



Approved 8/17/22

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022  
LITTLE RIVER BAND  
VIA ZOOM  
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION  
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on August 3, 2022. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Wolfe said the recording is on.

Speaker Crampton thanked everyone. Crampton said welcome to Council's Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Tribal Council and he apologizes to everyone they are having problems with the video today so they are going to be doing it with the audio. Crampton said um.....

Recorder Wolfe said August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Speaker Crampton said sorry, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Crampton said they will start out with attendance so if someone could please tell him who is 231 215-2739.

Karen Love said #2494.

Speaker Crampton thanked her. Crampton said um, then they have 231 398-6837 he thinks that is Brad.

Brad Pringle said yep, Comptroller General. Pringle thanked them.

Speaker Crampton said Al Metzger.

Al Metzger said #0890.

Speaker Crampton said they have Connie Waitner.

Connie Waitner said #0022.

Speaker Crampton said um, Jessica Steinberg.

Jessica Steinberg said #0148.

Speaker Crampton said okay, Jolene Ossiginac.

Jolene Ossiginac said #3866.

Speaker Crampton said um, Martha....Sandra....ah, Sandy Mezeske.

Sandy Mezeske said #0018.

Speaker Crampton said Sara Agosa.

Sara Agosa said #4478.

Speaker Crampton said Shanaviah Canales.

Shanaviah Canales said employee.

Speaker Crampton said ah, Staci Cheney.

Staci Cheney said #0992.

Speaker Crampton said Susan Thull.

Susan Thull said #3727.

Speaker Crampton said Tammy Bogue.

Tammy Bogue said #3179.

## **I. Opening Prayer**

Speaker Crampton said okay, um, they will start with Opening Prayer which he has asked Mr.....Councilor Wittenberg to do for them today.

Ron Wittenberg, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin and Shagnaash.

We thank you for this day.

We thank you for all this rain that you sent down to us to purify the air and to give our Mother Earth that water, that nourishment for our farms and things that....a good washing.

We say Miigwech for all the things we have and all we don't have.

We ask that it be your will to help guide our minds, our hearts, and our walk so that we can turnaround and go in a good way.

Ahaaw. Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech. Ahaaw.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton thanked Councilor Wittenberg.

## **II. General Business**

### **A. Call to Order**

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order.

Recorder Wolfe said state the time.

Speaker Crampton said they are going to call it to order at 10:15 a.m. Crampton said please do a roll call.

### **B. Roll Call**

T. Guenthardt - Present	C. Champagne – Absent	P. Johnson - Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	S. Wever - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	J. Wolfe - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Recorder Wolfe said eight present and one absent quorum is established.

### **C. Approval of Agenda**

Speaker Crampton said he will entertain a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup> WITH THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS IN III. CONTINUING BUSINESS, ITEM B.1 IS REMOVED, ITEM V, NEW BUSINESS A, ADDED INFORMATON, ITEM B HAS REVISIONS TO THE RESOLUTION AND ADD ITEM D; IN CLOSED SESSION REMOVED TRIBAL COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION MINUTES; by Wolfe; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton asked is there any discussion. Crampton said seeing none please do a roll call.

#### **Roll Call #1**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	P. Johnson - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent agenda has been approved.

### **D. Tribal Council Minutes    ☐ 3/16/22    ☐ 7/20/22**

Speaker Crampton asked do they want to do these individually.

Recorder Wolfe said together.

Speaker Crampton said okay, then he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Wittenberg said he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 3/16/22  
AND 7/20/22; by Wittenberg; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton asked is there any discussion on the item. Crampton said seeing none please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #2**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent minutes have been accepted.

**III. Continuing Business**

**A. Grants & Contracts**

**B. Budget Modifications**

- 1. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2022-\_\_-3<sup>rd</sup> QTR to fund Fruitport Charter Township Summer Property Taxes in the amount of \$177,413.32**  
Approval of Supplemental Appropriation.
- 2. Approval of Budget Modification MB-2022-\_\_; Authorizing a modification to the 2021 USDA Food Distribution Budget in the amount of \$10,000**  
Budget Modification.

Speaker Crampton said this is Mr. Willis.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said as he mention in the Agenda Review on Monday ah, the Tribe gets an annual funding award from the USDA for the Food Distribution Program. Willis said in recent years those ah, funds have been allowed to be expended over a two year period. Willis said so the 2021 USDA Food Distribution Award is available to be spent through 9/30/22. Willis said um, there is some....as part of the Warehouse Construction....the new project have some unmet needs ah, that the ah, department needs, they know, to solidify before the end of September. Willis said these funds are still available so they are asking to move some money around in

that existing Budget which ends 9/30 to purchase these things such as shopping, etc. Willis said Jamie Friedel is here he is the Supervisor of the Program ah, should Council have any specific questions. Willis said so they are just asking to move \$10,000 around to fulfill those needs. Willis said he believed Council has a copy of the anticipated things to be purchased.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked ah, is there any discussion from Tribal Council.

Recorder Wolfe said Bill she believed he mentioned in um, the Agenda Review if they don't use the modification and change the funding that it would be sent back to the Federal Government.

Bill Willis said right, if they don't spend it they basically lose it, right.....

Recorder Wolfe said okay.

Bill Willis continued.....by September 30<sup>th</sup> because they do have the 2022 Award which goes through 2024 if they will so.

Recorder Wolfe thanked him.

Speaker Crampton asked are there any other questions, sorry, any other questions. Crampton said okay, he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Lewis said she will make a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #22-0803-136;  
APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATION MB-2022-24;  
AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO THE 2021 USDA FOOD  
DISTRIBUTION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000; by  
Lewis; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton asked is there any discussion from the Council. Crampton said hearing none is there any discussion from the membership. Crampton said seeing none please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #3**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent resolution has been approved.

Speaker Crampton thanked her.

- 3. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Elder Meals Program and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2022-\_\_ in the amount of \$126,700**  
Acceptance of funds.

Speaker Crampton said this is Mr. Willis again.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis thanked him. Willis said this is the 2022 Award for the Elders Meal Program. Willis said they simply have to accept the money and amend the Operating Budget. Willis said as mentioned in Agenda Review the money is used to support um, personnel costs as well as food purchases, ah, a little bit of travel um, etc. Willis said basically operating expenses of the program. Willis said this award runs through ah, he thinks March....the end of March next year so.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked are there any questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said okay, he will entertain a motion.

*A loud knocking can be heard in the background on the ZOOM recording coming from a Participant's phone connection.*

Councilor Wittenberg said she would like to make a motion if there are no other questions.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-137;  
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-ELDER  
MEALS PROGRAM AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO  
THE OPERATING MB-2022-25 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$126,700;** by  
Wittenberg; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Crampton is anybody going to abstain. Crampton said he will open it up for discussion with Council again. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said hearing none, seeing none please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #4**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent resolution is passed.

Speaker Crampton thanked them.

4. **Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Nutrition Services Incentive Program and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2022-\_\_ in the amount of \$10,345**  
Acceptance of funds.

Speaker Crampton said that is Mr. Willis again.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis thanked him. Willis said this program as he explained in Agenda Review is simply a complimentary program to the Elders Meal Program. Willis said in this particular case the um, the Coordinator of the program will put all these funds in Client Services, in other words, with these funds where they can purchase food for the preparation and meals. Willis said if he could add something to the last item though. Willis said he thinks it was Councilor Wolfe who asked at Agenda Review the numbers to the data of people served through the Elder's Meal. Willis said what he was told was Elders and spouses they make anywhere from 65 to 75 meals a day for those individuals and volunteers are anywhere from two meals to four meals a day. Willis said then they guessed are rare since COVID in other words there are very few guests that get meals now because they are doing mostly curbside and stuff like that so. Willis said he just wanted to add that.

Recorder Wolfe thanked him.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked are there any questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

*A loud knocking can be heard again in the background on the ZOOM recording coming from a Participant's phone connection.*

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-138;  
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-  
NUTRITION SERVICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND  
APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET  
MB-2022-26 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,345; by Guenthardt; supported  
by Johnson.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton said ah, is there any discussion from Council. Crampton asked any discussion from the membership. Crampton said hearing none and seeing none please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #5**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent resolution has been approved.

Bill Willis thanked them.

**C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Approval to apply for the grant allocation in the amount of \$235,893 from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) FY2023 Allocation Tribal Victim Services (TRBVS) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant**

Approval to apply for the grant allocation in the amount of \$235,893 from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) FY2023 Allocation Tribal Victim Services (TRBVS) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant.

Speaker Crampton said that is Shanaviah Canales.

Shanaviah Canales said yes, good morning. Canales said yes, this is an allocation grant that they have received this grant since 2016 um, the majority of the funds are to support staff salaries and benefits. Canales said this grant goes until....from October 1<sup>st</sup> of this year until the end of September next year.

Speaker Crampton said okay. Crampton thanked her.

Shanaviah Canales said he was welcome.

Speaker Crampton said he was just asked to remind people that um, Council has asked for people who put things on the agenda to be here in person to present so it would be appreciated next time if she would show up here. Crampton said other than that does Council have any questions. Crampton said they have gone over this a couple of times in work sessions. Crampton asked any questions. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said he will entertain a motion. Crampton said go ahead.



Recorder Wolfe said actually she had a question. Wolfe asked was there any clarification Shanaviah they had asked in the work session about how they Budget for COLA Raises for vacant positions.

Shanaviah Canales said she would ask Bill Willis to ah, respond to that. Canales said she spoke with him regarding the salary and fringe benefits.

Bill Willis said he guessed the only thing he can add he knows Shanaviah had questioned him about that um, whether, they know, she should Budget and he encouraged her to Budget it just in case there was some movement on the Tribe's behalf to do some kind of COLA increase so at least the money is there so.

Recorder Wolfe said so she is just asking for clarification because there are vacant positions and they are getting them at a starting wage and then say they get hired and in the next ten days they roll COLA out then they get an increased COLA wage based on that.

Bill Willis said well, once it really.....that in and of itself is a determination made by the Ogema because he knows when they done it in the past there was kind of a cutoff date. Willis said they had to have worked for the Tribe since a certain date to be eligible but that had obviously determination hasn't been made yet so. Willis said even if the money is in the grant it will just end up not being spent if there's, they know, if they are not eligible because of a certain date that is established by the Ogema.

Recorder Wolfe asked so potentially where would the funds be allocated if they are not used or even these salaries and wages if the positions remain unfilled.

Bill Willis said well, they could be, they know, a budget mod is allowed under Tribal Law, they know, they could take that 2% and put it in supplies if they are running short in supplies or whatever within that 10%, they know range so. Willis asked does that answer her question.

Recorder Wolfe said yes, it does. Wolfe thanked him.

Speaker Crampton said okay, are there any other questions. Crampton said now he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-139;  
APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT ALLOCATION IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$235,893 FROM THE MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS)  
FY2023 TRIBAL VICTIM SERVICES (TRBVS) VICTIMS OF  
CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT; by Guenthardt; supported by Wever.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton said he will open it for discussion with Council again. Crampton said seeing none he will open it up to the membership. Crampton said seeing none please do a roll call.

#### Roll Call #6

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - No	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said seven in favor, one against and one absent resolution has passed.

#### V. New Business

- A. **Approval of the Revised Government to Government Tribal Transportation Program Agreement between Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs**  
Agreement Approval is necessary due to new Federal Highway Legislation.

Speaker Crampton said this is Mr. Parsons.

Steve Parsons, Planning Department Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Parsons thanked Mr. Speaker. Parsons said good morning Council. Parsons said um, this item comes before them um, because they have received a request from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to reapprove or reauthorize their Tribal Transportation Program Agreement which is called a Government to Government Agreement because this is an agreement between the Tribal Government and the Federal Government through the BIA. Parsons said they have been operating under these Government to Government Agreements since roughly 2013 and frankly, they work pretty well because ah, in the agreement ah, they...the Tribe is given the authority to manage its own Tribal Transportation Projects, Road Construction Projects and Maintenance Projects. Parsons said they don't have to keep going back to the BIA for approval as other Tribes do in various stages of their projects so therefore they are allowed to manage it themselves and it speeds up the project and they are able to work through those things quickly. Parsons said the other advantage to this agreement is that um, any unspent fiscal year monies because they are allocated monies every fiscal year if they don't spend it all down they are allowed to carry it over and keep it. Parson said other Tribes who don't have these agreements ah, they cannot retain the funding um, they either send it back or um, they don't receive the additional funding that fiscal year. Parsons said so this has worked pretty well for them um, and essentially they are being asked to reapprove this um, agreement ah, is because the agreement gets tied to the Federal Highway Legislation and he doesn't want to get too

complicated with this but essentially every four years Congress authorizes um, a Federal Highway Authorization which appropriates money for that four year period um, to be used by various entities that get funded through the Federal Government. Parsons said um, States gets money, other entities gets money and Tribes get money. Parsons said so essentially since the funding for their BIA Roads Program is coming through that piece of legislation they reference that piece of legislation like in the agreement and so that is why they are being asked to reapprove it or reauthorize it is because it used to be under what is called a FAST Act which was in 2016 that has since been replaced by the Surface Transportation Act of 2021 or well its probably not....well he messed that up somehow but the new act basically in 2021 essentially um, so that is what's going to be in the agreement for the next four years. Parsons said so that's why it is in front of Council and they are requesting that the Council approve this by resolution that information gets sent to the BIA and this Government to Government will continue for another four years so. Parsons said they will leave it there and see if they have any questions for him.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton said um, does Council have any questions. Crampton said Julie.

Recorder Wolfe said just a note for members....just a note for membership where they see added information into the agenda it was the Legal Review that was added to the packet after this submission and that was just due to members being on vacation during the time Steve wanted to get this ready and present to them. Wolfe said so that was the only added information that a Legal Review has taken place of the contract.

Steve Parsons thanked Julie for bringing that up. Parsons said he does want to thank Elise oh, there she is....who really got that done quickly. Parsons said she was only back to work on Monday and he was thinking this might get pushed to a later meeting ah, but she did a great job getting it out there so he wanted to thank her for doing that.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked are there any further questions. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-140;  
APPROVAL OF THE REVISED GOVERNMENT TO  
GOVERNMENT TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF  
OTTAWA INDIANS AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS; by Guenthardt;  
supported by Wolfe.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton said he will open it up for more discussion with the Council. Crampton said seeing none he will open it up to the membership for discussion. Crampton said seeing none he will entertain a motion. Crampton said oh, he is sorry a roll call.

**Roll Call #7**

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent resolution has been passed.

Steve Parsons thanked Council. Parsons said Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton thanked him.

**B. Resolution of Support for Michigan Tribal Law Enforcement Association (MITLEA) to seek MCOLES Recognition**

In collaboration with the other Tribal Law Enforcement through MITLEA this resolution would communicate the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians support to seek MCOLES Recognition from the State of Michigan. This would improve Tribal Sovereignty on Tribal Lands.

Speaker Crampton said this is Mr. Medacco.

Robert Medacco, Director of Public Safety, represented this agenda item. Medacco said morning Council.

Speaker Crampton said good morning.

Robert Medacco said um, before them is a Resolution for Support for Michigan Tribal Law Enforcement Association's effort to seek MCOLES Recognition. Medacco said MCOLES is the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards here in the State of Michigan. Medacco said right now Tribal Law Enforcement Officers are not um, recognized under State Law and their effort is going to be to actually become a stand alone agency under the um, MCOLES...

*A dog was barking in the background on the ZOOM recording coming from a Participant's connection.*

Recorder Wolfe said if they are participating by phone please mute their phone at this time.

Robert Medacco continued.....as currently they only have recognition under MCOLES through another instrument theirs is through the Manistee County Sheriff's Office who cross deputizes them and basically they are deputies of the Sheriff Ofc....Sheriff's Office when they have to enforce State Law on their Tribal Lands. Medacco said this would give them the authority to exercise that State Law which does come into effect at the casino on the Housing Reservation when they have two State Actors that fits that Matrix of Jurisdiction. Medacco said um, so as a collaborative effort this has been years in the making um, all 12 Tribes are either lending their support or going forward with this to get...seek out this MCOLES Recognition. Medacco said there will be a Board Meeting for MCOLES on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at all 12 of their Law Enforcement Leaders will attend that meeting and basically it is a unified request to change State Law and recognize Tribal Law Enforcement.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked are there any questions. Crampton asked are there any questions from the membership. Crampton said Julie.

Recorder Wolfe said so if he could just read the part of the resolution that was revised for clarification and so membership understands.

Robert Medacco asked that was revised.

Recorder Wolfe said um-hum, from his original submission until after the work session.....

Robert Medacco said okay.

Recorder Wolfe continued.....that they requested.

Robert Medacco said um, the only thing that was revised was *"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED LRBOI Tribal Council supports the Voting Members presenting the Law Enforcement Initiative to MCOLES and requesting MCOLES support to the Tribal Law Enforcement Initiative."*

Recorder Wolfe said then she knows it is stated in the resolution but for membership could he explain Voting Members and who they are.

Robert Medacco said yup, the Voting Members of MITLEA are the Law Enforcement Executives for all 12 Tribes.

Recorder Wolfe thanked him. Wolfe said those are her only comments.

Speaker Crampton thanked them. Crampton asked do they have any other questions. Crampton said Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said just a statement. Romanelli said ah, he really appreciates his work on this he knows that the other Tribes are working as well. Romanelli said he appreciates their collaborative effort and thinks this is a major step forward not only for sovereignty but for Law Enforcement and Tribal Lands and he came to thank him.

Robert Medacco thanked him.

Speaker Crampton asked are there any other questions or comments from Council. Crampton said he will open it up for the membership. Crampton said he will entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-141;  
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR MICHIGAN TRIBAL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION TO SEEK MCOLES  
RECOGNITION; by Guenthardt; supported by Wever.**

Speaker Crampton asked is there any other questions or he is sorry is anybody going to abstain on Council. Crampton asked are there any other discussions. Crampton said ah, he will turn it over to the membership for anything else from the membership. Crampton said if not he just wanted to add that yah, this has been a long time coming and he thinks since he started here in 2005 it was a major issue.

Robert Medacco said um-hum.

Speaker Crampton said so he is glad to see it finally coming to fruition.

Robert Medacco thanked him.

Speaker Crampton said with that he will ah, please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #8**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one absent resolution is approved.

Robert Medacco thanked them very much.

Speaker Crampton thanked him.

**C. Approve Letter of Support for the Pere Marquette River Access Project**

Letter of Support for the Pere Marquette River Access Project due August 5, 2022.

Speaker Crampton said that is Frank Beaver.

Frank Beaver, Director of the Natural Resources Department, represented this agenda item. Beaver said good morning Council. Beaver thanked them for their time this morning. Beaver said yeah, he received a request from the Pere Marquette Township Supervisor um, for a Letter of Support from the Tribe for a grant to the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Board um, for their access to the Great Lakes Fisheries category of grants. Beaver said he currently sits as the Representative to the Tribe to the Fish Trust Board on behalf of the Ogema and they have been on that Board for a few years now. Beaver said this was a result of the funding for this um, is the result of a Consent Decree from a Federal Judge based upon the Ludington Pump Storage um, facility and the unavoidable fish kills that happen there. Beaver said so under the Natural Resources Trust Fund um, that fund has been set up and the Fish Trust Board makes that disbursement and they are fiduciary for those funds. Beaver said one of those categories as he was talking about earlier is for access to the Great Lakes Fishery, the Pere Marquette Township has requested a Letter of Support for a grant that um, would allow upgrades at the parking lot and the Fish Pier for their um, for their access point down at Pere Marquette Township. Beaver said so he is coming to Council to ask if that would be something that Council would consider approving a Letter of Support that would then be submitted....what....this Friday when that is due to the Fish Trust Board um, for their....for the Board's consideration. Beaver thanked them.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked are there any questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said if not he would entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-142; APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE PERE MARQUETTE RIVER ACCESS PROJECT; by Guenthardt; supported by Wever.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain.

Recorder Wolfe said just her.

Speaker Crampton said he will open it up for questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from Council. Crampton said seeing none any further comments from the membership or questions.

*Councilor Wever said in the background on the ZOOM recording that this “might not be yours.”*

Speaker Crampton said hearing none ah, please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #9**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Abstain	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-1-1)

Recorder Wolfe said seven in favor, one abstain and one absent resolution is approved.

Frank Beaver thanked Council.

Speaker Crampton thanked him.

**D. Resolution Authorizing Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as Signatory of the Brief of Amicus Curiae in Support of Deb Haaland, et. al. in Haaland v. Brackeen**

LRBOI supports the continued existence of the ICWA and Secretary Haaland in the protection of ICWA.

Speaker Crampton asked is that their....oh, he is sorry Elise is here to explain it.

Elise Mc Gowan-Cuellar, Unified Legal Department Attorney, represented this agenda item. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said good morning. Mc Gowan-Cuellar thanked Tribal Council again for this emergency add. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said she was....the deadline came out before their next meeting so she apologizes for not putting it on sooner. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said this is a resolution to authorize Little River to support ah, the Brief of Amicus Curiae for Deb Haaland in Haaland v. Brackeen which is the case regarding ICWA. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said ICWA is their Indian Child Welfare Act and it is going before the Supreme Court this term and this brief will hopefully be signed by a majority if not all Tribes across the country in support of ICWA and the continued services and the gold standard that has been set by ICWA so. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said if there are any questions she can answer them hopefully.

Speaker Crampton asked any questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said he will entertain a motion.



Recorder Wolfe said she will make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0803-143;  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LITTLE RIVER BAND OF  
OTTAWA INDIANS AS SIGNATORY OF THE BRIEF OF  
AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF DEB HAALAND, et. al. IN  
HAALAND v. BRACKEEN; by Wolfe; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton said he will open it for discussion from Tribal Council. Crampton said seeing none he will open it up to the membership. Crampton said ah, Jessica Steinberg.

Jessica Steinberg thanked Mr. Speaker. Steinberg said she was just wondering if the ah, attorney would elaborate on the issue that is coming before the Supreme Court for the Tribal membership that may not be following this case. Steinberg thanked them.

Elise Mc Gowan-Cuellar said she apologizes she doesn't think she could do it justice um, at this time because she hasn't been able to spend a lot of time researching this. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said um, however this case um, is out of Texas and she believed there may be one or two other states that in lower courts found ICWA to be unconstitutional. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said so they believe that the Tribe does not have the authority to um, determine what is in the best interest of Indian Children nor state what the preference for placement would be. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said so within ICWA um, that is one of their.....one of the most important aspects is Tribal involvement and the family being given the opportunity to stay within their family. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said so she apologizes again, that she doesn't have a clearer story or clearer explanation um, but essentially um, in these states it has now been determined that it is unconstitutional and they don't want that opinion throughout the country. Mc Gowan-Cuellar said so this amicus is in support of Interior who is arguing that ICWA is constitutional and should remain constitutional and Tribal Sovereignty should be upheld for a time in memorium as it should be.

Speaker Crampton thanked her. Crampton asked is there any other questions from the membership. Crampton said if not he will entertain a motion. Crampton said oh, they do, okay. Crampton said then he will call for a roll call.

**Roll Call #10**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Abstain	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-1-0)

Recorder Wolfe said eight in favor and one abstained the resolution is passed.

Elise Mc Gowan-Cuellar said Chi Miigwech.

**IX. Concluding Business**

**A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

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

Ogema Romanelli thanked him. Romanelli said he only has a couple of items or two items on the agenda. Romanelli said he'd like to talk with Council about the Next Generation Learning Center and what they plan on doing with it. Romanelli said he thinks they had some discussions. Romanelli said they have some pending grants that are....they either have to be let go or if they know how they are going forward they can reapply and keep the grants going. Romanelli said he would like to have a communication with the Council on that and he knows they have agreed to meet and he appreciates that as well. Romanelli said he thinks that is a good idea. Romanelli said the other thing they have ah, is that looking at payments to the State there is a possibility that they may be able to look at the payments they make to the State of Michigan which ah, is approximately \$5 million per year. Romanelli said they may not have to pay those payments going forward per their Compact etc. Romanelli said he thinks it is worth looking at to increase....to continue to keep funds with the....with the Tribe. Romanelli said now if they did that they would probably put it in a pending he guessed account until they went through the process but it wouldn't hurt and then they could release the funds. Romanelli said so that is something they would like to talk about. Romanelli said the other thing is the Land in Trust as they spoke about there are....of the Muskegon Project there is approximately 60 some acres that has already been given a nod from the Department of Interior to put in Trust. Romanelli said he thinks that is probably not a bad idea again, 90% of the work has already been done. Romanelli said it has already gotten tentative approval from the Department of Interior and it just seems like it would make sense to have some Land in Trust there. Romanelli said the property in question is the actual racetrack property piece it is a portion.....a large portion of that. Romanelli said they also have additional acreage at with a total approximately 170 acres that they could also look at putting into Trust eventually too. Romanelli said his main concern right now is the one that has already been a tentative approval now they can do it simultaneously do one right after the other. Romanelli said it makes sense to put the Land in Trust so hopefully they can talk about those several issues and anything else that the Council wants to talk about going forward. Romanelli said with that he will conclude this report. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Crampton thanked him. Crampton asked do they have any questions from Council. Crampton asked any questions from the membership. Crampton said Sara Agosa.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said she just has a question about the \$5 million. Agosa said she just wants clarification she is not really sure um, what the Ogema is referring to so if she could get clarification she would appreciate it. Agosa thanked them.

Speaker Crampton said okay.

Ogema Romanelli said per their contract they have to make payments from their revenue to both the State and the Local Governments. Romanelli said Local Governments get 2% and he thinks at present the State gets 6%. Romanelli said within their Compact there are several things that have to be adhered to or can be adhered to ah, in making payments to the State. Romanelli said it is a preliminary belief from some of their Legal Counsel that that may not have to be paid in the future because of some issues that have come up ah, and they can relook at the Compact and see if that is necessary. Romanelli said some of those issues require that if there is for example the Club Keno whereas Club Keno came in and ah, had some affect on their Gaming it is similar to that so. Romanelli said there is a possibility again, he is not saying or suggesting that they do it right away but if the Tribe can retain that....those money approximately \$5 million per year ah, he thinks it is at least worth looking at so. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Crampton asked is there any other questions from the membership. Crampton said if not they are going to be moving onto Legislative Affairs Update.

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

Speaker Crampton asked does anybody have anything for Legislative Affairs. Crampton said okay, if not then they will be going into Closed Session.

Councilor Lewis asked what about.....

Recorder Wolfe asked what about Public Comment.

Councilor Lewis continued.....Public Comment.

Speaker Crampton said oh, he is sorry.

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

Speaker Crampton said Public Comment. Crampton asked does anybody have anything for Public Comment. Crampton said Sara Agosa.

Sara Agosa, Tribal #4478, said her question is about email addresses and she just wanted to clarify Julie's email because every time she emails Julie it is bounced back to her. Agosa said that is her question, thanks.

Speaker Crampton said he guessed she wants her to.....

Recorder Wolfe asked does she want her email address.

Sara Agosa said yes.

Recorder Wolfe said her first and last name at lrboi-nsn.gov. Wolfe said the entire government network operates like that.

Speaker Crampton asked is that it Sara.

Sara Agosa thanked them.

Speaker Crampton said okay, Sandy Mezeske.

Sandy Mezeske thanked Mr. Speaker. Mezeske said um, Mr. Speaker he made a comment earlier um, during the ah.....with Shanaviah not being present and she guessed what she wants to say is is it also goes....goes to Council as a whole. Mezeske said she means she doesn't remember the last time she saw nine Council Members ah, sitting where they guys are sitting today. Mezeske said also with the thing with Shanaviah ah, that was pretty much beat to death with....with work sessions and it being on the agenda. Mezeske said um, like she said in the same respect um, she doesn't know when the last time there was nine full Council Members present at a meeting and also with....with their ZOOM on she believed Shanaviah was on by phone but any other time she has been on or present um, by ZOOM. Mezeske said so she just wants to, they know, address that because she believed that Shanaviah has been beat to death on this and again, with all due respect, they know, all nine of them should be sitting up there too and being present during a Council Meeting. Mezeske thanked them.

Speaker Crampton thanked her. Crampton said he believed he was just commenting on the policy that was put forth before he got here but he does agree with it since there has been such a demand for Council to be in attendance in the middle of a Pandemic so if Council has to be here so do they. Crampton thanked them. Crampton said um, Mr. Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah, he appreciates.....

*It can be heard in the background on the ZOOM recording someone saying, "not everybody," but it wasn't determined who was speaking or where it was coming from.*

Councilor Wittenberg continued.....the concerns and everything like that but the bottom line is to him they still have the virus and what have them going around and even their building was shut down. Wittenberg said different ones not only Council but throughout the building have been ah, getting sick. Wittenberg said so personally himself he wouldn't like to sit here if he is sitting next to someone who

is sneezing or anything like that and so if they can be on ZOOM, himself, ah, then he would rather have that instead of it affecting ah, everyone. Wittenberg said but ah, its one to their own and is how one feels like they want to come in and sneeze all over then have at it. Wittenberg said if one doesn't then stay home but that's his view. Wittenberg thanked them so much. Wittenberg said Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton asked Sandy if she had something else.

Sandy Mezeske said yes, she does but Ron in the same respect they can't pick and choose what work session they want to show up to or what Council Meeting they want to show up to. Mezeske said she means that is what she is saying it's, they know, it is pretty much know that the Pandemic is over so that is not an excuse or reason, okay, unless they think Monkey Pox but in the same respect, they know, she is sorry....she is sorry they expect the Governmental Employees to be present for a Presentation she expects all of Council to be present at a Council Meeting or a work session. Mezeske thanked them.

*There was some traffic noise going on in the background on the ZOOM coming from someone's connection.*

Speaker Crampton asked are there any other comments. Crampton said Susan Thull.

Susan Thull thanked him. Thull said she just wanted to let membership know that um, there is going to be a ah, meeting with Deb Haaland and Brian Newland its in the Road to Healing Tour. Thull said it will be in Pellston, Michigan on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> um, and it is ah, hosted by Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa Indians. Thull said if anyone is in that location ah, they might want to look up the information for that she believed it is at 10 a.m. Thull said she did try to get um, reservations ah, for that um, for Friday night and everything was sold out so she is thinking if they live close enough to attend they may ah, would like to do that. Thull said um, and that's all. Thull thanked them very much.

Speaker Crampton thanked her. Crampton asked are there any other comments for.....from the membership for Public Comment. Crampton said if not they will be going into Closed Session. Crampton read the following statement:

***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 Crampton said with that he will entertain a motion to end the first meeting. Crampton said First Open.

Recorder Wolfe said yes.

**MOTION TO END THE FIRST OPEN;** by Johnson; supported by Wever.

Speaker Crampton asked is anybody going to abstain. Crampton asked is there any discussion from Council. Crampton asked any discussion from the membership. Crampton said hearing none please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #11**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said there is no talking during roll call please.

Councilor Wever said she is sorry.

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor they have ended First Open at 11:03 a.m.

**XI. Open Session**

Recorder Wolfe said the recording is on.

Speaker Crampton said he will entertain a motion to go back into Second Open at 11:56.

**MOTION TO GO INTO SECOND OPEN;** by Johnson; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Crampton asked is anyone going to abstain. Crampton asked any discussion. Crampton said please do a roll call.

**Roll Call #12**

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor motion is passed.

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

Speaker Crampton asked do they have anything to move from Closed to Open.

Recorder Wolfe said none.

Speaker Crampton said okay.

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

## **XII. Adjourn**

Speaker Crampton said he will entertain a motion to end Second Open at 11:57.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN SECOND OPEN;** by Wolfe; supported by Johnson.

Speaker Crampton asked is anyone going to abstain. Crampton asked any discussion. Crampton said please do a roll call.

### **Roll Call #13**

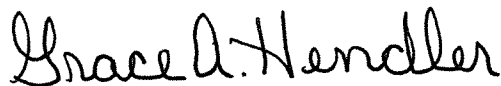
T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

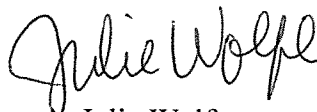
Recorder Wolfe said nine in favor they are adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler  
Transcribing Assistant



Julie Wolfe,  
Acting Council Recorder