



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**

PO Box 314

Manistee MI 49660-0314

(616) 723-8288

**APPROVED**

12/14/97

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING IN MUSKEGON  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1997**

I. PRAYER. A Prayer was not given at this meeting.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Guenthardt at the Muskegon Community College Student Center at approximately 12:10 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL. Roll was taken by Chuck Fisher. Council members present: Bob Guenthardt, Chuck Fisher, Steve Parsons, Bill Memberto, Kim Kequom, and Don Koon (arrived late). Absent: Kathy Berentsen.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA. It was asked to remove B. Recruitment of Nurse Practitioner to Develop and Act as Provider in Clinic under New Business and to add to the agenda under New Business, B. Approval of an Audit. Moved by Bill M., to accept the agenda with changes, seconded by Kim, all in favor (5), (0) opposed, (2) absent. Motion carried.

D. ADOPTION OF MINUTES. No one had any changes to the minutes. Moved by Steve, to accept the minutes without changes, seconded by Kim, all in favor (5), (0) opposed, (2) absent. Motion carried.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT. A financial report was not given since Chris was not at the meeting due to prior commitments.

F. STAFF REPORTS. Discussion was lead about some of the staff reports and it was commented that an improvement needs to be made in the data system. Moved by Steve, to accept the staff reports, seconded by Kim, all in favor (5), (0) opposed, (2) absent. Motion carried.

G. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS. Most of the attendees were Tribal members and the only guest introduced was Rod Thompson.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

A. CHS POLICIES. Discussion was lead as to the guidelines of the CHS policies and procedures. Moved by Bill M., to accept the CHS Policies as submitted, seconded by Kim, all in favor (5), (0) opposed, (2) absent. Motion carried.

B. REVIEW OF DRAFT CHARTER FOR CREATION OF TRIBAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. Bill B. said that the charter would call for the separation of assets of the two companies and a board of directors needs to be established. He said that a general manager is also provided for in the charter to oversee the day to day operations and there is a section in the charter that states the Indian Preference Act as well. Steve asked how soon after the charter is approved that things will start moving along. Bill B. said that it should be approved in November and at the December Council meeting he would like to have the approval of Bob and Don as the Council members to work with this since they are working with DeVere Construction. Bob said that since this is just a draft, the Council will look at this again at the next meeting.

C. DRAFTS OF JUDGMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION PLANS. Bill B. said that within the next week the Council will be going over the specific language of the three distribution plans (Seventh Generation Plan, 100% Plan, and 80/20 Plan) that the membership is going to vote on. He said that they are working with another attorney on getting the language worked out on the Plans. As soon as the language is all set then the plans can go out in a newsletter giving all of the information to the membership so that feedback can be given to the Council. It was asked when the cut off date would be to receive the judgment fund. Bob said that right now they are looking at the date that the plan is decided upon. Bill B. said that two of the other issues regarding the plans are the establishment of a trust fund for land acquisition and the establishment of a trust fund for education which at this time does not have any plans as to what that money would be used for (ie. books, scholarships). Bob said that on Friday (11/7/97) the bill was supposed to pass the Senate. He said that the House already passed it and the last he heard from Congressman Kildee's office was that a Senator from Alaska wanted to add on to the bill some anti-Native American amendments so a hold was put on the bill and if they don't pass it soon, it won't be passed until January after their winter recess.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBER TO THE HEALTH BOARD. It was asked how this fit into the Board's plan and Steve said that the Board currently needs some people from outside of the four county service area. Moved by Chuck, to approve Carol Bennett to the Health Board, seconded by Bill M., all in favor (6), (0) opposed, (1) absent. Motion carried.

B. APPROVAL FOR AN AUDIT. Bob said that he talked with Chris and an audit needs to be done. He said that right now, Bob Lewis is the only Native American CPA in Michigan and has been asked to conduct the audit and has always been a low bidder whenever the Tribe has solicited for bids. Bob said that he would like the Council to recommend to Chris to go ahead and conduct the audit with Bob Lewis. Moved by Bill M., to approve the recommendation of Bob Lewis to conduct the audit of the Little River Band, seconded by Kim, all in favor (6), (0) opposed, (1) absent. Motion carried.

## V. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT. Bob said that he would like to thank everyone for showing up. He also wanted to let everyone know that at the rally they had on the Capitol steps on October 14, 1997, the Little River Band had an excellent turn out and it means a lot to see so many of our Tribal members going to these type of events.

Bill B. said that at this time he would like to move on to what was going to be for the Closed Session but feels that it doesn't need to be closed. He said that the Tribe would like a special Council contract with Dorsey & Whitney, LLP who is doing some research for the Tribe as to some options the Tribe has to force the approval of the gaming compact. He said that he is asking for Bob to authorize this contract. Moved by Kim, to authorize Bob to negotiate a special Council contract with Dorsey & Whitney, LLP, seconded by Steve, all in favor (6), (0) opposed, (1) absent. Motion carried.

B. NEXT MEETING. Bob said that the next meeting is a Tribal Council Special Meeting on Sunday, November 23, 1997 at 12:00 p.m. at the Tribal office in Manistee. Kim also mentioned that there is an Elders Talking Circle in Manistee at 1:00 p.m. on November 23, 1997 as well.

C. ADJOURNMENT. Moved by Kim, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m., seconded by Chuck, all in favor (6), (0) opposed, (1) absent. Motion carried.

11/17/97--vc

\*Note: Due to a late start on the recording of this meeting and side conversations, some parts of these minutes may not have been transcribed.