



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2018
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 4, 2018. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

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

Speaker Riley thanked Acting Recorder Di Piazza. Riley said he would like to welcome everyone to their meeting for Saturday, August 4th. Riley said they are going to get started with their Opening Prayer and Councilor Pete is going to lead them in that.

I. Opening Prayer

Ron Pete, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer.

Our Heavenly Father, our Creator.

Thank you for bringing us together here today.

Bless all of our Governmental Officials.

Be with them as they travel.

Thank you for being with them as they travel to here and be with them on their travels home.

Be with all of our Tribal people as they are going home our Elders and anyone that is travelling.

Bless them and make sure the roads are safe for them.

Be with all of our First Responders wherever they may be in responding to calls to help our lives.

Be with our Troops.

Bless them and bring home to a Grateful Nation.

Thank you for the food today.

Thank you for all the people that brought food that will be a blessing to our soul.

In our Heavenly Father's and Creator's name. Amen.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

Speaker Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to please do a roll call.

B. Roll Call

J. Riley - Present	J. Friedel - Present	D. Corey - Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	R. Pete - Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	D. Lonn - Present	S. Lewis - Absent

Quorum established.

Acting Recorder Di Piazza said eight present, one absent, they have a quorum.

Speaker Riley thanked Acting Recorder Di Piazza.

Others Present: Lee Mc Caslin.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, Ogema Romanelli, Michelle Romanelli, Patricia Di Piazza.

C. Approval of Agenda

Speaker Riley asked do they have a motion to approve the agenda. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete thanked Speaker Riley. Pete said he will make a motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR 8/4/2018; by Pete;
supported by Lonn.

Speaker Riley asked is there any discussion on the agenda. Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Di Piazza said the agenda for August 4, 2018 has been approved.

D. Tribal Council Minutes □ 7/25/18

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

**MOTION TO APPROVE TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR
7/25/18;** by Pete; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Riley asked is there any abstentions or any discussion on the minutes for July 25th. Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #2

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Di Piazza said minutes for 7/25/18 have been accepted.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

1. Approval of Grant Application Request: Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) for FY2018 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program

The OVC Program is intended to provide Tribes with added funding for activities and services to victims of crime. There is no match and funding can be as high as \$720,000.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said before.....he would like to make a motion but before he does that in reading this he sees that there is no match and this funding can be up to \$720,000. Pete said so with that if there is no discussion he will make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0804-234;
APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION REQUEST FOR THE
OFFICE OF VICTIMS OF CRIME (OVC) FY2018 TRIBAL
VICTIM SERVICES SET-ASIDE PROGRAM;** by Pete; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions or any discussion on this item. Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #3

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Di Piazza confirmed Resolution #18-0804-234 has passed.

B. Budget Modifications

Speaker Riley said they have nothing under Budget Modifications.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Speaker Riley said they have no Approval of Budgeted Expenditures.

IV. Old Business

Reports that are due:

Reports received:

A. Operations Report

None Submitted

B. Financial Report

None Submitted

Speaker Riley said the Operations Report and Financial Report are due.

V. New Business

A. Approval of Right-of-Way Documents for the Casino, Daycare and Employee Drives Road Construction Projects

The Bureau of Indian Affairs needs a resolution approved by Tribal Council in order to convey Right-of-Way and Easement Rights to the Tribe for road construction on the Casino Parcel Road Project.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said if there is no discussion he is prepared to make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0804-235;
 APPROVAL OF RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT FOR
 CONSTRUCTION ON DAYCARE PARKING LOT-ROUTE #P109,
 DAYCARE DRIVE-ROUTE #2141, CASINO SERVICE DRIVE-
 ROUTE #2018 AND EMPLOYEE ACCESS DRIVE-ROUTE #2019;
 by Pete; supported by Lonnn.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions or any further discussion on this.
 Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #4

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonnn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Di Piazza confirmed Resolution #18-0804-235 has passed.

Speaker Riley thanked Acting Recorder Di Piazza.

B. Authorizing the Donation of \$500 to the Ramappugh Culture and Land Foundation, Inc. for the Paddle Against Addiction Events

The Tribal Leadership has determined that donations to organizations which contribute to the community are appropriate for the purposes established by the Revenue Allocation Plan and the restrictions imposed by IGRA.

Speaker Riley said the gentleman that sent this forward it would have been nice to have an update but it is for a good cause. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said to Speaker Riley that he agrees this is for a good cause. Pete said even though the gentleman is not here today but with that being said he is prepared to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0804-236;
AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF \$500.00 TO THE
RAMAPPUGH CULTURE AND LAND FOUNDATION, INC. FOR
THE PADDLE AGAINST ADDICTION EVENTS;** by Pete; supported
by Wittenberg.

Speaker Riley said yeah just to kind of point out something that was in the news recently regarding addiction. Riley asked was it 2017 was the first year in recorded history where Heroin Overdoses exceeded deaths by guns. Riley said so there is definitely a huge problem out there and he thinks they are doing their part as a Tribe through some of the programs that Ron Wittenberg and Diane Lonn are working with the Opioids. Riley said he just thinks there is not enough that they can do to help solve this problem. Riley said they are losing many people in their community and many children around the country. Riley recognized Councilor Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said what goes on is.....

Speaker Riley said oh, he forgot to mention that Jamie Friedel as well. Riley apologized to Councilor Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said what goes on in the real world is the doctors are giving Opioids by the handfuls to everybody. Friedel said they are getting addicted to the Opioids and they die.....they know they don't renew their prescriptions and then they turn to Heroin. Friedel said that is why they are in this big boat is the doctors handful these Opioids to people and now there is tracking down on them, cutting them down, and they are turning to Heroin. Friedel said it is a fact and it's crazy.

Speaker Riley said he thinks one of the bigger things there is the fact that with any other medication that doesn't fall into the classification there of the Opioid-Narcotics doctors will generally oversee a tapering regiment to get somebody off of the drug with these because of House tricks some of the DEA Regulations and things that are being pushed on the doctors are that some of them as a reactionary practice is to prevent themselves from.....because they are afraid of losing their License to Practice so they are just cutting people off cold-turkey and not doing it in appropriate.....in an appropriate way. Riley said he thinks there is a lot of blame with the doctors and there is a lot of individual blame because addiction is a disease but the individual choice to start out down that road is a choice. Riley said yeah, so that is where he is at. Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah even though the doctors are doing with the Opiates thing and things of that nature but he knows with Heroin that has been going on for years. Wittenberg said he means years. Wittenberg said he is surprised that it took this long for it to surface but it is what it is. Wittenberg said he is happy that the U.S. Government is finally, through all the Tribes, trying to do something about it. Wittenberg said that he is grateful for.

Speaker Riley said Miigwech. Riley asked is there any further discussion. Riley asked Acting Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #5

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Di Piazza confirmed Resolution #18-0804-236 has passed.

Speaker Riley thanked Acting Recorder Di Piazza.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Councilor Crampton said Joe Riley.

Councilor Wittenberg said he finally came.

Speaker Riley said they moved on and he will ask him during public comment.

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Speaker Riley said he will turn it over to Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Riley. Romanelli said he will start with yesterday he was able to attend the funeral of dear Tribal member, Helen Green. Romanelli said he knows that Jamie Friedel and his mother were there as well. Romanelli said he thinks it was a very respectful funeral and had a decent turnout. Romanelli said their Language Camp, again, succeeded another year. Romanelli said he understands that the numbers were over 300 and there was an effort put forth by Kenny Pheasant to reduce the waste and do some recycling that has been very effective. Romanelli said unfortunately this was the first year that he couldn't make it as he had another meeting he was called into at the last minute. Romanelli said he hopes everything else went well he was supposed to give a welcome. Romanelli said he hopes Joe Riley was able to.

Speaker Riley said yes he took care of that and just to add a little bit to the reduction in waste. Riley said Kenny Pheasant had said there was one bag of trash for the entire weekend.

Ogema Romanelli said yes and normally they can fill a commercial size dumpster so he thinks that is effective. Romanelli said they have been trying that for a few years and every year it gets better. Romanelli said they just held their Budget Meeting at 10:00 this morning. Romanelli said they had 18 individuals show up at the Budget Meeting. Romanelli said there were some questions asked and he thinks good questions and they encourage people to keep submitting any information or questions that they have about it. Romanelli said the meeting that he was called into last week had to do with the cemetery in Muskegon which is called the Old Indian Cemetery. Romanelli said historically it was an Ottawa Cemetery and many years ago the possession was turned over to the City of Muskegon. Romanelli said the intent of the Cemetery Meeting was that there is a structure that was to be placed in the cemetery by an Artist named Jason Quigno who is Sag-Chipp. Romanelli said he believed he is a member of the Sag-Chipp but is also Chippewa Ottawa. Romanelli said there are some people that are opposed to the structure going into the cemetery. Romanelli said he is not opposed to it but again he guessed they have their reasoning. Romanelli said he was going to bring it forward at the Elders Meeting but he thinks because of the confusion in the congestion today he thought it better not to bring it up there. Romanelli said he would like to get, and the city would also like to get, member's opinions on this particular issue. Romanelli said the short of it is the city owns the property and they have the right to do what they have to do. Romanelli said he thinks they have been respectful through their process but again they have opposing views there. Romanelli said the opposing views come from Ron Yob from the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians and then also Mr. Joe Genia. Romanelli said the meeting he thought didn't go well from his perspective he thought they were rude in their presentation, again, that is just one man's opinion but they can talk more about this as they go forward then they will go from there.

Speaker Riley said right it is his personal opinion is he doesn't think this is something they should be fighting over. Riley said they are all Grand River

people both them and the Grand River Band that is seeking recognition. Riley said he means they come from the same families and everything so he doesn't see a reason why they would need to argue over something like that. Riley said he guessed he is wondering if the city has complete control has there been any movement or any thought to putting the site into trust as a historic site not necessarily for the benefit of a Tribe but just as a historical marker.

Ogema Romanelli said he believed there has been, yes. Romanelli said Speaker Riley is saying and he would like to get his opinion because both Council and the Ogema put a donation forward for this. Romanelli reiterated that the Speaker doesn't believe there should be a fight meaning they should "what?" Romanelli asked do what?

Speaker Riley said meaning he thinks that if their opposing them doing something good for the site based on the notion that there is some claim to this land or whatever then he thinks that is wrong. Riley said he thinks they move forward and put the statue up because it is not necessarily for the benefit of this Tribe but the benefit of all Ottawa people.

Ogema Romanelli said he is going to try and put some information forward because there is going to be something happening shortly. Romanelli said now he thinks they postponed some of the plan that they were going to do in light of trying to listen to all sides and gather information but if anybody does have some information or ideas, suggestions or opinions they should probably bring them forward sooner than later. Romanelli said he is going to try and get some out for the first part of the week and will secure some more. Romanelli said he appreciates that and thanked them.

Speaker Riley asked any other questions for their Ogema. Riley thanked the Ogema.

Ogema Romanelli thanked them. Romanelli said he wanted to recognize at least one Elder and then they had Lee Mc Caslin come in. Romanelli asked Pat Di Piazza how she was doing. Romanelli said that it was nice to see her there. Romanelli said then they had Lee Mc Caslin come in and of course his wife is sitting in the back. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked the Ogema again.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Riley asked do they have anybody with something for Legislative Affairs.

None were offered.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Riley said okay, Public Comments. Riley said actually he wanted to ask Lee Mc Caslin if he would give them an update on the Paddle Against Addiction event because he believed he is the one participating. Riley said okay, yes, would he please just kind of give an update. Riley said it already passed so go ahead and let it go it is not going to count against him.

Lee Mc Caslin said it is good and actually since he was in the neighborhood he appreciates their time and their support. Mc Caslin said it was an eight day journey but it ended up being 13 days because in the beginning, they know, they had a lodge and did it all in ceremony. Mc Caslin said travelling down that river was really hard, really hard, but it is the home of the Sturgeon and there is no Sturgeon there. Mc Caslin said he took knowledge that right when those Sturgeons get to that river when they know they are pretty good. Mc Caslin said right now it is a river and it is a hard river to paddle. Mc Caslin said the first day they only made six miles and that is how hard it was. Mc Caslin said the current wanted to drag them up at one point. Mc Caslin said they had that Golden Eagle and their guides are still there, their guides are still there. Mc Caslin said those Heron in that river they guided them all the way for four days then the fifth day they had two eagles, one behind them and one in front of them. Mc Caslin said that was good to have those guides along. Mc Caslin said then at that break for that lunch it was like a Hawaiian Island somebody had "Alohas" all down there and stuff like that and it was really beautiful there because right after that they had five eagles that came and was washing themselves in that contaminated water. Mc Caslin said the struggle was well worth it because as they picked up and they had a Water Walk along in front of them and they was to remain still because they had to take the vessel into canoes, right. Mc Caslin said some things ain't their way so they had to brush that away and if they had never been a part of that Water Walk so they brought that vessel on board to protect that for those women. Mc Caslin said he had been along-side a couple of Water Walks now with Sharon Day so he was able to share that and be that MC for that. Mc Caslin said so he got to take.....it was requested to him about eight years ago to help them re-cultivate their culture because everything was lost. Mc Caslin said so he has been in ceremony most of the time with those guys and then in other places. Mc Caslin said during that paddle just reaching out right on the river or right where their first camp was because they were supposed to have three camps and they did but the second camp was put up by the people from India and they have a Sanctuary there that they were going to paddle right by and no tobacco allowed so that is not their way so they went to the end. Mc Caslin said they set up camp at the end and they got to see the transformation of all those ____ all those spirits that was with them. Mc Caslin said it was great, great part of that. Mc Caslin said a great.....they got it on video. Mc Caslin said most of the journey was documented so that in the near.....be in the future they will be able to bring stuff back. Mc Caslin said they will be able to help with that right because each time they got out of that canoe and had to go over the rocks it was learning.....it was a

learning experience. Mc Caslin said they come from all different walks of life and in those walks of life they found lots of discoveries about themselves and to keep focused on that ceremony.....that one ceremony was the most important thing because he was able to do the full, complete.....the 13th day and get that a resting place there and from that is spinning off and they have two more paddles going down into Pennsylvania which was really hard on their people.....Pennsylvania areas is really hard on their people but that is okay in that exchange, right. Mc Caslin said they get up every morning and get that Miigweching done.....Thanksgiving and every breath that they can take or think about in a good way. Mc Caslin said he knows that positive outlook on that is it's changed everybody's.....everybody's life that participated in that. Mc Caslin said even at the end they had 150 people waiting for them to come in.....they know along and that is a pretty good gathering at the park that _____ that medicine that they carry in their heart _____ that sacred fire. Mc Caslin said it was beautiful he means there is so much that was experienced through that paddle.....it is a life changing experience for some of those young ones. Mc Caslin said they had them at all ages and he is looking at some more goodness coming from that ripple effect....that awareness on the _____. Mc Caslin said he did bring a plaque home and that plaque he is going to get it doctored or painted up so that they can all be a part of that. Mc Caslin said hopefully he will ask permission to be able to put it here for the resting place of that. Mc Caslin said that wampum time when he is looking at the peace maker there and sharing that story of that when it is time. Mc Caslin said there is so much more to learn he means the discoveries, right. Mc Caslin said that is pretty much a little bit of the update but hopefully sometime in the future that they will be able to sit down and share that footage of that struggle. Mc Caslin said they did get some calls, disturbing calls, they had a long heart and little brain wave for one of their members over there. Mc Caslin said they even paddled and prayed even harder and he is in a position where he hears a lot and when Ford dumped their toxics 55 years ago how does he know because he was born on that place over there on that mountain-top and seeing their struggles and it is all connected. Mc Caslin said it is all interconnected and they got to share ____ that are wherever they go and that land remembers them. Mc Caslin said if they pay attention to it it shares with them on that journey.

Speaker Riley thanked Lee Mc Caslin for sharing. Riley said it sounds like a wonderful trip and definitely does sound life changing and enlightening. Riley said it sounds good for anybody that participated it sounds like they walked away with a lot. Riley thanked Lee Mc Caslin again for sharing that. Riley said Miiigwech. Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said to Lee Mc Caslin that he would like to say Miigwech for sharing that his journey there also with Sandy Lewis she is at a Sun Dance Ceremony and as they know Sun Dance Ceremonies that they do last for several days. Wittenberg said he feels pretty honored to have someone like that out there

so that they are praying for that healing for their people so that they may come together. Wittenberg said he thought he would share that.

Speaker Riley said to Lee Mc Caslin that if he wanted to speak again please come up to the microphone so they can get it on there.

Lee Mc Caslin said he just completed his eighth year of Sun Dancing and this one is very special. Mc Caslin said Japan ____ over there will be doing a Sun Dance in September. Mc Caslin said the people from here will be going there probably September 21st and they be landing and they will be escorted around the island just like when the Japanese came and he was their host. Mc Caslin said so he has been away from the house for a while and he is still smiling because it was that much goodness that is going to come from that and he knows. Mc Caslin said when they get back to ceremonies, the vision, the dreams and the contraction of that they understand as those MC's of those ceremonies. Mc Caslin said they understand that a little bit clearer and they come into focus. Mc Caslin said when they walk in their dreams they know they are walking in a good way, clear, they can see it. Mc Caslin said actually 25 years ago Adam ____ had set-up a place not in Red Lake, Minnesota where he took him but over here near Cedarville and it became open to them. Mc Caslin said so it is open so they can do ceremonies throughout the year if they need to. Mc Caslin said they usually fast in the spring and the fall but that piece of property is available to them and when they get into recovery and stuff like that they need those other helpers those ____ that they make them available for them because that is what makes them stronger as the whole. Mc Caslin said each one of them carries medicine they just don't know what medicine that they carry. Mc Caslin said when they discover that medicine or if they bring it out of them, that medicine, then it is really highlighted. Mc Caslin said then the light really shines as being in that Sun Dancer they can.....it really.....it really focused mostly on the ceremony.

Speaker Riley said alright and thanked Lee Mc Caslin.

Lee Mc Caslin said he can cheer all day because he knows all that.

Speaker Riley said okay is there anybody else with public comment at this time. Riley said alright onto the adjournment. Riley said he is looking for a motion to adjourn at 1:58. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said he will make that motion to Adjourn at 1:58.

VII. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 1:58; by Pete; supported by Crampton.

Roll Call #6

J. Riley - Yes	J. Friedel - Yes	D. Corey - Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis - Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Gary Di Piazza,
Acting Council Recorder