



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on April 16, 2025. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Burmeister:

I. Opening Prayer

Councilor Silvis: Stated Opening Prayer

Speaker Burmeister:

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

At 10:03 am

B. Roll Call

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #

T. Burmeister - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	M. Silvis - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	J. Wolfe - Present	A. Metzger - Present
S. Crampton – Present	P. Johnson- Present	S. Wever - Present

We do have quorum.

Speaker Burmeister:

C. Approval of Agenda

Recorder Johnson: **Motion to approve the agenda for Wednesday April 16, 2025, with the following correction III. Continuing Business A. Grants and Contracts 1.A. Updated- Approval for the NRD to submit an application For NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28. III. Continuing Business A. Grants and Contracts 1.B Updated- Approval for the NRD to submit an application for NOAA Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grant for Tribes and Underserved Communities Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28. III. Continuing Business A. Grants and Contracts 2. Postponed- Ratification of Agreement with Byztrav Consultants Inc for Travel Agent Services. III. Continuing Business A. Grants and Contracts 4 Postponed- Ratification of Gosling Czubak Contract for Infiltration Bed/ Phosphorus Removal Report in the**

amount of \$29,000, IHS grant funded Resolution# 24-1113-214. III.A.6 Updated-Ratification of Billboard Contract with Lamar. V. Acceptance of Commission Reports E. Postponed- Housing Commission Report for March 2025. V. Acceptance of Commission Reports F. Add- Natural Resource Commission Report for March 2025. VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities B. Add- Elders Committee 1 and 2 for November 2024. January and February 2025. VIII. New Business A. updated Resolution- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internet Gaming Revenue Distribution Ordinance- Ordinance #25-0312-XXX. X. Closed Session C. Bids and Contracts. 1 Postponed- Approval of 2023 Rehmann Financial Audit Change Order. C. Bids and Contracts. 2 Postponed- Approval of Rehmann Robson to provide Accounting Support Services. C. Bids and Contracts. 3. Postponed- Approval of Rehmann Robson to provide Human Resources Consulting Services. Which are the same for XI. Open Session A. 2,3 and 4 postponed.

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 1

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

D. Tribal Council Minutes ☐ None Submitted

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

Updated Resolution	1. A Approval for the NRD to submit an application For NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration And Coastal Resilience Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28	Tribal Ogema A. DeGabriele F. Beaver
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Alexis DeGabriele: represented the item

Councilor Metzger: Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-081 Approval for the NRD to submit an application for (NOAA) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28.

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 2

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes

G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes
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Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

Updated Resolution 1.B	Approval for the NRD to submit an application For NOAA Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grant for Tribes and Underserved Communities Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28	Tribal Ogema A. DeGabriele F. Beaver
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Alexis DeGabriele: represented the item

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-082 Approval for the NRD to submit an application for (NOAA) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grant for Tribes and Underserved Communities Grant for 1/1/2026-12/31/28.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 3

P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- Yes
M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

Postponed 2.	Ratification of Agreement with Byztrav Consultants Inc for Travel Agent Services.	Tribal Ogema M. Lucas
3.	Authorizing participation in the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association's Tribal Energy Capacity Building Program and Identifying the Tribe's Energy Champion.	Tribal Ogema G. Lewis G. Walters

Greg Walter: Represented the item

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-083 Authorizing participation in the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association's Tribal Energy Capacity Building Program and Identifying the Tribe's Energy Champion.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 4

M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes
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A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- No
S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson- Yes

Motion carried (7-2-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

Postponed 4. **Ratification of Gosling Czubak Contract for Infiltration Bed/ Phosphorus Removal Report in the amount of \$29,000, IHS grant funded Resolution# 24-1113-214** Tribal Ogema G. Lewis

5. **Master Agreement for contract services between Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Band), and Indigenise LLC for Tribal event of a Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) for May 6&7, 2025** Tribal Ogema D. Batchelder-Streeter

Dottie Batchelder-Streeter: Represented the item

Councilor Silvis: **Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-084 Master Agreement for contract services between Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Band), and Indigenise LLC for Tribal event of a Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) for May 6&7, 2025**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 5

S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson- Yes
T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- No	A. Metzger - No

Motion carried (6-3-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

Updated 6. **Ratification of Billboard Contract with Lamar** Tribal Ogema Batchelder-Streeter

Dottie Batchelder-Streeter: Represented the item

Councilor Silvis: **Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-085 Ratification of Billboard Contract with Lamar**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 6

T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes
R. Wittenberg- No	J. Wolfe- No	A. Metzger -No
S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever- Yes

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

B. Budget Modifications

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

IV. Acceptance of Reports

A. Report of the Tribal Ogema

Tribal Ogema

1. Operations Report

☐ None Submitted

2. Financial Report

☐ None Submitted

V. Acceptance of Commission Reports

A. Binojeeuk Commission

☐ None Submitted

B. Enrollment Commission

☐ None Submitted

C. Gaming Commission

☐ March 2025

Councilor Metzger: **motion to accept the Gaming Commission Report for March 2025**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 7

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

D. Health Commission

☐ None Submitted

Postponed E. Housing Commission

☐ March 2025

Add F. Natural Resource Commission

☐ March 2025

Councilor Wolfe: **Motion to postpone Natural Resource Commission Report for March 2025**

Councilor Metzger: support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 8

J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes
P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - No	S. Crampton- Yes
M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

G. Biskaabiiyaang Commission ☐ None Submitted

VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities

A. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report ☐ March 2025

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept the Little River Casino Resort Preference Report for March 2025**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 9

S. Crampton – Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes
J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

Add B. Elders Committee **1. ☐ November 2024**

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to accept the Elders Committee Minutes for November 2024**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 10

G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes
J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Absent	R. Wittenberg- Yes
P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Speaker Burmeister:

B. Elders Committee **2. ☐ Jan & Feb 2025**

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to accept the Elders Committee Minutes for January and February 2025**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 11

J. Wolfe- Abstain	A. Metzger – No	R. Wittenberg- No
P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- No
M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes

Motion carried (5-3-1-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

Updated Resolution A. Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internet Gaming Revenue Distribution Ordinance- Ordinance #25-0312-XXX S. Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Represented the item

Councilor DiPiazza: Call to question

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 12

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- No	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - No	M. Silvis - No	T. Burmeister- No

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Councilor Wolfe: Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-086 Adopting the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internet Gaming Revenue Distribution Ordinance- Ordinance #25-100-12

Councilor Metzger: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 13

P. Johnson- No	S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- Yes
M. Silvis - No	T. Burmeister- No	G. DiPiazza- No
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

IX. Concluding Business

- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, April 23, 2025**
- B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business**
- C. Legislative Affairs Update**
 - 1. Tammy Burmeister**
 - 2. Pam Johnson**

3. Julie Wolfe
4. Gary Di Piazza
5. Shirley Wever
6. Al Metzger
7. Ron Wittenberg
8. Misty Silvis
9. Shannon Crampton

D. Public Comment Period

Councilor Silvis: **motion to end First Open Session at 1:13pm**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 14

M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Absent
S. Wever - Absent	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson- Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

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.

Councilor Silvis: **Motion to go into Second Open Session at 2:33pm**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 15

A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes
S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson- Yes
T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

XI. Open Session

- A. **Items from Closed to Open Session – Minutes and Materials Remain in Closed**
 1. **Gaming Commission Closed Session Report ☐ March 2025**

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept the Gaming Commission Closed Session Report for March 2025**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 16

S. Wever - Yes	S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson- Yes
T. Burmeister- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger -Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

- Postponed 2. Approval of 2023 Rehmann Financial Audit Change Order**
Postponed 3. Approval of Rehmann Robson to provide Accounting Support Services.
Postponed 4. Approval of Rehmann Robson to provide Human Resources Consulting Services.
5. Acceptance of Little River Casino Resort FY2024 Financial Statement and Agreed-Upon Procedures Audit Reports from RSM US, LLP

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept Resolution #25-0416-087 Acceptance of Little River Casino Resort FY2024 Financial Statement and Agreed-Upon Procedures Audit Reports from RSM US, LLP**

Councilor Wever: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 17

S. Crampton – Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes
J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Councilor Wolfe: **Motion to amend the agenda to add outside council to represent Tribal Council in case #25-089-GC**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 18

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - No
G. DiPiazza - No	M. Silvis - No	T. Burmeister- No

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Councilor Wolfe: **Motion to engage outside legal counsel to review and represent the Tribal Council on case #25-089-GC**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Councilor Wolfe: **Call to question**

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 19

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - No
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Councilor Wolfe: **Motion to engage outside legal counsel to review and represent the Tribal Council on case #25-089-GC**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 20

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe- Yes	A. Metzger - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - No
G. DiPiazza - No	M. Silvis - No	T. Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (6-3-0-0)

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to amend the agenda to have the Speaker to construct outside Legal Gary Pitchlynn to petition the courts to dismiss councilors Burmeister, Johnson, Silvis, DiPiazza, and Wever from Case #25-089-GC**

Councilor Crampton: Support

Councilors Crampton: **Declared conflict of interest and to abstain from the vote**

Recorder Johnson: **Vote on if Councilor Crampton has an issue/ conflict to amend the agenda**

Roll Call # 21

R. Wittenberg- Abstain	J. Wolfe- Abstain	A. Metzger - Abstain
S. Crampton - Abstain	P. Johnson- No	S. Wever - No
G. DiPiazza - No	M. Silvis - No	T. Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (1-4-4-0) **FAILED**

Recorder Johnson: **Vote on to amend the agenda to have the Speaker to construct outside Legal Gary Pitchlynn to petition the courts to dismiss councilors Burmeister, Johnson, Silvis, DiPiazza, and Wever from Case #25-089-GC**

Roll Call # 22

G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - Yes	P. Johnson- Yes
R. Wittenberg- Abstain	A. Metzger – Abstain	J. Wolfe- Abstain
T. Burmeister- Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	S. Crampton-Abstain

Motion carried (5-0-4-0)

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to have the Speaker to construct outside Legal Gary Pitchlynn to petition the courts to dismiss councilors Burmeister, Johnson, Silvis, DiPiazza, and Wever from Case #25-089-GC**

Councilor Silvis: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 23

R. Wittenberg- Abstain	J. Wolfe- Abstain	A. Metzger - Abstain
S. Crampton - Abstain	P. Johnson- No	S. Wever - Yes
G. DiPiazza - Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- No

Motion carried (3-2-4-0)

Speaker Burmeister:

XII. Adjourn

Councilor Silvis: **Motion to adjourn at 3:17pm**

Councilor Crampton: Support

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 24

G. DiPiazza - No	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Absent
S. Crampton – Yes	M. Silvis - Yes	T. Burmeister- Yes
J. Wolfe- No	A. Metzger – Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes

Motion carried (6-2-0-1)

Respectfully Submitted,



Chantel Gamelin,
Transcribing Assistant



Susan Thull,
Tribal Council Recorder