardt: I'll make it

**MOTION TO GO BACK INTO OPEN SESSION;** by Guenthardt;  
supported by DiPiazza.

Councilor DiPiazza: Support

Acting Speaker Wolfe: so, we have a motion on the floor by councilor Guenthardt support by councilor DiPiazza to go into second open. any councilors wish to abstain? any discussion from tribal council members about the motion on the floor? Seeing none Pam do a roll call

Acting Recorder Johnson:

**Roll Call #4**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes	S. Lewis - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)  
Eight in favor closed session at 12:01pm

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay so the only one agenda item we have for open second open is

**A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session**

WE don't have any items to be moved from Closed to Open. So I'll entertain a motion to

**XII. Adjourn**

Councilor Guenthardt: I'll make a

**MOTION TO ADJOURN;** by Guenthardt; supported by Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Wolfe: So, we have a motion to adjourn by councilor Guenthardt supported by councilor Wittenberg any tribal council wish to abstain? any discussion from tribal council on the motion on the floor?

Councilor DiPiazza: Ms. Speaker I need to make a comment (Speaks Anishinaabe) that's all I have

Acting Speaker Wolfe: okay

Councilor DiPiazza: figure it out

Acting Speaker Wolfe: so, then we'll have a roll call Pam

Acting Recorder Johnson:

**Roll Call #4**

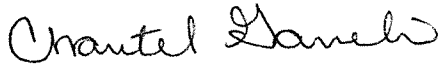
T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes		

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Eight in favor

Acting Speaker Wolfe: We are adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chantel Gamelin,  
Transcribing Assistant

Pam Johnson,  
Acting Tribal Council Recorder

