



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

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APPROVED

9/8/97

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1997

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. **CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Guenthardt at 4:25 p.m. at the Egelston Township Hall in Muskegon.

B. **ROLL CALL.** Roll call was taken by Chuck Fisher. Council Members Present: Bob Guenthardt, Kathy Berentsen, Chuck Fisher, Bill Memberto, Steve Parsons, Don Koon, and Kim Kequom.

C. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA.** It was asked to add under Old Business, D. Ratification of Items Worked on at the Last Tribal Council Work Session. It was also asked to add under New Business, I. Family Resource Center and J. Necessary Resolution to Four Grants as Sees Fit. Moved by Bill M., to adopt the agenda with changes, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

D. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES.** Kathy said that under C. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**, it should say all in favor (5), not (6) and should not say (1) absent, but (2) absent because she arrived late. These same changes need to be made in D. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** also. Kathy also said that on Page 3, just before B. where it states "Moved by Steve, to accept the nomination of the four applicants pending the approval of the background investigation....", the four applicants names (Bill Willis, Tom Guenthardt, Valerie Chandler, and Jim Compeau) should be listed. Kathy mentioned that on Page 7, G. where it states that the Council was contacted via telephone to pass a resolution, she said that she was not contacted for that. Moved by Bill M., to adopt the minutes with changes, seconded by Steve, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

E. **FINANCIAL REPORT.** Chris said that the financial report was not quite ready but will send the Council the report as soon as it is finished. Bob said that the financial report would be tabled until the September meeting.

F. **STAFF REPORTS.** Kathy said that on Andrea's report, it says that there should be an attached memo to report, but Kathy did not receive one. There

were no other questions or comments regarding the staff reports. Moved by Kim, to accept the staff reports, seconded by Chuck, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

G. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS. Bob said that at the meeting there are not really any guests present but they are all members. The microphone was then passed around the room for everyone to introduce themselves.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. USDA FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. Missy said that currently the Tribe offers food commodities to members in the four county service area of Manistee, Mason, Wexford, and Lake Counties. She mentioned that we hope to eventually expand these services to include Muskegon, Kent, Ottawa, Oceana and Newaygo Counties. It was asked if the distribution site would be in Manistee and Missy said that that was correct. Moved by Bill M., to support Resolution #97-0804-01, Supporting a Grant Application for Food Commodity Distribution Site, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

B. TRIBAL COURT ORDINANCE. Bill B. explained the revisions made to the Ordinance and answered any questions anyone had. Bob said that in the next newsletter we need to put a job description in there for anyone to apply for a position in the Tribal Court. Moved by Bill M., to support revised Resolution #97-300-01, Adoption of Tribal Court Ordinance and Establishment of a Tribal Court under the Ordinance, seconded by Chuck, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

C. RE-ROOFING THE FOREST CLINIC BUILDING. It was mentioned that Tom contacted three companies to come in and look at the roof and give a bid. Of those bids, Bob's Roofing gave the lowest which was an estimate of \$20,000. Moved by Kathy, to approve Bob's Roofing to re-roof the Forest Clinic Building, seconded by Bill M., all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

D. RATIFICATION OF ITEMS WORKED ON AT THE LAST COUNCIL WORK SESSION. Moved by Kim, to ratify the motion made to Authorize Bob to Sign the Lease between the Universal Medical Laboratory and the Little River Band and to Execute it, seconded by Bill M., all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried. Moved by Bill M., to ratify Resolution #97-0721-01, Land for New Housing Project Community Development Block Grant, seconded by Chuck, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried. Moved by Bill M., to ratify Resolution #97-0721-02, to Authorize the Pre-Development Loan Agreement, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADDRESS CHANGE FORM. Diane explained that this will help out in getting correct addresses for the Judgment Fund, Food Commodities, Elections, etc.

She said that the BIA has suggested this to her. Diane explained that this would be a form asking Tribal members to fill out their correct address and then get it notarized before mailing it back. She then answered questions that the membership had.

B. S.H.A.R.E. PROGRAM. Andrea said that she heard about this program through the people in Sault Ste. Marie and what it stands for is Self Help And Resource Exchange. The program gives a food package to those who give \$14.00 and two hours of volunteer service per unit of food. It was asked who qualifies for this and Andrea said that everyone qualifies. Kathy asked if someone will be checking to see if the people complete the two hours of volunteer service or is it being done in good faith? Andrea said that wherever they do their volunteer work will keep track of the hours whether it be in the form of a bill or invoice, etc. Andrea also mentioned that this is not a commodity program but actual food you buy in the grocery stores and the work for these packages can be done in a group effort. She then read off a list of the types of foods people can expect to see in these packages (fish, pork, tomatoes, peaches, lettuce, corn muffin mix, spaghetti, etc.). Moved by Kathy, to support the start up of the S.H.A.R.E. program, seconded by Steve, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

C. APPROVAL OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE. It was mentioned that committee work plans need to be submitted by September 1. Janine said that in order for the committee to comply with the Committee Compliance Plan, they need to add on more members. A list of the nominated people was then read. Moved by Bill M., to approve Deb Davis, Nancy Wheeler, Laurie Holden, Katie Glocheski, Martha Kase and Margaret Kowalkowski to the Education Committee, seconded by Steve, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried. Moved by Kathy, to appoint Steve Parsons as the Education Committee Council contact person, seconded by Bill M., all in favor (6), (0)opposed, (1) abstention (Steve). Motion carried.

D. TO PROVIDE LOW-INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE TO LITTLE RIVER BAND MEMBERS. Missy explained that currently the energy assistance is for members in the four county service area through the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. She said that we are trying to get five other counties to be included in the service area for this year. It was mentioned that in the past year, we served approximately 60 families and that the income guidelines for this are very lenient. Missy said that the funding begins on October 1, 1997 and is on a first come, first serve basis. Moved by Kim, to support Resolution #97-0804-02, Supporting Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to Apply for and Administer the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, seconded by Don, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

E. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM BIA. Bill W. said that the Tribe has access to \$10,000 from the BIA to do transportation planning which is a component of the Land Use plan. The end result of this

would give the Tribe a bridge inventory, a roads inventory and a prioritized listing of future funding of the inventories dealing with Tribal lands and getting access to Tribal lands via bridges, roads, etc. Moved by Kim, to support Resolution #97-0804-03, Transportation Planning Funding, seconded by Steve, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

F. NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION SUBSISTENCE FISHING. Bill B. said that the 1836 Treaty Tribes have been trying to work with the State DNR to try to get inland hunting and fishing rights and the State so far has not shown any willingness to work with the Tribes. He said that we would like to issue subsistence fishing licenses and right now Tom Guenthardt is the only one able to enforce the Conservation Code but the Tribe would be looking into getting joint enforcement agreements with the other Tribes. The guidelines for the subsistence fishing are defined in the Tribal Ordinance and in the Conservation Codes. Bill B. said that the Resolution being brought to the Council would authorize the Natural Resource Commission to issue licenses which authorize Tribal members to engage in subsistence fishing activities in accordance with regulations put into place by the Natural Resource Commission. The regulations will state the areas open to the fishing, size limits, seasons, harvest and creel limits, etc. John Koon, the Natural Resource Commissioner, would be authorized to do whatever is necessary to implement the rules and regulations. Bill B. also said that the DNR already has said that they are not going to recognize inland hunting and fishing rights. Moved by Kim, to support Resolution #97-0804-04, Authorizing the Natural Resource Commission to License Tribal Members to Engage in Subsistence Fishing Pursuant to Tribal Regulations and Amending the Uniform Conservation Code in Accordance with this Authorization, seconded by Kathy, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

G. PARTICIPATION IN A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AMONG MICHIGAN TRIBES TO PROVIDE HEALTHCARE SERVICES. Steve explained that this would be a clinic west of Grand Rapids and the Michigan Tribes would be running it to help serve all of the Michigan Tribes' members. Bob mentioned that if anyone is interested, the Health Board is looking for a couple of members to join and Kathy said that she had copies of the Health Board by-laws and the Committee Procedures Policy. Moved by Bill M., to support Resolution #97-0804-05, Supporting the Participation in a Collaborative Effort among Michigan Tribes to Provide Healthcare Services in the Kent County and Surrounding Areas, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

H. TO PURSUE GRANT FUNDING AS A COLLABORATIVE TO EVALUATE OPTIONS AND FEASIBILITY FOR DIRECT CARE SERVICES IN KENT COUNTY. Steve said that this is to pursue a grant that would provide funding for the study of healthcare options in Kent County between the Michigan Tribes' collaborative effort to provide healthcare there. Moved by Bill M., to support the pursuit of grant funding by the multi-Tribal collaboration to evaluate the

feasibility and options for direct care provision in Kent County, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

I. INDIAN FAMILY RESOURCES AND NATIVE AMERICAN PREVENTION SERVICES FOR KENT COUNTY. Bill M. reported that there was a discussion with Sylvia Murray regarding the grant management for these programs. The first step for the Tribe is to formally request that ITC transfer the responsibilities to the Little River Band. Moved by Bill M, to have Bob write a letter to ITC requesting the transfer, seconded by Kim, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

J. NECESSARY RESOLUTION TO FOUR GRANTS AS SEES FIT. Chuck brought to the Council four grants that he would like to further pursue. One of the grants was to the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs, one to Indian Health Service dealing with Family Violence Prevention, one was a Distance Learning Tele-medicine Loan and Grant, and the last one dealt with Cancer Prevention. Kim brought up that everyone who was applying for a grant needed to fill out the grant application checklist. Moved by Steve, to support Chuck in pursuing the four grants mentioned above, seconded by Don, all in favor (6), (1) opposed (Kim). Motion carried.

Moved by Kim, to have a Tribal Council Special Meeting on Friday, August 8, 1997 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the grants proposed by Chuck, seconded by Steve, all in favor (7), (0) opposed. Motion carried.

IV. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT. None Due to the Judgment Fund discussion.

B. NEXT MEETING. Bob said that the next meeting is a Special Session to be held on August 8, 1997 at 5:00 p.m. and the next regular Tribal Council meeting is going to be on September 8, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. at the Westside Complex in Grand Rapids. Kathy also mentioned that the Health Board has requested a work session with the Tribal Council on August 18, 1997 at 6:00 p.m. at the Tribal office to discuss the Board's work plan.

C. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned by consensus of the Tribal Council at approximately 6:45 p.m. The Council then discussed the Judgment Fund Distribution plans with the membership.

*Note: Due to a poor recording of the meeting (microphone echoes, side conversations, and low audibility) some parts may not have been taped or transcribed.

8/26/97--vc