



Approved 06/04/2025

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 09, 2025
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 April 09, 2025. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Burmeister: Good morning, everyone. We are here this morning for our regular scheduled Tribal Council meeting for Wednesday, April 9, 2025. We will begin with

I. Opening Prayer

and I've asked Councilor Silvis to say the prayer for this month. So, if you're able to stand, please stand

Councilor Silvis: Creator, I thank you for all we've been given, and I ask for your protection over our tribe. Let your peace reign in our hearts and lift up those who are struggling within our tribe. I pray for peace and blessings for all. Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, since we don't um have a screen to look at for Zoom users to identify who they are, um Chantel Gamelin, our legislative assistant, she is actually writing everybody's names down. So, it might take a little bit um when you raise your hand for a question. I will have to look at her to see who is the person raising their hand. So, it might take a little bit of extra time. So, I just wanted everybody to know that. Thank you.

Councilor Wolfe: Tammy, I'm participating. I can have them identify themselves for you. I can see the list and talk.

Speaker Burmeister: Um we have you- Chantel has that already done. So, we're going to just move forward. So, we are on. Thank you for the offer, though.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

I will call this meeting to order at 10:18. Since we can't identify Zoom users, we will move down to

B. Roll Call

Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this meeting, please?

Recorder Johnson: Tammy Wit-

Speaker Burmeister: Where you going to call me Wittenberg I think she's was going to say. Were you going to say Wittenberg?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #1

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

Quorum established.

We do have quorum.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under general business

C. Approval of Agenda

Will there be any councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Any councilors with questions? Any tribal citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council? with no further questions or any questions. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I'm just prepared to make the motion.

Speaker Burmeister: Ok, go ahead Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: I'd like to make a **motion to approve the agenda for Wednesday, April 9, 2025. With the following changes under IV. Old business A has been removed. Approval of budget modification MB 2025 authorizing the modification to the 2025 Tribal Victim Services Grant. Um in the same section B removed and it's the exact same item approval of budget modification MB 2025 authorization of a modification to the 2025 Tribal Crime Victim Services Grant. And then under closed session, item VII. D. We added under 1. Little River Casino 2024 financial AUP audit presentation at 1pm. And then another addition that I missed is under closed session VII. B 2. legal updates adding G Baldwin property.**

Councilor Metzger: support

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: Um **we also have a change at the bottom of the page for the first budget modification MB-2025 uh needs to be changed from 10 to 11.**

Councilor Wolfe: You want me to restate the motion or just include that what was stated by Councilor Silvis?

Speaker Burmeister: We can leave it stated as what Councilor Silvis stated. Recorder Johnson, can you do a roll call for the agenda, please? Oh, we already had the motion.

Recorder Johnson: Okay

Speaker Burmeister: Um Councilors have any further questions? Tribal citizens. Back to Tribal Council. Okay, with no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do a roll call for the agenda, please?

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

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Nine in favor. It's been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under General Business

D. Tribal Council Minutes 04/02/2025

Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Councilors with questions? Tribal citizens with questions. Back to Tribal Council. With no questions, I'd like to entertain a motion, please. Go ahead, Councilor Silvis. Okay

Councilor Silvis: Okay Id like to make a motion to accept-

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Julie has her hand up. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Just wondering how much staff we still have working on the minutes. We should have more than one minutes to accept. We have a full-time transcriber. We have a legislative assistant. The recorder's working on them. And we did bring in someone from the temp pool. We need to hold the staff accountable. We should have more than one set of minutes. We still have minutes that we need to complete from what I'm hearing 2023-2024. And I think we're pretty current on 2025, which Chantel is handling. So, thank you. Speaker, was there a response on how many?

Speaker Burmeister: That is a personnel. We can discuss it during closed session. Okay we-

Councilor Wolfe: A number is personnel?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes, under personnel in closed.

Councilor Wolfe: No, a number is personnel. How many? Not who. How many are working on minutes currently?

Speaker Burmeister: I just stated that we can talk about that under personnel.

Councilor Wolfe: Okay. Tribal membership, it's four.

Speaker Burmeister: Recorder Johnson will give an update on that. Okay. We have Ms. Councilor Silvis that brought the motion forward. So go ahead. You didn't read it though yeah.

Councilor Silvis: I'd like to make a **motion to accept Tribal Council minutes 4-2-2025.**

Councilor Wolfe: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Are there any further questions from Tribal Council? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council? With no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #3

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)

Nine in favor. It's been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

- | | |
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| 1. Ratification of 2025-2029 MOA between
Michigan Department of Environment,
Great Lakes, and Energy, and the Little River
Band of Ottawa Indians | Tribal Ogema
J. Vaquera
F. Beaver |
|--|--|

So, Jasmine, the floor is yours.

Jasmine Vaquera: Uh Good morning. My name is Jasmine Vaquera, and I'm the air quality specialist for the Natural Resource Department. I'm also accompanied uh by Frank Beaver, director of NRD, who is here to answer any questions that may be outside of my scope of work. I'm here today to request for the ratification of the 2025-2029 MOA between Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, also known as EGLE, and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. I'm open to any comments, questions, or concerns.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Jasmine. Will there be any councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Councilors with questions? Councilor Metzger, go ahead, please.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. Could you, uh just for tribal membership, could you give a slight overview of what this project entails, please?

Jasmine Vaquera: Yes. So, this MOU covers the work that EGLE does to assist with uh the air quality project. So, they do, in summary, three things. Um they do our audits for

our ozone analyzers twice a year, and then they do an audit for our PM2.5 sampler uh once a year, which is something that we can't do internally. Uh they also do data validation and data entry for us. They submit all of the data that we collect from these samplers' um over to the EPA, and then they also help us with um an annual maintenance for our equipment and uh annual certification for all of our equipment.

Councilor Metzger: All right. Thank you. And uh how is this financed?

Jasmine Vaquera: I'm sorry

Councilor Metzger: How is it financed?

Jasmine Vaquera: Oh, it's financed through the uh Clean Air Act 103 grant.

Councilor Metzger: Grant.

Jasmine Vaquera: Yea

Councilor Metzger: All right. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors with questions or comments? Julie? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: So, I uh wonder if Tribal Council is in receipt of the full legal review for the MOA. In our packet is only the memo.

Speaker Burmeister: Julie, could you, or Councilor Wolfe, could you please repeat your question?

Councilor Wolfe: Is Tribal Council in receipt of the full legal review? Only in our packet is the memo.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe, we haven't received that. I just checked with double checked with Councilor or Recorder Johnson.

Councilor Wolfe: So, this item should be postponed until we can review the legal review. I'd like to make a **motion to postpone this item until Tribal Council is in receipt of the legal review. Postponing item ratification of 2025-2029 MOA between the Michigan Department of Environmental Great Lakes and Energy and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: Um is there any way you can get that legal review to us by second open today?

Jasmine Vaquera: Um, is that not the, is the memo and the review different?

Councilor Silvis: We do but uh-

Jasmine Vaquera: Okay

Councilor Silvis: but it shows on here that, hold on a second, I'll bring it to you.

Councilor Wolfe: Yes, the memo and the legal review are two different items. The legal review is kept in closed. The memo is in the packet in a public document. The memo only states brief information that the legal review has been confirmed.

Jasmine Vaquera: Okay yeah

Frank Beaver: we will request that from Executive Legal

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Frank Beaver: for second open, yes

Speaker Burmeister: Okay thank you Frank. Okay, will there be any Tribal Councilors that are going to abstain from this item?

Councilor Wolfe: My motion didn't include until second open. We have to have time to review it.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, did you want to please restate that motion then?

Councilor Wolfe: No, I didn't. I want to postpone and brought that next week, so we have time to review it.

Speaker Burmeister: for second.

Councilor Wolfe: I don't want to postpone it to second open.

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, she just said that. Next week.

Councilor Wolfe: Is there a timeline or deadline when this MOA needs to be completed? We should have the time to review the complete memo.

Jasmine Vaquera: Technically, there is, um, they started work March 1st, but, um, from what I know every year, it's, it's delayed a little bit. Um-

Councilor Wolfe: So, they're completing work for the tribe without a MOA in place? That is illegal.

Jasmine Vaquera: Well, we haven't. That's just been what's happening past few years.

Councilor Wolfe: Well, just because it happened before doesn't mean that it makes it legal. They need to cease and desist their work until the item is approved. We don't have a MOA in place. That puts the tribe at risk.

Jasmine Vaquera: Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: If we receive it before second open, I wouldn't be opposed to adding it back on, but my motion is to remove it until next week. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe, is it removal or postpone?

Councilor Wolfe: Postponed until next week.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. All right. Thank you. Okay. Does council have, okay, you supported it. Um does council have any further questions or comments? Tribal citizens? Dawn, go ahead, please.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. Dawn Moneyhan, 5088. Um I have a few questions, actually. I'm wondering if the grant funding is being affected by the federal cuts and freezes right now, and um if there's a comparison to last year's funding versus this year, and if our tribal members are allowed to know the amount of that grant funding, and then I'm also wondering who approved the work to go forward without the MOA in place. Miigwech.

Jasmine Vaquera: Um, go ahead

Frank Beaver: So, this has not, this grant has not been affected. We just received notice this morning right before I came here that our um uh the award that we applied for to start April 1, we received that. We never received that notice from EPA for before the grant starts, but we always know it's coming, it's in the works, and so we received that official letter this morning. So no, this one is not affected by the Department of Government Efficiency, DOGE. Uh that this program... there was some discussion that it might be that air quality was something that there uh this administration was going to look at uh reducing, did not reduce. Our funding this year is actually increased from previous years, um and I think that has more to do with uh Jasmine and her activities and the um good work we have shown to EPA. They tend to put resources in tribal grants where they get good results, and so that's our tribe, it's one of those tribes that does that. And I'm going to forget the third question. What was that that was asked? Um

Jasmine Vaquera: How did the work-

Councilor Metzger: *Speaking but unclear as mic was turned off*

Frank Beaver: Yep, this is definitely increased, and of course, that before we applied for that grant, we came to Tribal Council for approval to submit that grant, and that was done months ago and worked through the system. So, as I said, we just received the award letter this morning. Um and so, because we have a grant that ended on March 31, and a new grant that started April 1, no work under the MOA until Tribal Council's approval under the new grant will take place until Tribal Council chooses. So, like Jasmine was saying, work has been going on, but that's actually under the previous grant that ended March 31. It's a continuing grant. It just has an end date and a start date. The program continues. So that's why it might sound like we're doing stuff without Tribal Council's approval. That's not the case, right? It's just that we have that overlap in the dates between when we received the award letter. So, I apologize for creating any confusion. Thanks.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you Frank. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Chi-Miigwech, Billy. I do appreciate that. I um the way that it was presented by the by Jasmine, it did sound like work was being completed without the MOA in place. So, I understand that it's a two-grant. And then this one is a four-year grant that we are um possibly talking about. And Dawn, the question on your um dollar fiduciary, it's \$2,987 per year. And over the four years, the grant dollars that will be expended is \$11,948. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Um I'm not sure of your name, but you can come to the podium and just list your name and your Tribal ID.

Maria Meza: Hello. Maria Meza, Tribal Member uh 5242. I just wanted to know what MOA means is all.

Frank Beaver: That is a fair question. I apologize. I live in the world of federal agencies, so I tend to throw around alphabet soup. MOA in this case means Memorandum of Agreement. So, the Tribe and EGLE, they we are agreeing that we will each provide certain services. Um there's a monetary exchange for the services that EGLE provides. And again, those monies are provided by EPA. They're not Tribal dollars. And in return, we agree that we will you know do our data collection, and we will measure air quality. And that's what the MOA Memorandum of Agreement is. We're agreeing to what we will both do in this agreement. Yeah

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you Frank. Go ahead Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: And then just to further note, his other abbreviation of EGLE is Great Lakes and Energy is what EGLE means. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other questions from Tribal Council? Okay, with no... Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Oh, I just want to further um explain some of the acronyms you may see. You might see MOU to that means Memorandum of Understanding.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any further questions or comments? Okay, with no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please? Yeah, to postpone.

Recorder Johnson: next week

Speaker Burmeister: No next week

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #4

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

Motion carried (4-5-0-0)

Four in favor, five against. It's failed

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Ah, yes, I'd like to make a motion. Make a **motion to approve ratification of 2025-2029 MOA between Michigan Department of Environmental Environment, Great Lakes and Energy and Little River Band Ottawa Indian resolution number is 25-0409-073.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Does Tribal Council have any questions or comments? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: How did this item make it to the agenda without a complete packet? Why it was not noted at agenda review? And why are we moving forward on an item when we don't have all the materials? I do not understand. Do we just not care about what we're doing? We do not have a complete legal review that has been received by Tribal Council. We have a memo that the legal review was complete. We're here to serve the people and protect the best interest of the membership. We don't have the document. I believe in supporting this, but one week is not going to make a difference. It's a continuing grant. I heard Mr. Beaver just speak that we received the award notice today. We don't have to rush on this. We should receive all complete document. I don't know to why the Recorder allowed this one to move forward with not even a complete packet. I cannot support the item in the state that it's in. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you

Councilor Wolfe: I do have one more additional comment.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay go ahead

Councilor Wolfe: I did hear the staff say that they could provide the documents. They would request them and get them to us. So, I don't understand why you five don't want to wait for a week so that we can be fully informed.

Speaker Burmeister: Any other councilors with questions or comments? Tribal citizens with questions or comments? Okay go ahead, Councilor Crampton. There's people participating

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, I'm kind of in the same boat with Councilor Wolfe. Um I do know that this is probably a good program and needed. It's just that um when we're put in charge of um watching out for the interest of the membership, that comes with the thing called due diligence. And that's what Councilor Wolfe is talking about. If you go back and look at some of the minutes, you'll see that the same five have stopped things from moving forward because the packet wasn't complete. You just have to go back a couple meetings, and you'll see it. So, it shifts. There's no real due diligence. It's whatever they feel like doing whenever they feel like doing it. And this is what puts our tribe in precarious situations like we are in right now. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors? Okay. Other citizens? Dawn, go ahead, please.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. Dawn Moneyhen, 5088. I actually want to echo what our two councilors just stated. And I would like to ask if I can poll the five members who voted to push this through and ask them why they are in such a hurry and not willing to do uh due diligence to this. Do you have this information already? I mean, is there something that we should know that we don't? Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Any other comments from citizens? Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, in the past, we've had the same five acting without, uh exactly like they're acting today, only to have it come back in legal review later and have to move things back, like take CARES funding back and not move forward on ARPA funding that's not there. It's ridiculous. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. If there are no further... Go ahead, Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: I would just like to clarify. You say five. So, who are the five you are talking about? Who are you referring to?

Dawn Moneyhan: If I may respond. The ones that just voted to pass this through without all of the information.

Speaker Burmeister: No, no, no Dawn, you weren't in the queue. Um she asked Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Silvis: And not only that the five that he's referring to didn't even just make the motion to put it on right now. So, I don't understand what the quandary is. So that's all. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I don't even know what to say because there are several times my agenda items have been rejected, not added. We spent over an hour in the previous week to add on the agenda item that was to accept the regulations for the membership assistance program because it was received at 8:30 in the evening instead of 8:30 in the morning. And you guys didn't accept it. You didn't want to approve them. We spent an hour in discussions. Now, again, it's the executive branch with an incomplete packet that has made it through being placed on the agenda, on the agenda, on agenda review. And we've had the staff say they can provide the documents that are being requested by Tribal Council. And Shirley, Tammy, Pam, Gary, and Misty don't have the time to wait for one item. Councilor Metzger simply brought it forward because we have to fall through the agenda because you guys did not postpone the item as requested. So that's the big quandary. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. My understanding is that with these legal reviews, uh and this is a continuing item, that unless there's any concerns, we normally only provide the memo that says a legal review is done. And unless there are questions on that, then it goes further. But that's all we provide on a regular basis. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Ogema. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: That is incorrect. It's always been received and kept in closed documents. The memo, the full legal memo is always on a blue paper included in our packet under closed. The full legal memo. I mean, the full legal review. The memo is included in the packet what is public information.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, the um stories that keep getting a little larger and a little larger and a little less truthful. Um yeah, we had a unified legal that gave us memos all the time. I think that was just canceled like 2018, 2019. So, the Ogema statement was incorrect. And I think that Tribal Council can go back and pull up countless amounts of legal reviews that were sent. So, I don't know what the lying is all about, but it's consistent, at least. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other comments or questions from Tribal Council? Okay. With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #5

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

Motion carried (4-5-0-0)

Four in favor, five against, it has failed.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: I would like to make a motion to amend the agenda to put this on for a postponement for second open.

Recorder Johnson: Postponement to second.

Councilor Silvis: Yeah, just postpone it till second. Okay. I'd like to make a motion to postpone the ratification of 2025-2029 MOA between Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, and Little River Band of Ottawa Indian to second open.

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: There be any Tribal Councilors that are going to abstain from the item? Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Is Ms. Perry available? We should call a recess. A failed item cannot be postponed. It failed. I don't understand how we can postpone a failed item. Is Ms. Perry available? Is Ms. Perry available?

Speaker Burmeister: She is not on the call.

Councilor Wolfe: Then we need a recess to consult with legal unless you're rescinding that motion because it can happen. I'm sure Councilor Crampton has an answer. He's been a legislator a lot longer than me. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, you've already taken action on that. It's failed. In order to take another action, you have to put it back on the agenda again at the next meeting. We're in a meeting and it just failed. So, I see people online going, you can't bring something back next week. You sure as hell can't bring it back in the next meeting, on the

same meeting when it's already been taken action on. So that item that was on the agenda failed.

Speaker Burmeister: Mm hmm. Go ahead Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: So, I will rescind my motion. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Thank you. Moving down to

B. Budget Modifications

1. **Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Tribal Ogema
Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs – K. Bowers
and approving a modification to the Operating Budget
MB2025-___ in the amount of \$239,366.00**

So, Kathleen, the floor is yours.

Kathleen Bowers: Ah Thank you. Um this is um money received from the BIA for contract support funds.

Speaker Burmeister: Kathleen, we're having a hard time hearing you.

Kathleen Bowers: Can you hear me now? Can you hear me?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes

Kathleen Bowers: Okay. Um this is funds uh received from the BIA uh in the amount of \$239,366. This is for contract support costs for 2025. Um this is our first payment of contract support costs that we have received this year.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Will there be any councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. I just have a clerical question. Since the last motion failed, are we on 73 or 74? 74? All right. Thank you. Thank you for the clarification.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: So, I cannot support this item as it's being brought forward. We're asking for budget modification number 10 to the 2025 annual budget for the tribe. We have not received any financial reports for 2025. We did not receive January, February, or March. To add almost a quarter of a million dollars to the budget without no accurate reporting is not something I'm willing to do. I do get that we're taking it in. But what goes in and what goes out needs to be completely and accurately accounted for. As we did have problems in 2024, we're still... May is the last month we received a financial reporting for 2024. We received none for 2025. I don't believe this item should be acted on. So therefore, I will not support it. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors with questions or comments? Tribal citizens?

Councilor Wolfe: Speaker, I need to clarify my comment.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Councilor Wolfe: We did receive reports for May, June, and July. May, June, and July are no longer being presented by the executive. May has been presented by the legislative staff so we can review as a body. June and July are accepted to are expected be presented this week so that we can put them on for filing. So, I just wanted to clarify that I did misspeak. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Mark.

Mark Huddleston: Was... Were any of these items are gone over on the agenda review on Monday?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes

Mark Huddleston: Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Dawn.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. I'm just wondering if our members could please get some clarification on the modification that was made. What was it and what was the purpose behind it? Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, it's just accepting the funds into the operating budget.

Dawn Moneyhan: For clarification, it says a modification to the operating budget. I'm asking about the modification. Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead. Go ahead, Councilor DiPiazza. And then have Councilor Crampton after.

Councilor DiPiazza: It's going into the contract support costs for-

Councilor Wolfe: Speaker, are we not doing queue?

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, they had their hands raised. I have you in queue, yes.

Councilor DiPiazza: Well, that's all I had. It's going into contract support costs. That's it.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, we already have an adopted budget. And the modification that would be happening would be to accept the \$239,000 into the budget. So that's what the modification would be. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, as was noted on the Tribal Council calendar in the weeks ago when I was approved, on Monday, I did not attend agenda review because I was representing the tribe at a tribe-to-tribe consultation. So that's why my questions are coming now. Thank you, Mr. Huddleston.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Barry, go ahead, please. Barry Pucker, please go ahead, please. Yeah, Barry.

Councilor Wever: Oh

Speaker Burmeister: Barry Pucker, go ahead, please. Barry, I see you unmuted. Go ahead. I'm going to move along. Okay. So, we're going um to move along. Any other questions from Tribal Councilors? Okay, Tribal Citizens. We have Barry, but he hasn't responded. Back to Tribal Council. So, um who would like to entertain? I need a um someone to entertain a motion. Go ahead, Mist-. Whoa.

Councilor Silvis: I'd like to make a **motion to accept resolution number 25-0409-074, acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the operating budget MB 2025-11 in the amount of \$239,366.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any Tribal Councilors with further questions or comments? Tribal Citizens? Back to Tribal Council. With no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #6

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

Motion carried (6-3-0-0)

Six in favor, three against, it's passed.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

2. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs – and approving a modification to

**Tribal Ogema
K. Bowers
R. Medacco**

**the Operating Budget MB2025-___ in the amount
of \$244,083.00**

So, Kathleen, the floor is yours.

Kathleen Bowers: Thank you. This is money we received from the BIA for public safety in the amount of \$244,083, and it'll go into deferred revenue.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Will there be any councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: To me, I just want to make clarification for membership item two and three. I will be not supporting again on the same principle. We don't have up-to-date financials to continue to make budget modifications to the 2025 operating budget. Shouldn't be happening, in my opinion. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors with questions or comments? K go ahead, Michelle. Michelle, you have the floor. Michelle Gibbs, you have the floor.

Michelle Gibbs: Can you hear me now?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes, go ahead

Michelle Gibbs: Oh, sorry about that. So, if we're abstaining to vote, don't... don't you have to follow a procedure where you have to state why you're abstaining and then the rest of council votes on whether you have a conflict or not, not voting just because you don't agree with it. That's all I have.

Speaker Burmeister: Um you are correct, but Councilor Wolfe isn't abstaining. She is not going to vote on the item. She's not. She didn't say she was. Well, she said she was abstaining, but I don't. Councilor Wolfe, can you restate? She's not supporting it.

Councilor Wolfe: That is correct, Speaker. I'm not supporting the item. I did not say I was abstaining.

Speaker Burmeister: Correct. Any other questions from Tribal citizens? Tribal Council? Okay, with no further questions, Um I'd like to entertain a motion, please, for this item. Go ahead, Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: I'd like to make a **motion to accept resolution number 25-0409-075, acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the operating budget MB 2025-12 in the amount of \$244,083.**

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any questions from Tribal Council?

Councilor Wolfe: I didn't hear the support, Speaker.

Speaker Burmeister: Um, Councilor Silvis made the motion and Recorder Johnson supported.

Councilor Wolfe: Okay her mic must have not been on.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay Tribal citizens with comments? Go ahead. Yeah

Maria Meza: Maria Meza, Tribal ID 5242. Now, I heard they mentioned on uh B-2 that money was for safety. What's the money for... for B-1 and B-3?

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor um DiPiazza.

Councilor DiPiazza: That funding's for law enforcement. And that would be 2025 distribution of CR number two and uh appointment-based funding to tribal-operated criminal investigation and police services programs under public law 117-108. So, it's for tribal enforcement.

Speaker Burmeister: Other questions from citizens?

Councilor DiPiazza: Oh that

Speaker Burmeister: We are on number two

Councilor DiPiazza: On number two. Contract support costs. Contract support costs, IHS, clinic operations.

Speaker Burmeister: Did that answer your question? Okay. Any other citizens with questions or comments? Tribal councilors with further questions or comments? Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I'm with Councilor Wolfe and I'm kind of, I want the membership to understand she's not trying to hurt the tribe. I don't think that uh the members understand that when we just went through the audit thing, the process that we just had, um this is the kind of thing that audit nightmares are made of. When you have a um council sitting here right here now with the recording minutes stating that they haven't got financials, but they're accepting large amounts of money, not knowing the financial situation of the tribe. That's what audit nightmares are made of. So, I won't be supporting this either. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. So, is there any further questions from tribal council? With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #7

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

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Five in favor. Four against. It's been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

3. **Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Tribal Ogema
Department of Interior -Bureau of Indian Affairs – F. Beaver
and approving a modification to the Operating R. Medacco
Budget MB2025-__in the amount of \$492,975.00**

Um Kathleen, were you going to speak on this one also?

Kathleen Bowers: I will start it off and then if there's any questions, I'm sure Frank and Robert can probably step in.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you.

Kathleen Bowers: Absolutely. Um these are funds we received from the Rights Protection Implementation Grant from the BIA that includes monies for Great Lakes Fisheries Enforcement, Great Lakes Fisheries Assessment, BIA Inland and BIA Inland Enforcement. Um there are budgets for the uh BIA Inland and BIA Enforcement. Um those are monies that need to be put in to build a budget on. The Great Lakes Fisheries Enforcement and Great Lakes Fisheries Assessment are already budgets we have um built in. So, these are just funds that are going to revenue going into there. If there's any other questions, Frank or Robert would probably be better off to answer.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Um will there be any Tribal Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Okay, Councilors with questions? Go ahead Councilor DiPiazza.

Councilor DiPiazza: I was going to say some of that funding is going for Rights Protection for the Inland Consent Decree, which is part of the 1836, which helps us exercise that treaty right. That is to protect us while we're out exercising them rights. So, part of it. I'm done.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, what is the actual budget dollar amount for the Tribe in general? Since we haven't received reports of our operating cash flow since July of 2024. Please someone tell me the current budget amount that the Tribe has in the bank. Preferably somebody that answered yes to accept the quarter million dollars. Kathleen, can you give us a budget amount? Ogema, can you give us the budget amount? What we have currently today sitting in our bank account?

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead Ogema Romanelli

Ogema Romanelli: Okay, no, I cannot give a complete budget amount at this time. What I do want to clarify is that all three of these items are accepting money, not taking money out of the budget. These are grant funds that we do on a yearly basis. So, the budget actually shouldn't pertain to this directly. The other problem we have is that it's clearly stated.

Councilor Wolfe: I only asked a simple question. I don't need a big explanation

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe please don't interrupt-

Councilor Wolfe: I asked a question

Speaker Burmeister: the Ogema, let him finish please

Councilor Wolfe: He answered the question

Speaker Burmeister: It is every time. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Wolfe: Answer the question don't add a lot to it. We don't have the.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolf, you're not in the queue. Councilor Crampton is.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I just like to point out that um the speaker has held other people me sometimes to speaking just um to um the item on the agenda or the question that was asked. Uh Mr. Romanelli, absolutely. Every time he stands up, whether it's a question or just something to be given immediately, he jumps on his soapbox and starts preaching and you allow him to do it continuously. So, I support what Councilor Wolfe is saying. Um I...I don't want to stand up here and says that this item doesn't relate to the budget at all. I think that that's a bit of ignorance that the membership needs to understand that um when you're accepting this money, yeah, you're responsible for accepting it. And if you're accepting something that you don't even know where the moneys at. That's a huge problem. Huge problem. Soapbox.

Speaker Burmeister: OK, um go ahead, Councilor Wolfe. You are next in the queue.

Councilor Wolfe: I'd like to make a motion on the item. I'd like to make a motion to approve resolution. 0409, Oh, what's the first number? Oh, 25-0409-0376.

Speaker Burmeister: Um Councilor Wolfe, we still have people in the queue.

Councilor Wolfe: I can still make my motion. Then you can pick up the queue after that.

Speaker Burmeister: We're going to I'm going to um

Councilor Wolfe: That's not the process.

Speaker Burmeister: Just let them go first and then-

Councilor Wolfe: I make a motion that's the process.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe We always wait. OK, go ahead, Mark.

Councilor Wolfe: Ok then I'd like to continue with my comment. I will retract with

Speaker Burmeister: Ok I'll put you back in the queue then.

Councilor Crampton: No, Robert's rules of order. Any councilor can make a motion at any time. I don't care anymore. You can make you don't need the speaker to recognize you to make a motion from the floor. That's Robert's rules of order. You can look it up now. I thought you guys took a class. If you didn't take a class-

Speaker Burmeister: It's out of courtesy for the people in the queue

Councilor Crampton: It doesn't matter. You don't have any say.

Speaker Burmeister: Yes, I do.

Councilor Crampton: You don't. Robert's rules of order. Any councilor can make a motion. They don't need your approval or recognition to make the motion.

Speaker Burmeister: Well then-

Councilor Crampton: I thought you guys took a class.

Speaker Burmeister: Hmm? Diana, do you want to get in the queue, too? Go ahead
Ogema Romanelli

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. I do have a problem with continually being interrupted. As we can tell by every meeting, I'm always interrupted. I think it's a way of trying to stop me from being able to give my side of the situation. The other thing we're talking about the financials. And yes, they are behind. We also know the minutes are behind. And that affects our budgeting and our due diligence as well. Because as we know, as the auditors have said, the minutes being behind are the official record of this council and of this tribe. And when the minutes aren't there, there is no official record. And that's all I have to say before I get interrupted again. And I dislike some of the comments that are being made about ignorance, etc. So, thank you. I'll end with that.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Thank you. I have you in the queue, Councilor Crampton. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe. You are next in the queue.

Councilor Wolfe: My apologies Ogema Romanelli. I asked a simple question when you carried on. I did feel the need to interrupt. But my apologies for interrupting. The speaker

usually shuts everyone else down that's speaking. So, my apologies. When we talk about this item and we say the minutes, I addressed that when minutes came up on this agenda. The speaker deferred to provide any comment or transparency and said, the recorder will give an update in closed. I know the minutes are behind. I've been after getting the minutes brought up to date and strategizing and planning and bringing people on in a board to complete those minutes. But I do disagree that the minutes are, they are the official record of the tribe. But if you look at business and accounting principles, minutes are not noted in there, so, when you say the minutes are direct reflection of the audit is incorrect. And when we had the auditors present to us after the letter was submitted without concurrence from Tribal Council, the audit team even confirmed that nowhere in the Constitution does it say minutes are needed for an audit. So, we're talking apples and oranges here again. Now, today we have on the agenda a million dollars' worth of funding that is being put in the budget. It's a modification to the operating budget of 2025. We are six months behind for 2024. And we have not received one financial statement for 2025. Yes, we dearly and desperately need this funding, and operations and business need to continue. But we also are paying staff that's not doing their jobs. All I'm simply asking is for hold those people accountable, provide the documentation so the decisions we are making are informed decisions. We need to protect our assets and resources. This isn't happening with this body continuing to just say, okay, let's continue. Let's continue. Who operates their budget without knowing what's in their checkbook? So, when together six plus four, three, we're not really April's not due yet. Nine months, 10 months behind. Who operates their business like that? Much less a tribe that's responsible for 4,000 people. That's all my comments are about. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton. You are next in the queue.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, every time the um failure of the executive to get the audit numbers in um comes up, he always tries to uh divert attention by um claiming the minutes are behind. Uh we should release. Can we release the reports? We show the members what a crock that is. There is a memo written by the speaker that uh backs up everything I've told the membership. The person responsible for the minutes in the Constitution in our ordinances is... is the recorder. No one else. Nobody else on Tribal Council can affect them. Nobody else on Tribal Council can change them. Nobody else on Tribal Council is responsible for them. So, it's not the body of Tribal Council. It's a diversion to keep trying to um get away from what you're responsible for. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Diana. Do you still have a question or comment? Okay. Ken, you are next in the queue.

Ken Metzger: Uh Ken Metzger, 0889. This is an ongoing, continuing problem from budgeting. And who is responsible for the treasurer since we don't have a treasurer secretary? Is that all the chairman's responsibility to make sure this is budgeted right? Or who is actually the treasurer here? Um yeah. So, passing budgets before other ones are settled is illegal. Um how can we keep doing this? That's all I have to say. Chi- Miigwech

Councilor Wolfe: Speaker, may I ask the question, answer the question?

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, for budgets, there's a whole team that works on the budget. First, you have your frontline staff that submits it to their director or supervisor that then submits it to the lead staff that then submits it to the CFO that then submits it to no the budget coordinator. Then the CFO reviews it. Then it does go to the tribal manager. And then the Ogema. There's a whole lot of people. It's not just one. And all of them aren't effectively doing their job because the reports are not coming from the executive branch to the legislative side. Therefore, they're not available to the members. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Mark, you are on the queue next. Go ahead, please.

Mark Huddleston: Yes, I would like to uh ask the speaker to follow the procedures for the queue and start warning these people from all these constant interruptions. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Mark. I am trying very hard to do that. Okay um Councilor Wolfe, are you... you have a question or comment? Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I think the overall problem here is not uh many people interrupting. It's lack of knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order. Uh Robert's Rules of Order. Anybody can look them up. You can look them up right now while I'm speaking. Um in order to make a motion, there's no recognition that is required from the speaker. Any councilor sitting up here at any time can make any motion they want at any time. I don't know why they took the class. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Well, just to clarify, um yes, I did take the class. And if you look at Robert's Rules um regarding presenting a motion, number one says obtaining the floor. Number one below that says wait until the last speaker has finished. So that is why I call on people to finish asking their questions for the motion. I don't need um a response to it because it's just going to you just want to argue. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, members, please look that up online because what she just read to you is absolutely incorrect. And that's uh what you do when the speakers are recognizing people. What I said is that making a motion from the floor, any councilor can make a motion from the floor. Please look it up. She's just looking up excerpts that she doesn't understand. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: That wasn't the original problem. It was the problem of not letting people speak. You guys wanted a motion to be brought forward, and we still had people in the queue. So that's what I'm referring to when I read that.

Councilor Crampton: You're speaking without being in the queue.

Speaker Burmeister: Myself written down. So, um Mark, do you have any further questions or comments? Ok Councilor Wolfe, go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe: So, correctly, I did have the queue. I needed to make a comment, but my first comment was to bring forward the motion. The motion should have been accepted by the speaker and then she could have picked up the queue and answered the questions. There's always an opportunity once the motion has been made and supported for discussion. Sometimes we have pre-discussion and post-discussion on motions. So, yes, I did have the right to make the motion. It wasn't interrupting. It wasn't out of line. I had the queue when I went to make the motion. Thank you.

Mark Huddleston: No, you didn't.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. So, you are in the queue right now because you had brought that motion forward. So, if you still want to bring that motion forward on this item, go ahead, please.

Councilor Wolfe: I decline.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Silvis. Is your? Okay. Go ahead, Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: Okay. With no other questions, I'd like to accept resolution number 25-0409. Wait a second. Let me start that over because I don't know what I just said. **I'd like to accept resolution number 25-0409-076, acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the operating budget MB 2025-13 in the amount of \$492,975.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Does Tribal Council have any further questions or comments? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. With no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #8

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

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Five in favor, four against. It has passed.

Speaker Burmeister: All right. Thank you. Moving down to

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

There is nothing listed under there.

IV. Old Business

- | | | |
|------------|--|---|
| Removed A. | Approval of Budget Modification MB2025-__;
Authorizing A modification to the 2025 Tribal
Victim Services Grant. | Tribal Ogema
K. Bowers
M. Ludwig |
| Removed B. | Approval of Budget Modification MB2025-__
Authorizing a modification to the 2025 Tribal Crime
Victim Services Grant | Tribal Ogema
K. Bowers
M. Ludwig |

Moving down to

V. New Business

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|
| A. | Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Internal Audit Summary for the Ogema 1010-102
Department Budget. | B. Pringle |
|----|---|-------------------|

So, Brad, the floor is yours.

Brad Pringle: Sure. Once again, welcome Tribal Council member via Zoom. Uh we're looking for a resolution acceptance for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the Ogema's 1010-102 department budget, whereas the Comptroller General has performed the internal audit of the 2023 Ogema's 1010-102 department budget, whereas the Comptroller has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on February 17th of 2025 and in a work session on March 13th of 2025. Now, therefore, it is resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Ogema 1010-102 department budget dated February 17th of 2025. Um contained within the audit, there was, uh in the findings, we have some uh \$455 of overspend in workman's comp premium. There was a \$1,264 overspend in postage and freight. And there was a \$246 overage in phones and beepers. And under recommendations, um there's a note that says it's worth to mention that in December of 2023, monthly reports from the CFO was presented to Tribal Council on January 28th of 2024. And the official closing of the 2023 Tribal Accounting Book records were not finalized till mid to late February. Thus, there will be some differences in the 2023 December report from the CFO and the actual year-end balances appearing in the MIP software records.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad.

Brad Pringle: Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any Tribal Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Any Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. Uh Mr. Pringle, just for Tribal members' uh knowledge, can you explain what 1010-uh 102 program is?

Brad Pringle: Uh that's the Ogema's budget.

Councilor Metzger: The overall

Brad Pringle” That’s the Ogema’s budget. It's his department budget for his staff and his expenditures through the Ogema office.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Brad, can you clarify and explain again what you're saying, the difference in the MIP budget and the actual budget? I know you did at your work session, but I think just for the benefit of membership.

Brad Pringle: Sure. Once again, the uh CFO was presenting at that time to Tribal Council the uh month-end budgets. So, the year-end budget for December of 2023 was presented to Tribal Council on January 28th of 2024. Tho that those presentations um for 2020, the end of 2023, our books weren't officially closed until the second or third week of February. So, there's going to be differences in between what actual what the software reflects for 2023 than what was reported in January 24th of 2023 from the CFO. So, the CF as far as I'm concerned, the presentations were just three weeks early. They were presented for January. They were presented in January for Feb for December closed, which wouldn't happen until the middle of February.

Councilor Wolfe: And the numbers weren't the same from your year-end report that you reviewed in December 2023 to your final report that you had to go back and look and compare numbers that we received in January of 2024.

Brad Pringle: That's correct. Uh throughout the 2024 audits, which was audits of 2023 records, there was some consistent, you know, some departments consistently had differences between what was reported by the CFO in January um and what was actually showed up on the MIP reports when I printed current MIP reports for 2023.

Councilor Wolfe: So, the exact reason that we need our financials current, we're making decisions, accepting money, spending money without knowing the balance in there. Here's one example, and it just happens to be the Ogema's budget that has inconsistencies in it and changes after it's been accepted. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors with questions or comments? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. With no further questions or comments, um I'd like to entertain a motion, please. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. At this time, I'd like to make a **motion to for the acceptance of Little River Band For acceptance, Resolution 25-0409-077, Acceptance of Little River Band, Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Ogema 1010-102 Departmental Budget. Department Budget.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any further questions from Tribal Council? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. Okay, um Linda.

Linda Andre: Linda Andre, number uh #3211. These uh internal audit summaries, it doesn't say what period of time the audit is for.

Speaker Burmeister: it's for 2023

Linda Andre: For the whole year?

Speaker Burmeister: Mm hmm yes

Linda Andre: These, all of these are for the same period.

Speaker Burmeister: Yes

Linda Andre: Okay. Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Maria, did you have a question? Oh, well, thank you. Any other Tribal citizens with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Brad, can you explain why they're so late and just being brought forward at this time?

Brad Pringle: Uh because of the internal because of the external audit timeframes, the delay in the external audits, the CFO, some of the months took six months to get the records. So that's why they're behind.

Councilor Wolfe: And when you're referring to the records, you requested information that the audit you were working on, the approved schedule by Tribal Council, say, for example, you requested it January 1st, the CFO or the Executive Branch did not provide the documents for you to complete audit until July. And not on this particular one, just an example of a timeframe.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Councilor Wolfe: This was all went over in the work session.

Brad Pringle: Yep, that's right. I didn't receive the information for this particular audit until February 14th of this year.

Councilor Wolfe: Of 2025. And when did you request it from the Executive Branch?

Brad Pringle: Um it was requested. This particular audit was requested several times. Uh I believe it was in March and then once again in September and then once again in February.

Councilor Wolfe: So, all of that was delay on the Executive Branch providing accurate records to you to complete your job. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other councilors with questions or comments? With no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #9

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Eight in favor. One against. It's been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under new business

B. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Human Resources 2000-401 Department Budget. **B. Pringle**

So, the floor is yours.

Brad Pringle: Sure. Once again, Council, looking for the acceptance of the resolution for the Little River uh acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Prosecutors 1015-112 Department Budget, whereas the comptroller has performed internal audit of the 2023 Prosecutors 1015-112 Department Budget, whereas the comptroller has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council in the Ogema on December 2nd of 2024 and in a work session on February 13th of 2025. Now, it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Prosecutors 1015-112 Department Budget dated December 2nd of 2024.

Speaker Burmeister: Brad, um we're on the Human Resources.

Brad Pringle: Sorry

Speaker Burmeister: That's okay

Councilor Wever: That's okay. We can always go back.

Speaker Burmeister: You were on a roll.

Brad Pringle: Sorry about that. Uh this is what's I'm looking for a resolution for acceptance um for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Human Resources 2000-401 Department Budget, whereas the comptroller general has performed the internal audit of the 2023 Human Resources 2000-401 Department Budget, whereas the comptroller has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on October 28th and March 11th of 2025 and in a work session on February 13th and March 13th of 2025. Now, it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Human Resources 2000-401 Department Budget dated March 11th of 2025. We'll see. During the audit, we found overspending in the 5110 Workman's Comp. That dollar amount was \$9 in overspend. And that's pretty much everything. That's the only finding in that particular department's budget.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad. Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from the item? Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. Uh did that department return any funds?

Brad Pringle: Uh, they returned \$100,445 to the General Fund on their budget.

Councilor Metzger: And that was from employment issues? Or lack off

Brad Pringle: let's see.

Councilor Metzger: Lack off

Brad Pringle: Yeah, the savings was in salaries and wages and employee insurance and professional fees. So absolutely, salaries and wages, employee's insurance was the two biggest savings.

Councilor Metzger: All right. Thank you, sir.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Any other comments from Tribal Councilors? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. Go ahead, Linda.

Linda Andre: Linda Andre, 3211. I know uh I haven't attended a lot of the um meetings. So, this is kind of a may seem like a silly question. But who is Brad and who does he work for? And what does he do?

Speaker Burmeister: Brad can you

Brad Pringle: I'm the Comptroller General for the Legislative.

Speaker Burmeister: Could you come to the mic, please?

Brad Pringle: I'm Brad Pringle. I'm the Comptroller General for the Legislative Branch. I work underneath the Tribal Council, at direction of Tribal Council.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad. Any other citizens with questions? Back to Council. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger. Okay. Go ahead, please.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. If there isn't no more comments or questions, I'd like to make a **motion for Resolution 25-0409-078**.

Councilor Wolfe: Support

Councilor Metzger: **Acceptance of the Little River Band, Ottawa Indians, Internal Audit Summary for the Human Resource 2000-401 Department Budget.**

Councilor Wolfe: Still support all of it

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any Councilors with further questions or comments? Tribal Citizens, back to Tribal Council. With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #10

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Eight in favor, one against. It's been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

**C. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Internal Audit Summary for the Prosecutor 1015-112
Department Budget.**

B. Pringle

So, Brad, the floor is yours.

Brad Pringle: Once again, welcome to Tribal Council. I'm looking for Acceptance of Resolution for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Internal Audit Summary for the Prosecutors 1015-112 Department Budget. Whereas the Comptroller General has performed internal audit of the 2023 Prosecutors 1015-112 Department Budget. And whereas the Comptroller General has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on December 2nd of 2024 and in a work session on February 13th of 2025. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the Internal Audit Summary for the 2023 Prosecutors uh 1015-112 Department Budget dated December 2nd

of 2024. Uh findings within the audit where uh Workman's Comp was overspent by \$9. The dues and subscriptions was overspent by \$15. Um the on over budgeting, there was uh over budgeting of \$13,000 for training and travel, \$15,000. Um I'll read the whole thing here. The 2023-58-02 training and travel budget was \$13,000 with zero in spend. The 2022-58-02 training and travel budget was \$15,000 with zero in spend. Future budget should consider substantial reductions in the 58-02 training and travel budget. That's the consistency and that's... that's all that was found in the budget.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: So, taking out the travel and training for \$13,000, uh basically they return \$16,000 and that's from salary and wages again?

Brad Pringle: That's correct. Uh \$5,000 salaries and wages, 58-02 training and travel. The dollar amounts on those include, let's see here, uh salaries and wages was accounted for \$4,200 of the return and employee insurance accounted for \$2,100 of the return money. And then of course, \$13,000 for training and travel.

Councilor Metzger: Well, I'm trying... that only comes up to, can you read those two numbers again to me?

Brad Pringle: Sure. Well, I was just hitting the larger return. If you want to know.

Councilor Metzger: There are more numbers.

Brad Pringle: Oh, yeah.

Councilor Metzger: That will account for that \$16,000.

Brad Pringle: Yep, that's correct. Yep

Councilor Metzger: Okay.

Brad Pringle: Yeah-

Councilor Metzger: that's what I was after.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Councilor Metzger: What was the other \$16,000? Because the \$13,000 was training and travel.

Brad Pringle: Yeah, \$13,000 was training and travel, \$4,200 for salaries and wages, \$2,100 uh for employee insurance, \$3,400 in vehicle expenses, \$3,000 in small furniture. Those were-

Councilor Metzger: What would the vehicle expense be for?

Brad Pringle: That's a good question. I couldn't tell you for sure. I can tell you what it says. See, I should have a summary in the budget. It says fuel and vehicle maintenance. That's the only description they give you.

Councilor Metzger: I didn't know the prosecutor had a vehicle.

Brad Pringle: Larry, do you happen to know if the prosecutor has his own vehicle?

Councilor Metzger: A tribal vehicle?

Councilor Wolfe: Yes, he does. I can answer, Speaker, if you want to give me the queue

Councilor Metzger: I'm good

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe, did you hear um Councilor Metzger?

Councilor Metzger: I'm good

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Councilor Metzger: Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Okay.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Brad

Brad Pringle: Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions from Tribal Council? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So just for clarification, the prosecutor does have a vehicle for um the department. It was enacted in under the two previous, so now it would be third, prosecutors. When we had a prosecutor, I believe it was like in 2016, she requested the vehicle. A vehicle was given to that department and it's in there and budgeted for every year. And then so it rolled over to the previous prosecutor, what this audit is on, and then it will still remain with the new appointed prosecutor because it was budgeted for. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other comments or questions from Council? Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: So, we're going to be paying the guy to come up from Macomb County weekly, the prosecutor. And that's going to be coming out of travel, I believe, for prosecutor vehicle and maintenance. I mean, what is it, a four-hour ride to Macomb County? That's where this or our current prosecutor is from. Well, maybe I should just move back to Hannahville and travel back and forth on tribal expense. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Well, I would assume that it's a vehicle for the department and the prosecutor would have full use of the vehicle. So, I agree with your statements. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor DiPiazza.

Councilor DiPiazza: Prosecutor has a home up here.

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions or comments from Councilors? Okay, with no further questions or comments, I'd like to entertain a motion, please. Oh Vicki, I'm sorry about that. Go ahead, please. If you could come up here. Oh, okay. Um okay, thank you. Dawn, go ahead.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. Um I just have a few questions for Mr. Pringle, please. And then one for Gary DiPiazza. Uh Mr. Pringle, is it normal for you to have to do this many audit at once? And I'm wondering, did you have to put in multiple requests for each of these before you received the information to do them? And then my question for Councilor DiPiazza, um I'm wondering why he's voting no for the acceptance of the audits. Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Brad go ahead

Brad Pringle: Sure, the approved audit schedule has anywhere between 24 to 26 audits per year. Um they get presented; I present them quarterly to Tribal Council. It just depends on what Tribal Council can give me direction and be presented, uh have them presented differently. In fact, they just changed the way they want them presented last month. So instead of presenting them quarterly, I will be presenting them as soon as I complete them to Tribal Council. As soon as I complete them during that month, they want them sent, I will schedule the uh meeting with them immediately.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor DiPiazza, did you want to... No, she had a question for you. I didn't know if you wanted to answer that or not.

Councilor DiPiazza: At this point in time, I'm not going to respond because there's a little more to it than that.

Speaker Burmeister: Any other citizens with questions or comments? Back to Tribal Council. Okay, with no further questions, I'd like to entertain a motion. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. At this time, I'd like to **make a motion Resolution 25-0409-079 Acceptance of Little River Band Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for Prosecutor 1015-112 Department Budget.**

Councilor Wever/Wolfe: Support

Speaker Burmeister: All right any further questions from councilors? Go ahead Councilor Wittenberg

Councilor Wittenberg: Who got that?

Speaker Burmeister: Shirley. Councilor Wever

Councilor Wittenberg: Miigwech!

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions or comments? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. With no further questions or comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #11

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Eight in favor, one against. Its accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under New Business

**D. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Internal Audit Summary for the Road Patrol 4036
Department Budget.**

B. Pringle

So, Brad, the floor is yours.

Brad Pringle: Once again, looking for acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Road Patrol 4036 Department Budget, whereas

the Comptroller has performed the internal audit of the 2023 Road Patrol 4036 Department Budget, whereas the Comptroller has prepared and presented audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on December 6th of 2024 and in a work session on February 13th of 2025. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Road Patrol 4036 Department Budget dated December 6th of 2024. Contained within the audit, I found uh overspending and workman's comp at \$2,045. I found overspend in indirect cost expenses uh at \$278,615. And that's, you know, the last comment in the recommendations was Executive Management should review comments about indirect cost expenses and a budget accordingly.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Brad.

Brad Pringle: Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Any Councilors with questions? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Can you clarify the findings? Just repeat them. I didn't hear them completely.

Brad Pringle: Sure. There was overspend in workman's comp by \$2,045 and then indirect cost had an overspend of \$278,615.

Councilor Wolfe: So, \$278,000 just under a quarter million?

Brad Pringle: Yep, 615.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you.

Brad Pringle: An indirect cost expense.

Councilor Wolfe: An indirect cost is just what's billable towards grants that reimburses our general fund.

Brad Pringle: That's correct. That's an overhead charge for the grants.

Councilor Wolfe: Okay, thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Any other Councilors with questions or comments? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. Go ahead, Dawn.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. I'm just wondering, is there an itemized list for that indirect cost overage? And if so, is that available to our membership? Miigwech.

Brad Pringle: Uh the particular report only shows monthly charges to the overhead account. There's no description on exactly what it says. It just says uh November 2023 indirect cost. That's what the line item is. No other description.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead Dawn

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. Is there a way that our membership can request that these things be itemized when they're submitted so that our members can keep track of what our government is spending our money on? Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions or comments from Tribal Councilors? Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: So, Ms. Moneyhan, that would be a request to the Executive Branch for an itemized list of expenditures. He prepares and presents the budget. Tribal Council just adopts it. We do make suggestions and recommendations to him when we receive the budget, but a lot of them are not the changes or requests are not honored. So, it would be a request to the Executive Branch for more detail. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions or comments from Councilors? Dawn, you have a question. Go ahead, please.

Dawn Moneyhan: Yes, please. Um is it um is there a way that the membership can have a legal consult on our rights to uh request an itemized list from our Executive Branch for expenses such as this? Um I'm not sure if we have a legal right to that or not. If maybe somebody knows the answer to that. Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Crampton go ahead

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, there was a court case you might want to look up. It was uh... uh I think it was Ryan Champagne versus Larry Romanelli. If I'm sorry if I messed up that title, but I think that's the court case and it was um suing for access to um...um information. So, yeah, you can request it from the Ogema, but usually under the Constitution, and I'd like to see uh the Council figure this out a little bit more. Um it says that the recorder is responsible for keeping the members up to date on the actions of Tribal Council. So, I'm not sure where you'd go with this since the members, um since the Council is the representative of the people, uh you would probably go to them a lot easier. But I know that uh Mr. Champagne did figure out a pathway through the court. So, if you want to look at the court case, you can. Uh I think we're open to the Freedom of Information Act. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I'd like to suggest to that Tribal citizen to reach out to the Legislative Assistance and get the work session request form and fill that out and have that the legal

be present. And then she can opine and answer some of your questions for you. If you request a work session, those are available to membership. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any further questions or comments from Tribal Council? Okay, with no further questions or comments, I'd like to entertain a motion. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. At this time, I'd like to make a **motion for Resolution 25-0409-080, Acceptance of Little River Band, Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Road Patrol 4036 Department Budget.**

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Any further questions from Tribal Councilors? Tribal citizens? Back to Tribal Council. Okay, with no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for the item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #12

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Eight in favor, one against. It's been accepted.

Brad Pringle: Thank you, Tribal Council

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you Brad

Brad Pringle: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, moving down to

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, April 16, 2025

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Go ahead, Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. I just want to report that we had another successful spring membership meeting over the weekend. And uh I did want one question. I'm sorry that Brad left. Uh this was regarding the 2023 audit, correct? I believe that's what was talked about. I had made a request to council regarding the big fire invoices. And there was supposed to be a report responded to. And I have not received that report. Uh I know I also included Mr. Pringle on that. And I have not received that. I would, again, like to request that. Thank you. The other thing is that I have on the agenda today, or not on the agenda, but on my list, is there's a lot of talk about DEI and the uh problem we're having

with funding from federal agencies. We, it was brought to my attention again, although we've been working with other tribes to try uh try and find our way through these grants that may be uh taken away. And staffing that's been uh discontinued for in different various areas. Uh this affects a lot of our grants. Title VI, again, uh Vicki Wells came to my office, or excuse me, Vicki Sam came to my office. And we discussed this. There are some tribes that have written letters to the federal government regarding uh the funding and to oppose any further funding cuts. And to ask for us to be not included in the DEI because that is based on race. And while we're a race, we're also a political entity. And because of our sovereign nation, and because of uh treaties that have been had, we should not be lumped in with the other uh groups that are funding, being funding cut. So, uh what Vicki asked, and I'm supportive of it, is for the, this tribe to write a letter in support of uh taking action. I believe Sault Ste. Marie has been the strongest one. They're the largest tribe in Michigan. And there are other tribes that we've been talking with as well. But I guess a simple request is that we uh send a letter uh stating our opposition and the reason for it. That should do it. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you.

Ogema Romanelli: I don't know if you wanted to say anything more, Vicki, or did I kind of cover it? Okay, thanks.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay thank you.

Councilor Wolfe: Speaker

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Could both of the Ogema's requests be sent to Tribal Council in writing?

Speaker Burmeister: Ogema? Where both- What was the request for those invoices sent to all of Tribal Council also?

Councilor Wolfe: I'm saying, can he forward them to us in writing?

Ogema Romanelli: I'm sorry, I can't hear.

Speaker Burmeister: Can you forward those um notices that was sent to Brad to Tribal Council?

Councilor Wolfe: No

Ogema Romanelli: Yes, I believe I did.

Councilor Wolfe: Can I clarify, Speaker?

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead

Councilor Wolfe: I'm asking Mr. Ogema Romanelli the two requests that he just made in his weekly update to be forwarded to Tribal Council in writing, documented by an email?

Ogema Romanelli: I think she's talking about the DEI funding.

Councilor Wolfe: Your request for the big fire invoices and your request to participate and sign on what Ms. Sam is requesting. Appropriately, that should be brought forward to Tribal Council through a work session.

Ogema Romanelli: Did you, can you clarify that, Madam Speaker? I didn't hear it clearly.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe can you restate that so every- it's clear, so everybody hears the same thing?

Councilor Wolfe: So, the Ogema just came up and made two requests of the body of Tribal Council in his weekly business and status update. I'm simply asking, can the Ogema send notice to Tribal Council in writing of the two requests that he made? More appropriately, for the DIA sign on or bargaining with funding should be brought forward to Tribal Council from the executive side in a work session.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay

Councilor Wolfe: So that we can have the discussion and do the work, but so that it doesn't get lost or misplaced. When we had big fire, it was a different body of Tribal Council here, and that would have to be brought forward by a vote to release documents to the executive. So, those requests need to come over to Tribal Council in writing so that we can honor your requests. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Recorder Johnson, you have your hand up. Go ahead.

Recorder Johnson: So, um I think what he's asking not to sign on to a letter with the DEI, that is to actually do a letter um ourselves as um a tribe to do a individual letter to-

Speaker Burmeister: Title VI

Recorder Johnson: Um for Title VI, not sign on to a letter. Um I think he wants to say something about Shannon too. That's it.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, Okay. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: I don't think we need to vote for uh the big fire stuff. I think we had an email that was released a while ago showing that Councilor Pete went behind everybody's back and paid off big fire. He didn't want people to see what the invoice has actually said. I protested them in a letter. I wanted the members to see

everything. Councilor Pete went behind everybody's back and signed it. There's an email showing that too. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Vicki, did you want to come up?

Councilor Wolfe: Do you see me still in queue?

Speaker Burmeister: I sure do.

Vicki Sam: Good morning. I wasn't planning on being here today, so I'm dressed for the kitchen. I just wanted to clarify what the Ogema and I are asking for Julie, and that is that there are other tribes issuing letters for HHS right now going to the bat to save programs like mine, just because and I reached out to our congressional representative. He wrote me back. There was \$15.9 billion designated for my grants, but now it's up in the air. Congress doesn't want to let that money go, but what we need to do is have our council and our Ogema work together unanimously to write a letter and submit a letter stating that we oppose these cuts that HHS are making, because it's not just my program. It's APS. It's anything that has to do with disability. All of these programs, and we need to kind of unite on this front in order to save these programs, or we're not helping anybody, and so I think that's what Larry is asking is that we can all work together and submit a unanimous opinion to HHS saying we don't support these cuts that you're making. We don't support the cuts to programs that you're making, and that we need them because we do stand on our own, and right now my grant itself, our grant director at a federal level just lost her ability to hold consultations with us, and that is going back on our treaty and trust obligations, so I think that's what Ogema and I are asking is that we all work together and get something submitted saying that we don't support this. Who to contact? I got his name. I would have brought the letter if I knew I was going to be here. Um John Moore? Moore-Lenar? Yeah. Okay. He was very nice. Yes.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Vicki, would you um bring forward a work session request so that both sides can work on that and send that letter?

Vicki Sam: I can do that.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Thank you.

Vicki Sam: Yes. Chi-Miigwech

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, thanks for that great explanation, and that's exactly what I understood. If we're dealing with and sending a letter out to the feds, it needs to be a letter that's authorized by the entire body of Tribal Council and adopted by resolution, just like we do in amicus brief. Let's keep a standard of practice. We don't need letters going out just from one Tribal Council. It should be drafted and assigned together, just like we put the membership notice out by the executive and the Tribal Council or the

Speaker. I think it's Councilor Silvis that likes votes to happen, so if we do it properly, it is the best format. Then the Ogema requesting it in his weekly business and status update to a formal process of a work session request, what I just heard reinforced by the Speaker. That's all my comment was to do is to avoid confusion and absolutely 100% work together both branches, because we do. We know. We've been monitoring. We've been talking internally about all the cuts coming through on the federal government. Every department that we receive grant dollars from is currently facing shortage and shortfalls. So, yes, I just wanted to make sure all of it was covered because when we go from here into closed session and carry on our day, we're not rightly going to remember the Ogema's request. The only reason I was asking for the formality of it in writing. That's my position. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead Dawn

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. I would just like to ask if that work session actually takes place. Can I be added and notified of it, please? I'd like to be included. Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: It would be open. So once Vicki turns in the work session request, um any tribal citizen can call in on Zoom. And it'll be posted on the calendar also. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Ms. Moneyhan, once the request comes out, I will forward the invitation to you, so you don't lose track of it. Thank you.

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech Councilor Wolfe

Speaker Burmeister: Okay Ogema were...did you have

Ogema Romanelli: Yeah, just a couple.

Speaker Burmeister: Comment. Go ahead please

Ogema Romanelli: Yeah, and that's what Vicki and I had talked about is to uh present some information. I asked for a little more information from her and so that we can be on the right page and then present it to Council and the Ogema uh so that we can write a joint letter uh because it has more effect coming from uh someone in that area. If it does, if it comes from the tribe directly and we know other tribes are doing the same. I also sent something out this morning. I've been sending information uh that pertains to the tribe. I sent that out this morning to Tribal Council as well and to Vicki. So, uh for that part of it, yes, I think we're on board. On the other one regarding the big fire, there were mother... other questions and concerns and there was supposed to be a report coming, I believe from Brad uh Pringle, our controller or comptroller, excuse me. So that's what I was asking about. And you know while we say that uh one of the Councilors paid behind someone's back, there were invoices that had people's name on it that we needed clarification on too. So, thank you very much.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Okay, moving down to, oh I'm, go ahead, Councilor. Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Oh, that's not true either the Ogema has a legal report that was uh identified all those things, and it came from the police because I got the same copy. So that'd be a duplicate information just looking for a soapbox for election time. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead Ogema Romanelli

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. Could I get the report again? I'm sorry, I don't remember getting that. I got all the information, and this has nothing to do with the election. I'm not running for any office, even though I keep getting brought up that Councilor Crampton and I, our stats when I'm not even running for office and he's not running for Ogema. So, thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, go... go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, the cheap theatrics don't... don't fool anybody but try as you might. Uh again, for the big fire, he's already been given the report, the police have it. Uh and I think we should turn over the letter from Mr. Pete to the membership so we can end this game and show that Councilor Pete is the one that went behind everybody's back and paid them off against the protests of Council. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, we are moving down to

C. Legislative Affairs Update

1. Tammy Burmeister

Councilor Wolfe: Speaker

Speaker Burmeister: Yes, go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Just a comment, is big fire even in existence? The principal attorney from there passed away in 2022. So, this is pretty outdated that we're asking for a report, but we could follow it if it was in writing with a proper request to the legislative. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Okay, um I have no updates for this week. Recorder

2. Pam Johnson

you are next in the queue. Go ahead, please. Thank you. Councilor

3. Julie Wolfe

you are next in the queue. Go ahead please

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you, Speaker. Um I have a couple of updates, so I'll start with um trying to get them in chronological order. Just wanted to note that there was another tribal casino ransomware attack. It initially targeted the Lower Sault Indian Community's Jackpot Junking Casino. Um It spread throughout the tribe's network, forcing the

shutdown of some of their essential services at their pharmacy, health centers, and dental facility. The tribe reported the attack on Tuesday morning through the Lower Sault Community Government Facebook page, with issues with their phones and other equipment began as early as March with issues with their phones and other equipment that began as early as March 27th. The attack disrupted the tribe's ability to provide health and government services, as well as operations to their Jackpot Junction Casino. In the statement that was released by their tribal council, the tribe has brought...sought several external assistances in repairing their network services. A report from the cybersecurity publication, The Record, places the blame for the attack by the Ransom Hub Ransomware Group. And to note that this was the same group that recently launched a cyber-attack on the Sault Ste. Marie of Chippewa Indians in Michigan. So what ransomware is, is the software that typically locks down crucial data and otherwise disrupts operations until the targeted group pays the attacker to unlock or uninstall the ransomware. Ransom Hub was developed a particular kind of ransomware called EDR Kill Shifter that binds or otherwise disables security programs on end-user systems. Just want to bring that up and note that we are aware, and we are taking steps to monitor and protect our nation, our casino, and the assets. Um I want to um talk about on April 2nd, Ernie Stevens Jr. was elected for his 12th term as chairman to the Indian Gaming Association and sharing that press release. Um so NIGA had their annual conference out in San Diego, California. They had April 2nd, 2025, Ernie Stevens Jr. been re-elected by acclamation to serve his 12th term as chairman of the Indian Gaming Association, running unopposed. He received unanimous support from tribal leadership, reinforcing their confidence in his leadership. Stevens expressed a profound gratitude to the leadership from day one of my chairmanship. My commitment has been unwavering. My work is my campaign, always inspired and guided by our tribal leadership. He added, for 24 years, I've remained steadfast, and I will not unpack my bags for the next two years either. Together, we will vigorously advance our proactive agenda and stand ready to unite Indian country to defend tribal sovereignty at all costs. I promise each of you that I would dedicate myself fully morning, noon, and night to champion our interest in tribal government gaming. I'm honored to be a messenger amplifying the voices of our elected tribal officials, and I will carry your message with pride and purpose. Got to move my screen. During his tenure at Indian Gaming, revenues have soared from \$11 billion in 2000 to over \$49.1 billion in 2024. Certifying tribal government gaming as the largest segment of the gaming industry in the United States. Elections were held on the final day of the membership meeting during successful 2025 Indian Gaming trade showing convention in San Diego, California. This premier event celebrated yet another triumphant for the Indian gaming industry. This year marks significant milestones as we commemorate the 40th anniversary of Indian Gaming Association, an organization that has consistently served as a powerful advocate for the voice of Indian country. Over the past four decades, the IGA has not only influenced policy and growth with the industry but has also propelled us forward showcasing our resilience and commitment to the excellence in Indian gaming. Ernie Stevens Jr. has served as the elected councilman for the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin from 1993 to 1999 and was the first vice president of the Congress of American Indians, NCAI. He also holds boards positions with the Center of American Indian Enterprise Development and the Nike N7 Foundation Board, the Executive Board of the Center of Native American Youth, CNAY, the Native American

Advisory Board for the Boys and Girls Club of America, BGCA, and a press release. I just wanted to highlight that Ernie Stevens is a really great and phenomenal leader taking over that role for Indian country. Um want to talk about myself. Um wanted to extend my gratitude to the Tribal Council and the membership for allowing me to participate in the 43rd NICWA, National Indian Child Welfare Association Annual Conference, Protecting Our Children Conference, Honoring the Sacred. My in-person presence was truly enriched and invaluable. I found it as rewarding and enlightening as there were so many great presenters, resources, and connections that happened. Want to say thank you and chi-Miigwech to the others that were there to represent the other few of us that were there to represent the Little River Band. Miigwech to Chelsea Densmore and Shawna Gonzales, Binojeeuk Commissioners, Rachel Copps, Executive Staff, and Nikki Nelson, Tribal Member. Over the two and a half days that I was attending in the conference, March 30th through April 2nd, I completed 14.5 hours of social work continuing education credits and gained a better understanding of how vital the work of protecting our children is. Once again, thank you for allowing me to be your representative and look forward to applying the knowledge gained from this conference in the future work. Lastly, I want to remind all Tribal membership and community of the Easter Egg Hunt. It is this Saturday, April 12th at 10:30 registration at the Aki Madzwin Pavilion with the Easter Egg Hunt beginning promptly at 11 a.m. Bring your own baskets. Everyone is welcome and I believe there will be a special appearance by the Easter Bunny at the event for photos on your own. Councilor Metzger, do you have any details on the Easter Bunny? Um hope to see everyone there. This event is being sponsored by the Tribal Council, the Housing, and the Elder's Meal Program. The age groups for the hunts are 0-3, 4-9, 10-15, and 55 and over. So I hope to see everyone there. That is my update for this week. Next week, I will be reporting on the government to government consult that I just got back from yesterday. Thank you

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor

4. Gary Di Piazza

you are next in the queue. Go ahead, please.

Councilor DiPiazza: I just wanted to say it was great seeing everybody at the membership meeting. If I missed talking with you, it was not uh I was a little busy. But other than that, and plus that ransomware issue, if you get an email or a text and you're not familiar with it, do not open it because you did not win a million dollars from some Saudi Arabia prince or anything on that order. Because I get them now and again, even on my government computer. You do not open them things. If you don't if it doesn't look right, it looks suspicious, don't open it. Do a little more research before when that Saudi Arabia's money. So, that's all I have.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank... thank you. Councilor

5. Shirley Wever

you are next in the queue. Go ahead please

Councilor Wever: Thank you. Um I want to bring up, yesterday we had a discussion on the newspaper that some would like a paper. And you know, I'm one of them. And

anyways, um you know, just like little our wild, what is it, wild river? Oh now I forgot the name of the movie where Gale says to Wade, there was a way. Well, there is a way. They tell us that it would cost too much to have a paper, newspaper. But you know, when you go to the um Ogema's uh membership meetings, he has twice a year, in the spring and in the fall. And in order to uh have a dinner, you have to be there. If you want to win your uh \$25 credits, you have to be there. In order to win prizes, you have to be there. And I don't know if you know the room off the side where they have all the exhibits and displays. Dr. Wever has a raffle. He had three raffles this uh last weekend. And um I know Karen Love won two of them, but I don't know who won the barbecue grill. Maybe she won that too. But anyways, you have to be there. So why can't we make up these paper newspapers twice a year and put them at the membership meeting? Maybe sooner or later, we might make quorum if we get you there to uh join in on raffles and... and all the giveaways and a paper. Because I would like one. And I know JoJo Green. Everywhere I look, I see her flashing all over the place she's at. She's another Todd Reed. So, you know, she's probably got a lot of info and a lot of pictures out there that um I know you would all want to see if you don't go on the computer. And if you want to save this and go back to reference. I know I... I go back to mine that are 2013 to see who was on and who did this or what was said. They're like a dictionary to me. So anyways, I just thought maybe we could add the newspaper to our um Ogema Romanelli's membership meetings. And then you can pick one up there. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Next in the queue is Councilor

6. Al Metzger

Go ahead, please.

Councilor Metzger: Wow. Uh for one thing, I want to clarify that is not the Ogema's membership meeting. That is the members' members' meeting. Thank you. He just officiates it. It's not his meeting. Uh

Councilor Wever: Excuse me.

Councilor Metzger: There's been a situation that has well brought to my attention uh concerning the election ballots that uh some people are receiving return ballots that have primary on it. And others are receiving their return ballots that said general on it. Uh there's a fear out there now is why not the same type of ballot return envelope that is to be sent back. Uh I've noticed we have no election board member on today, but I think there... there needs to be an answer from the election board on why the difference in the return envelope. A lot of speculation going out there right now. Just on that assumption, I mean, uh one of the speculations I've heard was the election board sees primary and they're going to discard that ballot because it was not returned in the proper envelope. So, I really, we really need to get in touch with the election board on this matter uh because there could be uh roughly 700 ballots that got discarded because it says primary and not general. Uh that's one. The other thing is uh... uh there is a live trap set up and I am baiting for that Easter rabbit right now. Uh the trap actually is a four by four by six, four foot by four foot by six long trap. Uh, but I feel that I'm using the proper bait for that. So, uh, I don't believe the kids will be disappointed and that's all I have for today. Miigwech

Councilor Wolfe: I love that.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Um Councilor

7. Ron Wittenberg

you are next in the queue.

Councilor Wittenberg: Uh Miigwech. Nothing at this moment

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor

8. Misty Silvis

you are next in the queue. Go ahead, please.

Councilor Silvis: No updates this week. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor

9. Shannon Crampton

you are next. Go ahead, please.

Councilor Crampton: Um the Standing Rock Sault Tribe just had uh their uh motion to stop um the Dakota Access Pipeline uh dismissed. What happened was they had originally won in court, but it was overturned by appeal. The two cases that the two points that they won on were to stop the project and to wait for an environmental. Uh on the appeal, they lost, and the judge only partially allowed it to continue. Um they lost their appeal because they tried to file another appeal, but the Army Corps of Engineers has not completed their environmental survey due to the or... or by court order. So, their case can't move forward until that's done because it might actually be moot if that um environmental comes back negative. Um the second thing I want to talk about is there's two uh... uh Native American um cooking uh programs, podcasts on the Internet. One is in Digi Kitchen, and I think the other one's called the Fancy Navajo, but they're gaining traction across the United States, and they're wildly popular, wildly popular at the moment. And um when we're talking about um releasing statements, Little River is absolutely far behind. And I was talking to another leader from the Sault the other night. They...their chairman don't wait for their council to release that. That's why we're so far behind. Our chairman hasn't been releasing statements, but we're also so far behind. And this might be jointly, too. Um just recently, um five tribes uh filed leave for appeal against the Line 5. We are not one of them. One of those tribes are the Bay Mills Indian community, the Little Traverse Band of Ottawa Indians, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa Indians, and Chippewa Indians, and Nottawaseppi Band of uh Pottawatomie. We're not there. There have been no statements from our chairman. It's at the last minute when you come in and people remind them. So, we're way behind. And I'd also like to, there's a problem with the with membership getting information. There was a problem a few years ago about releasing property to certain people to try to pay an amount for, I think, \$80,000. They were sold to these people like \$40,000, \$60,000, like half the price. I'd like those reports to be released, too. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Uh yeah, I'd like to thank uh Councilmember Crampton for bringing this to my attention right now. You're talking about Keystone Pipeline, South Dakota. Keystone Pipeline in North Dakota had a rupture. So, I'd like to throw that in that, you know, that's mostly arid land out there, unlike Line 5 under the Straits of Mackinaw. That will affect us, and it will permanently damage our children. So, think about when corporate money is saying pipelines are safe. Perfect example. That's why the Lakota didn't want that line going through their property because of rupture. That's why Bad River don't want that line going through their property because of rupture. That's why we don't want that line going through the states... Straits of Mackinaw. We're going to poison our own selves. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor Crampton, go ahead, please.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you. I just want to add on to that, um that I think that the Great Lakes provide 70% of the nation's drinking water. So, if that's polluted, we've better look for the other 30% really fast.

Speaker Burmeister: All right. Thank you. Um we are moving down to the

D. Public Comment Period

Dawn, go ahead please

Dawn Moneyhan: Miigwech. Um I have a few things that I'd like to add uh um or actually to ask. First, I want to start with our recorder, and I want to know if there is a plan in place to get our uh meeting minutes caught up so that we can get all of this paperwork stuff done and get our stuff fixed. And if so, I'm wondering if there's a date, we can expect to have that done. For our Ogema, I would like to say that I would really like to hear a weekly report about what our tribe has to look forward to and what you're doing to help our membership instead of the excuses for this, that, and the other. Everything that's brought to the Ogema, there's an excuse, it's somebody to blame, um then it's about a personal this, and it's always about him. None of this is about him. It's about our membership as a whole. We are a tribe, a whole people, and that means we've got to take care of our whole people, but our whole people don't know what's going on because our leadership doesn't tell us. So, it would be really nice to sit in on one of these meetings and hear him offer us, what are the plans for going forward? And with that, that kind of leads into my next questions. I'm wondering if we have any updates from anybody about any threats to our gaming from the current federal administration. We have a long history with them dating back to the 90s and federal testimony where he claimed they didn't look like Indians to him. He is really jealous of the Indian gaming system overall. That's never been a secret. So, I'm wondering what our government is doing to look out for and protect us from that. Um and then also about the pipelines, what our government is doing to fight that and protect against that. We'd like some reports, some details. What's going on? What can our membership do to contribute and help? Um A lot of our membership doesn't even know about what's going on with the pipelines, which is really scary because that affects everybody. Um, Councilor Wever with the

newspaper thing, uh waving that newspaper around at us, watching you on camera. That was really, that was insulting. So, start there. Your suggestion of that newspaper in person at those meetings, the majority of our tribe does not live there. The majority of our tribe lives in poverty. We don't have the money to go there. Some of us are disabled. We don't have the means to go there. So, you're proposing another expenditure for our tribe that would only go to the people who have the ability to show up in person. That's insulting. Please stop it. I'm really tired of our government insulting our membership. You treat us like we're stupid or that we just don't exist. And that's just not it. We're frustrated. We're angry. Please get it together. We need to know what's going on. If we don't have the information, we can't help contribute. And what you are doing in these chambers, all of you, including the Ogema, affects every one of us. We have a right to have our say. We don't get to talk to you in person. Doesn't matter who elected you because you still represent all of us and your decisions still affect all of us. So, if we don't get to talk to you in person or on the phone or in any other way, we need to be able to communicate with you. And that means back and forth. So, when we ask questions, we should be able to expect answers, Councilor DiPiazza. The it's complicated and more to it than that just doesn't fly. We have a right to know these things. You're making decisions on our behalf. Please remember, everybody, who you work for. Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Next in the queue is um Michelle Gibbs. Go ahead, please.

Michelle Gibbs: Um yes, I have a question for all of you on Council. There was a notice to Commissioner of Removal from Enrollment Commission, and it was addressed from Tribal Council. So, the bottom of the document has RF slash JW. Is all of Tribal Council in agreement with this document? Who drafted the document? And it says removal without a hearing. When is the hearing? And I guess if no one's going to answer, I'll keep going. Um what is the standard for using the tribal seal? I I'm I've got some mail that had the tribal seal on it from a Councilor running. And I want to know, did that Councilor have permission to use the seal? Did Council vote on that? And I also would like to just add, um Line 5 has been on your guys' agenda for quite a few years. So, I'm surprised to act like nothing's being done about it. What is Council doing to... to have that on the agenda? Obviously, it's been talked about. And I would also like to say, big fire. I'd encourage Tribal Council to release the big fire invoices. And further, can Council give me the resolutions where the vote took place to approve the hiring and scope of work for big fire? And um abstaining from voting and Robert's rules and all that, there's a document that is Tribal Council procedure ordinance. If you read page 10 and 12, that tells you the procedure for taking action on agenda items. And um pardon me, Council, but you need to read that. That tells you exactly how you're supposed to conduct a meeting. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Um anybody want to- go ahead, Councilor Crampton

Councilor Wolfe: You're not going to observe the queue?

Speaker Burmeister: He had to stand up also.

Councilor Crampton: I apologize. Was Councilor Wolfe before me? If she was, I'll defer to her.

Speaker Burmeister: Is up so

Councilor Crampton: Um

Speaker Burmeister: yeah, go.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I just want to add on what Councilor Metzger was saying earlier. And for any member that has a primary ballot, we have an interesting law on our books. It's called election fraud. 12.05, a law-and-order criminal offenses code. And one of those says a person uh commits the offense of election fraud if the person number three compromises the security of the ballots or other election documents. Number two, acts to compromise the integrity of the election or attempts to do so by falsifying any document. So, if you guys have those and they've been given to you, I've been contacted by mainly outlying members. You can file charges. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you, Speaker. Uh just want to note there is a ribbon skirt workshop that's happening. It's being hosted by Family Service and Family Spirit Program. That is on April 21st from 5 to 7 p.m. and April 28th from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Aki Madzwin Community Center. There's no need for registration. All supplies are provided. And there's a potluck dinner that will happen at the event. If there are questions, you can reach out to Amber at 231-398-6707. And also, another good news or good thing happening on and around the tribe. Almost forgot about it except it's almost it's past lunchtime. But congratulations and thank you. Say Miigwech to Israel Stone and his staff. They've opened a new venue inside the Little River Trading Post. It's called Lucky Cluckers. They had their grand opening. They'll be selling chicken and fish there. So, um support that business and increase your per cap. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor Wittenberg, you are next.

Councilor Wittenberg: Yeah, Anishinaabemowin, uh we're talking about, and I understand that at one time we were, uh we did have quorum there. And uh that was a long, long, long time ago. And the one that was speaking, she would turn around saying that we'd like to make quorum. She wasn't there. Or she was there. She didn't come up on when the rest of the council was up on the stage. So, I don't know where that scale is at, but uh each is on. But I will say that we were trying to get block a room. They wouldn't bring it down. So, people could come and raised it up. Figure it out, folks. Don't take a rocket scientist. No wonder we're not getting quorum. And it always be that way. And a lot of people told me that they're not coming because of simple fact. It's the same thing every time. There's no change. And there ain't no change. And you ain't got something

out there to give the people that it turned around and try to get them to come there. It's going to be that way. But uh maybe one day that'll change. And it's up to each one. But I believe, didn't they even turn around and try to help the people, give them so much uh some time ago as in gas uh mileage to come out one time? Go back in history and then bring up today. And you can see uh what's going on. Miigwech Aho

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Maria, you are next. And I have Linda and then Councilor Crampton. Oh, she was pointing at her.

Recorder Johnson: Yeah

Maria Meza: Maria Meza, 5242. Julie uh reminds me to ask this question. She brought up the um Easter egg event for ages up to 15. Our Christmas party events for our kids are up to age 13. Why do we exclude our middle schoolers and our high schoolers from these events? That makes no sense to me. But then you jump up to the um our elders are invited to participate in this stuff. Why are we missing that group from 13 to 18? You know, there's all of this stuff about teenage suicide and all this and that. And you're leaving out these kids. And I don't understand why. Does anybody know why we don't invite these kids, or they don't get? I mean, like even the older kids at Christmas time, give them a gift card. You don't got to give them a gift. But when they're there with their siblings and they're all getting gifts, but them, how do you think that makes them feel? I don't understand why we would exclude our kids like that. Does anybody know why we do that? I think that that needs to be talked about and reconsidered. I mean, why would exclude these kids? That's crazy.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I do appreciate the sentiment, but it's not as easy as stating that because we're just having I was just experiencing this up at GTB. There was a few members, well, when they go to the school parties and stuff like that, kids usually at that age lose interest and stuff like that. And if they, okay, they might not do that. But I understand that you have to understand, too, when they do this and they go out there, they face ridicule from their friends. Oh, you're going to do a baby thing. It just doesn't happen. I mean, I understand your sentiment and I wish the world was that way. But when you're a teenager, it's a little bit different. I mean, I'd like to see uh some surveys on how many are interested in it first, before we go and make an expenditure or create something on an ideal that sounds great, sounds awesome, but we don't do the Christmas party the Ogema does. Okay, so back to what I was saying. Um those kids lose interest. So, I understand your ideal and I would love it to be that way. But if we're going to hold a party and nobody shows up. So, I'd like to see what the interest level would be. Because even if the children are like that, and I have children like that, who are good-hearted no matter what age they're at, but they do face peer pressure. Like I just saw it happen to my grandson the other day when he was like, well, let's go do this. And it was a smaller kids um type of activity. And then all of his football friends were like, that's a baby game. You're going to do that? See, that's the kind of thing I'm talking about. But I understand your sentiment and I... I think it's great. On another subject, I did want to

state that um I did get into kind of an argument with a person from the casino online about how uh they were talking about how great our casino was in this. And since the membership meeting, I feel nothing but complaints about the casino. That our rooms were overcharged. Our members were told to wear wristbands. The towel service was horrible. They had to walk the towel service back down. They were made to feel like they weren't wanted. And so that's the reality of the situation. And just out of giggles, I just called over to the resort on Saturday where they were having a little event for some of the members. And uh their suites and everything were \$69 per member. Suites. The only option was you had to be first come first serve. Ours was like \$120 to \$150 for the one night. This is ridiculous. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Uh Michelle, I'm just going to let you know that you have already used your um, you've already talked. So, you will not be asked to speak again. So, I'm going to move on to Councilor Wolfe. Go ahead, please.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. Just want to address the comment that came up. Um I believe it was Ms. Meza. Um, when Tribal Council is hosting or supporting the event, all we did was a financial contribution. We provided the candy and eggs and filled them up. It actually is a housing event. That's where the line item was budgeted. They didn't have enough for the event to the way they wanted it. Um when we, I've been, maybe I don't know what you call it, but the most involved from Tribal Council and meeting with the other departments that are involved. And when we did decide the group, we, that's why we went all the way up to 15. We just don't see many after 15 participating. But anyone that would show up, I did announce that everyone is welcome. Anyone that shows up that wants to hunt eggs, could hunt eggs. We definitely would not stop or say, oh no, you're too old. Same as other Tribal events that are hosted um throughout the Tribe, like the trunk or treat or anything. Yes, that's encouraging and positive for that age group to go. Um I think Councilor Crampton already spoke to the executive um hosting the Christmas party. That decision was made by him and budgeted by him and handled by him. I can see why they limit zero to 13 for the gifts, because it does get harder to buy those. And that Tribal Christmas party, much like all the other Tribal activities that are public, include more than just Tribal members. They include Tribal members, Tribal families, Tribal spouses, step kids, everyone that goes on. We just don't, I don't really believe, have the financial means to include all of those populations. Our kids have always historically been underserved and underprivileged with Tribal benefits. Um we also only have a small, enrolled number of Tribal children. I think it's currently less than 250. So, when we look at the fiduciary responsibilities, that's sometimes why limits or age groups are imposed. The housing department is the one that recommended the elders, and that's why they're included. And that's why the elder's meal program joined in to bring that portion of that funding in that population to blend elders and youth together. So, I hope that's some clarification on my part. And no way in my intent was to leave any population or age group out but working in prevention for the prior 22 years before I was fired and then elected to Council, it was very inclusive, included everyone, and the limits are only based on budgetary. But no one was ever turned away, and no one would ever be turned away when I'm a part of it. So that's for clarification. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Mark, you are next in the queue. Go ahead, please.

Mark Huddleston: I've heard some members speaking about um having questions, and um the tribe's website has the work sessions uh scheduled each week, or like, what, Tuesdays and Thursdays? That and I would encourage everyone to get more involved and get in on those work sessions, because there is a personal level there where you can speak and, you know, get the information that you want and really ask the questions. And I wanted to let everyone know that. Um and I would like to know uh what Tribal Council, are there any plans to get with the uh trust responsibilities by the federal government to our treaties? There's been any talk about that? Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. We have one more person in the queue, or actually two. And then um we'll be, we have a closed session at one. So, um Delia, go ahead, please.

Delia Ross: Yes, um good afternoon, I guess, for you all. um I was just concerned about the voting issue. Um how do we know if our votes are going to be accepted? If the envelope says primary and not the regular election, is there any guarantee that our votes are going to be counted? Are they going to just throw them out because it says the wrong thing? Um how do we know this? Is there any way that we can correct this? It's very concerning, um as a voter, um to know that something may go wrong here. Does anyone know? Miigwech

Speaker Burmeister: Delia, we don't know. Um that is run by the election board. So, um Recorder Johnson, go ahead, please.

Recorder Johnson: So, I'd just like to make a **motion to end first session**

Councilor Wever: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Whoa

Recorder Johnson: Who did you get?

Speaker Burmeister: Um I Gary, Councilor DiPiazza. Hmm why or? He always does that

Recorder Johnson: Mm hmm

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Crampton you had a question?

Councilor Crampton: Oh, no, I just want to make another comment. Um no, I think I'll wait. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Recorder Johnson, can you do a roll call, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #13

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Eight in favor, one absent, or one against. We are done with first at 12:49p.m

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 Burmeister: Thank you Misty. Ok um Councilor DiPiazza

Councilor DiPiazza: I'll make a **motion to go into second open.**

Councilor Silvis: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call, please.

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #

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

Quorum established.

Eight in favor one absent at 2:41.

Councilor Wever: I'm here. Sorry

Councilor DiPiazza: That you are.

Councilor Crampton: Ya you are

Councilor DiPiazza: Tammy. For the record.

Speaker Burmeister: Ok

VIII. Open Session

**A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session-Minutes and Materials
Remain Confidential**

There's nothing listening to that. Recorder Johnson go ahead

Recorder Johnson: Oh, not for that thing I just want to make a motion to end.

Councilor DiPiazza: Support

Recorder Johnson: Yeah

Speaker Burmeister: Pam and Gary. Recorder Johnson. Can you do roll call, please.

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call #1

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

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

IX. Adjourn

Eight in favor of one against we are adjourned at 2:43.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chantel Gamelin,
Transcribing Assistant



Pam Johnson,
Tribal Council Recorder