



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
1762 U.S. 31 South  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 723-8288

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, May 22, 2000

- I. PRAYER
  - Silent Prayer time was given*
- II. GENERAL BUSINESS
  - A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:07 p.m. – Joan Spalding, Speaker
  - B. ROLL CALL: Carol Bennett, Kathy Berentsen, Charles Fisher, Don Koon, Lisa McCatty, Elaine Porter, Joan Spalding, Janine Szpliet, Connie Waitner.
  - C. CONSENT AGENDA:
    - 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.
  - IV. NEW BUSINESS (Additions)
    - E. APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION BOARD.
    - F. RELEASE OF PER CAPITA FUNDS FOR MINORS REACHING THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN JANUARY 2000.
    - G. RELEASE OF PER CAPITA FUNDS FOR MINORS REACHING THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN MAY 2000.
    - H. INTERNAL SERVICE FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT.
    - I. SODAK GIFT OF \$200 TO BE ASSIGNED TO EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR LANGUAGE/CULTURAL CAMP IN AUGUST 2000.
    - J. APPROVAL FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO USE TRIBAL SEAL FOR POW WOW T-SHIRTS.
    - K. APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER.



III. GENERAL BUSINESS (*Remove*)

5/9/00 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

5/9/00 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

5/13/00 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

**\* Motion: Kathy Berentsen – “To accept the agenda as amended”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – No</b>
	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Bennett – No</b>	

**Motion passes: 7 for, 2 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

5/13/00 Regular Meeting Minutes:

**\* Motion: Elaine Porter – “To approve the Saturday, May 13 Council Meeting minutes”**

**\* Support: Charles Fisher**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Aye</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>
	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

D. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS.

\* Jessica Burger introduced Debbie Meness.

\* Debbie Meness gave brief introduction of her qualifications and background.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT.

➤ Several complaints and comments were made regarding employee issues at the Casino, specifically within the Human Resource Department. It was demanded that the Tribal Council look into these matters and take appropriate action to resolve the issues.



- Questions were raised regarding liquor that was supposedly missing from the Casino.
- Comments were made relating to non-tribal employees at the Casino receiving several pay raises, while Tribal Members have not.
- Comments were made regarding a Tribal Member applying for a job at the Casino who was interviewed for a period of four hours by the Human Resources Department at the Casino.
- Comments were made regarding the fact that if the Tribal Council failed to resolve some of the issues at the Casino, a group of Elders were going to picket the Casino.
- Questions were raised regarding the process in which the selection and appointments of the new Election Board were being made.
- Comments were made pertaining to potential violations of the Constitution Rights of the membership.
- It was asked why there was not an Elders' table set up at the Membership Meeting. There was a feeling that there was miscommunication amongst those involved.
- Concerns were raised relating to the availability of a list of registered voters of the Tribe and the accuracy of the list. Discussion followed as to the confidential nature of certain information associated with a published list.
- Discussion was held on salaries of certain individuals as well as amounts owed to Manistee Gaming.

**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “For ten minute recess”**

**\* Support: Charles Fisher**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>
	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

**\* Debra Meness sang Honor Song for those in attendance**



**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “To return to Session (7:53 p.m.)”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**

**Roll Call:**

<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>
<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>
<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

- Concerns were raised regarding hiring practices and Tribal Member advancement at the Casino.
- Questions were raised regarding the situation with the Housing Director.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR ENROLLMENT.

**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “To approve Resolution #00-0522-01, Approving supplemental appropriation for Tribal Registrar/Enrollment Office for Fiscal Year 2000 in the amount of \$5,000.00 from General Fund”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**

**Roll Call:**

<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>
<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>
<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>
<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

B. RESOLUTION APPROVAL FOR SUBMISSION OF ICDBG GRANT APPLICATION FOR TRIBAL HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE.

\* Vanessa Buhs gave brief overview of status of grant application.

**\* Motion: Charles Fisher – “To approve Resolution #00-0522-02, Supporting the Tribal Housing Commission application for Indian Community Development Block Grant application for Road Construction for Tribal Housing Project and commitment of annual Indian Housing Block Grant Funds for necessary matching funds”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**



<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – No</b>
	<b>K. Berentsen – No</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – No</b>
	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 6 for, 3 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

\* Kathy Berentsen stated that her reason for opposing the action was because she had never seen the presented information before and she was not prepared to approve an issue without seeing it prior to voting on it.

\* Discussion was held on how to resolve the issues for future grant applications.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILORS TO SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL.

\* Joan Spalding mentioned that the proposed sub-committees would be structured as follows:

Budget & Finance

Elaine Porter – Chair  
Charles Fisher  
Janine Szpliet

Reservation Preservation

Janine Szpliet - Chair  
Charles Fisher  
Joan Spalding

Compliance/Oversight

Kathy Berentsen – Chair  
Janine Szpliet  
Connie Waitner

Tribal Community Development

Lisa McCatty – Chair  
Connie Waitner  
Carol Bennett

Judicial/Law Enforcement

Lisa McCatty – Chair  
Kathy Berentsen  
Elaine Porter

Legislation

Connie Waitner – Chair  
Lisa McCatty  
Joan Spalding

\* Lisa McCatty mentioned that Community Development sub-committee would be charged with keeping the community informed of the Councils' activities, and she thought that Charles Fisher should be on that sub-committee due to the fact that he is the Recorder and has the responsibility under the Constitution to keep the Membership informed.

\* Janine Szpliet responded by saying the Tribal Community Development sub-committee would be working on many more issues besides communication issues and the sub-committee should not become responsible for those communications.



**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “That the Tribal Council approve the Speakers’ appointments to the six Tribal Council Sub-Committees as presented”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**

**Roll Call:**

<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>
<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>
<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>
<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

**B. AMENDMENT/DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZED HOLDERS OF TRIBAL CREDIT CARDS AND ESTABLISHING LIMITS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE USE OF SUCH CARDS.**

**\* Discussion took place on the specific need for the cards.**

**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “That Council approve Resolution #00-0522-03, Designation of additional holders of Tribal Credit Cards and establishing limits and procedures for use of such Credit Cards in the amounts presented in the resolution”**

**\* Support: Connie Waitner**

**Roll Call:**

<b>C. Bennett – No</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – No</b>
<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
<b>L. McCatty – No</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>
<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 6 for, 3 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

**C. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR VESSEL AND CREW ASSISTANCE FROM USGS GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER FOR SPRING LAKE TROUT, LAKE WHITEFISH AND BURBOT SAMPLING.**

**\* Motion: Janine Szpliet – “That Tribal Council approve the expenditure in the amount of \$4,500.00 from the BIA Great Lakes Litigation Support Program to cover the USGS cost of vessel and operations as presented”**

**\* Support: Kathy Berentsen**

**Roll Call:**

<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>
<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>
<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>
<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	



**Motion passes: 9 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

D. APPROVAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BE-DA-BIN (SUBSTANCE ABUSE) PROGRAM.

\* Janine Szpliet asked whether program would be funded with BIA dollars or Casino revenues.

\* Joan Spalding replied that the funding was within the department budget.

\* **Motion: Janine Szpliet – “That the Tribal Council approve Resolution #00-0522-04, Approving the development and establishment of a comprehensive Little River Band of Ottawa Indians’ (Tribal) Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program with Care Accreditation”**

\* **Support: Charles Fisher**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Aye</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
	<b>L. McCatty – No</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>
	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 8 for, 1 opposed, 0 abstain and 0 absent.**

E. APPOINTMENT OF NEW ELECTION BOARD.

\* Bob Guenthardt gave brief presentation on the need for the appointment of a new Election Board. The following persons were nominated for appointment to the Election Board:

Sue Schultz  
Alyce Giltz  
Dave Lilleberg  
Gail Zavada  
Kathy Bowen

\* Election Board nominees Alyce Giltz, Sue Schultz and Dave Lilleberg made brief statements on their behalf.

\* Bill Brooks recommended that the appointments be done individually.

\* **Motion: Joan Spalding – “To approve Gail Zavada, Kathy Bowen, David Lilleberg, Alyce Giltz and Susan Schultz to the Election Board as Recommended by the Ogema, Robert Guenthardt”**

\* **Support: Charles Fisher**







H. INTERNAL SERVICE FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT.

- \* Dan Broton explained status and future renovation needs of National City Bank building. Dan recommended establishing a task force to try and address the space needs for the building and formulate a plan of action.
- \* Lisa McCatty asked what type of agreements the tribe had with the current tenants in the building.

**\* Motion: Connie Waitner – “To approve Resolution #00-0522-07, Approving Budget Modification in the amount of \$50,000.00 to appropriate General Revenue Funds for expenses associated with renovations of the National City Bank property and allocating such funds to the Internal Service Fund”**

**\* Support: Elaine Porter**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Absent</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>
	<b>K. Berentsen – No</b>	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>
	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>	<b>L. McCatty – No</b>
	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 6 for, 2 opposed, 0 abstain and 1 absent.**

- \* Joan Spalding recommended establishing a task force consisting of Bob Guenthardt, Dan Broton, Bill Willis and herself to try and address the Needed renovations of the bank building.

I. SODAK GIFT OF \$200 TO BE ASSIGNED TO EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR LANGUAGE/CULTURAL CAMP.

- \* Lisa McCatty asked whether Tom Celani have any affiliation with Sodak.
- \* Bill Brooks replied that Tom Celani sold his interest in Sodak prior to entering into a Management Agreement with the Tribe.

**\* Motion: Connie Waitner – “To donate the \$200 received from Sodak/IGT for the Language and Cultural Camp to be held in August”**

**\* Support: Kathy Berentsen**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Absent</b>	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 8 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 1 absent.**



J. APPROVAL FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO USE THE TRIBAL SEAL AND/OR LOGO FOR POW WOW T-SHIRTS.

\* Discussion was held on what the design would look like or what the intent was for the exact design. The seal was initially intended for governmental use and the logo for personal use by the members.

\* **Motion: Connie Waitner – “To approve Cultural Preservation Committee to use the Tribal Logo/Emblem for the usage on T-shirts for the Pow Wow”**

\* **Support: Elaine Porter**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	<b>D. Koon – Yes</b>
	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	<b>E. Porter – Yes</b>
	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Absent</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – Yes</b>	

**Motion passes: 8 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain and 1 absent.**

K. APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER.

\* Lisa McCatty mentioned that Jerry Guenthardt had resigned from the committee, therefore a vacancy exists on the committee.

\* **Motion: Lisa McCatty – “To appoint Tammy Kleeman to the Enrollment Committee”**

\* **Support: Kathy Berentsen**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>C. Bennett – Yes</b>	<b>K. Berentsen – Yes</b>
	<b>C. Fisher – Yes</b>	<b>D. Koon – No</b>
	<b>L. McCatty – Yes</b>	<b>E. Porter – No</b>
	<b>J. Spalding – Yes</b>	<b>J. Szpliet – Absent</b>
	<b>C. Waitner – No</b>	

**Motion passes: 5 for, 3 opposed, 0 abstain and 1 absent.**

V. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT.

➤ Concerns were raised regarding the way Job Interviews are handled by the Administration.

\* Bill Brooks suggested that the Litigation Update scheduled for the Closed Session portion of the Agenda be dropped due to the fact that he has not had an opportunity to speak with Marc Slonim recently.



(T.C. Minutes – 5/22/00 Mtg. cont.)

*\* Kathy Berentsen departed at 10:20 p.m.*

*\* Meeting was Adjourned by Procedure at 10:20 p.m., due to the lack of a quorum present to conduct business.*