

DRAFT

DRAFT

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 1994
MINUTES

APPROVED
3-25-95

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. at the office.

b. Roll Call. Board members present: Dan Bailey, Bob Guenthardt, Anne Avery, Margaret Chandler, Kathy Berentsen, Jerry Guenthardt proxy for Marcella Leusby. Absent: Marcella Leusby and Bonnie Kenny. Staff present: Mark Dougher, Ginger Johnson, and Diane Lonn. Guest present: Brandon and Hilary Avery, Bill Brooks, Irma Parrish, Laurie Burt, Bucko Teeple, and Andy LeBlanc.

c. Adoption of Agenda. A motion was made by Kathy to accept the agenda, seconded by Anne, passed unanimously.

d. Adoption of Minutes. A motion was made by Anne to accept the minutes of the October 11, 1994, Tribal Council meeting, seconded by Jerry, passed unanimously.

e. Financial report. There is no financial report from Loretta Staff at this time, she has been busy working on new accounting procedures suggested by Valerie Ulmer, the CPA that did our audit. Some of the changes that Valerie suggested is that the board should approve expenditures before the bills are paid. Loretta couldn't cut some checks for bills, because they weren't approved by the Tribal Council yet. Bob suggested that we put a cap per month on expenditures. That way the Tribal Council only has to approved the amount if it is over the cap.

The board had already approved the ANA budget when we submitted for the grant year. As long as we are not over budget in any line items, there should be not a problem. The only time we need to get approval from ANA is if we purchase equipment, and the equipment has to be over \$500.00, to be approved by ANA. Then we need to get three bids and send them to ANA to get approval.

Mark suggested that at the next board meeting that Bonnie should give an overview of the new changes in the accounting system. Bonnie and Loretta are setting up new forms to use for accounting, plus a new form that gives the board a more thorough account of what is being spent by line item, etc. Kathy made a motion to pay the bills and to cut a check to buy stamps for the office and stamps to send out the questionnaire, seconded by Jerry, passed unanimously.

f. Staff Reports. Ginger had submitted a written report. Kathy questioned from Ginger's staff report why she was taking notes at the board meetings, that she thought that was part of her duties as the Secretary of the Board. Mark said that he told Ginger to take notes, plus we are now taping the meetings, so that we get better coverage of what occurred.

Kathy questioned where Diane's staff report was. Diane said she didn't have time to prepare one, and that she would give an oral report instead. Diane said that she's been working on enrollment, doing 10 files a day, and talking to various applicants. We have about 900 applicants right now.

Mark's verbal staff report is as follows. On October 26, 1994, we had a meeting Indian Health Service, at the Carriage Inn. Members from Little River, Little Traverse, and the Pokagon's all attended. Mainly the people from I.H.S. handed out a lot of written material. We need to go to Congress to get appropriations for Little River. The projection that I.H.S. used was 500 members in our service area X \$1,000.00 per person = \$504,000. Based on that projected appropriations, our I.H.S. funding would generate 7 - 8 jobs.

Char Hewitt of the Inter-Tribal Council has said that she and her staff will do everything possible to help Little River start up a Health Department. Char said that she will help us prepare a draft of a written request and budget to I.H.S. This letter and proposal is to show what Little River's immediate needs are, concerning health.

There is also a Tribal Management Grant that is available through I.H.S. This grant is a competitive grant and has funding from \$50,000 to \$ 70,000.00 to set up a health service department. The grant is due around March or April.

In the board's packet there is material on a training session on the Tribal Management Grant from I.H.S. The training session will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on December 13 - 15, 1994. I.H.S. will book the air line tickets and the hotel, Little River needs to pay for food and lodging, which will be reimbursed later. Mark thinks we should send someone from the board. Jerry motioned for Little River to send Kathy to Albuquerque, seconded by Anne, passed unanimously.

At the last Tribal Council meeting Mark handed out a letter to the board to review. The letter is written from the board to the general membership. It states that the board would like to see the tribal membership get involved with the various committees that we will be forming, etc. The Tribal Council suggested that we put this letter in the next issue of the newsletter. Anne motioned for the letter to be put into the next newsletter, Kathy seconded, passed unanimously.

Mark mentioned that two tribal members (not Tribal Council members) had went ahead and started asking a property owner in Wellston if he would sell his property to Little River for a casino site. Then the two same tribal members approached a loan officer at a local bank, and asked if their bank would loan money to Little River for the purpose of starting a casino. It is highly inappropriate having tribal members portraying themselves as official representatives of the tribe attempting to facilitate business deals.

The Tribal Council stated that we can only have Tribal Council members pursuing these kind of issues. Plus it was stated that Little River should look into hiring a broker to buy the land for Little River. Otherwise Little River will end up paying too much money. It was suggested that in the future if there is any business dealings that the tribal members would like to see the Tribe pursue, then these ideas should be put in front of the Tribal Council first. This was the end of the staff reports. A motion was made by Dan to accept the staff reports, seconded by Bob, passed unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Natural Resources Report.

1) Consumers Power Settlement Update. Bill stated that at the last meeting with Consumers Power, it was stated that 10,000 acres was to be transferred to the Trust Board. This Trust Board is to oversee and fund programs such as restocking the fishery.

We are working with the representatives from the other parties to provide for Little River to have a seat on this Natural Fisheries Trust Board. This is important because they will oversee the disposition of the 10,000 acres - these lands will be sold over the next few years. Some of these lands are known to have historical, cultural and archeological significance to Little River. Ideally, we will seek to have these "significant" parcels transferred to the tribe, or arrange a method whereby the tribe can reserve first option to acquire these parcels in the future.

2) Treaty Rights Issues:

(A) Great Lakes Commercial Fishing.

(1) Handout - Article in North Woods Call.

Mark handed a copy of the Article to the Tribal Council. In this article it states that Little River is going to get into gill netting. Little Traverse is getting into gill netting, but Little River has not made that decision yet. Should Little River write a letter to them telling them that Little River isn't pursuing gill netting, and that we can adopt our own hunting and fishing licenses. We need to prepare regulations so we can deal with this issue in the future. We need to set up a Natural Resources Committee.

A motion was made by Bob for Mark to write a letter to the publishers of the North Woods Call magazine, along with a copy of the article, stating that Little River is not gill netting, seconded by Anne, passed unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposal For Gaming Joint-Venture.

1) Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Bucko Teeple and Andy LeBlanc came to the Tribal Council meeting to propose a gaming agreement between Little River and the Sault Ste. Marie tribe. The Sault Ste. Marie tribe had already sent down a Letter of Interest to Little River. In the Letter of Interest it describes some of the terms and conditions of the proposal. Some of the general things that the Sault Ste. Marie tribe would provide is technical assistance and program development. Plus the Soo Tribe would provide funding for programs to get up and running. Some of the technical assistance that the Soo Tribe would provide is the state/tribal compact, and helping Little River establishing land in trust status.

In the signing agreement it states that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe is willing to make installments of up to a half a million dollars, per year, for 3 years to operational funding for the tribal government. Some tribal casinos are being managed by other investors, but the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe manages their own casinos. Bucko said that he would send down a copy of a management agreement. The Sault Ste. Marie tribe offered to fly Little River's Tribal Council up to see their gaming operation.

B. Meeting with Representative Bobier. Tempotech will be losing it's contract with the D.N.R. to harvest fish eggs. One of Tempotech's weirs is on the Little Manistee River. Little River would like to set up a a fish processing plant and a fish hatchery. Bob motioned for Mark to send a letter to the D.N.R. that Little River would like to pursue management of the weir on the Little Manistee River, seconded by Jerry, passed unanimously.

IV. CONCLUDING BUSINESS

A. Next meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for December 11, 1994, at 12:00, at the office.

B. Adjournment. Anne motioned for adjournment of the meeting at 4:00 p.m., seconded by Kathy, passed unanimously.