

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
OCTOBER 11, 1994
MINUTES

APPROVED

11/13/94

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I. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Call to order at 6:30 p.m. by Daniel Bailey, at the office.

b. Roll Call: Board members present - Daniel Bailey, Kathy Berentsen, Bonnie Kenny, Bob Guenthardt, Margaret Chandler. Absent Marcella Leusby, Anne Avery. Staff present - Mark Dougher, Ginger Johnson, Diane Lonn. Guest present - Bill Brooks, Jim Bransky, Charlie Meyers, Tom Venettis, Connie Waitner, Anna Lempke, Jerry Guenthardt, Mary Oleniczak.

Dan suspended the agenda for 20 minutes to allow Charlie Meyers and Tom Venettis to speak about gaming. Charlie mentioned that the governor thought that the state of Michigan would have open gaming within the next 5 years. The governor thinks that there will be 3 more casinos in the state because 3 more Indian tribes have been federally recognized. Charlie's basic proposal is this.. Buy 3 pieces of land. On these 3 parcels of land, use one piece for a hotel and casino, another for community services, and the other for housing. There would be a 5 year contract between Little River and the group that Charlie was representing and the split would be 60/40. The group that Charlie was representing is a Fortune 500 group and they operate the Mirage in Las Vegas. Charlie thinks that it is important for Little River to develop a statigic plan for the next year, 5 years, and 10 years. The revenues from gaming will help Little River with it's future plans. Since Charlie thinks that the state will be open to gaming for everyone within a couple of years it would be an asset to have a Fortune 500 company working with us instead as a competitor. Charlie made a proposal to Little Traverse which they declined, because of the proposed location. Charlie proposed that they buy the Grand Traverse Resort and open a hotel and casino. Little Traverse thought that the location was too close to Peshabee, and would interfare with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewas. Charlie's group has contracts with other Indian tribes in Mississippi and Arizona. The Board would like to have a contact person from these other tribes to check on how things are going. If there was a 5 year contract between Little River and Charlie's group, the contract could be renewed or shorten, etc. Charlie proposed that each tribal member would have health care coverage -- we would pay 60% and his company would pay 40%, the coverage would include health, dental, optical, and prescription. Once the national health care coverage comes on line, then his company would pick up the rest. All other casinos that are operated in Michigan are run by the Tribe itself. We would still have the choice of the location. Charlie estimated that the a casino would make a gross profit in the first year of 30 million dollars, and

after that 150 million a year, given that you had an experienced operator running the business. He also mentioned that we could give out percapita payments to our tribal members, that are 18 years or older, from the profits. He also suggested that we hire a big accounting firm to take care of all our business.

c. Adoption of Agenda. Motion was made by Bonnie to accept the agenda with out revisions, seconded by Margaret, passed unanimously.

d. Adoption of Minutes. Motion was made by Bonnie to accept the minutes, with one revision, of workship - workshop, seconded by Dan, passed unanimously.

e. Finance Report. No finance report was submitted by Loretta Staff.

f. Staff Reports. Ginger and Diane submitted written staff reports. Dan asked Diane to explain the meeting that she had with Ginny Gillette from the BIA. Diane explained that Ginny thought that the files were in good order, but she gave her a computerized form to add to each members file. This is the form that the BIA uses to code in blood degree and other pertinent information. Diane mentioned that she has been splitting up the files by who signed up before September 21, 1994. Also when Diane has 150 files complete, she is to give the BIA a call, and they will send down a representative to go over the files. Dan asked Ginger is she had an comment at this time. No comment made. Mark gave an oral staff report, which as follows. Mark mentioned that back in April or May of this year, Jim McClurken gave a presentation at the board meeting about the Indian Village archaeological project. At that time the Board had approved for Jim to work on the project. In May Jim McClurken, Chuck Cleland, and Eric Perkins of MSU met with Margaret Chandler and went to Indian Village. This project is a archaeological project but there wouldn't be excavating of burial sites. The excavating would be of home sites and the surrounding area. There would be funding from the National Science Foundation to pay for expenses. They would also like to have tribal members of the community to be the students that help with the dig, so that they can gain some hands on experience. Most of the property at Indian Village is owned by Consumers Power, so we need to get their consent before the project can begin. We need a letter of support for Eric Perkins. Bonnie motioned that we give a letter of support for the project, Bob seconded, passed unanimously. Connie mentioned that if they find any artifacts we should keep them here and not send them to MSU. We should add this as a clause in the letter of support. Funding from HUD. Elizabeth Roth of MILS is putting together material for review at the next board meeting. If we can get the material in order and approved by HUD, we could an allocation through HUD in this fiscal year. We would need to set up a housing authority, which would consist of 3 to 5 people. The housing authority would govern the housing project through HUD. We would also need By-Laws and a resolution and other forms to be submitted by the housing authority. Bill Brooks mentioned that the Southern Grand River Band will be submitting a grant proposal for the next ANA application, which is October 21, 1994. They would like to know if

Little River will give a resolution of support with the addition of our permission to use our historical documentation up to the year 1860, since our history is the same as theirs through that time period. Jim McClurken is working with them as the historian. We suggested that as long as Jim is working with them and he consents to using the historical documentation that we would share information. With the understanding that if any new historical information pertinent to us becomes available they will share this information with us. Bill said the he will get a resolution from them supporting this agreement. Motion made by Bonnie for resolution 94-1011, to give permission for the Southern Grand River to use historical documentation, with Jim consent, seconded by Bob, passes unanimously. Jim Bransky proposed that we dissolve the non-profit corporation since we are now a Federally Recognized Tribe. We also need to deal with the IRS, by either filing the 9-90 forms for the last 3 grants years, or writing a letter to the IRS, stating that there was no profits to claim. Bob motioned that we dissolve the non-profit corporation and transfer the assets to the Tribe, Margaret seconded, passed unanimously. The Board decided that we should withdraw from CHTI and join Intertribal. Bonnie motioned to withdraw from CHTI, Kathy seconded, passed unanimously. The Board decided we should send a FAX to CHTI stating our withdrawal and thank you for past services. Dan made a motion for a resolution to join Intertribal, seconded by Bonnie, passed unanimously. Mark mentioned that Valerie Ulmer will be at the office on Thursday to perform the audit. Mark handed out statements of in-kind contribution, which everyone signed for Mark to give to Valerie Ulmer for the audit. The statements are a projection of hourly voluntary in-kind match for our ANA grant proposals. We have to provide a 20% match. This was the end of Mark's oral staff report. Kathy motioned to to accept the staff reports, _____ seconded, passed unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

c. Status of Consumers Power Case. Bill said that the Department of Interior is setting up a trust board to manage the trust lands. This is a issue that concerns the Tribe. What does the Tribe want to do to protect the Tribe's interest?. Consumers Power wants to transfer land to the DNR and other entities for the damages done to the fishing resources. They are planning on transferring 26,000 acres. The Department of Interior hasn't agreed on the final terms yet, which is an advantage for Little River. Grand Traverse is the only federally reconized tribe that can intervene. They have a seat on the management board. The management board is proposing to set up a Great Lakes Fishery Trust Fund. This trust fund would then fund projects to improve assess to fishing areas, habitat improvement, and restore the fisheries. Consumers Power is also proposing to transfer land to the DNR. The DNR would then hold the lands for sportmens, or sell off the lands. These are the seat holders on the management board, the DNR, State Attorney Generals office, Department of Interior, Michigan United Conservation Club, National Wildlife Federation, and a representative from the Grand Traverse Tribe (Bill Rastedor). The main concern is that the properties that are on the list to be sold is the Indian Vllage property, plus Blacksmith Bayou

and Leitch Bayou. These lands are historically important to Little River. Bill Rastedor with the Grand Traverse Tribe, said that something was done to protect the interest of the two new tribes, but it is unclear of what that was. One option to protect the Tribe's interest is to intervene. We probably wouldn't have much of a chance to get a seat on the trust board, because they said there wasn't going to be anymore seat opening up. The lawyer for Consumers Power wants to get this case wrapped up as soon as possible. The Department of Interior will have to act as board trustee for the Tribes. John Petoskey and Bill Rastedor suggested that the Grand Traverse seat should represent all Ottawa's, (i.e. Little River, Little Traverse, and Grand Traverse). Elizabeth Roth of MILS, is compiling a list of lands and maps that are important to the Tribe. If Bill Rastedor can convince the Department of Interior that the lands have historical significance, then maybe they will allow the settlement some agreement from the trust fund to do a study of the lands. That would buy Little River some time. They couldn't transfer the lands until the study was done, and that would give us a chance to show the historical importance of the lands to Little River. Plus that would give the tribe time to find funding to buy the land if it goes up for sale. Mark mentioned that we have another advantage, Steve Harold of the Manistee County Museum, has access to the abstract office at no charge. Steve and our genealogist, made copies of the abstract on section 25 of Brown township. The documents show who originally owned Indian Village. Jacob and Peter Anderson owned Indian Village lands, and then had it subdivided. They then sold parcels to William Sam and George Sam and others. This shows that this land is of historical importance to Little River. Another option that was brought up by Mark was, that if the lands come up for sale, that the tribe would have first option to buy them. There is 500 acres in Brown township, not to be sold to the DNR, 940 acres in in Dickson township, 20 acres in Stronach township, and 18 acres of land in Marilla township. In total there is 1,539 acres in Manistee County that will be up for sale. It was also mentioned that the Tribe might possibly be interested in building a fish hatchery in the future, and for that purpose it is important to acquire land on waterways that lead to Lake Michigan. A fish hatchery would be a culturally important and politically correct move to make. Because Little River would be replacing all the fish that Consumers Power had killed off over the years. Bonnie motioned to send a letter to the solicitor's office, the Department of Interior, stating our concerns about the finalized agreement of the Consumers Power case, Kathy seconded, passed unanimously.

IV. Celebration Dinner.

a. Bob Theodore and John Koon will be doing the Grand Entry. Diane will be at the hall at 9:00 a.m. We need a list of donations and committees. We have had a great turn out on the donations so far.

b. Next meeting will be on October 18, 1994, at 6:00 p.m., at the office. Other agenda items will be discussed at that time.

c. Adjournment. Kathy motioned to adjourn, Bonnie seconded, passed unanimously. Time 8:45 p.m.