



Approved 2/9/22

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021
LITTLE RIVER BAND
VIA ZOOM
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on December 8, 2021. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Wolfe said to Speaker Champagne that the recording is on. Wolfe said they did have internet trouble today so.....she means yesterday this morning it didn't look like there was anything but appeared to be in a better direction.

Speaker Champagne said that is good it seems like the.....he is having connectivity issues aside.....

Recorder Wolfe said they can't hear him.

Speaker Champagne said they can't hear him at all.

Councilor Lewis said she can hear him.

Two other participants online in the background on the ZOOM recording said they could hear Speaker Champagne.

Recorder Wolfe said somebody turned off their speakers in the chambers. Wolfe said she can hear him now.

Speaker Champagne said oh, okay. Champagne said he is having some connectivity issue and so he is appearing on his phone. Champagne said his apologies ah....so he is trying to be able to connect again right now um, bear with him but they will call this meeting to order.

I. Opening Prayer

Speaker Champagne said the first order is let them take a moment of silence um, and for this time for their loved ones and also the Holiday Season is approaching and can be difficult for many who are struggling with mental health or loss of loved ones. Champagne said loss and grief at this time of year is some of the most difficult times of the year for ah, relatives, and some of the highest rates of suicide. Champagne said so just wanted to take a moment of silence for everyone

who may be grieving and also good thoughts for their future and their families. Champagne said so they will take a moment of silence now. Champagne said okay and thanked them.

II. General Business

Speaker Champagne said they will go through to see prior to calling this here meeting to order who is all here. Champagne said himself Nitumigaabow Champagne online. Champagne said virtually they have 231 215-2739 can they please identify themselves.

Karen Love said good morning that would be her #2494.

Speaker Champagne thanked Miss Love. Champagne said they have 231 398-6823 he believed that is Mr. Romanelli but can he please identify himself. Champagne said he mixes up numbers once in a while.

Ogema Romanelli said this is the Ogema, yes.

Speaker Champagne thanked him for joining them. Champagne said they have 231 398-6837 is that Mr. Brad Pringle, their Comptroller General.

Brad Pringle said yes, that is correct. Pringle thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said he begins to remember these numbers here. Champagne thanked them gentlemen. Champagne said they also have Mr. Kenny Pheasant, their Language Instructor. Champagne said along with citizen Chelsea Densmore, citizen and Assistant General Manager, Miss Connie Waitner, their Legal Counsel Miss Mc Gowen, Miss Holly Lindsey from Family Services, Mr. Ken La Haye with Government Food Distribution, citizen Miss Laura Echelbarger, Grant Writer Mr. Dorr, citizen Miss Martha Howell, Councilor Lewis, citizen Miss Sandy Mezeske, citizen Miss Sara Agosa, citizen Miss Susan Thull, Councilor Guenthardt, citizen and Chair Miss Valerie Mc Donnell from the Election Board, Legislative Director and citizen Miss Venus Wilson-Torres, and in person Tribal Council and he is not sure if there is anyone outside of just Tribal Council at this point and time. Champagne said with that being said he determines that everyone here is eligible to be here.

A. Call to Order

Speaker Champagne said to Madame Recorder that he will call this meeting to order. Champagne asked Madame Recorder to do a roll call.

No time was noted for Call of Order.

B. Roll Call

T. Guenthardt - Present	C. Champagne -Present	P. Johnson - Present
N. Champagne -Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	S. Wever - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	J. Wolfe - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Recorder Wolfe said nine are present they have a quorum established.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

C. Approval of Agenda

Speaker Champagne said the agenda has been posted, they do have a modified agenda. Champagne said he is not sure he received the modified agenda that um, may not line up. Champagne said they have a modified agenda that looks like a clear copy.

Recorder Wolfe said sure.

Speaker Champagne said if she could send that to him. Champagne said it has been posted, the agenda um. with that being said he would entertain a motion at this time for Approval of the Agenda.

Both Councilors Lewis and Di Piazza said they would like to make a motion on the ZOOM recording in the background.

Speaker Champagne said them two wanting to make a motion he is going to go with Councilor Lewis and support by Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said which.....yeah.

Speaker Champagne said to Councilor Lewis to go ahead and make her motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 8, 2021, WITH III A.2 REMOVE, B.1 REMOVE, V A. REMOVE, V C, REMOVE, V E. REVISION, AND V F. ADD; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Champagne asked discussion for motion on the floor by Tribal Councilors. Champagne asked discussion for motion on the floor by Tribal Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne asked any discussion at all on the agenda. Champagne said seeing none Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #1

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor the agenda has been approved.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

D. Tribal Council Minutes □ 05/22/2021

Speaker Champagne said the next order of business. Champagne asked any discussion on this agenda item. Champagne asked any discussion on this agenda item from Tribal Councilors or citizens. Champagne said he will entertain a motion to accept Tribal Council Minutes or approved Tribal Council Minutes for 5/22/2021.

Councilor Lewis said motion.

Speaker Champagne said go ahead ma'am.

**MOVE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF TRIBAL COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR 5/22/21; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.**

Speaker Champagne asked discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne asked discussion for the motion on the floor from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said last call for discussion and seeing no discussion. Champagne said Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #2

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor minutes have been accepted.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

1. Ratification of Bush Refrigeration Contract

This is the ratification of the contract that accompanies the purchase of the display walk-in cooler/freezer combination that was a previously Tribal Council approved expenditure by Resolution #21-1103-265.

Speaker Champagne said this item is being brought forth by the Ogema's Office with designee, Mr. Ken La Haye. Champagne said gentlemen the floor is theirs. Champagne said Miss Mc Gowen.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar, Unified Legal Department Attorney, said good morning everybody. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said this item, as the Speaker already shared, was an already approved expenditure by Resolution #21-1103-265. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said upon review by their Purchasing Office they noticed that there were some contractual terms that were included in the expenditure, in the approved expenditure that they all had, so in an effort to um, maintain correct records in their own procedures she is bringing forth with Ken La Haye this ratification of the Busch Refrigeration Contract to ensure that internally their own policies.....their own policies and procedures were followed and that Council is aware that they are in fact approving contractual language um, when they approved this expenditure. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said that is the conclusion of her presentation. Mc Gowen-Cuellar thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne said at this time do any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain. Champagne repeated do any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain. Champagne said seeing no Tribal Councilors wishing to abstain, discussion amongst Tribal Council at this time. Champagne said Miss Mc Gowen ah, this specific contractual language does it have a.....a waiver of sovereign immunity as the jurisdiction ah, inherent jurisdiction that of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians or to the State or another jurisdiction.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar said so there is no express waiver of sovereign immunity however there is language regarding if there should be any dispute that would be the um, State of New Jersey so this fairly common place with their boiler plate language that they received for purchasing of items um, and this is um.....this is the.....in this instance New Jersey is the State of Jurisdiction ah, so that is why she is bringing it forward to them guys so that they are aware however since this is the purchasing of an item this is fairly standard language because she does believe that is where the um, product will be coming from and the company that is supplying it.

Speaker Champagne said just for the record um, the Tribe is not waiving their sovereign immunity therefore the Tribe cannot be sued for any type of issues with this but if they do have a defect in the item and it does go to something that they have to not resolve and go to court it will be in New Jersey. Champagne said not knocking their ability to be sued as a party, correct.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar said that is correct. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said she does believe they have some language regarding some arbitration if they do need to so but, they know, hopefully they will be good partners and they will send it over quickly. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said that is what they understand will happen.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne said this ah, refrigeration will reach them before the end of December 31st Mr. La Haye.

Ken La Haye, FDPIR Director, said no, it will not it is about a 13-week lead time um, this was a line item that was in the USDA Fund.....CARES Act Fund that they received from USDA which ah, allows them to um, use this expenditure until 2023.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ken La Haye. Champagne said that is all he has. Champagne asked any other Councilors for discussion on this item. Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said ah, he was going to make a motion if there is no more discussion.

Speaker Champagne said go right ahead, sir.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-298;
RATIFICATION OF BUSH REFRIGERATION CONTRACT;** by Di
Piazza; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Champagne asked discussion on the motion from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne repeated discussion on the motion from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne asked Mr. La Haye for the record again, can he please mention um, the cost of this refrigeration unit that was previously approved. Champagne said just for the record on this occurrence.

Ken La Haye responded yes, it is approximately ah, \$40,000. La Haye said the line item that they had is for \$55,000 to purchase and install this piece of equipment so that will allow them about a \$15,000 window that they can get this unit installed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ken La Haye. Champagne said this is for their new facility to be able to allow for the cold storage of items. Champagne asked it is a cooler and a freezer.

Ken La Haye replied yes, it is. La Haye said it is a reach in like in a Convenience Store or Grocery Store.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ken La Haye again. Champagne asked it is energy efficient.

Ken La Haye said yes, it is.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ken La Haye. Champagne said that is all his questions. Champagne asked any other discussion from Councilors or citizens at time. Champagne said seeing no other discussion Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #3

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor resolution is passed.

2. 2021 File Review (Ratification of Contract with Barbara Madison)

The Enrollment Ordinance mandates a File Review every 5 years.

Speaker Champagne noted III A.2. has been removed.

3. Ratification of Brick House Interactive Agreement

Video production for online Endaaying Lesson and other web related activities.

Speaker Champagne said this item is being forth by the Ogema's Office with designee Mr. Kenny Pheasant. Champagne said this item is video production for online and beyond lesson and other web related activities. Champagne said it had a work session yesterday um, one work session previously before um, on Tuesday and they are here Wednesday to vote on this item. Champagne said that is the introduction of the item. Champagne said gentlemen the floor is theirs to do a presentation.

Kenny Pheasant, Anishinaabemowin Instructor, asked is that him.

Speaker Champagne said yes, sir.

Kenny Pheasant said okay. Pheasant said yes, they um, they would like to produce more videos ah, for um, their people that are watching their show ah, this is a year long contract and ah, usually they post their videos every two weeks. Pheasant said that is the way they have been doing it for the last year ah, previously it was every week but now it is every two weeks that they post and still getting big numbers by their viewers. Pheasant said and a, there has been a request ah, that ah, so a.....do a teaching of their creation story and ah, he is

putting that together.....he started to put that together and they will be recording that sometime this 2022.

Speaker Champagne asked Kenny Pheasant if that concludes his presentation at this time.

Kenny Pheasant said ah, pretty much, yeah.

Speaker Champagne thanked Kenny Pheasant. Champagne asked at this time is there any Tribal Councilors who wish to abstain from this item. Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said oh, no he was not abstaining. Di Piazza said sorry.

Speaker Champagne said okay, any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne said last call for any Tribal Councilors who wish to abstain. Champagne said first in the queue is Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah, he watched the videos when they pop up and they are.....they are extremely helpful.

Councilor Wever said it is hot.

Councilor Di Piazza said they know he knows a lot but it is always good to refresh his memory. Di Piazza said the only request that he would have is at some point to do dog commands in Anishinaabe please. Di Piazza said excuse him that is just him, he is sorry. Di Piazza said he is done. Di Piazza thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said okay. Champagne said so this item is ah, a contract.....so this item is a contract with Brick House Interactive. Champagne said they did not hear anything about actually the contractor, services delivered, the cost to deliver or the price per hour and/or why it is needed to have an external contractor. Champagne said they also haven't heard that this is an American Indian vendor or if it was put up for an RFP Process. Champagne said if it was not put up for an RFP Process what is the justification for why it was not. Champagne said so he would pose that question to them, sirs. Champagne asked is this an American Indian vendor and if it is not an American Indian vendor why was it selected. Champagne asked was an RFP done. Champagne asked who were the ones that responded to the RFP and why was this vendor chosen and selected. Champagne said that is the start of his initial questions on this contract.

Kenny Pheasant said um, no he is not a Native American vendor, he is so experienced with this type of work, he has been working with him for years, he built their awesome website and um, ah, he is just.....he did ask somebody at one time if they would be interested in something like this and they know what they

did they recommended Brick House to do it. Pheasant said so um, ah, this is the perfect person to do this type of work um.....

Speaker Champagne interrupted. Champagne asked was an RFP selected....put out.

Kenny Pheasant said pardon him.

Speaker Champagne asked was a request for proposals sent out for this contract, sir.

Kenny Pheasant said well he asked him if he would send him a proposal, yes.

Speaker Champagne said Ogema's Office the question is for maybe one of his team members ah, what is the justification for not having an RFP go out for this item and what is their justification for a Sole Source.

Ogema Romanelli asked is that a question for the Ogema.

Speaker Champagne said or one of his team members who may know more about the processes of their RFPA understanding that Mr. Pheasant is his instructor um, may not be in a purview.

Ogema Romanelli asked was there a work session. Romanelli repeated his question, was there a work session held on this. Romanelli said he thought there was.

Speaker Champagne said there was and the question was posed there as well, sir.

Ogema Romanelli said okay.....there is feedback. Romanelli said normally the case is he believed there is a limited number of people that can do what is being requested and normally that's the process for a Sole Source Memo. Romanelli said he believed that to be the case here.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ogema Romanelli. Champagne said this is actually just posting of a name and pretty.....this is....they heard from their Culture Committee they actually did that all to themselves under a couple of hundred dollars a year and also the production is very much so just a podium and lecture type of style. Champagne said um, and he does know that the Tribe has videography equipment that is pretty much just a YouTube type of channel being put out so he is curious on, they know, this isn't a high-end production company. Champagne asked why hasn't it been put out for a request for proposal, it is not unique, it is not like they are looking for a Language Instructor, they know, who speaks their dialect. Champagne said this is a production company has nothing about the content 100% about the contract of a production company and, they know, the content being delivered by a production company. Champagne said

yesterday in the work session they were able to go over the website, there were broken links, it was not linked up to their website or was easily accessible and the videos were not visibly linked in. Champagne said they could not locate them even the Coordinator or Instructor of the program could not and so he doesn't understand why they would continue on with a Contractor and put it out for a proposal when there are so many issues then the services being delivered is not something very complex. Champagne said it could more easily be done probably in house or at least put it up for an RFP so there is opportunity for American Indian vendors to apply or a provider that has a little more expertise in this area.

Kenny Pheasant asked can he speak.

Speaker Champagne said yes sir, the floor is his.

Kenny Pheasant said okay, um, first of all they couldn't get the websites to work yesterday because all the websites were down yesterday af.....at that time in Michigan. Pheasant said Brick House is one of the best ah, producers of websites ah, in the world and they are more than glad to help a Native American Community with their language so they can access their language. Pheasant said the reason why the web....the videos are not on the LRBOI Website is because of the amount of space they take up. Pheasant said um, he doesn't know what the deal is here Brick House has been working for them....he built their first website. Pheasant said when they told them they could not build the website they did it anyway. Pheasant said Brick House is the one that did it for them. Pheasant said so ah, he has been a very faithful vendor um, and actually ah, him and his family know a lot of their language all ready. Pheasant said so if they were to train somebody they would have to start right from day one and retrain everybody to do the videos they are doing. Pheasant said he doesn't see the sense in that because it's a.....these people know exactly what they are doing. Pheasant thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said he is really confused because ah, the videos that he has seen are not.....this vendor is not delivering um, instruction that comes from the Tribe and their Tribal employees. Champagne said so he is confused on it because it ____ is just a simple digital background and a very simplistic production. Champagne said he is glad that he is very passionate sir, about his production company but the best in the world is a pretty big compliment so he sure they appreciate that but the development of a website is not very difficult and to make sure all the links work is not very difficult. Champagne said the internet did work yesterday and on.....they showed it right in the room because that there is a lot of issues. Champagne said the website was not down. Champagne said the websites were up like they are now but with the same issues. Champagne said he cannot support a contractor-vendor that would not go through an RFP Process, it's not an American Indian Vendor, it does.....it has in his opinion as one Council member have subpar services and to continue on in that area. Champagne said it doesn't make sense. Champagne said he believed he could get everything he wanted and more if he put an RFP out and received another potential vendor that

could meet his needs. Champagne said he feels that he is very passionate about this one vendor and that's great but part.....this is a government if he was running his own private business he has by all means to choose whoever he wants with his money but this is a government of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians thus it is Grand River people. Champagne said they put.....they have processes to put out. Champagne said they have certain expectations. Champagne said when they are not being met as a Leader of this Tribe they have a right to be able to question a third-party contractor and a vendor for being selected as a Sole Source Memo which he is not sure.....Madame Recorder do they have a Sole Source Memo included in this document. Champagne said he does have to encourage.....he does not believe that this vendor is appropriate, he believes that the quantity or quality work is not there and so for those reasons he cannot support this contract. Champagne asked are there discussions from Tribal Council.

Ogema Romanelli identified himself. Romanelli said he can put him in the mix if he would.

Speaker Champagne said he has the floor, sir, he is a presenter.

Ogema Romanelli said well by all the questions he understands that there was a work session he would have suggested that they probably should have had another work session before putting it on the agenda if there are all these questions. Romanelli said he doesn't think this place.....this is the place to have that many questions personally. Romanelli said it begins to feel like interrogation of the person presenting and he just thinks that maybe a second work session should have been had. Romanelli said he keeps hearing that he can't.....he can't.....he guessed put it to a vote of Council and then the Council votes their thoughts. Romanelli said if it is too premature then vote to remove it he guessed but he just feels this is the wrong method to go about this. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Mr. Romanelli.

Michelle Lucas identified herself. Lucas said if she may, she is sorry and she could not.....she could get into the meeting but she could hear any sound so she is calling in so she has no way to raise her hand.

Speaker Champagne said go ahead Miss Lucas.

Michelle Lucas said she has a little bit of information about this if she may.

Speaker Champagne said to Michelle Lucas that the floor is hers.

Michelle Lucas said the contract with Brick House Interactive the amount is for \$7,275 correct.

Recorder Wolfe said yes.

Michelle Lucas said anything under \$10,000 it is a Federal Government requirement and a Tribal requirement that no other bids are required so in this case because the contract does not exceed the threshold of \$10,000 there is no requirement to put out and RFP or to obtain other bids. Lucas said not to say that the department may choose to do so but in this case there isn't.....there is no requirement.

Speaker Champagne thanked Miss Lucas. Champagne said there is no requirement but definitely on the last conversations they had this vendor doesn't have just one contract to provide similar services has multiple contracts have been proposed the same issues were raised. Champagne said on each and every time this vendor was selected the same issues were raised over again and they are back here for another contract. Champagne said when they add the vendor's multiple contracts being proposed it exceeds that \$10,000. Champagne said splitting them up into different little domains that are all underneath the dollar amount is one way that department can circumvent that process. Champagne said um, he believed that these questions were raised numerous times and raised yesterday. Champagne said the Executive put this item on the agenda and having a work session just one day before which is perfectly acceptable.....perfectly acceptable but they can't come back than say they should have had more work sessions. Champagne said it is the Executive is the one who determined the work session and bringing it forth before this body. Champagne said Council cannot remove the item until they have a Council Meeting so, they know, that is not something they are able to do and that is on the Executive side. Champagne said the questions still remain which is this vendor being selected it feels very much so personally connected or attached because it is just a production it is a small dollar amount why wouldn't they want the very best quality that comes out of the Tribe or citizens. Champagne said when he looks onto the areas and he sees the concerns that they have had and they brought it up on Tribal Council those are real life concerns and have been shared. Champagne said then shared by other citizens so he thinks it needs to have a discussion. Champagne asked other discussion from Tribal Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said Madame Recorder.

Recorder Wolfe said so she just has a comment to make. Wolfe said she has a little bit different view than the content, the quality, and what they are asking for. Wolfe said contract is for 16 videos to be uploaded to their website and Face Book page. Wolfe said so the comment is she wanted to make is she holds the belief that all Anishinaabemowin Video, learning material that is ____, Language Program, any language transitions becomes the resources for their people is language revitalization and preservation. Wolfe said that is what she believed is the most important to their future as a nation so she will be supporting the item. Wolfe said they have yet to have enough fluent speakers to reverse the decline in Anishinaabemowin people when they are Anishinaabek people. Wolfe said so adding these lessons, stories, and teachings to the Endaaying Videos accessible to

their people is a way of reconnecting and maintaining their original language , Anishinaabemowin. Wolfe said she also wants to say Chi Miigwech to Kenny Pheasant for his background in the language that he shared with their people, the Little River Band. Wolfe thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder. Champagne said next in the queue is citizen Miss Chelsea Densmore then Mr. Di Piazza. Champagne said he is going to open it up to citizens and Councilors at this time.

Chelsea Densmore, Tribal #3225, said Miigwech Mr. Speaker. Densmore said um, absolutely she thinks that the language is super important and she appreciates all that Mr. Pheasant's done. Densmore said talking just about this specific ah, contract or um, business she don't....looking.....she can only speak looking at the website right because she doesn't have a relationship with the business. Densmore said she doesn't know the business. Densmore said she can't speak to anything about them other than the website. Densmore said it does look like the website is....it does have broken links she, she, she had trouble finding the videos. Densmore said she was able to find them she had to go under Language then hit another button for the videos tab but that is something where she took the extra time to look for it whereas if she didn't know there were videos on there, right, she would struggle to find it. Densmore said she attended the work session yesterday and it was discussed about how the Face Book page is a lot more.....is utilized a lot more um, and is very successful. Densmore said she thinks that is great but it still comes back to them....they are paying for two websites um, to be managed by this company that aren't being updated um, aren't being kept up to date she means if they look under the um, Aanii.org Website the ah, Cultural Events they have posted are like from 2018, right. Densmore said um, the, the, Pow Wow all of the events are from years ago, right, so she understands what they are saying. Densmore said she definitely thinks the language is really important and she doesn't think that something should be taken away but she knows that speaking as a citizen, as a volunteer on a committee, like she knows they pay \$150 and manage their own website. Densmore said she understands Mr. Pheasant's point that they can't put a link or they can't put videos on the um, Little River Website she does think it is important to have a separate one to post the videos to however just to make a point videos are posted through YouTube really it is only a link it doesn't actually put all that.....its not taking up all that space on the website, right, so she definitely, they know, Mr. Pheasant is doing great, the videos are great, and she definitely thinks it is important to keep those. Densmore said she does think them guys should consider looking at a different website though, right, because she doesn't think that Mr. Pheasant and this website go hand in hand. Densmore said this is a business that is being contracted out to, right, saying that he doesn't think they are doing the best job does not say that Mr. Pheasant isn't doing the best job. Densmore said he is doing great.....the videos, right, but the background is done by them and the website is done by them. Densmore said fortunately the website is not being kept up to date and it is not being done. Densmore said she knows um.....she knows that

Councilor Johnson, their Liaison, had said something in one of their meetings how important it was to keep their website up to date when it was like a month behind um, and yet Mr. Pheasant's website is unfortunately a couple years behind and that is not to speak ill of him because he doesn't personally run the business, right, but that is where they guys should be considering a different contract or a different business if they are not managing the website appropriately or doing the job that they are paying them to do. Densmore said that \$7-8,000 isn't a ton of money but it is for this right, because they are paying \$150 and that is it. Densmore asked do they know what she means so it is just something to think about um, when they guys are looking at the money maybe it is not always best to use the same one maybe it is best to just look at some other options, right. Densmore said that is all she had to say. Densmore said Miigwech for their time.

Speaker Champagne thanked Miss Densmore for her good words. Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he was going to say most times nowadays a lot of people really don't go to websites unless they are going to buy something or actually research something, they know, google it or whatever. Di Piazza said he knows there is like 7,400 followers on Kenny Pheasant's Face Book um, site and if they are a follower every time he posts a video they get toggled so they don't have to even look to be honest because they are being toggled. Di Piazza said they know 81 shares is quite a few, they know, and he is hearing other instructors are using, they know, what Kenny Pheasant is producing. Di Piazza asked does it have to be this great, big, elaborate production, no, because he thinks they are going to lose people. Di Piazza said they want that home feel like they are sitting at the kitchen table or they are standing there sitting next to them drinking coffee and talking Anishinaabemowin, they know. Di Piazza said he even tried to get ma to do some things before she.....she walked on. Di Piazza said all he did was get a rash of poeey out of the whole smear and she was fluent. Di Piazza said and he, and he, they know, he honors that everyday because he remembers these things. Di Piazza said Kenny Pheasant helps him remember these things too that he may have lost and, and, and walking, they know, a double path. Di Piazza said with that being said he would like to make a motion.

Speaker Champagne said go ahead sir the floor is his.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-299;
RATIFICATION OF BRICK HOUSE INTERACTIVE
AGREEMENT; by Di Piazza, supported by Wever.**

Speaker Champagne asked discussion on the motion. Champagne said first in the queue is himself. Champagne said he thinks citizen Miss Chelsea Densmore hit it right on the head is that this has nothing to do with Mr. Pheasant but this has to do with a third-party contract vendor and the thing that they are producing services is not adequate. Champagne said if their volunteers are held to a higher standard in

that they have to have up to date content, volunteer, to run their own website he thinks they can expect that of a vendor that they pay money to. Champagne said they like to mention social media and this is a package thing, actual website for media content that has a lot of followers who are paid by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Champagne said when they asked yesterday to find it they had to go on Little Traverse Bay Band. Champagne said a previous contractor of their Instructor to be able to find the content as well was pulled up, Mr. Di Piazza. Champagne said so they know, it said maybe they could do a little bit better job, maybe they should have put it up for an RFP and say hold multiple contracts. Champagne said maybe they should have an all inclusive contract to cover all those different areas and this is splitting up just underneath the level and do multiple contracts. Champagne said it would be an RFP process probably would be helpful. Champagne said it would probably be helpful to have a company come in and manage all that and they could probably get excellent content with Mr. Pheasant moving forward. Champagne said he is looking at what Mr. Di Piazza mentions 7,400 followers they.....part of any of their.....he asked yesterday what is the interactive on that, what is the statistics on it, they are all their people he says. Champagne said he knows, he talks to people, and that is what they said. Champagne said they can produce a report, third party vendor should be sending a report, to show interactions, where they are coming from, quickly just looking at the, the, the likes and things of that nature which are they know,....maybe 51 on this one and they can go through and see maybe like 10% from Little River. Champagne said there is a lot of people who follow, what is the interaction and what is it coming back. Champagne said how much of that is actually impacting for their people he thinks it is a multi-prong approach when they talk about language revitalization. Champagne said this is one very small piece they should do a good job at it. Champagne said they should get a vendor they can hold accountable for it and thinks they know that is why this contract is probably not a great fit for them. Champagne said just because they have always used one they heard that from Enrollment, they heard that from numerous ones and that's a standard and many of their other Directors would very much like to just continue to use the same vendor. Champagne said over and over and over again but that's not acceptable to them so he doesn't think it should be acceptable in this program either. Champagne said next in the queue is citizen Chelsea Densmore then Mr. Di Piazza, then Mr. Wittenberg and then Madame Recorder Wolfe.

Recorder Wolfe said not her she was pointing Councilor Wittenberg's out.

Chelsea Densmore, Tribal #3225, thanked Mr. Speaker. Densmore said she just wanted to say she agrees with everything Gary Di Piazza said but then he still supported that, right. Densmore said so he is saying that Face Book is getting more likes and nobody really goes to websites so they are not paying for two websites, right. Densmore said when most of the interaction is through Face Book so why are they bothering with two separate websites through this business that they are paying for....that they are paying to manage and not really

managing, right, because it is a couple years old. Densmore said at the very least the updates should be on there that things were cancelled, right, it doesn't even updates from all the 2020 stuff that was cancelled, they know. Densmore said so um, if they are looking at more Face Book why isn't that just run by the department and the websites are gotten rid of, right. Densmore said they could have the website updated by the department um, pay a minimal fee and, and have Kenny Pheasant upload the videos, have IT work on it, right, like there are ways to do it in-house that she thinks would be easier especially if they are just looking at Face Book being the, the main source, they know. Densmore said she agrees with what they are saying but then she guessed she doesn't understand why, why they then, they know, supported the, the business that is still managing the website, right, so um, she guessed that is where they kind of lost her. Densmore said so she just wanted to say that, Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Miss Chelsea Densmore. Champagne said next in the queue is Councilor Di Piazza, Council member Wittenberg and Council member Wolfe.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah, that was just a reference, that LTBB, because he knows they shared with quite a few different ones. Di Piazza said he just gets a, they know, a bump on Face Book every time they post onto his Face Book um, every time.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah.

Councilor Di Piazza said so he doesn't have to even search it out, he doesn't have to do anything, it just bumps him and says Kenny Pheasant posted another Language Video. Di Piazza said they know if this helps ten people, Tribal members, to better themselves and knowing.....knowing their language he can'the cannot in good faith take that away because if they do away with this then what. Di Piazza asked what do they have, where are they going to go, what are they going to do, again, he doesn't..... Di Piazza said like he said some of them do know Anishinaabe quite well so they can't, they know, he is going to help their people. Di Piazza said he was just ridiculed and beat for it and it's like, wow, that's bad and that's sad. Di Piazza said so yeah, he is good at this minute.

Speaker Champagne said the next in the queue is Councilor Member Wittenberg, then Council Member Wolfe, and then Council Member Champagne, then himself and Citizen Howell and then Citizen Miss Laura Echelbarger. Champagne said the floor is his, sir.

Councilor Wittenberg said ah, sitting here and listening and looking at it and reflecting back now the many, many things. Wittenberg said he looks at the bottom line and what they are looking at and right now it is the language. Wittenberg said what this one is trying to share with ah, the members and else where now he knows James Vukelich out of Minneapolis, Minnesota does the

same thing. Wittenberg said he automatic at ah, his Council whether ah, like Gary Di Piazza says get a bump. *Wittenberg starts laughing.* Wittenberg said and ah, on his Face Book and the same....same way with Kenny Pheasant and he really does appreciate it himself because he can trust him. Wittenberg said what he doesn't know not enough to get him from the sidewalk to the curb. Wittenberg said he can see the curb so it does help him get there. Wittenberg said now it has also been said around ah, their members that Kenny Pheasant isn't this and that well he would like to remind the people that no matter what the dialect is if they know the Anishinaabes.....Anishinaabemowin that they will know what that person is talking about. Wittenberg said now on Manitou Island he doesn't know if that many people know this but the Manitou Island is all Odawa and on that island they have three different dialects on there on that island. Wittenberg said that is the Odawa and that dialect tells the other, whoever they may be talking to in Anishinaabemowin, where they are from on that island. Wittenberg said so for him he doesn't look at the dialect he listens and he takes what he needs. Wittenberg said they turn around and understand he doesn't know all the ins and outs of this company and what they can do or what James Vukelich where he is coming from of where but he does get bounced and not only do they have that with them but then they have also talking about Anishinaabemowin is the puppets which he gets a kick out of. Wittenberg said he listens to them but it is things like that turns around and it is enhancing his mind so.....*Wittenberg laughing....*there is a lot of things as himself he can let it go because of what it is producing. Wittenberg said he thinks that is what is also what they need to think about what it is doing and how it is producing within different one's self. Wittenberg said so he will let it go at that. Wittenberg said again, he will say Miigwech to Kenny Pheasant for doing all he can do. Wittenberg said Aho.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said Council Member Wolfe.

Recorder Wolfe said her comments are they don't have Video Production Staff. Wolfe said that position was eliminated ten years ago and has not been replaced. Wolfe said those videos that he did produce during that time along with the Language Instructor are still available in a resource. Wolfe said so.....and they paid that person X amount of whatever to perform that position all year long so when they don't have the staff they don't have the ability they contract it out. Wolfe said they heard that over and over from their Speaker that sometimes things need to be contracted out just to get done. Wolfe said that is one comment and then the other comment that she has she has just requested assistance from IT with video and they do not edit, duplicate, or change or author videos in any way so that would not be an option for Kenny Pheasant to get his videos produced by the Government IT. Wolfe said they don't do anything with video production, or edits or anything so she got those two comments out there. Wolfe thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said next in the queue is Councilor Champagne.

Councilor Champagne said yes, she is sitting there listening to everyone talk um, comment that keeps coming up is that they are trying to get rid of the language or trying to get rid of Kenny Pheasant, that is not at all the case. Champagne said they are not saying anything about getting rid of ah, Kenny Pheasant, or his language. Champagne said they are just saying find a vendor who does a professional job on relaying the ah, um, language that Kenny Pheasant is putting forward or if he is putting studies forward. Champagne said find a professional vendor who can relay that ah, people respond to things, like they said responding to his website, but they would get a lot more response if they have it done in a professional manner. Champagne said they would get a lot of compliments they would get other people, other Tribes in areas utilizing some of the information that is put out there. Champagne said she is all for language learning she does not have a thing against that however Mr. Di Piazza said something about the dialect.....Kenny Pheasant using their dialect. Champagne asked that is not really true Mr. Pheasant is it. Champagne said in fact it is from Canada if she recalls correctly and she has.....she doesn't see anything against that because their language is their language and their dialect tells them where they are from but um, so to use that reason not to use a.....or get a different more professional vendor is not a good reason. Champagne said so all she is saying is putting it out there that their trying to get rid of Kenny Pheasant or get rid of producing things that their members can use that is no the intent at all. Champagne said the intent is to give Mr. Pheasant the tools to get a professional vendor that can make him look even better. Champagne thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council Member Champagne. Champagne said his was going to be almost identical in context um, as he hears people saying well this is taking from language and it is not it is still a budgeted item. Champagne said they can still.....it is requesting to get a production company that follows through and produces professional content. Champagne said all it says is elimination, it says put an RFP out, get a professional content and let's put the bar a little higher because our.....their people deserve a little bit higher. Champagne said utilizing the same company just to utilize it is not a good business practice and never has been good business practices. Champagne said if this has been since time memorial maybe it is time that he.....that should have been looked at years ago. Champagne said him sitting on the Council they were doing an excellent job or something that would justify a Sole Source, they know, there are multiple contracts with this vendor it would make sense. Champagne said they have approved Sole Sources many times in the past because there is unique content a production company is not that. Champagne said this is something that could be RFP'ed out, this is something that they could find potential vendors that can do a better job. Champagne said if they don't want to have a website then take the websites off the RFP. Champagne asked so why are they paying for two websites and Madame Recorder mentions that to outsource out that is the most cost-effective way of doing it....business. Champagne said he 100% agree with outsourcing out in this circumstance. Champagne said technology today is much different than 20 years ago. Champagne said 20 years ago they had to us.....it

took some skillset to build a website that is not the case anymore. Champagne said it is plug and play. Champagne said it is very, very simple. Champagne said it's not something that is pretty in-depth. Champagne said when they look at YouTube Channels there's.....there is.....YouTube Channels all day long how many of them are under 18 years old they don't have a production company. Champagne said these are junior high and high school kids producing. Champagne said he has to say that producing a higher level of digital content that they see from this production company that is charging them money. Champagne said so he does know they have a lot of talented citizens, they have a lot of talented individuals, and he just thinks that the content isn't meeting the mark on this, it's a small contract but it is not a small project when they add them all up together. Champagne said he thinks they can do a better job here in their Tribe so that is why he renews his.....he can't support this. Champagne said it is not supporting language.....language revitalization because it does not.....it is not elimination of a line item or Budget. Champagne said this is saying this is not the right vendor and go find the right vendor. Champagne thanked them. Champagne said next in the queue is Citizen Howell, Citizen Miss Laura Echelbarger, Council Member Lewis and Citizen Thull. Champagne said he thought he remembered, he wanted to be respectful, he doesn't see the hand raised it looks like Miss Johnson did she have her hand raised. Champagne said okay, next in the queue is Miss Johnson.

Councilor Johnson said yeah, she did actually um, so she just wanted to point out and to clarify a little bit because she thinks that there was probably a misunderstanding. Johnson said when she made the comment ah, to the committee about their website it was because when she had looked at it they had May Activities and yet the um, the ah, current activities that they had out there was not posted to their actual website. Johnson said everything was supposed to have gone on Face Book but not on the site if they went and looked at it directly. Johnson said just to clarify that she was just getting to that about their.....*Johnson laughing*.....current activities is where that was coming from. Johnson said she just wanted to clarify that. Johnson said that's all.

Chelsea Densmore asked Speaker Champagne if she could respond.

Speaker Champagne said um, yes she can respond.

Chelsea Densmore said she just wanted to say she absolutely agrees and understands. Densmore said it was like a week or two difference between them getting the stuff together they hadn't really published it in places. Densmore said she thinks just for reference this website has not been updated in three years. Densmore said it still has Kenny Pheasant meeting in person multiple days a week. Densmore said it hasn't been updated since 2018 regarding dates so she hears them but this website literally hasn't been updated since it was created in 2018 regarding any dates for any gatherings and/or classes. Densmore said that was the point she was trying to make less like.....she wasn't making an attack on

Miss Johnson or referencing anything regarding the committee she was just saying this website hasn't been updated since 2018. Densmore said that's important let's focus on that she thinks Kenny Pheasant is doing a great job. Densmore thanked Mr. Pheasant for everything that he does. Densmore said she loves his videos she watches them all the time she gets updates too. Densmore said she just doesn't think that the vendor is doing as good a job as he deserves. Densmore said Miigwech.

Councilor Di Piazza said he is too late.

Speaker Champagne said next in the queue is Citizen Miss Martha Howell.

Recorder Wolfe said she thinks Pam Johnson.....did she want to respond.

Councilor Johnson said no.

Speaker Champagne said she can respond if she would like Miss Johnson. Champagne said he took her comment just as that too he doesn't think it was against herself or the committee.

Councilor Johnson said no she is good.

Speaker Champagne said next in the queue is Citizen Howell.

Martha Howell said good morning um, she doesn't think that they need to spend money to do what Kenny Pheasant is doing. Howell said as they have sat here for the last 20-25 minutes, right, in a group and they are online. Howell said she sees a class and she sees a teacher she sees a person who could have taught a lesson already right now. Howell said there is absolutely no reason to spend \$7,500 on a contract to have a video made. Howell said they don't spend the money on it what is going to happen to the language because they don't not a damn thing. Howell said Kenny Pheasant can go on Face Book, live, he can press that button from his Face Book page and go live and reach all those 7,500 people who like his page, right. Howell said they don't have to spend money on a contract to have somebody do it when he can do it himself. Howell said could have already done it right now. Howell said that is her point and that is all she has to say. Howell said to Kenny Pheasant that he is doing a great job and he can do himself he doesn't need these people as a crutch. Howell said he can do it on his own. Howell said she has faith and confidence that he can do it and he could taught them as a class right now. Howell said taught them in the amount of time to discuss some third-party guy who has nothing to do with nothing so, they know, so carry on and do it himself. Howell said to Kenny Pheasant that he can do it. Howell said that is all she has to say that they don't need to spend money when he has got the ways and means to do it and he could have done it and he could be doing it. Howell said that is all. Howell thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Citizen Howell. Champagne said next in the queue is Citizen Miss Laura Echelbarger then Councilor Lewis and Citizen Thull.

Laura Echelbarger, Tribal #2276, thanked Speaker Champagne. Echelbarger said she just wanted to say this whole conversation is not about Kenny Pheasant it is about this vendor. Echelbarger said so her question is will Kenny Pheasant only work with this vendor but her comment is um, Council has repeatedly requested other vendors to be used when old vendors have been used too long. Echelbarger said with the Enrollment, with the Election Board and now they are finding Council pushing back and saying this vendor is okay after being used for how long. Echelbarger said she is a little bit confused as not only just a citizen but an Election Board member as well. Echelbarger said so she guessed she would like to see what this true stance is of this Council. Echelbarger said that is her comment and thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Citizen Echelbarger. Champagne said next in the queue is Councilor Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said so okay, she loves the passion that everybody carries for the language and it's good that they are all on the same page. Lewis said with that, um, they know, and, and, think about it they can come into this world as a baby and, and have no language. Lewis said they know, somewhere along the way, they know, they start learning and they know, she would have to say with their Cultural Committee and she doesn't want to far off track but she will have to say with their Cultural Committee, they know, the passion that they have, they know, a person doesn't need a....they know.....*this part of Councilor Lewis' comments faded off of the ZOOM recording and couldn't be made out*....so they learn it, they know, as they grow. Lewis said that is how their language has been so they know, with the passion that they have they know, is there anything that they could save some money. Lewis said they know have this money go to the Cultural Committee and um, work with Kenny Pheasant they know, and Kenny Pheasant work with them. Lewis said they know, and ah, yeah, and then they know, it is kind of like they know, they don't want to get stagnant in their life they know, they get up every day and they do the same thing, the same thing..... *this part of Councilor Lewis' comments faded off of the ZOOM recording and couldn't be made out*.....oh, they want to they know, learn something they know, do something to empower themselves as individuals they know, so um, she just thinks they know, that if they stay stagnant they know, change sometimes not easy for people they know, they have to change here and there and they know all it is making improvement. Lewis said they know, and she is not saying to anybody in particular because the whole topic that their here for is the Brick House ah, contract they know, she is not getting them again because they know, the confusion with all the websites and they know, double contracts they know, etc. but there is no reason why they know, this could pass and it might not pass but they know. if it doesn't pass, they know, hopefully there will be another work session. Lewis said brainstorming where everybody is working together to

improve their Language Program, they know, because everybody from their heart the way they have been speaking, they know, everybody is 100% for their language, they know, getting out there that, they know, that they have fluent speakers already, they know, she knows there are a few but there is not many left. Lewis said they know, but, um, so yeah, she thinks everyone but she is not impressed with Brick House and that is why they are here. Lewis said she, herself, they know, she would like to have, they know, have an option to, they know, bring that level up.....bring that level up, they know, and yeah, Kenny Pheasant himself, language um, they know, person, he carries that, they know, he does deserve a little bit better. Lewis said they know, he is.....he might be kind of used to Brick House but they know, she would rather raise the bar, they know, raise that level up, and they know, just like with any program, they know, every so often, every couple of years they want to stop and look at something and go "hey" how is this working and how can they improve it. Lewis said so, they know, she is going to leave it at that but she is not really for the professionalprofessionalism that has been brought so far from Brick House she thinks they can do better. Lewis said all right she is done. Lewis thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said okay, Councilor Lewis. Champagne said next in the queue is Citizen Thull.

Susan Thull thanked them. Thull said she thinks it is time that they do stop accepting mediocre um, service from their vendors. Thull said um, and she appreciates the Speaker ah, questioning this she agrees. Thull said she would like to see the production brought in-house. Thull said she thinks they have many talented ah, people that could be doing this and they should be paying their own people for it. Thull said she knows they used to have a Videographer ah, Mack Brushman, she believed and she thought he did an excellent job. Thull said um, she thinks that ah, this should be voted down and she understands why the Speaker has brought this, um, his comments forward. Thull said um, she did have a young Tribal member with children that was concerned and reached out to her, um, last night because she thought that this was concerning from Mr. Pheasant's ah, presentations and she told her it was just with the vendor and that eased her mind so she thinks that some people ah, have the wrong notion that this is doing away with um, Kenny Pheasant's work and she thinks it is just the contractor ah, that they are talking about. Thull said she agrees that they should be um, seeking ah, someone that will do a better job on it and again, personally she would like to see this given.....this work given to one of their members. Thull said she knows that has always.....she always has great respect for Martha Howell. Thull said um, she would like to see her given this instead of paying someone that is not from the Tribe um, or someone that is similarly invested in their Tribe and ah, knows the material. Thull thanked them. Thull said she is done.

Speaker Champagne thanked Citizen Thull. Champagne said further discussion from Council or citizens at this time. Champagne repeated further discussion

from Council or citizens at this time. Champagne said seeing no other discussion Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #4

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -No	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -No	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis - No

Motion carried (6-3-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said six over three resolution is passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

4. Approval to execute contract with C&I Electric

Current Master Agreement for electric services expires on 12/31/21. Award made through RFP process.

Speaker Champagne said four and five are inner connected two separate companies but the same RFP. Champagne said this item was represented by the Ogema's Office by Miss Michelle Lucas. Champagne said the information was given at that work session and making sure it went off of an RFP Process and that no other Indian vendors could be identified for this. Champagne said with that being said he would like to turn it over, the floor, to the Ogema's Office and designee Miss Lucas.

Michelle Lucas, Purchasing & Travel Department, thanked them for having her. Lucas said um, as earlier said the Tribe current Master Agreement for electrical services expires on December 31, 2021. Lucas said the agreement was effective for four years. Lucas said the approximate value of the agreement was \$54,687 through an RFP Process her electric is one of the vendors recommended to be awarded the 2022-2023 Contract. Lucas said the company is located in Ludington in addition to servicing the Manistee area they also service the nine county service area which would also include Muskegon. Lucas said um, C & I Electric is in good standing with the Tribe therefore she is seeking approval to execute the agreement with C & I Electric.

Speaker Champagne asked does that conclude her presentation.

Michelle Lucas said yes, it does. Lucas thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said excellent as always he thinks she covered almost every point. Champagne said um, any Councilors wishing to abstain from this item. Champagne repeated any Councilors wishing to abstain from this item. Champagne said last call any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain from this item. Champagne said seeing none they open it up for discussion at this time. Champagne said Miss Lucas he does know just to recap the work session so it is

on the official record today, um, maybe she said this 2021 date the current utilization of the entire Master Service Agreement um, is how much.

Michelle Lucas answered the current approximate value of the ____ is \$54,6870.50.

Speaker Champagne thanked Michelle Lucas. Champagne said C & I Electric is a company based out of Ludington and did she not, she mentioned that in the work session but just for the record and correct him if he is wrong they do not charge for planned calls coming in, just after hours, or emergencies or holidays.

Michelle Lucas said that is correct.

Speaker Champagne asked can she tell him the right schedule.

Michelle Lucas said correct, their hourly fee is \$60.00 an hour, after hours is \$75.00 an hour, emergencies or holiday rate is \$80.00 an hour.

Speaker Champagne said they do not cover.....

Michelle Lucas said they do not charge mileage.

Speaker Champagne asked they do not charge mileage and they cover down to Muskegon as well with the same terms.

Michelle Lucas said they do.

Speaker Champagne said he knows he mentioned this in the introduction putting this through an RFP Process she does maintain a list of American Indian Vendors that are registered with the Tribe um, was there any American Indian Vendors that she could identify that she could send this RFP out and did any American Indian Vendors apply.

Michelle Lucas said there was not.

Speaker Champagne thanked Michelle Lucas for her due diligence it is much appreciated. Champagne said that concludes his questions. Champagne said further discussion from Councilors or citizens at this time.

Councilor Guenthardt said he would like to make a motion.

Speaker Champagne said go right ahead sir.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-300;
APPROVING OF MASTER AGREEMENT WITH C & I
ELECTRIC TO PROVIDE THE TRIBE WITH ELECTRICAL**

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES; by Guenthardt;
supported by Johnson.

Speaker Champagne said discussion on the motion at hand by citizens or Councilors at this time. Champagne said discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne said seeing no discussion Madame Recorder to do a roll call please.

Roll Call #5

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor resolution passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

5. Approval to execute contract with Top Line Electric LLC
Current Master Agreement for electric services expires on
12/31/21. Award made through RFP process.

Speaker Champagne said this is also part of that original RFP Process determined to have a backup vendor. Champagne said the current Masters Agreement for electric services expires on 12/31/21. Champagne said an award was made through an RFP Process. Champagne said Miss Lucas did an excellent job at a work session presenting this item. Champagne said he will turn it over for presentation to Miss Lucas and the Ogema at this time.

Michelle Lucas thanked Speaker Champagne. Lucas said it was a conversation between departments that would be affected by this service that in the last RFP that they ran that they would put in language that there could be more than one Contractor awarded the agreement. Lucas said the reason that this was put in place was if there was an emergency and they happen to call their Contractor and they wouldn't be able to come immediately they would have a backup. Lucas said so the representatives that linked the bids that came in had chosen two vendors to award. Lucas said again, it would be the same contract, it would be for two years or Fiscal Years 2022-2023. Lucas said this company is located out of Traverse City, Michigan. Lucas said it is Top Line um, they also do service in the nine county service area and they do service the Muskegon area. Lucas said um, their rates are \$75.00 an hour for normal electrician services. Lucas said then they have a \$100.00 service for SCATA, for a SCATA Tech and \$80.00 for instrumentation. Lucas said after hours it would be 1.5 times that rate, for emergency and holiday it would be two times that rate and they do not charge mileage. Lucas said per earlier conversations during their work session her expertise is not electrical or electric work um, but one of the panel members had

stated that the SCATA Tech which would be for their Wastewater Treatment Plant that is a service that they would possibly require so it would be good to have a Contractor um, on contract to provide that type of service. Lucas said it was also discussed during their work session when information was provided to programs that would require electrical services the rates were also shared with all the departments. Lucas said so again, she is recommending that they are seeking approval to execute the agreement with Top Line. Lucas said that is the end of her presentation.

Speaker Champagne thanked Michelle Lucas. Champagne asked any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne repeated any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne said seeing no abstentions at this time he will open up for discussion with Tribal Councilors or citizens. Champagne said good with every point he can he doesn't have any questions for Michelle Lucas and thanked her for that. Champagne repeated discussion from Tribal Councilors or citizens. Champagne said seeing no discussion.....

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

Speaker Champagne said here they go. Champagne said go ahead sir.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-301;
APPROVING OF MASTER AGREEMENT WITH TOP LINE
ELECTRIC, LLC TO PROVIDE THE TRIBE WITH
ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES;** by
Guenthardt; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Champagne asked discussion from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne asked discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne said seeing no discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne asked Madame Recorder do a roll call please.

Roll Call #6

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor resolution has passed.

Michelle Lucas thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder and the Council thanks Miss Lucas.

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Acceptance of grant funds from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan- Home Visiting Expansion and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2021-___ in the amount of \$74,800**
Acceptance of funds

Speaker Champagne said they removed B.1.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Speaker Champagne said there is none submitted.

IV. Old Business-None Submitted

Speaker Champagne said there is none submitted.

V. New Business

A. EDC funding in the amount of \$1,010,901.00

EDC is requesting funding in the amount of 1,010,901.00. The EDC funding amount is determined by the 2021 Commerce Department Budget. This amount was approved on November 25,2020 by Resolution #20-1125-343. There is no budget modification required by taking this action.

Speaker Champagne noted removal of V A.

B. Resolution Authorizing Little River Bands of Ottawa Indians as Signatory of the Brief of Amicus Curiae in Support of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians v. Whitmer currently pending before the Supreme Court

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is committed to the protection of Tribal Interest in Little Traverse Bay Bands of Ottawa Indians v. Whitmer, in which the petition for Certiorari presents the question of “whether the 1855 Treaty of Detroit established a federal reservation for “Little Traverse for the Supreme Courts review.

Speaker Champagne said this item is being brought forth by their Legal Counsel and the Ogema’s Office. Champagne said their Legal Counsel and also interest of Tribal Council um, so in much interest of the Tribe. Champagne said with that being said he will defer to Miss Mc Gowen from Unified Legal Department.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar, Unified Legal Department Attorney, thanked Speaker Champagne. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said um, as he so aptly described in the description this is an Amicus Brief request to sign on that they have received. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said they are working with Stanford Law School um, to provide assistance and working with some of the other CORA Tribes um, on this Amicus

Brief to support Little Traverse. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said this is the end of her presentation.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne said um, any Tribal.....he will throw it out there.....any Councilors wish to abstain. Champagne said he doesn't think they can abstain on this item but he will throw it out there anyways. Champagne repeated any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain from this item. Champagne repeated again, any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain from this item. Champagne said seeing no abstentions he will open it up for discussion. Champagne said Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, Miigwech, for this. Wittenberg said he was looking at it ah, he was curious on there it says Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians and verses Whitmer and he was wondering ah, because it could be any Whitmer but to make ah, to pinpoint wouldn't that be more.....Governor Whitmer or is that just any Whitmer.

Councilor Wever was laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Wittenberg said he means there is a lot of Smiths out there and he is sure there are a lot of Whitmers out there too so he was just curious on there. Wittenberg said that is all. Wittenberg thanked them.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said so the caption of the case that it is before the Supreme Court is captioned Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians verses Whitmer so that is how it is described and that is how it is assumed and how they refer to it. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said previously it was Snyder so. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said it is whoever the sitting Governor of Michigan is and who would be verses Little Traverse in this action.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne said Councilor Wittenberg.....any other comments.

Councilor Wittenberg said he is just.....has a response back on that if he doesn't mind because he is still in wonder on that and its no real big deal but he thought, they know, especially if it is going to the Supreme Court that title would be more and more. Wittenberg said ah, okay, he is good. Wittenberg thanked them. Wittenberg said just out of curious is what he was looking at because he knows wording has a lot to say on how one words it so.

Councilor Wever commented to Councilor Wittenberg "especially if they wanted to sign it" stated in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Wittenberg said especially if they go to the Supreme Court.

Councilor Wever said no, the casino.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said um, Councilor Di Piazza he is next in the queue after himself. Champagne said he wanted to be able to share he mentioned it a little bit in the introduction. Champagne said this is an item that deals with the basic foundations and jeopardizes the sovereignty of not just their Tribe but of all signature Tribes of 1855 Treaty. Champagne said how they became to the 1855 Treaty because Michigan territory in 1836 open up their land as free Indian Lands and proven to be unsettled for the most part. Champagne said they read the Superintendent at that time being with the Federal Government to find a home for Odawa people, Grand River people, and they created the 1855 Treaty because the 1836 was not honored. Champagne said as they know the 1855 Treaty was also not honored. Champagne said the lands were stolen as well. Champagne said what the Circuit Court ruled he firmly believed isn't correct and every indigenous person probably shares that value. Champagne said they determine that a Reservation does not exist and does not just affect Little Traverse Bay Band but it impacts them as Grand River people and their Reservation. Champagne asked what does Reservation status have to do with their Tribe today. Champagne said its their framework for sovereignty. Champagne said for taxes, for criminal, for civil, and jeopardizes their very essence in the Treaty-making process and the establishment of their Reservations. Champagne said the State.....this is not a disagreement between the Federal Government and Grand River Bands or Little Traverse Bay Bands as the ones who brought forth the case. Champagne said this is the State of Michigan stating that the 1855 Tribe specifically underneath Little Traverse Bay Bands do not have a Reservation and do not respect the sovereignty of their Nation and are infringing upon their sovereignty. Champagne said the Circuit Court erred and he thinks they know they need to join on this brief along with encourage others, their allies, to encourage their interest such as the National Congress of American Indians. Champagne said he thinks Council member Di Piazza or Lewis, can't remember who brought it up yesterday, Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes to have them join in as well along with the signatory Tribes and all other Tribes impacted. Champagne said it is changing the status quo of defining a Reservation putting in an additional hurdle in to say that because it was illegally stolen they may not have had a Superintendent with direct control. Champagne said any of their people know that they were underneath the thumb of the Federal Government and it wasn't until 1934 the passage of Indian Organization Act where they started to determine Federally Recognized Tribes to that program. Champagne said they know they are Indian and under control because Boarding School applied to them and they got annuity payments, they had agents. Champagne said their children were stolen, they couldn't practice their religion, and they needed a card to tell the government that they were Indian. Champagne said when they look now and they can say once again another State challenging and trying to define what the two signature people understood the Federal Government and the Tribes. Champagne said what they understood when they signed it and now a third party is a State trying to say that is not what the

intent was. Champagne said that is concerning to him and it should be of the utmost important to the Tribe to invest into this to hopefully have the Supreme Court clear this matter and to be able to prevail. Champagne said so it is a big hurdle to the Supreme Court to hear this matter. Champagne said as they know with national attention much discussion is going on on different matters. Champagne said it tends to take up the Justice's time and historically Justices tend to take other issues on board when receiving so much national attention. Champagne asked how do they bring it up to the level where it is going to have the interest and peak of the Supreme Court. Champagne said he thinks that is critical for them. Champagne said they need to act on this and in the right....it is in the best interest of their people. Champagne said he fully supports them filing a brief because he does know probably that every single Council member and every single citizen....he thinks when they look at this they have to always understand the States who infringe on Tribal Sovereignty. Champagne said while they sit here and bicker amongst themselves and bicker amongst their Tribes the State always has the same goal. Champagne said they do not like Tribes in their State, they do not like them having Reservations and they do not respect Tribal Sovereignty. Champagne said they have shown it time and time again and this has not changed. Champagne said its time that Little River and Grand River people stand up and put their voice to it and put it on and not be so afraid of what will the State think of them. Champagne said they don't think much of them it shows by this order. Champagne said it shows by their statements that they do not have a Reservation. Champagne said he thinks they all know the right thing to do is here. Champagne said next in the queue is Council Member Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said oh, his is on a little different aspect. Di Piazza said if anybody actually wants to read the petition um, it's on Turtle Talk. Di Piazza said just google Turtle Talk so and LTBB verses Whitmer Petition, sorry. Di Piazza said it will come up and they can read all the briefs and everything so it is a public document and it is on Turtle Talk so.

Speaker Champagne said sharing that public resource.....

Councilor Di Piazza continued.....November 30th is when that popped up in case they want to look by days. Di Piazza said he is done.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza for sharing. Champagne said Council Member Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, ah, he is all for this and LTBB. Wittenberg said he is a firm believer in that ah, that is why to him the government split them all up they are all one people. Wittenberg said not only here in the State of Michigan but to ah, Turtle Island that they need to stand regardless of what they are under....that Nation they are under ah, they need to stand up for each other for....especially times like this when they got the thumb on them and it is just showing them that they can shut them down and push the thumb down.

Wittenberg said but if enough Tribes, Nations, that turn around and start standing up ah, with each other it will be he thinks and feels more.....more ah, more power. Wittenberg said so he will say Miigwech and he is for this without a doubt. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said discussion amongst Tribal Councilors at this time. Champagne said going up to citizens. Champagne said Citizen Miss Sara Agosa. Champagne said she has the floor, ma'am.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said her comment is related to the next agenda item. Agosa said before it is removed she would like the opportunity to ask a question. Agosa said she just wanted to make them aware that she will be in the queue. Agosa thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said okay. Champagne asked any discussion from Tribal Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said Miss Agosa that item was already removed just for housekeeping matters um, and it will show back up the following week. Champagne said he is not sure if that is helpful.

Sara Agosa said she did want an explanation on all of the items that were removed, why they were removed. Agosa said this wasn't the only one but she just noticed it was coming up. Agosa asked should she save it for Public Comment.

Speaker Champagne said yeah, that would probably be the best route it really is ah, he can probably tell her now but it isn't ___ item but its um, it was removed the.....because they wanted to have additional time for Councilors to digest the information. Champagne said it just gets put on for next week. Champagne said she will see a few different ones appear next week, all right. Champagne asked any discussion on the item at hand, Councilors, or citizens. Champagne said seeing.....Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, he would like to make a motion.

Speaker Champagne said go right ahead, sir.

Councilor Wittenberg said if there are no other questions he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-302;
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LITTLE RIVER BAND OF
OTTAWA INDIANS AS SIGNATORY OF THE BRIEF OF
AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE LITTLE TRAVERSE
BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS v, WHITMER CURRENTLY**

PENDING BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT; by Wittenberg;
supported by Johnson.

Speaker Champagne said Council Member Johnson is who he heard first with that being said. Champagne asked any discussion on the motion on the floor. Champagne asked any discussion on the motion on the floor from Councilors or citizens. Champagne said seeing no discussion on the motion on the floor. Champagne said Madame Recorder Wolfe roll call please.

Roll Call #7

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor the resolution passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council.

C. Motion to post for Public Comment Ordinance #10-800-03

Motion is needed to post Ordinance #10-800-03 to gain public comments.

This item was removed from the agenda.

D. Approval of Big Fire Law Invoice Totaling \$26,867 for August of 2021

Tribal Purchasing Regulations requires all \$25,001 and up invoices must be authorized by Tribal Council Resolution. August Big Fire Law Invoice #2111 total is \$26,867.

Speaker Champagne said that brings them here today ah, this is house Counsel for the Tribe is outsourced um, through Big Fire Law and so with that being said it is ah, a budgeted item um, he guessed he can introduce the item along with present the item. Champagne asked is Mr. Brad Pringle also available.

Brad Pringle, Comptroller General, said yep, that is correct. Pringle said now Council on yesterday they did pass up the work session and instead they would discuss this in Closed Session today and then move it to Second. Pringle said so they can move either way they want to but that was what was discussed yesterday.

Speaker Champagne said Mr. Pringle they did bring it back they were running late um.....

Brad Pringle said yep.

Speaker Champagne said he doesn't know if Council wishes to postpone this item for Second Open if there are any items or if they feel comfortable moving forward. Champagne said it is an invoice, a budgeted invoice with a firm that has been contracted and negotiated by the Ogema um, he imagined and ratified by Council. Champagne said from his documentation everything is in order um, that concludes his presentation. Champagne asked any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne repeated any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne said seeing no Tribal Councilors.....

Ogema Romanelli identified himself.

Speaker Champagne said one more call, sir, for abstentions. Champagne asked any other Councilors.....

Ogema Romanelli said all right.

Speaker Champagne continued.....wishing to abstain at this time. Champagne said seeing no abstentions ah, they will open up for discussion with Tribal Councilors. Champagne said they will open up for Councilors. Champagne said Mr. Romanelli he is in the queue.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Champagne. Romanelli said this appears to be an invoice not a contract. Romanelli asked is he correct.

Speaker Champagne said that is correct, he is saying it was previously was under a contract for services....an invoice on that.

Ogema Romanelli said okay, so it would go under Closed.....his question is would it go under Closed Session. Romanelli said the other thing he has is he thought he heard him say that this was negotiated by the Ogema.

Speaker Champagne said he imagined that all law firms were negotiated by him, sir. Champagne said he doesn't have that but from his understanding this was an approved contract by Tribal Council which he negotiates contracts unless there was a Conflict of Interest he imagined.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah, he is not sure that is a correct statement.

Speaker Champagne said okay, he is definitely willing.....Mr. Pringle would he be able to shed any light. Champagne said he was not here on Council when this contract was approved but that definitely is helpful as well.

Brad Pringle, Comptroller General, said sure, sure, he can speak on that for a minute. Pringle said um, Big Fire was ah, a long-term ah, legal advice for Tribal Council in the past. Pringle said he was not privy to any of the contracts until he showed up was the first time he saw the contract. Pringle said he had asked for

those contracts but to the best of his knowledge those contracts were negotiated by past Speakers and Recorders that they are currently working under those contract.

Speaker Champagne said okay.

Ogema Romanelli thanked them for that clarification.

Brad Pringle thanked them both.

Speaker Champagne said it must have been a Conflict of Interest at that time he is not sure. Champagne asked does he have any.....could he help clarify that Mr. Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said no, he doesn't believe that to be the case ah, they had some discussions in the past as to what the Ogema does ah, with all contracts should negotiate and they had those discussions before with Council um, and there had been times where Council just negotiated them themselves and approved so. Romanelli said he is not sure what the total status is it has been a while and he didn't realize this was a continuation of that same contract from years ago but he just has a concern for saying that the Ogema specifically negotiated this and he also has the problem or concern that this invoice is going into Closed Session when it is really not the contract it is just paying a bill.

Speaker Champagne said he can shed housekeeping light um, he was not part of Council at the time maybe it was under the previous Administration of Mr. Pete and Mr. Di Piazza he has no idea but he can mention is that this item is Open Session.....Closed Session would be just any type of a discussion around legal aspects and nothing to do with the bill is all on record which is why it is on Open Session, sir.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Champagne.

Speaker Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah, he was going to say they came into play back in like whoa.....wow.....26.....2016 under Joe Riley and who the Recorder was at that particular time. Di Piazza said it has been kind of rolling over as far as he can remember. Di Piazza said um, that again some said he and.....he and ah....the Speaker and Recorder previous whatever had some sort of conflict so they were always like um, excluded. Di Piazza said yeah, he doesn't know. Di Piazza said he is done, anyways, he believe it came in about 2016 or something like that he thinks.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza was heard saying in the background on the ZOOM recording "It was a long time ago."

Speaker Champagne continued.....Miss Mc Gowen could she shed any light onto this that may weigh on Council's decision on this bill.....if.....

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar, Unified Legal Department Attorney, asked do they want more specific information on who would have negotiated the contract or is he talking about the actual approval of the contract.....

Speaker Champagne said he, he, he thinks.....

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar continued.....or the invoice she is apologizes.

Speaker Champagne said how the contract came to be um, he was always under the impression that it was negotiated at a contract in-house Counsel. Champagne said he seen the contract um, and the resolution that approved it ah, but before their time though he was not made to light about any concerns around the contract. Champagne asked do they have any concerns around the contract.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar said this contract was also before her time and she is not exactly aware but she does understand that Councilor Crampton was ah.....was in communication with Big Fire um, during the litigation and that is all that she is aware of. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said that would have made sense because um, Councilor Di Piazza and Councilor Pete were not involved with that and the Ogema wouldn't have because he was on the other side of the case so.

Speaker Champagne said okay, so there was a conflict.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar said so that is her understanding. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said yep.

Speaker Champagne said that is what he needed to hear was there was a potential conflict at the time. Champagne said Mr. Wittenberg he is next in the queue.

Councilor Wittenberg said also the concern on this if they want to look it up and with the contract and find out because there was talk that with the old ah, past Council.....just this past Council of renewing that contract. Wittenberg said it was in limbo where one said this and one said that and then the paperwork came up and so he would like, if they don't mind, to make it in black and white. Wittenberg said look that up too.

Speaker Champagne said he thinks they know.....

Councilor Wittenberg said he can say the name but it ain't going to do no good because he doesn't want to say names if it is not true.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said he does think, Council, that there is an invoice on and they do have documentation to show a resolution passed the contract. Champagne said the contract is before them he thinks they know Mr. Romanelli hinted towards it he doesn't want to speak for him so he will speak on his own. Champagne said um, if the contract was for litigation um, further services ah, if it was in-house Counsel which is what the contract stated and was originally designed for litigation it probably should come back for a whole new negotiation and that kind of stuff on renewal so. Champagne said with that being said he thinks he has wise words Mr. Wittenberg. Champagne said any other discussion from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said seeing no discussion he will entertain a motion. Champagne said Mr. Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, if there are no other questions he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-303;
APPROVAL OF BIG FIRE INVOICING TOTALING \$26,867 FOR
AUGUST OF 2021; by Wittenberg; supported by Wever.**

Speaker Champagne said discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne repeated discussion for motion on the floor. Champagne said seeing no discussion for motion.....Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah, he was going to say whether he agrees with the charges or not he can't, they know, whether they were negotiated it is an outstanding bill and still owed so.....

Councilor Wittenberg said um-hum.

Councilor Di Piazza continued.....that is why.....catch 22.

Councilor Wever made a comment in the background on the ZOOM recording that was not understandable or heard clearly.

Councilor Di Piazza said he is done. Di Piazza thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza. Champagne said um, any other discussion from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said seeing none Madame Recorder Wolfe.

Roll Call #8

T. Guenthardt - No	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -
			Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one against resolution passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council.

E. Approval of Budget Re-Allocation Amending the Food Distribution Center Construction Budget Last Mile Funding to unencumber CARES Fund Portion (4998) in the amount of \$289,336.00 of CARES fund (4998) in the amount of \$289,336.00 that was encumbered for the Food Distribution Center back into the CARES fund.

Previously approved CARES Funds cannot be used because the project will not be completed until later in 2022. Unencumbering the funds will allow re-allocation of the funds for other allowable purposes.

Speaker Champagne said this item is brought forth by the Ogema's Office with designee, Mr. La Haye. Champagne said gentlemen the floor is theirs.

Councilor Wever asked where are they. Wever started laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Di Piazza said three out of three.

Speaker Champagne said he also sees another designee, Mr. Dorr. Champagne said Miss Mc Gowen she has her hand raised.

Both Councilor Johnson and Wever were talking about something but it couldn't be determined what they were saying in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar, Unified Legal Department Attorney, thanked them. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said on behalf of Lyle Dorr and Ken La Haye she was able.... she drafted the resolution and she apologizes for the revisions she misunderstood the assignment that they wanted two separate resolutions so she apologizes. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said this resolution is just to ask the description so as they stated ah, that they are removing the monies that were put in use for the Food Distribution they will no longer be able to use because it will not be completed by the deadline and put back into the CARES Restricted Fund. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said that is the end of her presentation.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne asked at this time are there any Tribal Councilors wishing to abstain from this item.

Champagne asked do any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain. Champagne repeated seeing no Tribal Councilors wishing to abstain. Champagne said he will open it up for discussion among Tribal Councilors at this time. Champagne asked any discussion from Tribal Councilors. Champagne said he just wanted to re-emphasize that um, these funds were allocated and they have to be expensed by the end of 2021, December 31st and implemented. Champagne said it is unfortunate that they are sitting here in the last month to be able to see these monies coming back to the Tribe and put back onto Tribal Council to determine the next steps they think that they have to come back though they know they are not going to be spent and if they are not they would end up going back to the Federal Government. Champagne said so they have to unencumber them so they can reallocate them appropriately. Champagne said so he is in favor of this resolution to reallocate appropriately um, at a later time. Champagne said so with that being said his only comment he guessed on this item. Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said keep in mind even though the funding out of that CARES Act was allocated for certain items that needed to be delivered and put into place by the end of the year, they know, the supply train is broken. Di Piazza said whether it is the freighter sitting out the Gulf of California or out, out, out west waiting to get into port unload their stuff. Di Piazza said whether it is the Chinese that refused to make microchips that are .17 cents that has put General Motors on hold, for what, three months, four months. Di Piazza said um, they know the supply train is broken whether its milk or food whatever. Di Piazza said they can see it in the stores, they know, themselves are getting empty so can he condemn them for not utilizing it, no, they need to do something with it so it really....sad that they had to do it at this time but, most of that stuff had been promised two, three months ago maybe even longer. Di Piazza said the price of steel has went up.....everything has just gone up so, they know, one has to come back in it still has to be spent. Di Piazza said unless the U.S. Government gives another extension because they are not the only ones in the same predicament and he can assure them of that. Di Piazza said whether it is the State, other Tribes, they can't spend it either, they can't get a product.....they can't get a product. Di Piazza said he is done.

Speaker Champagne thanked Mr. Di Piazza. Champagne said they actually did relay.....there was a work session on this and Mr. La Haye was able to share with, they know, that the project, a completion date was found. Champagne asked Mr. La Haye can he please reiterate what he stated in his work session. Champagne said this project completion date was in the contract not due to their department. Champagne said he wants to make sure that known it's no fault of the department um, more likely the vendor. Champagne asked Mr. La Haye can he share on the record exactly when was the negotiating agreed project completion date by the vendor.

Ken La Haye, Food Distribution Director, said um, the completion date that was agreed upon was December 30th of this year um, they signed a contract he believed, he doesn't have it in front of him right now, but it was in April um, of this year. La Haye said um, and, they know, at that time they knew that things were kind of moved out but they know there is still a completion date um, and he is not sure and it could have been because maybe other grants.....the CARES Act, they know, running out at the end of the year also but um, they were told a date that the steel is going to be um, set and that got moved out a few more weeks and they would not receive that until November. La Haye said so there was a completion date December 30, 2021.

Speaker Champagne asked he didn't authorize for them to pass that agreed date, correct.

Ken La Haye said no, they didn't it was brought up in their meeting the other day so there will be some ah, things brought forward.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ken La Haye. Champagne said he just wanted to make sure on the record that nobody is implying the department erred this is, ah, they know, happens when they make contracts with a certain firms that can't deliver on their date. Champagne said it is the cost of doing business for them but it should not be the cost of doing business for the Tribe. Champagne said Councilor Champagne he sees her hand raised, it's down, does she still wish to be in the queue.

Councilor Champagne said no, the only thing she was going to state was that it should be noted that this is not Council's fault why they are getting the money back at the last minute and don't have to decide what to do with it. Champagne said right now their hands are really tied and they are really in a tight timeframe. Champagne said she wants the citizens to realize that Council allocated the funds and when it comes back.....when it comes back at this late of stage they have nothing to do with it. Champagne said she doesn't want to point fingers but the thing is they don't want fingers pointed their way and say it was because of Council. Champagne thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said Council Member Di Piazza was he wanting to be in the queue still.

Council Members were laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Di Piazza said no, he was on heat detail. Di Piazza said he is sorry.

Speaker Champagne said oh, okay, it looks chilly in there.

Councilor Johnson said they are cold.

Speaker Champagne said he knows it was cold yesterday.

Councilor Wever said it is just right.

Speaker Champagne said right for some, okay.

Councilor Wittenberg said it is a total mess.

Tribal Council were all laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Speaker Champagne said she came prepared. Champagne asked further discussion by Tribal Councilors before moving onto citizens. Champagne said seeing none first in the queue is Citizen Miss Sara Agosa. Champagne said the floor is hers. Champagne thanked her.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said well, she is trying to catch up on this topic but she just.....she really question that the government is not giving an extension for these funds and will only allow them to spend them if the project is completed given all of the issues especially with shipping. Agosa asked has that recently been verified. Agosa asked who is their contact for the CARES Funding she means to her that just seems really um, inconceivable. Agosa thanked them. Agosa said that is her comment.

Speaker Champagne thanked Sara Agosa. Champagne said there are a few different items that he can respond to. Champagne said for the record the government did extend this. Champagne said these funds were appropriate and allocated all.....um, about a few years ago. Champagne said um, it was supposed last year at December 31st it had to be expensed the government gave one more year and so this went back to be known that this was because the Tribes considerably lobbied that the funds given to them was given late because of ongoing litigation compared to the States that they didn't have a chance to be able to allocate the funds and implement any type of sustainable projects in such a short period of time. Champagne said currently there is proposals to extend.....potentially extend the dollars but they are.....they are unaware of anything moving forward that is going to guarantee that. Champagne said so they have to act as if um, they could lose the funds to be able to expense and implement them out. Champagne said so that is the status on that. Champagne said he did see Miss Mc Gowen's hand raised. Champagne said if she wished, Miss Mc Gowen, to respond she is more than welcome to.

Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar said nope he covered it. Mc Gowen-Cuellar said they will find out in the next couple of weeks if there is an extension but he covered it. Mc Gowen-Cuellar thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar. Champagne asked any other discussion by Tribal Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said Mr. Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, ah, on the extension to him because of they are not the only ones....only Nation....only Tribe that is going through this and he can't see, personally himself, they can always come back to this but turn around where the government, the U.S. Government, will turn around and say nope that is it....this is it, blah, blah, blah. Wittenberg said they know, so he does think and feel it will but if they do that is in their court. Wittenberg said that is just his opinion because of what is going on there is ships out there that ah, they can't get un.....it goes on and on as Gary Di Piazza was sharing ah, and even within their own self what is going on they closed the borders now. Wittenberg said they close the borders there is even more ships or whatever coming.....it goes on and on. Wittenberg said he duly feels.....truly feel ah, that the government, the U.S. Government, does recognize that and he strongly feel that they ah, would ah, give an extension give leeway. Wittenberg said just his thought that is all. Wittenberg said he just thought he would share. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said he would entertain a motion um, to approve this resolution if a Council Member is so moved.

Councilor Di Piazza commented "go for it," in the background on the ZOOM recording.

A Participant in the background on the ZOOM recording said "um-hum" but it was clear who made the comment.

Speaker Champagne said he thought Council Member Guenthardt said something. Champagne said Mr. Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said oh, since Tommy Guenthardt cannot find his unmute, he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-304;
APPROVAL OF BUDGET REALLOCATION OF CARES FUND
(4998) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$289,336.00 THAT WAS
ENCUMBERED FOR THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTER
BACK INTO THE CARES FUND; by Di Piazza; supported by
Wittenberg.**

Speaker Champagne asked discussion for the motion on the floor from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne repeated discussion for the motion on the floor from Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said seeing no discussion for the motion on the floor Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #9

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor resolution passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council.

A Participant in the background on the ZOOM recording mentioned the word “add” but it wasn’t clear who made the comment because it was said very low for the equipment to pick up.

F. Continuing COVID-19 Pandemic Assistance Program

Tribal Council has determined that due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, including the Delta and the Omnicom variants, that Tribal members, who applied and received assistance pursuant to the Tribe’s initial COVID-19 Pandemic Assistance Program which was created pursuant to Resolution #20-0909-242, in accordance with the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014, are deemed eligible to receive additional CARES Act assistance without further application.

Speaker Champagne said this item is being brought forth by Madame Recorder Wolfe and himself as sponsors and co-sponsors. Champagne said he will defer to Madame Recorder Wolfe to introduce or to um, do the presentation of the item then he will second share. Champagne said Madame Recorder Wolfe.

Recorder Wolfe said so they came up with a program to figure out because right now the CARES Act Funding dollars are sitting in the account of the Tribe that need to be expensed or returned to the Tribal Government is at one million.....an estimated \$1,122,845. Wolfe said those dollars need to be expended by December 31st by current funding allocation of the CARES Act to the Tribe. Wolfe said so as Tribal Council they determined because of the surging, ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic continues for their Tribal members and they understand they are all affected in the perils of this pandemic and the hardships their people are feeling from the affects they are bringing forward a Second Assistance Payment. Wolfe said the assistance will be provided to Tribal members who already applied and were deemed eligible for the Tribe’s initial COVID-19 Pandemic Assistance Program that was dispersed in 2020. Wolfe said it was noted already that it follows the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014 to inclu.....exclude it from gross income for tax purposes um, and they will receive the benefit without further application. Wolfe said those are opening comments she guessed she will defer to him.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder. Champagne said he believed there is good legal justification for this item as well. Champagne said they understand that the people who applied for the Pandemic Assistance um, did so because it was impacting COVID-19 Pandemic.....was impacting their lives. Champagne said they hear from citizens every single day of how the pandemic has impacted especially in some of their Outlying Communities that he represents ah, who rely on tourism and Food and Beverage who were shut down for extended periods of time just getting back into the swing of things in those areas who were without income for quite amount of time. Champagne said they hear about individuals who are suffering to make their heat payments and they need the cost share portion to get the aid to make the 100% heat payments. Champagne said they hear about the need to be able to um, provide for the food aspects. Champagne said they also know that people got behind on rent and mortgages. Champagne said they have programs to assist with that but sometimes those programs are not just be enough or they're the working poor. Champagne said they are not the incredible poor. Champagne said they're having a job but their hours are reduced or they are without work for closures or they are a daycare worker and it was closed down for the weeks. Champagne said those are things that impact their people. Champagne said funds for this is to be used for those types of circumstances and is a self-reporting type of program, they are to hold onto their records they are to be able to in case of audit to produce that they are spending them in those types of responses that they said they had needed them. Champagne said he thinks that is important because that is what these funds are for. Champagne said they know that it is going to help their populations no matter where they reside. Champagne said they are not a block reservation their two reservations have the smallest populations ah, of the Tribe. Champagne said they know that so when the program and funds were set up was set up for block reservations because they are the ones who are lobbying. Champagne said that's the ones who were saying this is what they need. Champagne said it makes no sense for them to invest heavily into a very small population when the vast majority of their population would go without. Champagne said their four county service area in the Federal Government do not have a large population, their expanded nine county service area is a bit larger. Champagne said even then services based in Manistee and Mason County would be at a severe disadvantage for those who are coming from afar such as they see Tribes handing out food baskets. Champagne said they see Tribes delivering that those make sense for block reservations but does not make sense for their bands. Champagne said he thinks this ah, Pandemic Assistance Payment is ah, service to their people, a service that they can't provide without their.....handed directly to them being able to handle those affairs that is what is unique about their people. Champagne said the majority of their people not the vast majority of their people do not live in the four county service area and the majority of their people do not live in the nine county. Champagne said outlying is the majority of their people. Champagne said in order to get aid to their people this program is needed. Champagne said so he thanks Madame Recorder Wolfe for joining him on this. Champagne said they are both on the same mind set of heading forward. Champagne said they think

how can they get the aid to their people in the time of need. Champagne said there is always a risk, the Federal Government may audit them, and determined that they do not agree with their rationalization their legal synopsis of this matter. Champagne said they know that. Champagne said they may have to pay the money back they know that. Champagne said they also know if they do nothing the money will go back. Champagne said he thinks it is better to get money to their people in this time of need then just send the money back to the Federal Government. Champagne said that is the reason why they are bringing this item forward with Madame Recorder Wolfe and the reason why he strongly support this item for their people. Champagne said Chi Miigwech. Champagne said at this point and time any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain from this item. Champagne said any Tribal Councilors.....Mr. Wittenberg he is wishing to abstain.

Councilor Wittenberg said yes, he would say Chi Miigwech to Julie Wolfe both...

Speaker Champagne interrupted. Champagne said one second sir.....he is calling for abstentions.....

Councilor Wittenberg said oh.

Tribal Councilors were laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Speaker Champagne continued.....any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time. Champagne said only one more time. Champagne said any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain at this time.

Councilor Wittenberg said very low to hear, no.

Speaker Champagne said seeing no Tribal Councilors wish to abstain. Champagne said he and Mr. Di Piazza are on it today. Champagne said he is going to call him right away for first queue that was before he did the same thing that's why them guys are on it. Champagne said first in the queue is Mr. Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg started laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Wittenberg said sorry about that. Wittenberg said ah, himself he wanted to say Chi Miigwech for Julie Wolfe and himself, Ryan Champagne for bringing this forward and for the work session. Wittenberg said he wanted to say Chi Miigwech for those that were here and ah, and what they need to do. Wittenberg said he will share that this came up right away as it should so that they can turn around and get that ball rolling before December 31st. Wittenberg said so he is fully in support of because he feels.....strongly feels no matter where they are at in life that amount that goes to the members will be able to use it and personally himself, ah, being prices and a lot of things are going up that ah, and

Christmas because now they are taking ah, away from what they should be paying on because of Christmas. Wittenberg said not everybody is doing it because they don't have it but hopefully ah, whatever may come their way that goes out to the members on this that ah, will help them in ah, some way. Wittenberg said again he wants to say Chi Miigwech for those that brought it forward. Wittenberg said Aho.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said any other Councilors for discussion on this item. Champagne repeated any Councilors for discussion on this item. Champagne said he does want to.....with Councilor Wittenberg um, "*thank you*" to the CFO and his team, their Legislative Team, their staff who are willing to...to dedicate the hours needed....any hours needed to ensure these payments out to their people. Champagne said he wants to say to their citizens it will be no easy feat, if this passes, many government workers will be working diligently to make sure these payments reach each and every one of them. Champagne said there may be a chance not all go out. Champagne said he is going to say his apologies ahead of time assuming they do not have updated addresses that the checks will still be held back, they know, if it gets sent back then reach out to the government. Champagne said those who didn't apply the first time it will not reach them. Champagne said his apologies if they need that assistance. Champagne said this is the best case scenario....this is.....this is the best utilization. Champagne said it may not be the best case scenario but they are trying to reach the most citizens as possible in the minute amount of time. Champagne said plus he wanted to say "*thank you*" to the Executive work force if this measure passes today. Champagne said Miss Johnson.

Councilor Johnson said um, so um, she is good with this but um, just.....do they know for a fact that this \$1.1 is like the final month that they are dropping not going to spend. Johnson asked is there a possibility of other funds that are not showing up or whatnot. Johnson said that is her only concern that something else between now and when they sign checks out that something else could pop up that doesn't get cleared. Johnson asked it's um, or is this definitely the.....the final amount she guessed.

Speaker Champagne said Madame Recorder Wolfe and he can respond as well.

Recorder Wolfe said that amount that she told her is an estimated amount they did verification from the CEO and in like November 22nd it was \$833,245 then they add what they unencumbered today is where she came up with the estimated amount of CARES Act Funding that is available to expend on the program.

Speaker Champagne said once they.....once the CFO retracks the payments, the cost of sending them out, is that dollar amount that will be split quickly and evenly among all applications. Champagne said there will be no difference in the set dollar amounts. Champagne said he is glad she raised that because he didn't think they mentioned that. Champagne said the applicant will receive the equal

amount because of supplemental appropriation. Champagne asked is there any items that could come back at the end of the time, definitely. Champagne said he has faith in their Executive side and see they will be able to clean those items up with other potential expenditures that they use General Fund on that they can do the cleanup, hopefully. Champagne said hopefully that will be under \$500,000.

Someone in the background on the ZOOM recording was laughing real low and the equipment picked it up.

Speaker Champagne said they know if it \$100,000 or \$50,000 makes things easy. Champagne said if it is \$500,000 and above that's not.....then they will probably send the money back. Champagne said they know, have expenditures on computers that they spent that could probably be covered in communication expenditures things of that nature. Champagne said at least the goal is is the vast majority will be implem.....expensed and implemented out. Champagne said they encourage their citizens if this passes cash their checks immediately and to be able to keep their receipts. Champagne said that the expenditures that they had either previously or currently so. Champagne thanked them. Champagne asked any discussion from Tribal Councilors. Champagne said that was a great question Miss Johnson. Champagne thanked Pam Johnson. Champagne repeated any discussion from Tribal Councilors. Champagne said they will go to the queue then with citizens. Champagne said Citizen Miss Sara Agosa and then Citizen Miss Chelsea Densmore.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said her comment is to Council and um, for them Tribal members they do know the impact on their community but this is also to share with non-Tribal members who work for the Tribe. Agosa said that they have had more mortalities, hospitalizations, and extended recoveries. Agosa said when they are in extended recovery even at home they can't work and their pay is also reduced. Agosa said um, also too another hardship is depending on where they live for their Tribal members, Tribal members might be hit with medical bills not every outlying Tribal member utilizes the CHS or EHAP, funerals also have additional costs which is food and travel. Agosa said also too when they are in the hospital their family needs food and other small items which are only accessible in the hospital especially if they can't leave so that is an additional cost as well as families having to use Paid Time Off to be with their loved ones in the hospital or extended recoveries. Agosa said so COVID is very real in their community and many of their Tribal Families have been affected. Agosa said um, that is her comment but she also has a question. Agosa said she just wants clarification on which application is going to be used to distribute these funds. Agosa said there were two applications one for \$1,400 and one for \$5,000 so she just needs clarification which one will be used to distribute these funds. Agosa thanked them.

Councilor Di Piazza made a comment in the background on the ZOOM recording but it was too low to be picked up and it couldn't be made out clearly.

Recorder Wolfe asked Speaker Champagne if he wanted to respond or herself.

Speaker Champagne said to Madame Recorder that she can and then Councilor Di Piazza also had his hand raised.

Recorder Wolfe said so this is a continuing program of the COVID-19 Pandemic Assistance Program from 2020 and that dollar amount was at \$1,400 so those are the applications that are deemed eligible for this payment.

Speaker Champagne asked Mr. Di Piazza if he wanted to respond or if he wanted to be in the queue.

Councilor Di Piazza replied no, he was going to respond. Di Piazza said yeah, it was for the previous COVID-19 Assistance Programs and it will be coming in a check form.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza. Champagne said Citizen Miss Chelsea Densmore.

Councilor Di Piazza interrupted. Di Piazza said it can't be Direct Deposit because they needed to stay away from it looking like a Per Capita Payment so otherwise it gets mingled within the Per Capita Payment. Di Piazza said they are audited they are going to have a hard time deciphering it just like Ste. Sault Marie all of a sudden mingled funds with one of their grants and they are being spanked and they have to pay it all back. Di Piazza said he is done. Di Piazza thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council Member Di Piazza. Champagne said Citizen Miss Chelsea Densmore then back to Citizen Miss Sara Agosa.

Chelsea Densmore, Tribal #3225, thanked Speaker Champagne. Densmore said she didn't hear this mentioned but she knows it was talked about yesterday in the work session. Densmore said um, she knows that the department was saying that they don't have a lot of time to do this and it was a ton of work. Densmore said she knows they alluded to that as well but she really hopes this gets passed today because she knows they need every second they can get to try and get the checks out and start working on that. Densmore said so she just wanted to reiterate the time crunch. Densmore said Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Chelsea Densmore. Champagne said Citizen Miss Sara Agosa.

Sara Agosa said she just wanted to confirm and make sure its clear that distribution list that if an enrolled youth applied for that um, that amount will also be included in this payment. Agosa thanked them.

Speaker Champagne said correct, all applicants will get an equal distribution as a supplemental payment. Champagne asked any other discussion from Tribal Councilors or citizens at this time. Champagne said they do have the number, Madame Recorder, he thinks it was 3,400 and.....

Recorder Wolfe said no.

Speaker Champagne said no, okay.

Recorder Wolfe said it is an approximately 360 members that are eligible for the continuing payment.

Speaker Champagne asked how many members.

Councilor Di Piazza said they said 340.

Councilor Wever asked what about 3,000.

Recorder Wolfe said 3,060.

Speaker Champagne said oh, 3,060, okay.

Recorder Wolfe asked did she say three hundred.

Tribal Councilors in the background were laughing on the ZOOM recording.

Speaker Champagne said that is not correct.

Tribal Councilors continued laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Speaker Champagne said he knows the 3,060 and that amount of people did apply ah, for it so. Champagne said those are the ones that are there. Champagne asked any other discussions from Tribal Councilors at this time. Champagne said seeing none he will entertain a motion to approve....this resolution. Champagne said Mr. Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, ah, if there is no other questions he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #21-1208-305;
CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;
by Wittenberg; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Champagne asked discussion for motion on the floor by Councilors or citizens. Champagne repeated discussion for motion on the floor by Councilors

or citizens. Champagne said seeing no discussion on the floor Madame Recorder Wolfe roll call please.

Roll Call #10

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -
			Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor the resolution is passed.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council. Champagne said they will make sure they sign this resolution and get it out to the Executive side this afternoon.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, December 15, 2021

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Speaker Champagne said Ogema Romanelli said the floor is his. Champagne thanked him, sir.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Champagne. Romanelli said he just wanted to again note the additional work for the ah, CFO and the Accounting Staff. Romanelli said in case people don't know they do have regular payroll that they do and they have the Per Cap Payments so additional work with getting checks out again, is a bit much but he did talk to them again. Romanelli said he does appreciate their extra work or anybody's that goes into this work of getting the checks out so. Romanelli said the only other thing.....two other things is he does appreciate Sara Agosa bringing up the....the question of the removal on the agenda he thinks there were four or five items removed and he thinks a little more discussion is needed on that. Romanelli said they don't have to do it here they can do it under Public Comment he is sure. Romanelli said the last thing he wants to state is that, and he doesn't think there were any today, he still believes that the abstentions from Council are not being done the way the Constitution prescribes. Romanelli said again, he doesn't want to get into big detail because it didn't happen today. Romanelli said he thinks that there are key items that happened and if the abstentions aren't done properly he thinks it could impact ah, services, or items on the agenda so. Romanelli said that's it. Romanelli thanked them very much.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ogema Romanelli. Champagne said they have um, onto the next thing.....he sees Citizen Thull having her hand raised. Champagne said he is sure if she has a question for Mr. Romanelli um, on anything or response to what he stated. Champagne said he is always torn about on this update whether or not citizens, they know, technically the Constitution says any

item considered by Tribal Council this is not, this a courtesy aspect. Champagne said if it is okay with Mr. Romanelli Miss Thull she has the floor, he guessed.

Susan Thull said ah, Ogema Romanelli does he mind answering a question.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah, he doesn't mind.

Susan Thull thanked Ogema Romanelli. Thull said she was just wondering if they can get an update on the Muskegon Clinic and also as long as um, they were just having the resolutions on this. Thull asked are there any funds that were ah, that came from CARES that would also be in the same situation as the um, commodities. Thull asked are there any funds that would be not um, expended from CARES on that ah, Medical Clinic. Thull thanked them very much.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Susan Thull. Romanelli said he thinks ah, it has not been brought to this attention any CARES money that might have to go back from the Clinic. Romanelli said the last thing that he heard, and he doesn't know if Doctor Wever is on he could much better explain the situation with the Clinic, or if there is anyone else to please feel free to jump in. Romanelli said what he was told was that they would like to do a soft opening on December 15th and a larger opening of the offices after the first of the year and that's the last he knows but if Doctor Wever is on he is absolutely free to enlighten them so. Romanelli thanked them.

Susan Thull thanked Ogema Romanelli. Thull said that is good news.

Speaker Champagne said okay, Citizen Miss Sara Agosa.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said on today's agenda the EDC requested funding for around a million dollars and from what she understands it has been removed or postponed. Agosa said in the work session it was brought up and requested that the EDC provided this plan. Agosa said so her question to the Ogema is why hasn't the Business Plan been provided to Tribal Council in order for them to approve this funding request. Agosa thanked them.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Sara Agosa. Romanelli said he thinks she heard right the other day is that the General Manager of the EDC said they did not have the Business Plan ready to produce to the Tribal Council and therefore the item was removed if he is hearing correctly. Romanelli said the other issue that they have is and he is sure most people are aware of there are issues with the EDC that the Tribal Council is ah, aware of and are also bringing up. Romanelli said there was also changes within because of the lawsuit happening was approved or brought forward ah, the beginning of this year. Romanelli said so he is not sure, again, what is going on between.....with that million dollars. Romanelli said normally what has happened in the past is that the money is allocated from the Commerce Department Budget towards the end of the year. Romanelli said he is not fully

aware of what the reasoning is with this amount of money or the reasoning ah, that the Council is asking he believed more questions the EDC was not ready or prepared to answer. Romanelli said he thinks that is the best he can say on that. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Champagne thanked Ogema Romanelli. Champagne said all right the next item of business they have is Public Comment Period.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Champagne said um, Tribal Council any Councilors wish to provide a Legislative Affairs Update. Champagne said he sees Council Member Di Piazza. Champagne said he has the floor, sir. Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza for those good words.

Councilor Di Piazza said um, ah....

Speaker Champagne said they can go on in the queue, just joking.

Councilor Di Piazza said this weekend they are supposed to have a meteor go by outside of the Eiffel Tower so. Di Piazza said it is supposed to bounce off the stratosphere or some crazy stuff so. Di Piazza said eh, something for them to do he guessed, assume. Di Piazza said he is done.

Speaker Champagne thanked Council Member Di Piazza. Champagne said he did not know that actually so he finds that....he likes his updates because they are always like something that is educational and not known so. Champagne said ah, he must be looking at.....

Councilor Di Piazza said he has one more too if he likes them.

Speaker Champagne said he actually does like his updates on those.....
Champagne started laughing.

Councilor Di Piazza said one is back on November 30th NASA shot off a, what do they call, well he doesn't know, its an asteroid killer rocket because they plan on blowing up an asteroid. Di Piazza said so he doesn't know if that is bad or that means good or if they are just trying to practice their pool shot. Di Piazza said he doesn't know.

Speaker Champagne said he is sure their 8a Company may be bidding for that project.

Councilor Di Piazza said it is just unusual that they have one coming extremely close to the stratosphere and they launched one on November 30th to blow up an asteroid. Di Piazza said he doesn't know.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Di Piazza. Champagne asked any other Councilors for their Legislative Affairs Update. Champagne said Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, he would just like to keep in mind ah, everybody praying ah, in their prayers because of the COVID that is infecting all those that are around them and to be honest they got not only Tribal people but they are ah, out there in the community and his prayer personal himself is for all those around him no matter who they are. Wittenberg said so he would just like to keep everybody aware if that. Wittenberg said that these things can happen ah, right in their own circle so....and he sees them many times out there that many are coming down and it is even more if they look at the press that the numbers are going up and so just because they are up here in Manistee ah, it can still affect them because they had quite a few ah, people.....members that turned around and took that journey up here. Wittenberg said so ah, this does affect everybody and if they are living in a big city or they are going to these different places where there is a lot of people keep that in mind of what they need to do and what they should do. Wittenberg said so as he is talking to them he is talking to Ron also so Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne said next for discussion for Legislative Affairs Update is himself. Champagne said they know there is a lot going on at this time of year. Champagne said they do have their families gathering and they are ready to go and they have workers wrapping up and preparing for a Government Shutdown. Champagne said they will always thank their government for understanding the importance of family by giving um, a shutdown. Champagne said it is not actually a benefit it is something that is a gift. Champagne said he thinks that is not an entitlement when they came on and so many employees appreciate that and he thinks they know um, he thinks that is always look at it with those lens. Champagne said appreciative of their Tribal Government workers who do work um, diligently to citizens who are also appreciative to understand that people have families. Champagne said but they always need to know the reason their here. Champagne repeated that the reason they are here is for their people. Champagne said that is the whole reason every one of them sits here and every one in this Tribe is employed whether it is the enterprise or the government it is to be servants to their people and their top priority. Champagne said that is always good to keep in the back of their mind because he does hear from their citizens who....who work he was just reflecting back what he sees two long standing Directors this past week do an excellent job who are both Tribal citizens. Champagne said that should be the norm throughout their enterprises and their government. Champagne said invested.....they have been invested and have working here for 20 years or 15 years plus and he thinks its ah, what they want to see. Champagne said it is a big difference in his mind when they see one of their people working in a top position, dedication, and the professionalism they have, that they show to their people in commitment no

matter what Administration is here. Champagne asked why because they are invested it's their communities. Champagne said may be when coming into 2022 they can keep that in when looking at the Budgets coming up for 2022. Champagne asked on how do they prioritize their people throughout. Champagne asked how do they prioritize their people in every single aspect role and if that is true Tribal Self-Governance. Champagne said for the Executive side um, a different area of business tomorrow is the Center for Indian Country Development and Research Summit. Champagne said he is not sure if anyone from the Executive side is participating on that he can send it to Ogema Romanelli. Champagne said this is something that he believed and his staff may.....it is a free um, summit obviously it's a summit so it's a free aspect its virtual. Champagne said um, he would encourage the appropriate work force might find it of interest. Champagne said it they find the time to attend um, that is going on for tomorrow um, for most of the afternoon. Champagne said so he will forward that over it is a simple registration but he does think they look at going further into Indian Country specifically into their lands it would be something of content that information that they might find valuable. Champagne said so with that being said that concludes his Legislative Affairs Update. Champagne said then he will forward that onto here after. Champagne asked any other Tribal Councilors for Legislative Affairs Update. Champagne repeated any other Tribal Councilors for Legislative Affairs Update. Champagne said seeing none they can move onto Public Comment Period.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Champagne said he does see that Miss Sara Agosa is first in the queue for Public Comment. Champagne said the floor is hers, ma'am.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said so in continuation.....

Recorder Wolfe said she thinks they missed Legislative Update, sorry.

Speaker Champagne said oh, no. Champagne said no, he is sorry he.....that is 100% his fault. Champagne said his apologies. Champagne said next in the queue is.....next on the agenda is Legislative Affairs Update. *Tribal Council went back up to C. Legislative Affairs Update. Tribal Council continued with Public Comment Period.* Champagne said Sara Agosa has been patiently waiting and the floor is hers ma'am.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said she just wanted to circle back to the Ogema's statement about the lawsuit and just clarification on that. Agosa asked what lawsuit is he referring to because the Stone et. al. v. Tribal Council, Order and Opinion. Agosa said that was regarding oversight of the casino and not other enterprises. Agosa said the EDC is not a Gaming Enterprise so she doesn't think the Ogema should use this case to withhold information from Council regarding funding from the EDC. Agosa said she would like a formal statement from

Council on this matter she believes that Tribal Council does have a responsibility to oversee the EDC especially when it comes to allocations and if they are requesting a Business Plan that they are provided with that information, Agosa said she has some comments as well. Agosa said last the Ethics Ordinance was ruled unconstitutional but she believed there is a need for a new Ethics Ordinance for Elected Officials that is comprehensive and covers all aspects of ethics including Conflicts of Interest. Agosa said right now Conflicts of Interest is referenced in two parts of their Constitution with very general language. Agosa said the Boards Ordinance has some content about Conflicts of Interest but there is a need for one ordinance that contains ethical rules for Elected Officials including the Compliant Procedure that members can utilize. Agosa said she would like to also share concerns with inconsistencies in their Constitution and ordinances are just a few examples. Agosa said Page six and seven of their Constitution under Section VII, Sections eight and nine are missing and it jumps to Section X. Agosa said it is like a whole chunk was just taken out. Agosa said in a former meeting she asked about Bullet point E on Page six which states Council can employ Legal Counsel subject to the approval of the Secretary..... Secretary of the Interior for as long as such approval is required by Federal Law. Agosa said to Speaker Champagne that he said this ruling was no longer valid or required. Agosa said these are just a few examples she believes it is very important for members to have access to Tribal Statutes that are current and consistent without errors or omissions. Agosa said Court Rules also have gaps in information. Agosa said her understanding is that the Tribe falls back on Michigan Law to fill in gaps but she believes that Tribal members should have access to Tribal Law that is complete and full accessible and internally she knows the responsibility to create Court Rules is the responsibility of the Judicial Branch but she feels it is important to share her concern with Council. Agosa said would also like to share her opinion that it is important for everyone to remember that the Tribe is required to follow Federal Law and Tribal Law. Agosa said in the Elected Officials Sworn Oath it states that their Elected Officials will uphold the Tribal Constitution and the United States Constitution and all Laws and Regulations of Little River and the U.S. Agosa said she would like to see that members are educated on all stacks.....aspects of law including Federal Law and how these laws overlap their Tribal Law. Agosa said another need that she would like to request and feel would be really helpful is if Little River created a Pro Per Guide similar to what other Tribes offer their members and she believe Grand Traverse does have a Pro Per Manual that is very helpful. Agosa thanked them. Agosa said okay that is her comment.

Speaker Champagne thanked Citizen Agosa. Champagne asked any other Public Comment or responses here. Champagne said Citizen Miss Susan Thull. Champagne said she has the floor ma'am.

Susan Thull thanked Speaker Champagne. Thull said he said they were in Public Comment.

Speaker Champagne said they are.

Susan Thull thanked Speaker Champagne very much. Thull said she was just wondering um, if.....she guessed what she is looking at is the FEMA Funeral Allowance and she hasn't seen where um, where anyone has put this out for their.....for the benefit of their members and it is the Funeral Assistance ah, due to COVID and she is wondering if that is something that ah, somebody could maybe um, review and then ah, if this is.....it looks to her like it is still um, allowable ah, that it is still there for members to um, that they could get some assistance ah, for any deaths that are due to COVID. Thull said um, could someone look at that maybe then put it out on their um Face Book page for their Membership um, or in an E-mail Blast just so that they are aware of it. Thull said that is her question.

Speaker Champagne thanked Susan Thull. Champagne said any Councilors wish to respond or maybe Ogema Romanelli. Champagne said Miss Thull maybe she can share that information to um, Tribal Council and the Executive side and they can share it with the appropriate folks to see about more information on that. Champagne said he is not.....he is not abreast on this situation so he can't be of any use.

Susan Thull interrupted. Thull said yes, she will send them all the link.

Speaker Champagne thanked Susan Thull. Champagne said that would be really helpful. Champagne asked any other comment at this time. Champagne asked any other Public Comment at this time from citizens. Champagne said seeing no other Public Comment at this time. Champagne said oh, Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne repeated Council Member Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, ah, he would like everybody ah, and pass it on if they would December 16th which is he believed is next week ah, that the Governor may look kindly upon them and sign those papers so that they may grow ah, even more and have that casino down in Muskegon or Fruitport. Wittenberg said he just wanted to put that out there so the more prayers are powerful and ah, but it is the quality not the quantity so Miigwech.

Speaker Champagne thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Champagne asked any other Public Comment from citizens at this time. Champagne said seeing no other Public Comment from citizens at this time. Champagne said they can move ontothat concludes their Open Session.

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.

Speaker Champagne said at this time he will entertain a motion to end Open Session.

MOTION TO END OPEN SESSION; by Johnson; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Champagne asked discussion for the motion at hand. Champagne repeated discussion for the motion at hand. Champagne said seeing no discussion from citizens or Councilors at this time. Champagne said Madame Recorder Wolfe roll call please.

Tribal Council were all laughing in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Wever said she likes hers better.

Recorder Wolfe asked motion to end open.

Councilor Johnson said yes.

Councilor Wever made another comment but it wasn't picked up clearly on the ZOOM recording.

Roll Call #11

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
N. Champagne -Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor they have ended Open Session at 12:46 p.m.

VIII. Open Session

Recorder Wolfe said to Speaker Champagne that the recorder is on.

Speaker Champagne said they are back Tribal Council they are here for the Second Open. Champagne said they only have one item on the agenda for Second Open which is discussion.....items moved from Open Session. Champagne said he will entertain at this time a motion to entertain into Second Open.

Someone in the background on the ZOOM recording was coughing loudly and most comments were gone.

Recorder Wolfe asked what is the mo.....what is he looking for.

Speaker Champagne said he will entertain a motion to open.....he will entertain a motion to open.....to go into Second Open.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO SECOND OPEN; by Johnson; supported by Wever.

Speaker Champagne said there they go do they have support for Councilor Johnson motion. Champagne asked is there discussion for the motion on the floor. Champagne said hearing no discussion for the motion on the floor Madame Router.....Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #12

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
R. Champagne - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - No
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one against they are in Second Open at 3:04 p.m.

Speaker Champagne thanked Madame Recorder.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

Speaker Champagne said there is one item on the agenda um, things moved from Closed to Open Session. Champagne asked are there any Councilors who wished to move items from Closed to Open Session at this time. Champagne repeated are there any Councilors who wished to move items from Closed to Open Session at this time. Champagne said last call for Councilors who wish to move items from Closed to Open Session at this time. Champagne said seeing no Councilors who wish to move any items he will entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting today.

There were no items to be moved from Closed to Open Session.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO END FOR TODAY; by Johnson; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Champagne said they are ending the day them are some pretty powerful things. Champagne said motion on the floor today is to end it so ah, any discussion.

Recorder Wolfe said who can support.

Councilor Johnson said yeah, he cannot support.

Speaker Champagne said there they go there is no support.

Councilor Wittenberg said he did support.

Speaker Champagne said so there is support from Councilor Wittenberg to end the day that he thinks is the terminology. Champagne asked any discussion from Tribal Council for the motion on the floor. Champagne said seeing no discussion from Tribal Council um, Madame Recorder roll call please.

Roll Call #13

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
R. Champagne - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - No
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

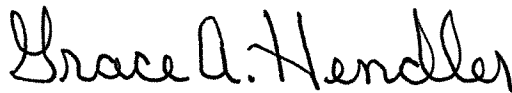
Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one against they have adjourned Closed Session at.....

Councilor Johnson said Open Session.

Recorder Wolfe said Second Open at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Julie Wolfe,
Tribal Council Recorder