

*Approved
9/15/94*

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 1994

I. General Business

a. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Bonnie Kenny, Vice-Chairperson at 6:20 pm.

b. Roll Call. Staff Present: Diane Lonn, Ginger Johnson, and Mark Dougher. Guests Present: Jerry Guenthardt, Bill Brooks, and Jim Bransky. Board Present: Margaret Chandler, Kathy Berentsen, Bob Guenthardt, Marcella Leusby, Anne Avery, and Bonnie Kenny. Absent: Dan Bailey.

c. Adoption of Agenda. Bob motioned to adopt the agenda with the amendment that a personnel matter be added under New Business, Kathy seconded. Approved unanimously.

d. Adoption of Minutes. Tabled

e. Financial report. We were short on signed checks, with Dan being out West firefighting, therefore the telephone bill was not paid. Bob motioned to accept the report, Anne seconded, approved unanimously.

f. Staff reports. Mark's made an oral report and handed out packets to the board with all the congratuation letters that Little River had received on the bill passing Congress. He suggested that we send out thank you letters in return. He also stated that we sent flowers to Patty Marks. The CPA from Gaylord will be here to do the audit the week after Labor Day. She will be doing an audit on the last three ANA grants.

A member of the community suggested that there might be a conflict of interest with Dan and Anne working for the Forest Service as well as be members of the board. There is a letter from the Forest Service stating that there is no conflict of interest. A copy of the letter is in our packets. Mark met with the Huron-Manistee Forest Supervisor, Steve Kelly last week in Cadillac concerning this matter and other issues relating to the tribe's federal recognition.

Margaret motioned to accept the staff report, Anne seconded, approved unanimously.

g. Public Comment. There was a rumor that a member of the City Council was complaining that the Little River Board had been invited to speak at a City Council meeting but never responded. Mark claimed that we never received any such invitation. Mark has also been in periodic contact with the City Manager, and he has never mentioned anything about this matter. Apparently there is some misunder-

standing on the part of the City Councilperson.

II. Old Business

a. Ethnohistorical Report

Mark suggested that we need to schedule a separate meeting or work session to finalize the ethnohistorical report. This was set for September 25, 1994, 10:00 a.m. It was agreed that we would have a potluck. We will also review and finalize the enrollment ordinance.

b. Federal Legislation

Mark reported that there is supposed to be a signing ceremony sometime between September 10 - 30, 1994. It is still not known how many tribal representatives will be invited - at least the tribal chairman for sure from all three tribes. Mark suggested that Margaret Chandler and Katie Glocheski go if we are able to send two more representatives besides Daniel. All agreed. Anne motioned, Marcella seconded, to have Daniel, Margaret and Katie represent the tribe at a signing ceremony, if we are able to have three tribal representatives attend.

c. Enrollment update

Diane gave a brief update on the status of enrollment. She said that good information is coming in regarding applicant's vital records and all of the files are cross referenced by families.

1) Enrollment Ordinance. This proposed ordinance was drafted by Bill Brooks. It is temporarily identified as Ordinance No. 94-01. The Board needs to review and finalize this ordinance for adoption as soon as possible so that we can proceed with empowering the Enrollment Committee to approve applications for membership and issue tribal membership cards. It was agreed that we would review and finalize this ordinance at the work session set for September 25th.

Diane also reported that the enrollment card printing cost would be \$35.00 per thousand. But that is without having the cards laminated, which is much more expensive.

2) Membership Criteria. There was discussion about amending the tribe's membership criteria to account for longstanding community members who do not descend from one of the nine historic Little River Bands' chiefs, nor who had ancestors that had allotted lands within Mason or Manistee Counties. It was agreed that a revision was warranted to account for longstanding community members of Grand River descent as long as they can trace their lineage to an ancestor who is identified on the Durant Roll as living in one of the four counties comprising the Little River service area, and comply with the other eligibility criteria for tribal membership.

Bill Brooks offered to prepare a revised draft of the membership criteria for consideration at the next board meeting.

d. Victorian Port City Festival Update. Diane reported that everything seems to be in order for the festival. We will have a food booth and people are committed to help with that. We will also have an arts & crafts booth. There will also be a drum and dance

troupe performing this year.

e. Tribal Seal. There was some discussion about adopting a tribal seal. Some board members felt that the existing seal was appropriate with minor changes. Others felt that maybe a new seal, based on traditional symbols and/or clan symbols was desirable. Bill Brooks suggested that we look at a war drum at a museum in Ann Arbor. Jim McClurken believes that this drum may have been donated by a Little River ancestor many years ago. The war drum has a painting on it that is very impressive, including what Jim believes to be Ottawa clan symbols. Mark spoke with Jim McClurken to get a copy of the picture. We need verification of the history of the drum.

f. Elder's Luncheon. The topic of the recent elder's luncheon at Horseshoe Bend was briefly rehashed and the fact that everyone had a good time. We should wait on scheduling a celebration for federal recognition until the bill is signed by the President.

III. New Business

a. BIA funding. Mark met with Anne Bolton, Superintendent of the BIA, Michigan Agency. Where do we go from here? Scheduled a meeting in Sault Ste. Marie for August 30, 1994, with the three tribes, since we all have the same concerns. Mark learned that we have to institute certain management systems before the BIA will contract with the tribe. These include: a personnel policy and procedures, a records management system, travel policy, an inventory system, and a governmental accounting system. Jerry Parrish, Contracts Manager for the BIA stressed to Mark that we get the best accountant possible who knows tribal/governmental accounting.

The Board discussed who would be able to go to the meeting on August 30. It was decided that Bob and Marcella would represent the Board along with Mark and Diane as tribal staff.

b. HUD Funding. Mark reported that he met with two representatives of the Office of Indian Programs, HUD in Chicago on August 18th. They recommended that a date be set for tribal representatives from Little Traverse, Little River and the Pokagons to meet with HUD program staff for an orientation of HUD programs and guidelines. This would probably take place in October. Mark also obtained the guidelines for establishing an Indian Housing Authority (IHA) and he was told that it was possible for the tribe to be awarded an allocation of housing units from HUD within the next year, if we can establish the IHA within the next couple months.

The tribe could also obtain funding from HUD to buy land and construct a community center under the HUD Community Development Block Grant Program.

c. Membership to Michigan Inter-Tribal Council. The merits of membership to the ITC was discussed and it was agreed that Little River should join. But Bill Brooks and Jim Bransky suggested that the Board wait on passing a resolution until the President signs the bill into law.

d. Personnel Matter. Mark asked for a closed session with the Board to discuss raises for Diane and Ginger. Bob motioned, Anne seconded, to institute the raises proposed by Mark, retroactive to their respective anniversary dates. Approved unanimously.

IV. Concluding Business

a. Next meeting. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 14, 1994 at 6:00 p.m. at the office.

b. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.