

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on August 7, 2019. The Recording System failed to record the meeting and the 8/7/19 Tribal Council Minutes were constructed from the Roll Call Record and other documents. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

I. Opening Prayer

Gary Di Piazza, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer.

I pray to all Creation for all my relatives.
Show us a good trail.
Show us a good job.
Let us all work together.
Bring us all together and give us a good way of life.
Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

B. Roll Call

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

Quorum established.

Others Present: Kelly Maser, Karen Love, Jennifer Crampton, Boo Battice, Julia Nickelsen, Kathy Sam, Darleen Martin, Alyce Giltz, Jessica Steinberg.

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

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019

AGENDA; by Di Piazza; supported by Lonn.

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

Roll Call #1

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said the agenda for 8/7/19 has been approved.

D. Tribal Council Minutes □ 7/31/19

MOVE TO ACCEPT FOR FILING TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

FOR 7/31/19; by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

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

Roll Call #2

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said Tribal Council Minutes for 7/31/19 has been accepted for filing.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2019-__-3rd QTR to replenish the Strategic Gaming Budget in the amount of \$1,400,000**

Tribal Council received a Certification of Availability of Funds #2019-010 from the Accounting Department signed by the Chief Financial Officer.

Speaker Pete asked is there any discussion.

Karen Love, Tribal #2494, asked what is the money going for.

Recorder Di Piazza said \$200,000 for Donations, \$930,000 for Professional Fees, \$250,000 for Taxes and \$20,000 for Travel.

Karen Love asked is there a way they can be more specific on the agenda so they know what the item is for. Love said she had people calling her asking what is the item about. Love asked is the casino making loan payments or are they just paying the interest.

Speaker Pete said they are making their loan payments.

Karen Love asked when is the loan supposed to be paid in full.

Recorder Di Piazza said the loan will be paid in full July 2020.

Karen Love said she knows the Resort's Distribution to the government will be \$2 million short.

Ogema Romanelli said they are working on the 2020 Budget and the distribution is going to be \$2 million short.

Recorder Di Piazza said they can post the Tribal Council Calendar to Face Book but it is posted to the Tribal website.

Karen Love said the casino has new Slot Machines and they look real good.

Councilor Crampton said he has asked for a detailed expenditure list for the casino.

Speaker Pete asked do they have a motion. Pete recognized Tom Guenthardt.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0807-217;
APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION 2019-09-3rd
QTR TO REPLENISH THE STRATEGIC GAMING BUDGET IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$1,400,000; by Guenthardt; supported by Lonn.**

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

Roll Call #3

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- No	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (6-2-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said six in favor, two against and one absent, Resolution #19-0807-217 is passed.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

IV. Old Business

Reports that are due: June 2019

- A. Financial Report
June 2019
- B. Operations Report
- C. Health Commission
May 2019

Reports received:

- ☐ May 2019
- ☐ None Submitted
- ☐ June 2019
- ☐ None Submitted

Speaker Pete said they have the Financial Report for May 2019 and June 2019 is none submitted. Pete said the Operations Report they have for June 2019. Pete said the Health Commission May 2019 is none submitted. Pete asked are there any questions on those reports.

V. New Business

- A. **Approval of Appointment of Dave Corey to the Oversight Task Force**
This appointment is for oversight of the Little River Casino Resort.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF DAVE COREY TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Lonn; supported by Lewis.

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

Roll Call #4

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said seven in favor, one against, and one absent Dave Corey is appointed to the Oversight Task Force.

B. Approval of Appointment of Ron Pete to the Oversight Task Force

This appointment is for oversight of the Little River Casino Resort.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF RON PETE TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Lonn; supported by Di Piazza.

Boo Battice, Tribal #2644, said he does respect Shannon Crampton's opinion.

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

Roll Call #5

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- No	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (6-2-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said six in favor, two against and one absent Ron Pete is appointed to the Oversight Task Force.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DAVE COREY TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Corey; supported by Lonn.

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

Roll Call #6

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	D. Corey -	Abstain
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (6-1-1-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said six in favor, one against, one abstention and one absent. Di Piazza said the motion has passed.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF DAVE COREY TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Lonn; supported by Lewis.

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

Roll Call #7

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Abstain
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (6-1-1-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said six in favor, one against, one abstention and one absent
Dave Corey is appointed to the Oversight Task Force.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF RON PETE TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Pete; supported by Lonn.

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

Roll Call #8

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Abstain
R. Wittenberg- No	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (5-2-1-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said five in favor, two against, one abstention and one absent.
Di Piazza said the motion has passed.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF RON PETE TO THE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE; by Lonn; supported by Guenthardt.

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

Roll Call #9

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Absent	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton - No	G. DiPiazza - Yes	R. Pete -	Abstain
R. Wittenberg- No	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (5-2-1-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said five in favor, two against, one abstention and one absent
Ron Pete is appointed to the Oversight Task Force.

C. Drawing of Names for Elected Official Ethics Complaint

Tribal Council approved the Elected Officials Ethics Ordinance #14-100-01 creating the Ethics Board to hold hearings on allegations or unethical conduct by Elected Officials to develop and recommend further regulations deemed necessary to meet the purposes of this ordinance.

Recorder Di Piazza drew five names and two alternates for the Ethics Board.

D. Resolution Supporting Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS) Application for AmeriCorps Grant Funding in order to develop a Medical-Legal Partnership with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

MILS has applied for a grant that would expand legal services to the Tribal Communities in Michigan.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0807-218;
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MICHIGAN INDIAN LEGAL
SERVICES APPLICATION FOR AMERICORPS GRANT
FUNDING IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A MEDICAL-LEGAL
PARTNERSHIP WITH LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA
INDIANS;** by Guenthardt; supported by Lonn.

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

Roll Call #10

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said nine in favor, Resolution #19-0807-218 is passed.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, August 14, 2019

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Ogema Romanelli thanked them very much. Romanelli said he received a complaint regarding the Warrior's Society from a member who said they tried to contact them and didn't get a response back. Romanelli said maybe someone could contact Virgil Johnson or Chuck Fisher and let them know about that. Romanelli said he can give them the information that he has from this member. Romanelli said the Budget Hearing was this past Saturday. Romanelli said the IT Department livestreamed it from this room and it went well. Romanelli said he received 400 Questionnaires back so far that he sent out to members. Romanelli said he is impressed and thankful. Romanelli said he is considering resuming the

Oversight Task Force Meetings. Romanelli said they are having their Round Table Meetings. Romanelli said they discussed their Strategic Plan for Education.

Councilor Crampton said the last Strategic Plan was back in 2003 that they looked at.

Ogema Romanelli said there has been a Face Book post regarding Council's attendance. Romanelli encouraged sign in sheets for Council. Romanelli said that is it for this week. Romanelli thanked them.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Councilor Crampton said he received calls from members about the ballots they received and thought it was for Tribal Council. Crampton said he explained to them it was for the Election Board.

Ogema Romanelli said they are continuing to hold their two Branch weekly meetings. Romanelli suggested the contact someone from Judicial to attend these meetings as well. Romanelli said it doesn't have to be the Chief Judge but someone from that department to attend the meetings. Romanelli said they are going good.

D. Public Comment Period

Recorder Di Piazza said to Karen Love that the telephone number for the Tribal Council Conference Room is (231) 398-6839 if she wanted to phone in for those work sessions.

Councilor Lonn said the Elder's Picnic was Saturday as well and was a dish to pass event. Lonn said Mary Thomas cooked and ran the grill. Lonn said it was really nice and well attended.

Jessica Steinberg, Tribal #0148, said there is a rumor going around that during Monday's Agenda Review that Ron Pete said in October 2019 he is going to resign and the Ogema can then appoint someone to fill that seat. Steinberg asked is that true. Steinberg said there are concerns in regards to appropriateness that it was mentioned in an open session setting, and that the membership should be able to vote.

Speaker Pete said no, he has no intention of resigning and that it wasn't discussed. Pete said that had to come from someone that attended Agenda Review.

Jessica Steinberg made further comments but the tape recording failed and none of her comment were recorded. The above subjects were taken from the Administrative Assistant's notes

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 END FIRST OPEN SESSION; by Guenthardt; supported by Lewis.

Roll Call #11

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

VIII. Open Session

MOTION TO GO BACK INTO OPEN SESSION AT 11:59; by Guenthardt; supported by Lonn.

Roll Call #12

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said they are back in open session at 11:59.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza if they had anything to move out of Closed.

Recorder Di Piazza replied no.

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

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 12:01; by Guenthardt; supported by Crampton.

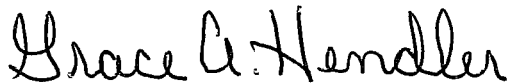
Roll Call #13

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Gary Di Piazza,
Tribal Council Recorder

Grace Hendler

From: Drew Jeurink
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 12:17 PM
To: Grace Hendler; Ron Pete; Jay Sam; Larry Romanelli
Cc: George D. Le Vasseur
Subject: Recording 8/7/19

I want to inform you that it appears we had a catastrophic failure with our recording device. This was discovered at the end of the meeting when IT turns off the recording. I noticed that the system display screen stated the sd card was not present (an error not there at the start of the recording). I checked the system and the card was still in place. After verifying the sd card used as storage was functional. It appeared it did not save the recording at all. I restarted the hardware trying to clear the error and hoping it would read the sd card. It is not. I have also tried another sd card to rule out other factors. I have contacted my director George and notified him of the failure. We are working on a resolution at the moment. We do have a temporary fix for next week's meeting.

Thank you,

Drew Jeurink

System Security Administrator | LRBOI LASO
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
Help Desk: (231)398-6898
[Email Me](#)



"Absorb what is useful. Discard what is not. Add what is uniquely your own."

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