

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2016  
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 17, 2016. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

**I. Opening Prayer**

Chuck Fisher, Tribal Warrior, offered the Opening Prayer.

Creator thank you.

Thank you for today, for every day, for every day that we have an opportunity to take advantage of the opportunities that we don't always see.

We have those opportunities all the time and we often just let them pass by.

We need to stop and realize that we are truly brothers and sisters and that we give that the meaning that it has.

We need to step back and remember that as we go forward as we meet our brothers and sisters not only here among the Tribe but everywhere.

There are a lot of people who don't know how to live.

There is a lot of trouble in a lot of parts in the world, Milwaukee, practically anywhere, if they picked up a paper they can find trouble just about anywhere.

We lost, also lost a Veteran, and there are services at the end of the week.

There is trouble all over the world.

We don't need to create our own troubles.

We need to come together, be together, and go forward together.

Creator, help us, help us do that. Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech. Ahaaw.

**II. General Business**

**A. Call to Order**

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

**B. Roll Call**

J. Riley - Present	J. Burger- Present	F. Medacco- Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza- Present	M. Wabindato -Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	V. Johnson - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Others Present: Rosemary Smith, Rita Gale, Noelle Cross, Diane Lonn, Tom St. Dennis, Jennifer Crampton, Connie Waitner, Ron Pete, Austen Brauker, Bill Willis, Sandy Mezeske, Jamie Friedel, Darleen Martin, Peggy & Jim Derouin, Frank Figgels, Janine Sam, Julie Wolfe.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, Drew Jewrick, Mary Thomas, Ogema Romanelli, Officer Patrick Gilles, Dave Corey, Elaine Porter, Shayne Machen, Rebecca Liebing, Caitlin Rollins, Jason Holguin.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVE TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW BUSINESS, ITEM D, APPROVAL OF DONATION TO STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE IN OPPOSING THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE;** by Riley; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

**Roll Call #1**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley noted the agenda is adopted.

**D. Tribal Council Minutes  08/6/16  08/10/16**

**MOVE TO ACCEPT THE TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 8/6/16 AND 8/10/16;** by Riley; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

**Roll Call #2**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley noted the minutes are accepted.

### III. Continuing Business

#### A. Grants & Contracts

Speaker Johnson noted that they do not have anything for Item A. Grants & Contracts.

#### B. Budget Modifications

1. **Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Administration for Community Living and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2016-\_\_ in the amount of \$6,107**

The Tribe has received the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding on the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

Speaker Johnson noted that Noelle Cross is in the audience to support any questions.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said that is correct. Willis said this particular funding is additional funding that they received from the Administration for Community Living and is a program call Nutrition Services Incentive and kind of a complimentary program to the Elders Meal Program. Willis said they have had this grant since 2014 and cumulatively to date they have received \$22,132 in total. Willis said they just need to accept the money and amend the Operating Budget.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-235; ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2016-42 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,107; by Di Piazza; supported by Riley.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Ron Pete, Tribal #4158, said he just wanted to make a comment that he.....that Noelle Cross and her staff, her limited staff, out there sometimes, and her volunteers had done a magnificent job for the Elders for their Meal Program. Pete said he was out there for lunch yesterday, himself, it was incredible and the monthly things that they do at Aki for the Elders he just really wants to compliment her and this program.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

**Roll Call #3**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed Resolution #16-0817-235 passes.

Ogema Romanelli said he just wanted to echo Ron Pete's words on that too and thanked him for the compliment.

**C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

Speaker Johnson said they do not have anything under Item C.

**IV. Acceptance of Reports**

**A. Report of the Tribal Ogema**

- 1. **Operations Report**  None Submitted
- 2. **Financial Report**  None Submitted

Speaker Johnson said he just got a report this morning from Lani Rozga in regards to the Financials and he believed it will be put on their next month's.....or next week's Council for acceptance.

**V. Acceptance of Commission Reports**

- A. **Binojeeuk Commission**  July 2016
- B. **Enrollment Commission**  July 2016
- C. **Gaming Commission**  July 2016
- D. **Health Commission**  July 2016
- E. **Housing Commission**  None Submitted
- F. **Natural Resource Commission**  None Submitted
- G. **Commerce Commission**  None Submitted

Speaker Johnson said they do not have to act on any of the reports that they have received from Binojeeuk, Enrollment, Gaming and Health Commissions. Johnson said it is so noted that they will be filed for acceptance. Johnson said they have still not received the Housing, Natural Resource or Commerce Commission Reports.

**VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities**

- A. **Elders Committee Minutes**  July 2016 Special
- B. **Little River Casino Resort Preference Report**  July 2016
- C. **LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Report**  None Submitted

Speaker Johnson said again they have received the Elders and they have also received the Preference Report from the casino. Johnson said they have not received the Preference Report from the government. Johnson said there is no action required on the committee or the Resort Preference Reports. Johnson said it is noted that they will be filed.

**VII. Old Business**

- A. **Financial Report**  **None Submitted**
- B. **Health Commission**  **None Submitted**
- C. **Natural Resource Commission**  **June 2016**
- D. **Commerce Commission**  **None Submitted**
- E. **Elders Committee Minutes**  **June 2016**
- F. **LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Report**  **None Submitted**

Speaker Johnson said they have not received the Financial Reports, Health Commission Reports. Johnson said they have the Natural Resource Report and the Elders older ones so they noted that there is not action required and they will be filed.

**VIII. New Business**

- A. **Approve the Amended Residential Lease for Tribal Rental Units**  
 The Residential Lease needed to be updated to reflect changes to Housing Regulations as well as address how late fees are applied to Tenants.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-236;  
 APPROVING THE AMENDED RESIDENTIAL LEASE FOR  
 TRIBAL RENTAL UNITS;** by Di Piazza; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

**Roll Call #4**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed Resolution #16-0817-236 passes.

- B. **Approve the Amendments to the Sex Offender Registration (SORNA) Ordinance, Ordinance #11-400-11 and Approval to forward Amendments to the Department of Justice**  
 Certain Amendments are necessary to be compliant with Federal Law and to ensure the safety of the Tribal Community.

Speaker Johnson explained that this was posted for 30 days for Public Comments and they have not received anything so they are moving forward to submit this ordinance.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-237; AMENDING THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION ACT ORDINANCE #11-400-11 AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL;** by Burger; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

**Roll Call #5**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed Resolution #16-0817-237 passes.

**C. Permanent Adoption of the Amendments to the Bereavement Benefit Program Ordinance #02-700-03**

The Tribe has this in place as Emergency Amendments since February 10, 2016 because they were informed that the program was being used by the Social Security Administration to deny Member Benefits because they were looking at it as income.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-238; PERMANENT ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE BEREAVEMENT BENEFIT PROGRAM ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE #02-700-03;** by Riley; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Councilor Burger said she just wants the Tribal membership to be aware that when this.....when these particular changes were made to the ordinance back in February that she believed was on February 10<sup>th</sup> of 2016 they did it as an emergency measure because they had information that lead them to believe that the Bereavement Program might be penalizing Tribal members even though they had no substantiated reports as to what that impact was they had heard that Bereavement Funds were being counted as potential income for persons that were seeking SSI and other types of relief and support in Public Programs. Burger said this is the conclusion of that emergency posting and it is typical of governance

that they would take an emergency amendment measure and pass and put it in place for six months, review it, and then adopt it permanently and is not outside the realm of the legislative activity.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

**Roll Call #6**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed Resolution #16-0817-238 passes.

**D. Approval of Donation to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in Opposing the Dakota Access Pipeline**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council would like to send a monetary donation to help with food and water for the people in opposition of the Dakota Access Pipeline and also donate a Tribal Flag to show their support.

Speaker Johnson said he believed that is the pipeline that they have been trying to construct over there on Indian Land and anyways it was brought forward and invites Councilor Lewis to share her thoughts on this.

Councilor Lewis said okay over in North Dakota they are putting.....are trying to put the pipeline in and runs 1,154 miles through North Dakota all the way into Illinois. Lewis said man-made items....they know....she guessed a lot of things that they all have a life expectancy. Lewis said it is only going to be a matter of time before there is some leaking that would go on and that would have an effect on all people not just the people of Standing Rock but all people through that area could have an effect on them. Lewis said she knows that there is at least 2,000 people out there right now and know that they do have a Tribal member out there. Lewis said she wanted to be able to.....that if they donate food and water to them that they also send one of their flags in support of what they are doing out there. Lewis said they are keepers of the earth and it is their job to protect Mother Earth so she did want that they sign with the resolution and send them a Letter of Support. Lewis said that is it.

Speaker Johnson asked Councilor Lewis if she was making a motion on this one then.

Councilor Lewis said yeah.

Speaker Johnson said Councilor Lewis has made that motion and asked if he had a support.

Councilor Crampton said support.

Speaker Johnson said he has Councilor Crampton supporting this action. Johnson said to Recorder Riley that he saw his hand up.

Recorder Riley said he was going to say that the agenda item right here is just a donation and a flag to show support and there is not a formal Resolution of Support.

Councilor Lewis said it is on the backside.

Recorder Riley said okay. Riley asked if Councilor Lewis would like to then.....he guessed.....here it is and it is a resolution.

Speaker Johnson asked Recorder Riley if they were all set then. Johnson asked Councilor Lewis if he got the resolution number.

Councilor Lewis said yeah. Lewis said okay.....

Speaker Johnson said he has a hand up in the audience also. Johnson asked Recorder Riley if he was done.

Recorder Riley said yeah he is done.

Speaker Johnson said to Austen Brauker that he had the floor then Councilor Di Piazza.

Austen Brauker, Tribal #4762, said he is wholeheartedly in support of this and he would like to see them consider going further with this and not just offer a Letter of Support or monetary donation but to grant people who want to actually go out there because what they need their people to stand there and stop this pipeline. Brauker said to consider allowing unpaid leave for this purpose this is just not a battle that these people are fighting but this is a battle for the Earth and is consistent with their Tribal beliefs that they should fight against this potential damage to their Mother Earth so he would like to see them send a contingency of people out there who would not be putting themselves at financial risk for having to take their own time off but to be able to do it as an unpaid leave that would allow them to send groups of people out there with loads of food and whatever they need. Brauker said go there to stand shoulder to shoulder with them. Brauker said he believed that the Letter of Support is great, their flag is great, and some money is great but they need some people on the ground out there so he would put forth the idea that they consider allowing an unpaid leave for people who want to go fight this battle for their Mother Earth. Brauker said Miigwech.



Speaker Johnson thanked Austen Brauker. Johnson said he has a list going here now. Johnson said he has Councilors Di Piazza, Lewis and Wittenberg all on Council. Johnson said to Councilor Di Piazza that he had the floor.

Councilor Di Piazza said he is in support of it but how much are they donating.

Councilor Lewis said that they didn't.....yeah. Lewis asked the Ogema if he wanted to donate that would be something.

Ogema Romanelli responded that he would do a match with Council on whatever they come up with up to a certain point he guessed because they have to watch their Budget. Romanelli reiterated that he would do a 50/50 match.

Councilor Di Piazza said he guessed the other question is this going to be for them to buy food and water then take it out there or the check will be made out to the.....

Councilor Lewis said Standing Rock.

Councilor Di Piazza questioned Standing Rock.

Councilor Lewis said it would go right to them.

Recorder Riley said the check would be made out to them then they have a.....

Councilor Lewis finished a W-9 and all that.

Councilor Di Piazza said in the resolution it is not finished because it states "in the amount of \_\_\_\_."

Recorder Riley said the amount needs to be clarified.

Councilor Di Piazza agreed.

Speaker Johnson said with that said before he goes any further, Councilor Di Piazza, still has the floor.

Councilor Di Piazza said he was just.....

Speaker Johnson said then he has Councilor Lewis coming into the queue with Councilor Wittenberg. Johnson asked should they amend the resolution to include the amount for the donation before they have any more discussion. Johnson said that is the question he is asking.

Councilor Lewis said she thinks so but what amount.

Speaker Johnson said she is the motion maker and he would invite her to do that at this point then.

Councilor Medacco said she didn't make the motion though.

Councilor Lewis said she didn't.....make a motion.

Councilor Medacco said she never read a resolution number. Medacco said so there is no motion made.

Speaker Johnson said so she made the motion but without the resolution number.

Councilor Lewis asked if they wanted to go like \$250/\$250 or do they want to go \$500 each or what. Lewis said \$500 each.

*Tribal Council and Tribal Ogema agreed to \$500 each.*

Recorder Riley said then add the resolution number to her motion also.

Councilor Lewis said she also wanted to say "thank you" to Austen Brauker for being supportive on that. Lewis said she does want to say that this is a peaceful protest and people were asked to not.....refrain.....like no drugs, no alcohol, no weapons and they were also asked to bring their sacred items pipes, eagle feathers, sage and sweet grass so she did want to mention that also. Lewis asked the Ogema if he wanted to say something.

Ogema Romanelli said he is in the queue so he is fine.

Speaker Johnson said he has him in the queue but he has Councilor Lewis right now.

Councilor Lewis said she can go ahead and.....

Speaker Johnson said right now they need a resolution number and maybe revisit the motion and support.

Councilor Lewis said okay.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-239; APPROVAL OF DONATION TO THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE IN OPPOSING THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE AND ALSO SUPPORTING THEIR RESOLUTION AND/OR LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR THIS;** by Lewis; supported by Crampton.

Recorder Riley asked Councilor Lewis what is the amount.

Speaker Johnson asked Councilor Crampton if he still support that change in the motion.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0817-239; APPROVAL OF DONATION TO THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE IN OPPOSING THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE AND ALSO LETTER OF SUPPORT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500 FROM THE OGEMA AND \$500 FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL;** by Lewis; supported by Crampton.

Speaker Johnson said it is still open for discussion. Johnson said he has now in the list Councilor Lewis still has the floor but he has Councilor Wittenberg, the Ogema and Councilor Burger.

Councilor Lewis said she is done.

Councilor Wittenberg said he himself also support this at the moment there they say there are 25-30 Tribes that are presenting out there and supporting. Wittenberg said with their Tribe Little River he is all for it actually he would like to see all, himself, all Three Fires support this with Ojibwe and Bowatomi but they will do their part though. Wittenberg said that is his thing.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Austen Brauker for his words. Romanelli said he would consider looking at unpaid leave for their employees and would like to ask the Council to consider and make some kind of motion to ask the Executive Branch to consider this. Romanelli said he then would obviously, business has to go on, and they have to be careful that they don't undershort themselves in each department and it would have to be at the approval of a Director along with Leads to make sure that their functions are still happening. Romanelli said he thinks they would have to look at stuff like the total number of hours that somebody is gone, etc. but he understands what they were talking about and if the Council could send or give him their thoughts on this as well.

Speaker Johnson said okay. Johnson said he has Councilor Burger then Recorder Riley.

Councilor Burger thanked Speaker Johnson. Burger said just a couple of things on developments in regards to this Standing Rock issue. Burger said a Federal Judge has issued a Temporary Restraining Order against the protesters to allow the construction company to move forward with its construction and it is going to take quite an effort to get that TRO lifted by then they'll have probably considerable progress on the pipeline because pipelines move fast. Burger said the other thing she would like to bring to everyone's attention is that right here in the Great Lakes they have their own unique situation and it is called Enbridge Number Five. Burger said Enbridge Number Five is a 62 year old pipeline that

runs and transports oil underneath the Straits of Mackinaw. Burger said on September 3<sup>rd</sup> there is going to be a flotilla at the Straits to protest the continued use of Enbridge 5 and she wholeheartedly supports that all of the Tribes in Michigan get behind that effort. Burger said the Great Lakes are the largest single fresh water reserve in the world and there is no larger fresh water reserve. Burger said what is unique and different about that is fresh water supports a great deal of life and livelihood, the food chain, the climate of the Earth, not to mention the drinking water that they all enjoy here in the United States. Burger said she for one and she appreciates that they are helping the Standing Rock folks and thinks that is the thing that all Tribes should do is help one another when they have calls to action but she is going to be curious as to how much they can raise the alarm on Enbridge 5 because if that pipeline ruptures the oil has nowhere to go but into the Great Lakes. Burger said she for one is very fearful that at 62 years old and years of use that that potential is very great probably within the next five to seven years.

Speaker Johnson thanked Councilor Burger. Johnson said he has Recorder Riley then Darleen Martin. Johnson asked if he missed anybody.

Recorder Riley said oh, he just wanted to say that in light of the TRO and the fact that they got their own issue here maybe they need to address the unpaid leave to attend the protests in the Straits rather than the Dakotas or possibly offer that up for both.

Councilor Burger said she would agree with that.

Darleen Martin, Tribal #0575, said as of this morning they are arresting the Natives out there. Martin said she would hate to see their people go out there and get arrested and then if they don't have the money to get out of jail how are they going to get out of jail. Martin asked if they are going to send the money to get them out. Martin said the other thing is she doesn't mind feeding the people or sending water but she doesn't want to see their people in jail either. Martin said they arrested she thinks 14 this morning so far. Martin said that is all she has to say and thanked them.

Speaker Johnson thanked Darleen Martin. Johnson said he just wants to.....he has exhausted the queue here and it appears from the discussion that they are going to have some more action to take place about TRO and so forth. Johnson said they will have to revisit this ASAP because this is an item that is really coming in front of them rather quickly but he just wanted to echo with what Councilor Burger said about the Line 5 they did pass a resolution on that a while back and their opposition to the Line 5 because it is an old line. Johnson said they also want to remember or remind everybody what happened in Kalamazoo. Johnson said that line ruptured too and that was when Granholm was the Governor and there was a lot of oil in the Kalamazoo River. Johnson said people don't know this very well but they had many ruptures or several ruptures in the Alaskan Pipeline. Johnson said again, what it says to him is that these

corporations like to get the money off the pipelines but they don't want to do the maintenance on them. Johnson said once it gets up and running they don't want to do the preventive maintenance on them and he sees that on this Pipeline 5. Johnson said it really scares him that nothing has been done on it over this year and now the Governor, not the Governor, but the Attorney General is telling them that they have to do something about the support brackets in there because they are not spaced properly and they may shut it down until they get it done. Johnson said again, it goes back to the corporations being willing to work with the people of this country both Tribal and Non-Tribal about following-up and protecting their environment. Johnson said it is quite apparent that it is about the dollar and not so much about taking care of Mother Earth. Johnson said he wanted to thank Councilor Lewis for bringing this forward, Miigwech. Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item. Johnson said he has Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he will defer to Julie Wolfe first.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said she just wanted to say that she is happy to see this on here and knows because she has been following this. Wolfe said there has been a lot of Face Book posts recently about the Dakota Access Pipeline and she thinks it is such a great thing. Wolfe asked Speaker Johnson that they passed the resolution because the Tribal Chairman of the Standing Rock Tribe is asking for support from other Nations.

Councilor Crampton said that is for Enbridge 5.

Speaker Johnson agreed that was Enbridge 5.

Julie Wolfe asked if they are looking at passing a resolution also for this one to send out there.

Speaker Johnson answered yes.

Julie Wolfe asked if that would be the next agenda.

Speaker Johnson said to Julie Wolfe that she came in a little late but it's on.....

Councilor Medacco said they amended the resolution.

Councilor Burger said so they are going to put a Letter of Support with the Resolution.

Julie Wolfe asked if they could read the.....

Councilor Lewis said they don't have the letter right now. Lewis said to Julie Wolfe that they are putting that in place.

Julie Wolfe said so they just added an amendment to this one is how they are explaining it.

Tribal Council replied yes.

Julie Wolfe said so....yeah....she was trying to get up here on time for this because this is what she wanted to come for but she just wanted to say this is such a great thing. Wolfe thanked Council and said especially to Councilor Lewis who brought it forward and that it is a good thing.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to say the Dakota Pipeline crosses the Oahe River and it goes into several of their waterways crosses their Sacred Burial Grounds and several other sites that they observe as sacred. Crampton said he thinks they are kind of putting the cart before the horse because they don't even know if there is a number of their people that want to go out there. Crampton said he thinks the action they are taking right now is more prudent. Crampton said three agencies have stepped in support of the Tribe, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation have all stepped in to help out. Crampton said he thinks the big answer here is to actually get involved in lobbying against this. Crampton said there are several actions being taken that people are not aware of although it good to stand out and protest because it shows their hearts and belief for their people but these games are being played at a higher level and they are going to be decided at a higher level. Crampton said right now with the Enbridge Pipeline Rick Synder has appointed to the Head of the MDEQ for Michigan a former BP Lobbyist. Crampton said a former BP Lobbyist is going to be watching out for their water rights up there. Crampton reiterated these are games being played like he said at a higher level than what they are addressing here and he thinks that what they are addressing in the Dakotas. Crampton said he thinks that is where their efforts should be pointed is getting to Washington and actually talking to the people who make these rules.

Councilor Burger said she has to agree 100% with Councilor Crampton because the only place that they are going to be able to stop the continued development across sacred sites and detour these environmental impacts is to hit the Hill. Burger said make the legislators responsive to Tribal Nations. Burger said she is very glad that MAGPRA is involved because they probably have one of the sharpest lobbyist in defense of Native American Sacred Sites in Washington, D.C. so that is absolutely what has to happen. Burger said Tribes has to hit the Hill and they have got to stop thinking about it site to site and start thinking about it in one place and that is on the National Mall in Washington. Burger said that is how things get changed.

Councilor Lewis said when they were put on Reservations it was land that they didn't want, they know, they thought this was, they know, they will put them over here. Lewis said now that they are on these Reservations and it is becoming

where it is the nicer area and they are seeing what they have. Lewis said this is a \$3.7 billion project so the corporations are not going to give up but the people's voice needs to be heard and what they are doing over there is they are holding on and it is a good thing because if they are able to make some change then that will be a benefit to them. Lewis said if they are not able to stop them then their future is not looking good with the water.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Austen Brauker, Tribal #4762, said he would like to say he agrees with what Councilor Crampton said that this has to fight at the lobbyist level and at the government level but what he thinks that it is not an either this or either that. Brauker said they should fight at all levels. Brauker said the people at the front lines should bring attention to these issues and each one of those bodies that is down there sees them as potential voters for every one person they are counting and how many must be behind them so when they see people take civil action or civil disobedience against things like that it does make a difference and he is not saying chose one avenue or other but take both avenues. Brauker said this is also not just something that affects them in that spot Councilor Burger brought up the Great Lakes being the large water source but that's true. Brauker said they are above the Oglala Aquafer which is the larger is the aquafer in the country. Brauker said all that water that is used for that is what feeds the bread basket where they grow food for the United States which is that whole region and it all comes out of the Oglala Aquafer so this affects their food supply at a National Level which affects all of them and it will affect their grocery stores so they got to stop thinking of isolated because this affects every one of them and they are a network of organisms and beings that are supposed to be working together. Brauker said that water and that food that comes out of there does affect them so this just isn't standing up for the Standing Rock people but standing up for human beings who rely on water and rely on food. Brauker said anybody who goes and makes a conscientious decision.....as it is now people don't know they have the option that they can go out there if they were granted a leave time. Brauker said if they knew they had the option to do that then they might see the numbers of people saying they would go out there. Brauker said it takes them being able to provide that opportunity in order for them to know that and anybody who does enter into a situation where they are protesting against something takes that upon themselves. Brauker said nobody walks into a protest thinking and know that they could get arrested and that is a choice people make when they go there and that is an act of civil disobedience and as citizens of this country to stand up for and fight for what they believe in so they do take that risk. Brauker said anybody who entered into that would know that beforehand that they are arresting people and that is a potential outcome of going out there and that is what protests are about. Brauker said they are standing up against police forces maybe National Guard and they know they rolled out all the branches of the Military in Wounded Knee against them, right so people who go there know that.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

**Roll Call #7**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed Resolution #16-0817-239 passes.

**IX. Concluding Business**

**A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, August 24, 2016**

**B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**

Ogema Romanelli said just an update they are having a problem still with their communication as they have the Public Information Department is without employees right now so they have turned that informational tasks over to Lead, Jay Sam, and it was kind of thrown on him so he hopes people will be patient. Romanelli said they are trying to get out the information on weekly basis like the Rapid River News and also working with the Currents which is the monthly paper. Romanelli said their understanding is that they will be able to get a monthly paper in September probably mid-September to the people in the Currents and it should have all the relevant information as needed. Romanelli said on a weekly basis hopefully they can get something out by next Monday or Tuesday if they can and that is information as necessary that they put in for the Rapid River News as well. Romanelli said he asked on the flag, they talked about flags out front, the cost would be \$800 per pole and they would need two poles. Romanelli said he asked their Budget Coordinator if there was.....and he indicated there was no real money set aside for that or anything in the Building Fund. Romanelli said he doesn't know if there is something.....he is going to look for money and see if they can't get it and obviously is very necessary thing. Romanelli said it is probably \$1,600 if they need the flags so he is still working on that but that is the latest he has. Romanelli said he will update them on a former employee and Tribal member, Angela Eagle-ba, the services will be held Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at Sullivan Community Church which is at 3951 Barnes Road in Ravenna. Romanelli said if anybody needs that information again contact Mary Thomas because he thinks she has the information. Romanelli said they have been working on the Budget this last week again with the CFO and the Budget Coordinator and they are prepared to turn in their first draft to Council by the end of this week. Romanelli said it looks good, again, it is a first draft. Romanelli said they have met with the Tribal membership and thinks it was a week ago on Saturday that they had the discussions there so they are ready to turn in the first draft. Romanelli said as far as the Enbridge Pipeline #5, yes, that has been a major concern for quite a while and there has been some resistance from the other side as well. Romanelli said he knows that United Tribes he believed, is



pretty sure, sent a letter where their Tribe also objected to them not.....still using the Line #5 so but he thinks it is going to take a whole lot more effort from all the Tribes and he would hope not only the Tribes of Michigan but other Tribes. Romanelli said he means they have Tribes in Wisconsin, Illinois and it goes.....everybody should be involved with that as well as maybe Tribes out west as well because this is the largest fresh water so there is efforts being done on that. Romanelli said he knows that Sherman Homer Mandoka who is now the President of the United Tribes also is involved at some level so probably anything that they send out should go to Sherman Mandoka as well. Romanelli said he thinks that is it.

Recorder Riley said he just wanted to say that they will be cancelling the Council Meeting for September 14<sup>th</sup> so he will be bringing that forward on next week's agenda just to make it formal and final but.....so that any.....people don't have to choose between coming to the Council Meeting or going to the services.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Recorder Riley.

Speaker Johnson thanked Recorder Riley. Johnson said he would like to add on also because since their Currents are done.....down and their communications is not working like they would like the Warriors are reaching out or trying to reach out to the Muskegon community and they are going to host their Warrior's Meeting on Silverside on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00. Johnson said he is hoping they can get at a minimum at the River News and also by Public Comment here where people are viewing it on TV or on their computers at least they will know that they made or trying to make an attempt to reach out to their Warriors that they are going to be meeting down there at 10:00 at Silverside for their Warrior's Meeting for the month of September.

Ogema Romanelli asked could that information be sent directly to Jay Sam as well.

Speaker Johnson replied okay he can do that.

Councilor Burger said she just wanted to respond to Ogema Romanelli and she knows that his staff is putting the Budget together and she knows this time of year it is Budget time but one thing that hasn't happened for his benefit is the Tribal Council has not given him a do not exceed number which is required under the Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Ogema Romanelli said yes that was brought to his attention and they talked about it.

Councilor Burger said they had a lot of loose discussions between his office, the Council and with the Enterprise as to what that number might look like and she

thinks they need to go back and revisit them to at least get the Ogema a not to exceed number and make it formalized under the ordinance.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah, yes he is in agreement with that too and thanked Councilor Burger.

Speaker Johnson called on Julie Wolfe and reminded her that they are on the Business Update.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said for clarification they don't want the Currents news to go to the Ogema's Office like they presently said at the last Council Meeting now it is all to go to Jay Sam.

Ogema Romanelli responded that they have transferred it to Jay Sam however if she is sending it there they can transfer it on but anything that goes forward at this point.....

Julie Wolfe asked the Ogema if he got the two that she sent him.

Ogema Romanelli said he believed he did, yes, and he passed them on.

Julie Wolfe said from here on out it just goes directly.....

Ogema Romanelli said yes if she could but anything that she sent to the Ogema's Office in the last week will be transferred over.

Julie Wolfe said okay then also has the.....to be determined number for the Child Care Center been established to be included in the draft Budget because it wasn't available to membership at the Budget Hearing.

Ogema Romanelli said that is what they are working on presently and that is why they are hoping to have that information. Romanelli said they have two things that really have kind of been.....they been looking at with this year's.....this next Budget and one is the Child Care Center and the other one is the Pharmacy which they are guesstimating at that point and time. Romanelli said so that is what they are trying to put into the Budget for 2017 and looking at what those numbers are so yeah.

Julie Wolfe said so after this draft copy is ready is it going to be available to membership again.

Ogema Romanelli said it should be yes.

Julie Wolfe asked if that would be from Bill Willis that they would get it or he is going to have it out.

Ogema Romanelli said Bill Willis sends it onto the Tribal Council and he would assume it would be available to members as well the draft Budget so, yep.

Julie Wolfe thanked the Ogema.

Speaker Johnson asked if there is anything else in Business Updates.

Diane Lonn, Tribal #0194, said she just wanted to bring up an update on September 15<sup>th</sup> the Enrollment Department will be going down to Muskegon to take the I.D. Machine and make the members aware. Lonn said she has already posted it down there and it was once on the Rapid River but she has sent more information to Jay Sam. Lonn said she also asked the Director of Members Assistance and he okayed that Linda Wissner is going to be going with them so she is going to bring as much information as she can on Members Assistance as well as the Elders information. Lonn said then she contacted Don Mac Donald at the Clinic and asked that Be-Da-Bin that someone from Be-Da-Bin come down there with information on all the stuff that they offer and make it a rounded.....because they get tons of people that come for I.D.s and this is such a great way to offer the other services that they have so he agreed as well. Lonn said so they will be having all them there as well and it will go from 9-5 p.m. so if they want to get the word out please do because she has given it to Jay Sam but it is coming up real fast.

Speaker Johnson asked if they had any other Business Updates.

Councilor Crampton said as long as they are discussing the paper he thinks that maybe they should take a look at the paper and see if they can't improve the communication between there because as it stands right now he knows the Ogema that the sent this over there and they sent that. Crampton said Tribal Council does not control the paper that is under the Offices of the Executive.

Ogema Romanelli said that is correct.

Councilor Crampton said the Ogema is the ultimate Editor. Crampton said his daughter showed him a paper from a couple of the Tribes and it showed their paper and there is a huge difference in between the three. Crampton said theirs looks like a leaflet compared to the other papers and the reporting and they don't get much of what actually happens. Crampton said there are reports of Tribal Council Meetings and who voted on what, what the real issues are, and he thinks that would be helpful considering all the mud-slinging and lies that are being portrayed to the membership at this point. Crampton said it would be helpful to have a paper like that where they could actually report to with business that actually impacts their lives.

Speaker Johnson said they have a couple of hands here. Johnson said he has Recorder Riley and the Ogema.

Recorder Riley said to Councilor Crampton that was actually something he was working on prior to this and believed he talked to him about it and he did speak with the people in Public Affairs and the Ogema about getting some of that information in the paper of where they are at now and hopefully when it comes back up they will be able to get that out there.

Ogema Romanelli said basically he was going to say the same thing. Romanelli said if Council presents them with that information they can absolutely work on putting it in. Romanelli said he knows they get papers from other Tribes within the State of Michigan and believed it at least Little Traverse Bay Band and Sault Ste. Marie put their actual minutes and votes, etc. Romanelli said he thinks that is absolutely right and he would not be opposed to.....if Council wants that in to put it in so, good and thanked them.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was anything else in Business Updates.

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

Councilor Crampton said probably the most pressing issue was the Dakota issue and that has already been covered extensively.

Speaker Johnson said other than they do have a meeting with the Unified Legal De.....not Unified Legal.....the Units of Government Meeting which is a Township to City to County to Tribes and so forth. Johnson said that is going to happen tomorrow.

Recorder Riley said the cemetery on Friday.

Speaker Johnson thanked Recorder Riley. Johnson asked as a matter of fact is Marcella Leusby here in the audience. Johnson said to Recorder Riley that maybe he could expound on that for them.

Councilor Wittenberg said at the.....this coming Friday at the Gould he believed Cemetery out around Reed City they are having a Ceremony and they put up a monument up there. Wittenberg said the counties like to his understanding is right around where the counties in the corner connecting so these he thinks three or four county all contribute for this monument for these Native Americans that were out there and they are having a.....they brought it to them with the names to see if they were on their Enrollment but to his understanding he hasn't heard anybody that is but they are their people and Anishinaabe or Native and he is going out there with a Pipe Ceremony and a drum to honor those that are out there. Wittenberg said it starts at 11:00 and he believed its Gould Cemetery out there by Reed City. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Johnson thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Johnson asked if there was anything else on Legislative Affairs.

**D. Public Comment Period**

Speaker Johnson said Tribal members are invited to come forward on Public Comments at this point. Johnson said okay he doesn't see any hands.

*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 ADJOURN FIRST OPEN AT 10:51;** by Lewis;  
supported by Crampton.

**Roll Call #8**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

**XI. Open Session**

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 12:45 p.m.

**MOTION TO GO INTO SECOND OPEN AT 12:45;** by Medacco;  
supported by Burger.

**Roll Call #9**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

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

Speaker Johnson asked Recorder Riley if they have any items to move from closed to open.

**MOTION TO MOVE THE MOTION AND ROLL CALL FROM CLOSED SESSION ITEM C.1 TO OPEN SESSION;** by Riley;  
supported by Burger.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

**Roll Call #10**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

*The following motion and roll call was moved from Closed Session to Open Session.*

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 16-0817-240,  
APPROVING TRIBAL OGEMA'S EXECUTION OF  
CONSULTING AGREEMENT WITH SONOSKY, CHAMBERS,  
SACHSE, MILLER & MUNSON, LLP; by Burger; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anyone was going to abstain from the vote.

**Roll Call #C-3**

R. Wittenberg - Yes	S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes
V. Johnson - Yes	F. Medacco - Yes	J. Riley - Yes
J. Burger - Yes	M. Wabindato- Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

*This concludes the items moved from Closed Session to Open Session.*

**XII. Adjourn**

**MOTION TO CLOSE SECOND OPEN AT 12:46; by Medacco;  
supported by Burger.**

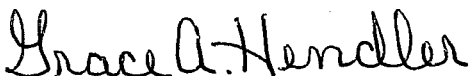
**Roll Call #11**

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- No	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler  
Transcribing Assistant



Joseph Riley II,  
Tribal Council Recorder