



Approved 8/21/19

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019  
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 14, 2019. The Crestron Recording System failed to record the meeting and the 8/14/19 Tribal Council Minutes were constructed from the Roll Call Record, other documents and an alternate recording device. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Di Piazza said to Speaker Pete that the recorder is on.

Speaker Pete thanked Drew Jeurink. Pete said welcome to the Wednesday, August 14, 2019 Tribal Council Meeting and it is 10:00 in the morning. Pete said Dave Corey is doing an Opening Prayer.

**I. Opening Prayer**

Dave Corey, Tribal Councilor, offered the Opening Prayer.

Great Spirit thank you for the day.  
Thank you for everyone attending.  
Bless our hearts, our minds, our bodies, our souls and our Spirits.  
Give us a well and productive meeting.  
Ahaaw.

Speaker Pete thanked Dave Corey.

**II. General Business**

**A. Call to Order**

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order.

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Recorder Di Piazza asked at what time.

Speaker Pete said at 10:01.

**B. Roll Call**

T. Guenthardt -Present	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	R. Pete -	Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Present

Quorum established.

Recorder Di Piazza said seven present, two absent they have a quorum at 10:01.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza. Pete said just for the record is that Diane Lonn is at an ICWA Meeting he believed it is in Petoskey. Pete said Cindy Champagne is on.....

Councilor Lewis said ceremony.

Speaker Pete said ceremony. Pete thanked them.

Others Present: Julia Nickelsen, Boo Battice, Jason Cross, Jennifer Crampton, Jessica Steinberg.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, Mary Thomas, Ogema Romanelli, Officer Patrick Gilles, Rebecca Liebing, Caitlin Rollins, Elise McGowen-Cuellar.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

Speaker Pete recognized Gary Di Piazza.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 14, 2019 WITH NO CORRECTIONS AND NO ADDS; by  
Di Piazza; supported by Guenthardt.**

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #1**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor, two absent the agenda for Wednesday, August 14, 2019 has been approved.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

**D. Tribal Council Minutes    ☐ 7/24/19    ☐ 8/7/19**

Speaker Pete asked does he have a motion. Pete recognized Sandy Lewis.

**MOTION TO APPROVE TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR  
7/24/19 AND ALSO 8/7/19; ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING;** by Lewis;  
supported by Guenthardt.

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #2**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor, two absent Tribal Council Minutes for 7/24/19 and 8/7/19 have been accepted.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

**III. Continuing Business**

**A. Grants & Contracts**

Speaker Pete said there is nothing under Grants & Contracts.

**B. Budget Modifications**

- 1. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Child Welfare Social Services (CWSS) and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2019-\_\_ in the amount of \$2,133**  
The Tribe has received a new grant award.

Speaker Pete said Bill Willis and Jason Cross is here to support.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, and Jason Cross, Director of Family Services, represented this agenda item. Willis said Jason Cross is the one who actually administers the program. Willis said this is reoccurring money they get every year and got it for as long as he can remember \_\_\_. Willis said they just need to amend the Operating Budget and accept the money.

Speaker Pete asked is there any questions. Pete asked does he have a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0814-220;  
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-CHILD  
WELFARE SOCIAL SERVICES AND APPROVING A  
MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2019-42 IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$2,133; by Guenthardt; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Pete asked is there any further discussion. Pete asked is anybody going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #3**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor; two absent Resolution #19-0814-220 is passed.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

**2. Approval of Budget Modification MB-2019-\_\_; Authorizing a modification to the 2019 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant in the amount of \$16,600**

Tribal Council must approve any change in the scope of a Program such as elimination of Program Activities.

Speaker Pete said he also believes that Bill Willis and Jason Cross are here to represent that.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, and Jason Cross, Director of Family Services, represented this agenda item. Willis said this is actually a request from Shanaviah Canales to move around money in an existing grant which actually expires the end of September and she is trying to spend down as much of the money as she can before the deadline. Willis said they are taking VOCA money from Salaries and Fringes and moving it to Small Equipment and Travel.

Speaker Pete asked is there any questions. Pete asked does he have a motion. Pete recognized Dave Corey.

Councilor Corey said he will make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0814-221;  
APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATION MB-2019-43;  
AUTHORIZING A MODIFICATION TO THE 2019 VICTIMS OF**

**CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,600; by Corey; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Pete asked is there any further discussion. Pete asked is anybody going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #4**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor; two absent Resolution #19-0814-221 is passed.

Bill Willis thanked them.

Speaker Pete thanked Bill Willis.

**C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

Speaker Pete said there is nothing under Approval of Budgeted Expenditure.

**IV. Old Business**

**Reports that are due: June 2019**

- A. Financial Report**
- B. Health Commission  
May 2019**

**Reports received:**

- ☐ **June 2019**
- ☐ **None Submitted**

Speaker Pete said Financial Report is delivered June 2019. Pete said the Health Commission Report there is none submitted. Pete asked any questions on that.

**V. New Business**

Speaker Pete said there is nothing for New Business.

**VI. Concluding Business**

- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, August 21, 2019**
- B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**

Ogema Romanelli thanked them. Romanelli said as they know he passed on the name for the Oversight Task Force and resume. Romanelli said he thinks it was discussed last week. Romanelli said he is passing it on. Romanelli said he

doesn't believe the person meets qualifying.....minimum qualifications but again he is sending it onto Council so they can do what they need to do.

Speaker Pete said absolutely.

Ogema Romanelli said the grounds outside here they can see some differences hopefully out there. Romanelli said they are preparing because they planted trees and these are Memorial Trees that were planted last year. Romanelli said soon they will be having some plaques that will have the names of people that have Walked On in the Tribe over the years. Romanelli said so they want to plant some kind of Rye Grass in there that is kind of.....it just looks a little bit better. Romanelli said so they will be noticing some work out there. Romanelli said they put some lime down and he appreciates the workers working together to do so. Romanelli said other than that he thinks they are just doing their thing here. Romanelli said they are trying to work on the Budget and still working to prepare that so. Romanelli said he thinks that is it.

Speaker Pete said okay is there any questions for the Ogema. Pete thanked Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli thanked them.

### **C. Legislative Affairs Update**

Speaker Pete recognized Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the 2018 ruling, grotesques ruling, that ICWA was unconstitutional so it's now.....ICWA is confirmed as being constitutional.

Councilor Wittenberg said um-hum.

Speaker Pete said he was very happy to see that too. Pete said he also saw that on Friday and he in some capacity was going to bring it up if he wasn't bringing it up so that was very nice. Pete said a very big difference. Pete said congratulations to all of the Tribes.

Councilor Crampton said yes.

Speaker Pete asked is there anything else for Legislative Affairs Update.

### **D. Public Comment Period**

Speaker Pete recognized Jessica Steinberg.

Jessica Steinberg, Tribal #0148, said to Speaker Pete good morning.

Speaker Pete said good morning.

Jessica Steinberg said oh boy, short agenda.

Speaker Pete said yes, it is today, yes.

Jessica Steinberg said just a couple of things. Steinberg said keeping up with social media.

Speaker Pete said ah, yeah.

Jessica Steinberg said she understands that there was some technical difficulties of last week's taping of the meeting so just a couple of things. Steinberg said if there was difficulties with the taping, it would also impact the dictation and the ability to record all the minutes of the meeting.

Speaker Pete said it did, it never.....there was certain things it picked up and other things that it didn't so it didn't under public comment and he would like to address one of the things she brought up. Pete said he is going to first check and be assured that the tape is working. Pete said okay.

Jessica Steinberg said um, reason being because she did come up to ask about a rumor. Steinberg said about his resignation and.....

Speaker Pete said yes.

Jessica Steinberg said there was lengthy discussion between her and him. Steinberg said he assured most of them that.....the rumor was he was going to resign and that was going to happen after an October deadline just to restate it because she knows people are concerned about it.

Speaker Pete said sure.

Jessica Steinberg said that it was going to happen after an October deadline and that it has been discussed fairly openly amongst the Elected Officials. Steinberg said with that resignation that would allow the Ogema to appoint and there is even a name.....

Speaker Pete said um-hum.

Jessica Steinberg said.....floating around out there in the public.....

Speaker Pete said really.

Jessica Steinberg said.....arena as to who would receive that appointment. Steinberg said it is an individual that she is related to not directly but indirectly.

Steinberg said who served on the Council previously and her \_\_\_\_ is Sandy Mezeske. Steinberg said so um....

Speaker Pete said he is related to her too.

Jessica Steinberg said so just she wanted to make sure that the public has reassurance regarding this rumor and that he indicated last week that he had no intention of resigning which she supports, wholeheartedly, he is one of her nine county representatives and she lives in the nine county area. Steinberg said she certainly looks to him for \_\_\_\_ on the Council but it is unfortunate that meeting was not captured in whole. Steinberg said she just wanted to reassure members that are going to be watching this recording that that rumor was put to rest and that he had no intention of retiring and resign so.

Speaker Pete said okay, can he answer that right now.

Jessica Steinberg said sure.

Speaker Pete said he is certainly going to say is just for the record..... Pete asked Drew Jeurink if the tape was going.

Drew Jeurink said it would appear so right now and he was about to go check again.

Speaker Pete said okay so it would appear so right now. Pete said he is going to.....and actually, he had forgot because he is getting older and he doesn't think like that and the other thing is a couple of weeks ago. Pete said Dave Corey, called and brought something to him. Pete said he said there is a rumor going around that he is going to resign and they know what he just didn't even think about it anymore. Pete said he said to Dave Corey there is no....what and then she had mentioned that to him. Pete said he assured his nine county like he did last week that he has no intentions of resigning and support if the Ogema ever appointed somebody for him because if there was something that he would be able to do as a result of.....and he can't predict tomorrow. Pete said he is just assuring her but he cannot predict tomorrow. Pete said if he is feeling like he is doing right now he has absolutely no intention of resigning period. Pete said he hopes that social media completes this answer and he is just.....he doesn't know how else to promise this he is what he is doing. Pete asked does that suffice.....

Jessica Steinberg said to Speaker Pete that she thinks for herself absolutely and she appreciates him responding to her again yet on this tape. Steinberg said they know what there are a lot of things that happen on social media and she herself have made posts on social media and she will be first to say that she does but most posts that she makes are founded either in Tribal Law, relevant Federal Law or policy that is researchable here at the Tribe. Steinberg said so she tries not to make anything out of posts and they all get political but she tries to make sure that



what she comments about is founded in some basis of their government because that is very important to her. Steinberg said their government is very critical to her as a Tribal citizen and frankly as a Native American in this country because the only thing they have is their governments that separates them. Steinberg said their government is not culture it separates them from the rest of the herd. Steinberg said so when she reads things on social media and it does get blown up. Steinberg said there is an issue right now with property across the road and potential hotel.....these are all things that were put into the Commerce Department's Plan but she guessed what she wants to emphasize is when the government is transparent and granted not everyone can come to these meetings. Steinberg said these meetings on Wednesday where folks are at work are difficult but if they are trans.....if their government is transparent and talks openly about its plans, about its Budgets, about its priorities that puts to rest a lot of conjecture that's out there in social media. Steinberg said she has to state that transparency is a critical element to build trust it also creates an informed population so they can become engaged and there will always be.....there will always be individuals that are unhappy with the direction something is going because they feel based on their own knowledge that they want it to go in a different direction. Steinberg said but if they can garner and gather consensus through transparency of their citizens that makes their jobs all that much easier.

Speaker Pete asked what? Pete said what.....

Jessica Steinberg said she brings that to their attention respectfully in a kind way because she feels based on social media that there is not a lot of trust. Steinberg said that there is not.....that there is a general feeling of disenfranchisement and disengagement. Steinberg said granted looking in the audience pretty much the same folks are here most of the time that is because they can be. Steinberg said put something out ahead of time don't do it at the.....don't make the information public after the fact. Steinberg said ask their constituents for support and ask them for their opinion. Steinberg said they know what the government is going to have prosperity but right now, she wanted to convey that there is definitely....definitely in the community a feeling that there is a lack of transparency. Steinberg said not from everyone but on the whole and she thinks they need to improve that. Steinberg thanked Speaker Pete.

Speaker Pete thanked Jessica Steinberg. Pete said also he guessed he can't be any more transparent and to say that he is not going to resign. Pete said that is just the way he can't offer anything more than that. Pete said all right Larry Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said go ahead.

Jessica Steinberg said no she was just going to say and she does appreciate that she means that is a pretty clear statement. Steinberg said the discussion right now is about the Tribe having a plan and she will say it's in the social media a plan to build a hotel across the road on some property that the Tribe owns.....they call it

the M-22 Development Corridor when she was Tribal Manager. Steinberg said there is some concern about the expenses, concern about the development itself, and she guessed from what she can gather the most concern is that folks don't feel like they were in the know about these plans. Steinberg said they probably might not have been if they didn't come and get an opportunity to review that plan document that is being discussed. Steinberg said when pages get pulled out and they get pushed up some of them that know about it have to remember gee was that in closed session and can they talk about that. Steinberg said in this particular instance that plan across the road when of the members of the Council responded there was a concern about zoning and they responded well they have to follow the law. Steinberg said well she agrees but they better know what they are speaking about in regard to the parcel before they make a comment that they have to put themselves in another jurisdiction especially when they are a member representative because she is going to jump on that. Steinberg reiterated that she is going to jump on that because again the Tribe's Governance and its sovereign authority perpetuate prosperity for the Tribe. Steinberg said that is the latest it has to do with the planned development maybe there needs to be an opportunity before than a Meet and Greet. Steinberg said maybe there needs to be a plan presentation on some of these items like Strategic Plan documents or Commerce Plan documents. Steinberg said proprietary information share it's a broad brush and really the only thing that is proprietary are things that are trademarkable or has specifics on contracts. Steinberg said the treasury is not proprietary for example. Steinberg said that is public that is public domain. Steinberg said the broad strips, the general ledger items.....

Speaker Pete said \_\_\_\_.

Jessica Steinberg said.....are public domain. Steinberg said now are there things in those that are proprietary, yes, she would say yes there are but they got to be better as a government about communicating. Steinberg said the broad strips are more concise and put away. Steinberg said she thinks that will help everybody. Steinberg said then she won't get messages and she won't have to be here.

Speaker Pete said okay and thanked Jessica Steinberg. Pete recognized Larry Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Pete. Romanelli said yeah, he is just revisiting last week's meeting which unfortunately there were complications from IT and the recording of it. Romanelli said he does want to also state that he made the comment that he had not told him he was resigning so if that was out there he is not sure how it got out there. Romanelli said now they complicated it even more by saying there is also a name that the Ogema is going to be putting forward. Romanelli said they make it up as they go along. Romanelli said he has not even talked with Sandy Mezeske during this whole process let alone to talk to her about putting her name forward so where this.....they make it up as they go along is all he can say. Romanelli said he finds social media really disappointing.

Romanelli said he doesn't find any social anything in it, as they know. Romanelli said he thinks it is a good way to communicate quickly and if people were responsible it would be a great tool but the fact is that they even make it up as they go along as he said last week. Romanelli said he was revisiting that the old rumor mill is working overtime as usual and where the stuff comes from, he has no idea. Romanelli said about being transparent, he can tell someone the absolute truth and they are still going to call him a liar. Romanelli said that is okay they already know that happens \_\_\_\_ they have the right to do so but when they tell them the truth and they still don't believe it how does the transparency get out there. Romanelli said they also know that their internal rules and regs if they are going to follow the rules and regs that is not following them. Romanelli said a lot of the times they are not even following those rules and regs. Romanelli said they need to be more consistent with that and they also know that some of the internal rules and regs that have been passed whether it be resolution do not comply or go along with other regs and rules and they are continually sorting them out so he thanks their internal attorneys for doing that. Romanelli said every now and then they catch something that is a gray area or it absolutely goes against what another rule or reg shows. Romanelli said so they are trying to do that. Romanelli said as far as transparency goes they know they have the Meet and Greets again \_\_\_\_ they know they can talk freely. Romanelli said Councilmen has always been invited to his he has held them every since he has been Ogema for 12 years. Romanelli said they are free to come in and they can discuss it. Romanelli said he knows now Council is having Meet and Greets as well. Romanelli said they have taped Informational Meetings he has held Informational Meetings to discuss whether it was a Fishing Program whatever. Romanelli said it is taped and most of it is on the website if they were able to capture it. Romanelli said he might need another Informational Meeting. Romanelli said he does agree that some of these projects whether it be EDC or whatever should have an Open Meeting with the membership. Romanelli said he knows that Council has Saturday Meetings every once in a while and he doesn't know how effective they are or if people can get here so by trying to put.....tape this information for those people that can't make it here is about the best that they can do in certain ways. Romanelli said they also know that work sessions are open to the public but a lot of the times the work sessions are during the day people can't.....either working over.....where they live further than an hour away so they can't attend either. Romanelli said he doesn't know what can be done about that as far as Council goes if they tape them or livestream them or whatever he has no idea. Romanelli said so they try to provide as much as they can but again, when they have.....he used to just say misinformation but now he has to call them lies. Romanelli asked where does something like that start, they know, has anybody even called him and say "*Hey Larry, I heard he is nominating Sandy Mezeske for a position that \_\_\_\_ is going to be open.*" Romanelli said yeah he may answer that stuff but he has no idea so he thinks quite honestly a lot of it is just intentional lies. Romanelli said he can't.....he can't explain it any other way and he thinks it is unfortunate. Romanelli said he told somebody the other day one of the major things hurting this Tribe is not the lack of transparency but it's the lies that are \_\_\_\_ and she is

saying well the.....not her but they say well the lies come from not being transparent. Romanelli said if they are out and willing to talk to these people and tell them the truth and they are still not believing it because somebody somewhere on some little Chat Room in some little room that is dark and has 20 people on there they are saying something different they are going to believe it on the \_\_\_\_\_ at that point and time. Romanelli said to Jessica Steinberg that he appreciates her coming in as he said last week he appreciates her coming to the podium that is the way to do it and this is the place to get their questions answered because they have all parties here. Romanelli said they have everybody in the room and the same way with the Membership Meetings. Romanelli said they know they just had their Shoreline Meeting or, excuse him, a Round Table and there was discussion about rearranging the Membership Meetings to make them more friendly so that they are not getting the animosity. Romanelli said he thinks that is hard to do because the Membership Meetings are there for the members it is a Member Meeting it is not the Ogema's Meeting, the Ogema is the Chair, and people say that is the Ogema's Meeting, nope, it's the Member's Meeting. Romanelli said it's that time for them to provide as much information as they can at least two times a year. Romanelli said thank God it's in the Constitution. Romanelli said that is where he can provide whether Financial Updates or whatever the case is. Romanelli said that meeting is also a place for them to come to the microphone and say, *"hey, I'm going to question my Ogema and I want to question my Council members as to what is going on."* Romanelli said that is a right that they have and they can't.....they can't change that. Romanelli said as nice as they want to make the meeting they are going to have to work around that and they talked about it yesterday. Romanelli said \_\_\_\_\_ there are some things that the Council would like to do that makes it more entertaining and he is fine with that as long as they hit those basic principles. Romanelli said if there is something more they can do, they know, Informational Meetings that are taped he thinks are great, and again, all the Elected Officials are invited to come to the meeting and let's hammer it out because what he finds and again, he is going on a bit much here, but the employees if one employee tells him "A" and another employee tells him "B" and this one comes to his office and that one comes to his office and says something different. Romanelli said when he gets them both at the table and says *"okay, let's all sit down at the same table"* all of a sudden he gets more of the truth because "A" says.....well it wasn't exactly that he said it it was that he....he thought that was the intention, ah, now they are getting some place. Romanelli said same thing with this so. Romanelli said he won't go on further but just wanted to make it clear that he hasn't told him he was resigning. Romanelli said Sandy Mezeske he does not know where that came from as; again, he hasn't talked to her. Romanelli said he thinks he saw her at some function a couple of weeks ago where she said "hi" and he said "hi" that was it so. Romanelli said it had to be made up is all he can think of. Romanelli thanked them very much.

Speaker Pete thanked him so much. Pete said he is going to.....he is going to make a point of getting to the EDC to have.....when they get some things more

organized he doesn't go to the meetings but to make a public presentation at the Resort to do something along that line that they can do. Pete said yes.

Recorder Di Piazza said he was going to say they had one not too long ago but he can't remember the date but that was maybe a month or two ago they had an open.....open forum with slide show and if he is not mistaken he believed that the 22 Corridor was in that presentation. Di Piazza said that was open to Tribal members, it was livestreamed, they could call in. Di Piazza said he doesn't know how many people as far as he remembers he was here for it and doesn't remember anybody calling in there was only like two or three maybe four people on the livestream they can see who is all on there, not who, but how many so. Di Piazza said if he is not mistaken that was given to the public presentation about it if he is not mistaken.

Speaker Pete said okay is there any other further comment. Pete said any public comment. Pete said oh, Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he would like to say this when they had these talks and stuff there is a separation policy the Ogema says "we" that is the Executive side not Council so. Crampton said he thinks that the biggest problem that they have in communication is that they are still operating on the footprint that was built for a Tribe that is centralized and they are not a centralized Tribe. Crampton said he thinks that the longer they keep fighting the idea their just going to encounter more problems. Crampton said they act.....act.....what they actually have to do is rework everything so that it is centralized because they are dealing with people that aren't centralized, the whole Tribe, the \_\_\_ and everybody. Crampton said right now they are not. Crampton said he proposed something the other day in a work session that he has been working on for quite a few years and that is having multiple Elder's Committees. Crampton said have one in Wisconsin and one in Muskegon. Crampton said he has been to both. Crampton said they have different feelings.....they have different feelings through coming from Wisconsin and they have different feelings coming from Muskegon. Crampton said he wants to hear all the Elders. Crampton said so when they are saying they are listening to the Elders their not. Crampton said they are listening to one group. Crampton said he thinks the longer they go along this operating like they are a centralized Tribe and they are actually not he thinks just creates a bigger problem. Crampton said he thinks that's the key to \_\_\_.

Speaker Pete asked Shannon Crampton okay.

Councilor Crampton said yes.

Speaker Pete asked anyone else. Pete recognized Boo Battice.

Councilor Crampton said to Jessica Steinberg that he thinks she is scaring him.

*Boo Battice had deferred his turn to Jessica Steinberg to go before him.*

Jessica Steinberg thanked Boo Battice and that she appreciated it. Steinberg said Tribal #0148, being August and they are getting into.....towards the middle.....meet the third quarter. Steinberg said she has a question she guessed for Council is have they been notified by the Executive about the fieldwork of the audit yet. Steinberg said she knows that the single audit is going to be due very soon and they should be thinking of starting the fieldwork or the fieldwork should at least been completed and the audit being wrapped up for 2018 and they should be starting to gather some of that information for 2019. Steinberg said she just wondered if them guys been notified as to whether or not those.....the audit fieldwork is starting.

Speaker Pete said he thinks they did.

Ogema Romanelli said \_\_\_\_.

Speaker Pete said it is.

Ogema Romanelli said he believed their Accounting Department did send out a notice to Tribal Council. Romanelli said he thinks the whole check where they \_\_\_\_ appreciated it.

Councilor Corey said he would too.

Ogema Romanelli said if they don't have it but yeah.

Speaker Pete said with 20 and the next one would be for the 2019 Budget. Pete said yes. Pete recognized Boo Battice. Pete said to Larry Romanelli he is sorry.

Ogema Romanelli said go ahead. Romanelli said to Boo Battice no he has been waiting.

Boo Battice, Tribal #2644, said he is just concerned about the bigger picture than the whole and what he has been saying a lot. Battice said he really recommends that they get some kind of food plots or things. Battice said he is concerned like he said as a whole and he doesn't see food prices going down in the future here. Battice said if the government decides to cut them off of things then are they going to be able to feed themselves. Battice said so hopefully they can all get together and figure something out to start in the spring to really get something serious going on because the world is bigger than just them here. Battice said potato chips are going to be ten bucks a bag here in a minute.

*Someone said chips.*

Boo Battice said ah, what's going on in that bigger picture. Battice said he is looking to them guys and he hoping they can all work together and get some food plots going.

*Someone said um-hum.*

Speaker Pete thanked Boo Battice. Pete recognized Larry Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said they may actually know or may not know there was a \$700,000 grant given to them by HUD for a food.....

*Someone said distribution.*

Ogema Romanelli said.....storage facility and that is going to be helping in one way. Romanelli said that doesn't solve the problem with growing their own food so but if the situation presents itself there will be a place to store foods and they are moving in that direction so, yeah.

Boo Battice said so they are looking at some storage for maybe somebody to stockpile because if it.....he knows he said they got \$700,000 from them but they are still depending on them. Battice said if stuff goes down because they are always.....well he is just saying is they can't expect them to drop stuff off in parachutes and things. Battice said they got to start thinking about their community whether it is just their Tribal members or their community.....their people from.....in Manistee.

Ogema Romanelli said okay and thanked Boo Battice.

Boo Battice thanked Ogema Romanelli.

Speaker Pete thanked Boo Battice.

Ogema Romanelli said just the other thought reaching out to other people they know that the Constitution was designed and that the 500 as the number that stated was more of a \_\_\_\_ because now they have 4,200 members in 50-some states. Romanelli said they talk about Muskegon being the largest base of Tribal members and now they have a large base they see over in Wisconsin, they still have people in Idaho, Oklahoma and they name it they are all over in the 50 states. Romanelli said so the thing that seems to be the most popular is livestreaming of the tape recordings of the meetings, etc. and as Gary Di Piazza talked about with what is going on across the street there is a whole presentation here that was put out and was on the screen showing everything and a slide stream.

Recorder Di Piazza said um-hum.

Ogema Romanelli said a \_\_\_\_\_ part of that too he believed so he means how do they get to somebody in Oklahoma they know other than.....that seems like the most logical so that as many members can get the information as possible. Romanelli said it doesn't hurt to take a road trip to Muskegon or Wisconsin. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Pete recognized Gary Di Piazza.

Recorder Di Piazza said he didn't bring it up last week but.....since it wasn't recorded the Council Chambers they have a phone in there and he encourages members that the agenda comes out for their work sessions every week. Di Piazza said the phone number is 231 398-6839 feel free to call that number when there is a work session going on, if it is open to the public, it's open to them. Di Piazza said also they have the capability to livestream so if they are some place but please give him a day or two if something they want to livestream into just to make sure all the plugs are out of that because they have only used it a couple of times. Di Piazza said yeah, feel free to call into them work sessions.

Speaker Pete said okay.

Recorder Di Piazza said even to say, "*Hey how are you doing?*"

Speaker Pete recognized Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to say to Boo Battice he hears and understands what he is talking about and recently when he was at up in Utah he got this \_\_\_\_\_ and the top Strategist from the DNC. Crampton said they started to talk about this and he presented his idea to them. Crampton said his idea was.....he will go over what his idea was but at the end of his talk a lot of glasses were raised and he was toasted by the whole group. Crampton said it took into account exactly what he is talking about.

*Boo Battice made a comment from the audience and it wasn't picked up on the tape recording.*

Speaker Pete thanked Shannon Crampton. Pete asked anything more. Pete said okay they will need a.....

Councilor Guenthardt said they need a motion.

Speaker Pete said a motion to.....

Councilor Guenthardt said motion to close open session.



***The purpose of closed session is to discuss business matters considered privileged or confidential involving consideration of bids/contracts, pending legal issues, and/or personnel matters.***

**MOTION TO CLOSE OPEN SESSION;** by Guenthardt; supported by Crampton.

Speaker Pete asked is there going to be any abstentions. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #5**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

The meeting closed at 10:39 a.m.

**VIII. Open Session**

Recorder Di Piazza said to Speaker Pete that the recorder is on.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza. Pete said it is 10:57 a.m. and he needs a motion to go back into Open Session.

**MOTION TO GO BACK INTO OPEN SESSION;** by Guenthardt; supported by Crampton.

Speaker Pete asked are there any abstentions. Pete asked any questions.....any discussion. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #6**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor, two absent they are back in.....they are in second open at 10:57.

**A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session**

Speaker Pete asked is there any items to move from Closed to Open Session.

Recorder Di Piazza said no, there is not.

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

## **IX. Adjourn**

Speaker Pete asked can he get a motion to move.....

**MOTION TO ADJOURN;** by Guenthardt; supported by Crampton.

Speaker Pete asked is there going to be any discussion. Pete asked any abstentions. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

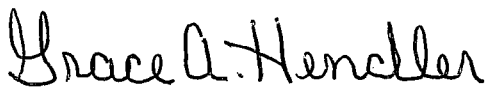
### **Roll Call #7**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler  
Transcribing Assistant



Gary Di Piazza,  
Tribal Council Recorder