

PROVED
2/26/03



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2002
LITTLE RIVER BAND DOWNTOWN OFFICES
TRIBAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Community Center on Tuesday, October 1, 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 special session Tribal Council meeting of Tuesday, October 1, 2002, was called to order at 12:21 p.m.

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: Jo Anne House, Kathleen Block and Bill Brooks

III. Per Capita Action Plan

McCatty indicated this item was on the agenda because the Council will not meet the hearing date and the deadline for mailing as defined by the resolution adopted, which is October 2, 2002.

Jessica Burger and Shelly Kequom arrived at 12:28 p.m.

House stated the resolution was not clear as to who is eligible and what amount to be received. House raised those issues because in looking at the draft newsletter, words are interspersed. House recommended a per capita distribution ordinance. House stated the ordinance or plan is not clear on what it is. House stated this

does need a significant legal review. House asked what the ultimate goal is for the Council. Sam stated the goal is to have a document submittable to the BIA for approval. House stated this does not help because the meeting had a discussion of a per capita plan. House stated the resolution addressed an internal document. House stated there are other areas in the resolution that conflict and needs to be clarified. Parsons asked what Sam was hoping to accomplish today. Sam stated she wanted the cover letter to the membership, income tax notice and questions that members should be asking themselves for input and the draft from Jo Anne and the administration ordinance. Parsons clarified that the front three pages are what McCatty is asking for approval. McCatty stated that was correct. Parsons clarified that the two new draft ordinances would also be included in the mailing. Sam stated that was correct. Sam commented that she additionally has written down other actions the Council would need to consider, including: adopting amendment to resolution, scheduling a hearing in Manistee, mailing postcard while getting the primary mailing together. Parsons asked if the other locations are being considered for public hearings.

Burger and Kequom left at 12:40 p.m.

McCatty stated the resolution was passed with the thought that there would be more hearings. Sam stated more meetings would be helpful and need to be realistic and stick with the original hearing dates identified. Sam stated other issues have come up in Closed Session that need to be addressed. Sam suggested canceling the October 12 hearing and schedule another on November 9. Sam stated the government is in flux and instability at this time and need to address those issues before moving forward on per cap. Sam does not believe the membership will be upset by only having two hearings at this point.

Porter stated extra meetings would be important. Porter stated there are a lot of issues that need to be addressed here in the Council chambers. Porter stated more background information needs to be included in the information obtained from the membership. Fisher stated he has a question of what is driving what—putting this plan together and have the other plans fall underneath. Additional discussion was held concerning holding more than two public hearings on this matter, and the availability of Council members to attend.

John Koon and Bob Hardenburgh arrived at 12:45 p.m.

Sam stated she's been on the Council since 1999 waiting for a strategic plan, and it never happened. Sam stated we need to put building blocks in place.

MOTION TO END THE DISCUSSION ABOUT OTHER MEETINGS AND THAT THE TRIBAL COUNCIL TO HAVE MORE THAN TWO HEARING MEETINGS ON THE PER CAPITA ISSUE; by McCatty; supported by Bennett.

Roll Call

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

Motion failed (4-5-0-0)

Porter stated Council members are needed to be in attendance at the hearings. Medahko stated this item was voted on at a prior Tribal Council meeting. Medahko stated that some Council members are committed to self-governance in November and she also has previous engagements for Binojeeuk Commission. Medahko stated she is concerned and each Council member is committed for time. Medahko asked McCatty how she came up with the locations for the hearings. McCatty stated she came up with the locations via the census numbers. Fisher stated he is still committed to the CMT for project closeout and he will be tied up for the next two months. Sam suggested that if time constraints are keeping Council from moving forward, another resolution that delays per capita until the beginning of next year could be considered and adopted in open session. Sam stated if the deadlines as proposed are unobtainable, Council needs to vote and publish the information to be up front with Membership. Sam stated she does not have a problem pushing the date back and hopefully the Membership will understand that. Fisher agreed. McCatty asked if we need to push this back. McCatty stated the Ogema was going to be involved and this is budget time and he will be committed to this also. Porter stated may need to lay out better ground rules.

Parsons suggested tabling this item, go into Closed Session and bring this item back out for Open Session.

MOTION TO TABLE OPEN SESSION ITEM UNTIL CONCLUSION OF CLOSED SESSION; by Parsons; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Yes	C. 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)

Parsons informed the public that the Council will be going into closed session, and 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.

MOTION TO ADJOURN OPEN SESSION; by Kleeman; supported by Fisher.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Yes	C. 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 GO INTO OPEN SESSION; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Yes	C. 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 REMOVE ITEM 1. FROM THE OPEN SESSION PER CAPITA ACTION PLAN; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Yes	C. 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)

Council recessed at 2:45 p.m. Carol Bennett left at 2:45 p.m.

Council returned from recess at 3:15 p.m.

Sam read through changes made to original resolution regarding per capita, which moves the dates back for the public hearings and approval dates.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 02-1001-01, PER-CAPITA ACTION PLAN, AMENDING RESOLUTION # 02-0828-07; by Porter; supported by Kleeman.

Roll Call

C. Bennett – Absent	C. 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 (8-0-0-1)

Parsons asked what are the next steps to be taken. Parsons asked the target date for mailing. Sam replied the date for mailing is October 10 or 11 and need to have comments back to House by Thursday.

MOTION TO ADJOURN; by Sam; supported by Kleeman.

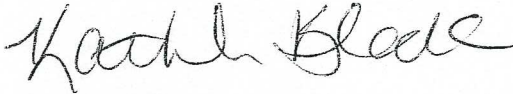
Roll Call

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

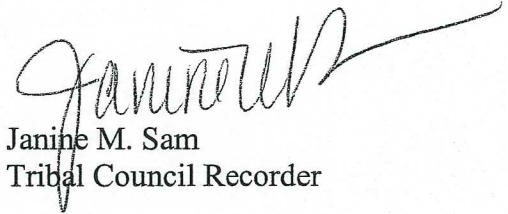
Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

This portion of Open Session was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathleen Block
Transcribing Assistant



Janine M. Sam
Tribal Council Recorder