



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2024
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on August 28, 2024. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Burmeister: Good morning, everyone. We are here for a regular scheduled tribal council meeting for Wednesday, August the 28th, 2024. Um I just want to apologize to everybody. We were having computer issues, so those have been resolved. So, we will begin our meeting uhm with an opening prayer. I have asked Councilor DiPiazza if he could say the prayer. So, if you're able to stand, please stand.

I. Opening Prayer

Councilor DiPiazza: (Prayer in Anishinaabemowin) what I said is I prayed all creation. We can all work together for the betterment of all of our people and give them all better way of life. With that being said Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you councilor DiPiazza. Okay next, um we will move down

II. General Business

Uh I will call this meeting to order at 10:11.

A. Call to Order

Next will be zoom identification. So, if you are a tribal citizen, please list your name, your tribal ID. If you are an employee, please list your name and the department that you work in. Thank you. Chelsea Densmore, please identify yourself.

Chelsea Densmore: Chelsea Densmore 3225.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Isiaz I.T government. I'm not sure if I said your first name right. Um could you please identify yourself?

Drew Jeurink: This is Drew helping Isiaz whose help desk.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you.

Drew Jeurink: For our I.T.

Speaker Burmeister: Kathleen Bowers, please identify yourself.

Kathleen Bowers: Kathleen Bowers budget coordinator.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Laura Echelbarger, please identify yourself.

Laura Echelbarger: Good morning Laura Echelbarger 2276.

Speaker Burmeister: Good morning. Thank you. Lee Guest, please identify yourself.

Lee Ivinson: I'm sorry. Was that Lee I?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes.

Lee Ivinson: Lee Ivinson tribal ID 99. I'm sorry.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Lee McCaslin, please identify yourself.

Lee McCaslin: (Speaking Anishinaabemowin) Lee McCaslin 0748.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Martha Howell, please identify yourself.

Martha Howell: Martha Howell 3635.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Matthew Alexander, please identify yourself.

Matthew Alexander: Matthew Alexander 2426.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Sandy Mezeske, please identify yourself.

Sandy Mezeske: Morning.

Speaker Burmeister: Morning. Could you say your, your name and your tribal ID please?

Sandy Mezeske: Sandy Mezeske 0018.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Shannon Crampton, please identify yourself.

Councilor Crampton: Shannon Paul Crampton outlying tribal council rep 1747.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Sky Gonzalez, please identify yourself.

Sky Gonzalez: Sky Gonzalez 1042.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Tina McClellan- Payment, please identify yourself.

Tina McClellan- Payment: Tina McClellan- Payment 2917.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Venus, please identify yourself.

Venus Battaglia: (Speaking Anishinaabemowin) Venus staff and tribal member 1102.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Phone number 2317940066 please identify yourself.

Michael Burmeister: Michael Burmeister 945.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Phone number. Uh let's see here 23 or 2693910737. Please identify yourself.

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Phone number 9064584756. Please identify yourself.

Vickie LaPorte: Vickie LaPorte 3384 and good morning.

Speaker Burmeister: Good morning. Thank you. Julie on? Okay, Julie Wolfe, please identify yourself. I didn't get Chelsea.

Councilor Wolfe: (Speaking Anishinaabemowin) at large tribal council Julie Wolfe.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Chelsea Densmore, please identify yourself.

Chelsea Densmore: 3225.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Okay, down under

B. Roll Call

Well, actually, A is called to order. I know I already said it is 10:16. B is roll call recorder Johnson. Can you please do roll call?

Recorder Johnson:

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

We do have quorum.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. And just to note for the record, um councilor Silvis had a death in her family, her mother-in-law passed. So, um she will not be here today.

Moving along to general business

C. Approval of Agenda

Will there be any tribal councilors that are going to abstain from the agenda? Okay, with no abstentions, um I'd like to entertain a motion to approve the agenda. Go ahead recorder Johnson.

Recorder Johnson: So, I would like to make a **motion to accept the agenda for Wednesday, August 28. Uh starting with with the following changes in IV. Old**

business postponing A. Acceptance of grant funds from Inter-tribal of Michigan 2024/25 Native Connections and approving a modification to operating budget MB2024 in the amount of \$70,000. Postponing C. Adoptions of membership meeting procedures ordinance. Down in V. New Business adding um a acceptance for filing the revised Gaming Commission regulation #R 400-04:GC 06-chapter 6 Gaming vendor licensing, adding B. Acceptance for filing revised Gaming Commission regulation. #R 400-04 GC- 07-chapter 7 employee licensing and adding C. Acceptance for filing revised Gaming Commission regulation #R400-04 GC-15-chapter 15 Certification of rehabilitation. And then in closed session VII. C.1 is been postponed economic development corporation funding in the amount of \$2,062,495 which is also then postponed in second open VIII. A.1. and I believe that is it.

Councilor Wever: Oh gee. Support.

Speaker Burmeister: go ahead. Um will there be any councilors that are going to abstain from the agenda? Okay, any councilors with questions? Go ahead Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. I just wanted to address closed session number VII. C.1, it has been postponed that has to do with the economic development corporation funding in the amount of \$2,062,495. Uh the reason I'm bringing it up is because it lists the tribal Ogema as the presenter. Uh I sent the EDC board uh and the council a concern on that because my understanding is that there was under agenda review. Uh it was said that Frank Lewis, who is the chairperson, was not in attendance, nor was the Ogema. I'm not sure why the Ogema is listed as a presenter. I believe this would be under uh the EDC board. Frank Lewis as a chair, and we understand that the EDC board is under the Tribal Council. So, I just want to make note of that. I did try to get on the meeting. Uh I got on about 20 minutes after the meeting started, and I couldn't get in. Uh I waited for about 10 minutes, and then I contacted the recorder. Uh but I just wanted to make that note because I believe that would be Frank Lewis should be the presenter. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Well, I can explain why the Ogema is on the agenda, and I was the one that did ask for Frank Lewis just because of the reasons he stated. But the agenda request came from the Tribal Ogema, and Larry, you signed it on 8-15. So.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: If your. I agree with you, what you're saying should be Frank Lewis, and Frank Lewis should resubmit the item with the agenda request. But that's why your name is put onto it. Thank you.

Ogema Romanelli: Right. And that goes back to the concern that we've had, or I've had for a while, is that I've asked the Tribal Council and the EDC board and the Ogema to get together because we really need to make sure we each understand our duties and responsibilities within that document. And I think sometimes it gets a little skewed.

And if we would bring, I know they have Molly and Council and Ogema both have attorneys that if we sat down as a group, uh we might be able to hash this out and make it a little clearer. So, thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Okay, we have two new um people who have joined us. So, Staci Chaney, could you please identify yourself?

Staci Chaney: Sure. Um good morning. It's 992.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Susan Thull, could you please identify yourself?

Susan Thull: 3727.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. So, we have a motion on the floor for the approval of the agenda. Um Pam presented; Shirley seconded. So, will there be any other questions from um councilors? From citizens? Back to Tribal Council? With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 1

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

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

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you moving down under general business

D. Tribal Council Minutes Emergency Meeting 8/22/24

Are there any Tribal Councilors who are going to abstain from these minutes? Any hmm? I got it. Any Councilors with questions? Any citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council? Okay, with no further questions, I'd like to entertain a motion. Go ahead Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Madam Speaker. At this moment, I'd like to make a **motion to accept Tribal Council emergency meeting for 8-22-24.**

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, is there any other questions from Councilors? Citizens? Back to Council? With no questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do um roll call for these minutes, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 2

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

Eight in favor, one absent. They've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Okay, we have two new people that have joined us. Um Shawna Gonzalez, could you please identify yourself?

Shawna Gonzalez: Shawna Gonzalez, 4700.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Mark Huddleston, could you please identify yourself?

Mark Huddleston: Mark Huddleston, 3230.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Sara.

Recorder Johnson: I know I can't.

Speaker Burmeister: Oh you.

Recorder Johnson: Here we go.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, moving down to

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts There's nothing under that. Under Continuing Business

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Approval of Budget Modification MB2024-__ ; authorizing the Reduction of funding from Health and Human Services-Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) in the amount of \$10,074.** Ogema Romanelli and Jessica Steinberg have brought this item forward. So, Jessica the floor is yours.

Jessica Steinberg: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is um funding that was unobligated through a series of several awards um prior to my joining the administration. And whenever we have an unobligated fund balance for the program, um at the conclusion of the time periods that the awards funding period um is designated, then we would send them back to the agency. So that's what this is.

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

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Uh returning these funds, are they going to uh give us a negative impact on receiving additional funds in the future?

Jessica Steinberg: That's a good question, Councilor Metzger. Uh no, it should not. These were funds that were additional funds awarded to the tribe under the CARES Act and ARPA programs. So, it was actually a surplus of funding. Um it shouldn't reduce the initial or the original award or the award going forward.

Councilor Metzger: Miigwech.

Jessica Steinberg: Yep.

Speaker Burmeister: Any other councilors with questions? Tribal citizens? Back to tribal. Go ahead, Lee. Lee Ivinson.

Lee Ivinson: Thank you. Um question for Jess. Was the designation for the additional funding for the LIHEAP in the era of ARPA, um was there a specific scope that those dollars were to be expensed to?

Jessica Steinberg: They were expensed under two different pieces of legislation. Was a supplemental. Um those were just additional funds to support the objectives of the program grant and then under the infrastructure um legislation. And those were mostly dedicated to um weatherization type assistance. And as you know, during COVID, there were probably um not as many of those types of activities going on. But it shouldn't, because they were awarded under those two separate legislative pieces, it shouldn't have any impact on the normal LIHEAP funding going forward.

Lee Ivinson: Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any other tribal citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council? Okay. With no further questions, I'd like to entertain a motion, please.

Councilor Wolfe: Sorry Tammy I didn't get my hand up fast.

Speaker Burmeister: Oh, go ahead councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Um were we eligible to apply for an extension to keep those funding dollars? I know most ARPA dollars uh didn't uh expire for tribes.

Jessica Steinberg: Unfortunately, no, we were not eligible to ask for an extension to expend the funding. Um part of that reason was because when I came into this position, we had um to go back through and look at all of the expenses. And some of those expenses that were um put into the LIHEAP program actually needed to be moved into the members program. They were expensed to the wrong account under the previous administration. So that's the end result was this funding were expen were um originally expensed to an incorrect account. So, it created the surplus. And because the surplus was not eligible for an extension, um we weren't able to re-obligate it.

Councilor Wolfe: Okay, I was just wondering because I know housing got ARPA dollars and those were expended pretty fast on their emergency program. So didn't know if there was any on those that would have been eligible, but there's was repair. So just just a question. Thank you for your answer.

Jessica Steinberg: Yep, You're welcome.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Any tribal citizens with questions? Okay. Um councilor DiPiazza, go ahead, please.

Councilor DiPiazza: I was going to make a motion on the item.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Councilor DiPiazza: **Make a motion to approve resolution 24-0828-149 approval approval of budget modification MB 2024-38 authorizing the reduction of funding from the Department of Health and Human Services low-income home energy assistance LIHEAP in the amount of \$10,074.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Will any tribal councilors have further questions? Back to citizens. Tribal Council. With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you please do roll call?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 3

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

Eight in favor, one absent, it's passed.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Jessica too. Okay, moving down to

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

There's nothing listed under that.

IV. Old Business

Postponed. A. Acceptance of grant funds from Inter- Tribal of Michigan 2024/2025 Native Connections and approving a modification to the operating budget MB2024-__ in the amount of \$70,000.

Moving down under old business

B. Operations Report June 2024

Will there be any tribal councilors that are abstaining from this item? Tribal Council with questions? Citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Um I'm prepared to make a motion for acceptance of the operation report for June 2024.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe: **Make a motion to accept the operations report for June 2024.** Would like to thank the Executive Branch for all the corrections. Thank you.

Councilor Metzger: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, will there be any questions from councilors? Back to Citizens? Council? With no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 4

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

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

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under old business

ADD: C. Adopting the Membership Meeting Procedures Ordinance

Okay, moving to down under old business

D. Adopting the Budget- Appropriations-Act-of -2013-100-04

Councilor Crampton has brought this item forward. So, Councilor Crampton, the floor is yours.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you, and I don't know how we missed this, but this has the same um um issue as the um the other ones, uh the membership meeting ordinance. We haven't had the work session to go over the um public comments yet. So, this one's going to need to be postponed, and if um unless there are any comments, I'd like to make that motion.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Sara. You have your hand up.

Sara Agosa: My question is, why was the work session yesterday in closed on this topic?

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: So, I think that was oversight or error on the calendar because we were going to have the attorney to advise about um the public comments and incorporating them into the ordinance. It was just because it was attorney-client that it was recommended for closed, but it will be on open for the next session when he does provide that um overview of it. So, I think it was just an error. There is no reason for that item to be in closed, and that's exactly what um the 30-day posting and public comment for is for transparency and membership input.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, um who would like to make the motion to postpone this item? Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Madam Speaker. At this time, I'd like to **make a motion to postpone adopting the Budget Appropriation Act of 2013-100-04.**

Councilor Wever: Support.

Councilor Crampton: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Did you get Shirley then? Well, it was kind of, yeah, I would say she did it before, Councilor Campton. Okay, yeah. Okay, is there any further discussions or is there going to be any councilors that are going to abstain from this? Any councilors with questions? Citizens? Back to Council? Okay, with no further, go ahead, Councilor Campton.

Councilor Crampton: Oh, just to clarify, yeah, it wasn't asked to be in closed. That was just oversight. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Recorder Johnson, can you roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 5

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- Absent

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. It's been postponed.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

C. Binojeeuk Commission July 2024

Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Any Councilors with questions? Any citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council? Okay, with no further questions, I'd like to entertain a motion for the minutes, please. Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. I'd like to make a **motion to accept Binojeeuk Commission meetings for open meeting minutes for July 2024.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, does Council have any other questions? Citizens? Back to Tribal Council? Okay, with no further questions, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 6

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

Eight in favor, one absent. They've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

D. Little river Holdings May & June 2024

We will do these separately. So, the first ones are for May 2024. Can we do them together? Okay. So, we'll actually we'll be doing these together. They're for May and June 2024. So, will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from these minutes? Any Councilors with questions? Any citizens? Go ahead, Susan.

Susan Thull: Are these posted on the government website for the membership?

Speaker Burmeister: Could you repeat that, Susan?

Susan Thull: Are these minutes uh posted on the website for the membership to view?

Councilor Wolfe: Are they posted?

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, the open ones would, but we have closed also. Those will not be posted.

Susan Thull: I understand that, but I've never seen the uh minutes posted for Little River Holdings.

Councilor Wolfe: She's correct. They're not posted under um commissions and committees.

Speaker Burmeister: Oh, they're not. Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: They are, I believe, posted on Little River Holdings website, but they're not posted to our site.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: And then um just to announce right now that the site is up and running and you cannot review any reports. The new website was launched, and everyone has to create new accounts. But.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Councilor Wolfe, for that. Okay. Is there any questions from citizens? Other questions? Back to Tribal Council. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I believe since they're subordinate of Tribal Council, we can add them to that minute's page for committee and commissions and add them on there so it would be more accessible for Tribal members. That is behind a secure page so.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Councilor Wolfe: And we have more space now since it is the new website.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Alright. um I'd like to entertain a motion for these minutes, please. Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Madam Speaker. At this moment, I'd like to make a **motion to accept Little River Holdings May and June 2024 open meeting minutes.**

Speaker Burmeister: Who would like to support that? Okay. Are there any other questions from Council or comments? Back to citizens? Councilors? With no further comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do a roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 7

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

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. They've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

V. New Business

ADD: A. Acceptance for filing the revised Gaming Commission Regulation #R400-04: GC-06- chapter 6 Gaming Vendor Licensing.

Councilor Wolfe has brought this item forward. So, councilor Wolfe the floor is yours.

Councilor Wolfe: Okay thank you. Let me pull up the item that I have. Um so, what this is is Gaming Commission Ordinance 04-400-04 requires all Gaming Commission Regulations to be adopted by the Gaming Commission by written resolution and filed with the Tribal Council Recorder, which then shall be placed on Tribal Council Agenda for acceptance. So, we did update the Gaming Commission Regulation um through the NIGC, and these are just following suit to adopt those new uh regulations. Um this will be the same for all three items. One, what are they? A, B, and C? Anyways, the next three items. Um the regulations are updated to provide clarity and detail to assist in a consistent and fair implementation of the Gaming Ordinance. There were. Due to the new rules issued by the NIGC, um and we're on Chapter 6, so that's all I have on that one, and they were adopted by the Gaming Commission Resolution. This will allow them to be um put into practice by the resort. Thank you.

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

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm uh looking at the reports or the uh agenda paperwork that was submitted, and I actually don't see a resolution in here from Council. Is that acceptable if we just uh submit the Gaming Commission Resolution, or do we need a resolution from Council to push this forward? Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor De Piazza.

Councilor DiPiazza: Uh, from what I'm seeing that was sent to me email in the packet, there is no resolution on any, all three items. Resolution from the Commission, where

they adopted, but I don't see a resolution for the items. Can we rectify that before second open?

Councilor Wolfe: I do believe we have them. I'm looking on my email right now, because they were sent, the resolution and the new chapters were sent, and then the agenda request for the add. So, let me check and see if I can find what time they were sent to everybody, because that happened shortly after the work session.

Speaker Burmeister: Kelly has her hand up too. Kelly, did you want to come to the podium so we can hear you? I know you have your hand up. Did you have your hand up to? Mm kay.

Kelly Maser: Yes, the revised Tribal Council resolutions were sent over um after the agenda review, or actually after the work session. Um so, we revised them to accommodate the date change.

Councilor Wolfe: That was at 12:46, and I just re-sent them. So, we do have them. They just were not included in this updated add.

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah, I thought they were.

Councilor Wolfe: There, they should have popped up for everyone. I just sent them.

Speaker Burmeister: go ahead Councilor Metzger?

Councilor Metzger: Uh yes, if then, or is it acceptable to proceed uh with accepting without having the actual paperwork in front of me? Because I'd like to proceed just as it would. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Are there any other comments from Councilors? Councilor DiPiazza?

Councilor DiPiazza: I have it in the email form now, so I don't have a problem with them, because they need to be done.

Speaker Burmeister: Mm hmm. Yep.

Councilor DiPiazza: I don't have a problem making a motion on the items, so they can get that cleaned, get implemented.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, um Councilor DiPiazza, are you making the motion?

Councilor DiPiazza: I'd like to, yes.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, go ahead, please.

Councilor DiPiazza: I'll make a **motion to approve Resolution 24-0828-150**. Correct. **Accepting for filing the revised Gaming Commission Regulation R-400-04: GC-06 Chapter 6 Gaming Vendor Licensing.**

Councilor Wever & Councilor Wolfe: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, is there any further discussion from Council? from Tribal Citizens. Back to Council. Okay, with no further comments, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call on this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 8

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

Eight in favor, one absent. They've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down under New Business B, which is also an **ADD: B. Acceptance for filing the revised Gaming Commission Regulation #R400-04: GC-07- chapter 7- Employee (Key and primary Management Officials) Licensing.**

Councilor Wolfe has brought this item forward. So, Councilor Wolfe, the floor is yours.

Councilor Wolfe: So, this is the same as the previous action due to the new rules issued by NIGC. We're making them consistent for implementation that matches the Gaming Ordinance. Um there all considered. This applies to all considered definitions, but the changes in Chapter 7 that were substantive changes are due to implementing those new rules. Um so, that's all I have on that.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Will there be any councilors abstaining from this item? Any councilors with questions? Any citizens with questions? Sara, I see you have your hand up. Go ahead, please.

Sara Agosa: Did all of these work sessions on changing the regulations get a legal review?

Speaker Burmeister: Yes, they did.

Councilor Wolfe: Yes, they did. And it was noted by our legal attorney um what an excellent and nice job that the commission did for adding that clarification and following the guidance from NIGC. So, it was with high regard we got a review from the attorney.

Sara Agosa: Okay Thank you.

Councilor Wolfe: To accept the recommended changes.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Is there any other comments or questions from citizens? Back to Tribal Council. Councilor DiPiazza, you have your hand up. Go ahead.

Councilor DiPiazza: Just going to make a motion on this item.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, go ahead.

Councilor DiPiazza: Make a **motion to approve Resolution 24-0828-151 accepting for filing the Revised Gaming Commission Regulation R400-04: GC-07 Chapter 7 Employee Key Primary Management Official Licensing.**

Councilor Metzger: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Any further comments or questions from council? Back to citizens. Councilors? with no further questions. Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 9

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

Eight in favor, one absent. They've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Thank you. Moving down to New Business C, which is also an

ADD: C. Acceptance for filing the revised Gaming Commission Regulation #R400-04: GC-15-chapter 15- Certificate of Rehabilitation.

Councilor Wolfe brought this item forward. So, Councilor Wolfe, the floor is yours.

Councilor Wolfe: So again, just the same as the previous two items, um they're filed with the Tribal Council Recorder, which would be placed on the agenda for Tribal Council acceptance, and it is Chapter 15 that we're on. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Will there be any Councilors that are going to abstain from this item? Any Councilors with questions? Citizens with questions? Back to Tribal Council. Okay, with no further questions, I'd like to entertain a motion. Councilor DiPiazza, go ahead.

Councilor DiPiazza: There's no further questions. I'll make that **motion to approve Resolution 24-0828-152 Acceptance for filing the Revised Gaming Commission Regulation R400-04: GC-15 Chapter 15 Certification of Rehabilitation.**

Councilor Wolfe: Support.

Councilor Metzger: Support.

Councilor Wittenberg: Support.

Councilor Wever: (laughing).

Councilor DiPiazza: Support.

Councilor Wever: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Oh, goodness. Um is there any further discussion from Councilors? Back to Citizens. Councilors? Okay, with no further discussion, Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for this item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 10

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

Eight in favor, one absent, it has been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, moving down to

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, September 11, 2024

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Ogema Romanelli: I have no updates at this time.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Moving down to

C. Legislative Affairs Update

1. Tammy Burmeister

I don't have an update this week. Recorder

2. Pam Johnson

You are next.

Recorder Johnson: Um so, ah I just wanted to um confirm what Councilor Wolfe had said, that the new website did go into effect last night um and to um everyone will have to create a new password or um a new thing and that has been getting done. We've having a lot of people. Um there's probably about three dozen maybe that have um put in and there was some issues and it is getting resolved. With um. So, um they did figure out the password. There was uh an issue, and the password is going to be uh basically your um ID number. So, just uh four digits. So, if you have a low number that is a two or three, you add zeros in front just for the extra um thing. So, just want to let everybody know that um we are working through the issues as we find them um and that is one issue that they did find and um you can get through that now. So, just put that out there.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Susan.

Susan Thull: Oh, thank you. I was just wondering if you have uh contact person that for any problems that the citizens um experience.

Recorder Johnson: Um I'm just sharing it. Um it would actually um be Joanne for the legislative side. She is the one that is um taking them. If you pass them on to me, I'm just passing them on to her and then she's um looking at it and um it's getting moved forward to ProMet. So, um you can go ahead and send it to your councilor and then we can pass it on.

Susan Thull: Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Sara.

Sara Agosa: I just want to clarify how to contact Joanne Green because I noticed in the currents that there is no contact information for um the communication staff except for their names. So, we're not able to contact Joanne directly. We have to go through our councilors.

Councilor Wolfe: Tammy, if I can speak, I would say no. Joanne does have an email and an extension.

Speaker Burmeister: Yes

Councilor Wolfe: I can share her email, but I don't have the extension because it doesn't show up on her card for email, but her email is what shows up on the card. Joanne Green. So, J-O-A-N-N-E-G-R-E-E-N and that's at lrboi.gov and it doesn't show her extension on her card but let me see.

Councilor DiPiazza: Don't forget the backslash.

Councilor Wolfe: What backslash? The dash after lrboi?

Speaker Burmeister: -nsn.gov. That's what you're talking about, right, Councilor DiPiazza? Mm hmm. Okay. Go ahead councilor.

Councilor Wolfe: Venus, do you have her extension or Chantel that's listening or participating?

Recorder Johnson: Um there was some extension issues going back and forth, so I'm not exactly sure what her extension is.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe: I believe it's 6840.

Director Venus Battaglia: That's what I was going to say. It's 6840.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay

Councilor Wolfe: So, she can be reached at extension 6840 through the main number or you can dial directly to 231-398-6840. She probably could have gave that. She's participating. Thank you, Venus.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Go ahead, Sara.

Sara Agosa: My other question is in the past whenever I've had issues with my password or need to get a reset, I've gone through Rebecca Groh. So, I just need to clarify now it's changed if we have issues with our password.

Recorder Johnson: Um you still can go through, Rebecca. There's three of them, one for each branch that is um uh handling it. Um they would, it would either be Joanne, Rebecca, or the Executive, and I believe Spring for the Judicial if you're having issues. And Venus might be able to give more on that.

Speaker Burmeister: Mm hmm. Go ahead, Venus.

Councilor Wolfe: So that is correct then.

Director Venus Battaglia: Yeah, that's correct.

Joanne can um is the one that I we have been going through, has been working with the new website.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you, Venus. Okay, um next in the queue for update. Pam you were finished, right? Okay. Is councilor

3. Julie Wolfe

Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. So, I just want to mention today while I'm participating virtually, I'm at the 26th annual Midwest and Northwest Regional Conference for USDA. The tribe is the host this year for their annual conference, so it's um the Food Distribution Program, and all of their staff is here. And I'm participating um to support that today and tomorrow. Um and then the second one that I have, what I wanted to share, um on August 24, 2023, Judge Mahoney of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan approved and ordered implementation of the Great Lakes Consensus Decree. So Little River along with the other core tribe's um and the State of Michigan and the federal government have been negotiating for more than five years to come to agreement that ensures preservation and protection of treaty rights of signatories to March 28, 1836, Treaty of Washington and the Great Lakes. So that has been accepted. It does look like over the next few months; they'll continue to update on the regulations. And then um I believe the Ogema is going to be making an announcement when there is the official

signing of the decree. So just wanted to share that. Thank you. Oh, and the holiday for September 2, I believe it is.

Speaker Burmeister: Yes.

Councilor Wolfe: That the government will be closed for Labor Day. And the 21st is Treaty Recognition Day, so will be closed also that day. So, two holidays are up and coming for the tribe. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor
4. Gary DiPiazza
You are next in the queue.

Councilor DiPiazza: I'm just going to remind everybody that uh September 1st is the opening day of waterfowl. And make sure you check your regulations on time that it opens and closes. And use steel shot if you're out there taking part in the 1836 with your goose and duck hunting. So, but make sure you check your times and your zones, but that opens September 1st. So good luck everybody. And uh other than that, the website looks really nifty and I'm glad we're a lot of room to add stuff. That was the problem before is there was not enough memory left in there to store these things. So been a long time coming and I'm, yeah, it looks, it looks nice. Um that's it.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor
5. Shirley Wever
You are next in line. Go ahead please.

Councilor Wever: Well, I can't brag about yard sales last weekend (laughing), but I will say uh happy Labor Day weekend to all and be safe out there. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor
6. Al Metzger
You are next in the queue.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am I have nothing, at this time.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor
7. Ron Wittenberg
Go ahead please.

Councilor Wittenberg: Ah Miigwech. Uh I nothing at this moment.

Speaker Burmeister: Alright. Thank you. Um Councilor
8. Misty Silvis
And she is out. Next in the queue is councilor
9. Shannon Crampton
Go ahead please.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you, speaker. Um well, our United States Senator Mike Rounds, who's a Republican from South Dakota is urging for the Department of the Interior to change its funding formula for tribal law enforcement. So that's something we have to keep our eyes on. I know our department gets the blind share of our um self-governance, but um this funding, they're urging, he's urging an increase. We need to watch that. That might be highly beneficial for our tribe. Other than that, that's all I have this week. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Moving down to

D. Public Comment Period

Will there be any public comment? Questions? Go ahead, Sara.

Sara Agosa: I have some questions. And since I can't get back in the queue, I just want to make sure that nothing is ignored or glossed over. And I'm at least given a response of how to follow up. My first question is on the financial report work sessions. I'd like a status update on the financial reports. The last time I attended the financial work session, the Ogema nor his staff showed up, um which inconvenienced us as tribal members. We were waiting for the meeting to start, and it never started. So, I'd like an update on these work sessions. First of all, has the April financial report work session occurred? I can't access a calendar right now. So, I wanted to get a status update on that particular work session. And then what is tribal council's plan to make sure this does not happen and that if work sessions are scheduled, staff show up. And that's out of respect for our tribal community. That's my first question. My second question is regarding the membership meetings and the Budget and Appropriations Act work sessions. Will those be scheduled next week? Those are really important. So that's my second question. My third question is I scheduled a work session on closed sessions and the outcome of the session was to get a legal review. And I just wanted an update if a legal review has happened and when my work session will be scheduled to go over the legal review. My final question is about the currents. I scheduled a work session on our newsletter, The Currents, and I submitted an information request and it's been a couple weeks. And I'd like to know when my information request will be filled. Those are my questions. Thank you.

Recorder Johnson: I can start answering them. Um so your first question about the ah financials, it is rescheduled for tomorrow. Um I have not heard um if it needs to be rescheduled or not at this time. I'm waiting to actually hear from her. Um I did send her an email, um but it is rescheduled for tomorrow at 9:30, I believe. Um your second question, yes. Um what was the third question?

Speaker Burmeister: Was she going to hear about the membership meeting and the budget and appropriations.

Recorder Johnson: Oh, um we just got the legal review back um yesterday. So, on that, on waiting for the legal review. So, we did just get that. And then the last one, I had to re find your email to be able to answer your questions on. It's lost somewhere in my line, but I will get back to you on that um once I re find it again.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay.

Speaker Burmeister: Let's see, who do have in the queue? Let's see.

Ogema Romanelli: Was that a go ahead for me?

Councilor Wolfe: I have a response to Sara.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Councilor Wolfe also has her hand up so. Go ahead, Ogema. I recognized you and then Councilor Wolfe.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay. Of the four or five questions, I think the only one that pertains to me is the first one regarding attending the work session for financials. Uh I've been having some problems getting the notice of the meetings. And I think I've noted that to the Tribal Council. Um and as I said, I've had a problem getting onto the meetings once I call in. Yesterday, I was on for about 10 minutes and wasn't let in out of the meeting, out of the holding room. Uh so I believe that would be part of it. The other problem we have, or part is that during these work sessions, I've allowed my staff or yeah, allowed my staff not to attend in person. I think we've had this discussion before. Because what happens with work sessions is we send the information that's required or requested. And at the work sessions, there's been some pretty rough uh discussions that have happened. And I don't think that I should subject uh staff to that type of behavior. So, they can call in or they can send the information. And but I'm not requiring them to attend in person. So, I hope that answers the questions. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Councilor Wolfe, you are next in the queue. Did you,

Councilor Wolfe: So, we did receive an invite and it was scheduled on our calendar and it was sent to the Ogema and the CFO and neither one of them have responded to the Outlook invite at this time.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay. Thank you. Next in the queue is Lee. Go ahead, Lee. Oh, we can't hear you.

Lee McCaslin: Miigwech, speaker.

Speaker Burmeister: There you go.

Lee McCaslin: Um this is for the recorder. And uh uh so that we all get in the same page one day. Um the Northwestern Territory of July 13, 1787. And why do we have to educate our first graders? And this goes to the line of uh my comment on the Filer City

biomass carbon removal and storage. You know, and the net negative study. 98 steps to make it like Palestine or Palestine. Right? And we got 11 counties that are wanting to use this facility of the Niagaran shelf or the Niagaran Reef. And the uh Northwestern Territory gives us free informative prior consent of uh putting our data into it. And within the study, I see 98 steps, but I don't see this happening in Filer City. Um you know, and when we have to educate a first grader on the Northwestern Territory, and it gives us that free informative and prior consent and within the study, I'll give you the number. The project number is DEFE0032262. That's the biggest disaster that will ever have and to Manistee. And it going out on rails, Um is it going to replace the water that we're entrusted with 21% of the world's water right there. In my experience, when I was down working in that oil field in that area, it's nothing but a basin of salt. You have H2S along that route. You have 11 counties connected. You know that 26 uh feet pipeline to get piped into Filer City. You know, you have all those components, but then you have pressure. Uh our children shouldn't be subject to earthquakes and clean drinking water. And that's exactly what's going to take part right here. If we don't see the Northwest Territory in that date and getting something intimidated and giving it back to them on the table, you know, I give it to the recorder. You know, we're we're a nation built on trust. And this trust right here is being taken away from us. Our legal right, our inherited right to this earth, our clean water. And in that basin, there's nothing more exciting when those alarms goes off and you're working in a non-livable atmosphere and you're trying to control that situation. I understand all that from basic training. You know, we need to implement some of these rights of nature or the RONS ordinance, you know, the rights of nature. Everything has a right to clean water, clean soil, clean air. And right now, with Filer City coming in, which most of the members don't even know about, 97 uh 98 different steps to take us out. But uh I just want to say to the recorder that we should get this information out. Our uh geologists, uh our self-determination of education, Uh Dr. um Tony Ingraffea from Cornell University, retired, fishing in Alaska right now. But I would trust any one of his students with this. You know, we need another, that's 11, 11 counties of nothing but pure raw crude coming at you. You're being the hub. Nothing to breach the Great Lakes is right there. Take it out on rails. Yeah, carbon capture. I understand that. We have Sandra Strangraver. Now, trust anyone that those science and the education is talking, not this uh northern star clean energy. You know, we got to take that and hear it right.

Speaker Burmeister: Lee your time is up.

Lee McCaslin: Okay Miigwech.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Next in the queue is Mark. Go ahead, please.

Mark Huddleston: Miigwech. I have two things, one question and one comment. Uh my question is the uh tribal council strategic plan for 2024 or five. And uh I read on something on um online gaming. It says some experts believe that the market could face a correction due to factors like market saturation, regulatory changes and economic shifts. That's all I have.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Thank you, Mark. Um next in the queue is Councilor Crampton. Go ahead, please.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you. We'll just stay on what Mr. Huddleston said, because that was very interesting. That's why I'm urging that we get our reassessments of all our projects right now, because there is this exact shift that he's talking about. Um now, I want to jump back a little bit further and um talk about uh our meetings. I agree somewhat with the Ogema, and I told the membership I've never seen the council this disjunctured before. There seems to be no rhyme or reason to what the speaker and the account and the recorder do. We're behind on minutes. Our calendar gets changed at the last minute. Work sessions I've asked for weeks ago are delayed. Um there's no coherent rhyme or reason as to how these things are done. I know in the past when I ran it, it was a tight ship. I know uh Councilor Champagne did the same before. Mr. Pete did the same. All the way down, I have never seen it like this. So, I just want the membership to understand that we suffer the same problems that the Ogema is echoing to internally. Um on another end, um no, I I I know the Ogema likes to say that about work sessions, but in fact, I've saved all the emails the membership was on the last um work session with Ms. Rabb when she stood up and said that the Ogema made her do something. After that, the Ogema then sent emails that he was no longer going to allow his people to attend our emails or our work sessions and we have that down to the date of the emails, but the membership was in on that work session. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Thank you. Recorder Johnson, I have you next in the queue. Did you still have anything? Okay. Any other citizens? Okay, Councilor Wittenberg, go ahead.

Councilor Wittenberg: Yeah, never mind a hand just went up. I was going to make a motion to close uh first open. But theres.

Speaker Burmeister: Go ahead, Councilor Campton.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you for allowing me, speaker. Those are my answers to the most of the questions. I wanted to make a public comment for myself and just to say that um despite anything that's happening in the tribe, I wanted to thank people for the um celebration that went on with my family last Saturday and especially Councilor Wittenberg and J.D. Gibson um for helping provide a celebration of our traditions and our culture. Um the day was beautiful. I've never seen so many Native Americans in one room having so much fun. It was just the whole day was blessed and again, thank you to Mr. Gibson and thank you to Councilor Wittenberg. Miigwech. Thank you.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, thank you. Okay, any other comments or questions? Okay, uh Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Uh no other question. I'd like to make a **motion to close first open at 11:20.**

Councilor Wever: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Yeah. 11:21, right? Okay, thank you everybody for your participation. We're just going to go into close right now.

Councilor Wever: Yes.

Speaker Burmeister: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. I'm kind of jumping the gun here. Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for that? Or closing the adjourning the meeting, please.

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 11

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

Eight in favor, one absent. We are closed at 11:22.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, so we will reconvene. We're going to take a 10-minute break. So, let's see here. 20 to 12. Thank you.

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: Al, do you want to restate your motion?

Councilor Metzger: Yes, I'd like to make the **motion to move in the second open.**

Councilor Wever: Support.

Speaker Burmeister: Let me know when you're ready.

Recorder Johnson: Yep

Speaker Burmeister: Okay, um, Reporter Johnson, can you do roll call for that motion, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 12

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

Eight in favor, one absent. We are moved to second at 12:50.

Speaker Burmeister: Okay thank you so moving on to

VIII. Open Session

A. Items from Closed to Open Session- Minutes and Materials shall remain Confidential.

Postponed: 1. Economic Development Corporation Funding in the Amount of \$2,062,495

Number which would have been number

2. Little River Holdings LLC May & June 2024

Who would like to entertain a motion for those minutes? Go ahead Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Yes, I'd like to make a **motion to accept May and June's 2024 Little River Holdings LLC minutes, closed minutes.**

Recorder Johnson: Support.

Councilor Wittenberg: Does it say closed minutes?

Councilor Metzger: They're closed. They're moved from open to closed.

Councilor Wittenberg: Oh.

Speaker Burmeister: Reporter Johnson, can you do roll call for that item, please?

Recorder Johnson:

Roll Call # 13

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

Six in favor, two against, one absent, they've been accepted.

Speaker Burmeister: Alright, um moving down to

IX. Adjourn

Um who I would like to entertain a motion, please?

Councilor DiPiazza: I'd like to make a **motion to adjourn second open.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Councilor DiPiazza: Get ready for goose season starting the first. We had 50 of them fly over the top house.

Speaker Burmeister: Good word. Recorder Johnson, can you do roll call for that motion, please?

Recorder Johnson

Roll Call # 14

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

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. We are closed at 12:52.

Councilor Metzger: What was you going to say sir.

Speaker Burmeister: Alright, thank you, everybody.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chantel Gamelin,
Transcribing Assistant



Pam Johnson,
Tribal Council Recorder