



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
 Binojeeuk Commission  
 Administration Office  
 2608 Government Center Dr.  
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**MONTHLY REPORT  
 January 2023**

The Binojeeuk Commission is created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe’s rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Children’s Code.

**Officers:**

- |                     |              |         |
|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| 1. Shawna Gonzalez  | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 2. Corey Wells      | Term Ending: | 9/20/23 |
| 3. Chelsea Densmore | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 4. Alicia Knapp     | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |

**Monthly Activities:**

1. Total cases reviewed for the month (2)
2. Submitted dates for open session minutes 1-6-23, 1-26-23
3. Submitted dates for closed session minutes 1-6-23, 1-26-23

**Discussion Points/Concerns:**

1. Case Managers updated ICWA cases (2)
2. Recommendations issued on ICWA cases (0)
3. Two older cases were updated, Still no ruling from the Judge on one case, opinion was expected in November. Briefed on the ongoing noncompliance ICWA issues involving DHHS.



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**January 6, 2023**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:11 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Alicia Knapp, Corey Wells, Chelsea Densmore

Others Present: Stephanie Persenaire, Rachel Kop

C. Approval of Agenda for January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to approve agenda

Made by: Knapp

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Knapp
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for: 12-16-22 with edits

Motion to approve Minutes

Made by: Knapp

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Knapp
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

- II. New Business: 2023 Calendar. Elise has taken the job as the executive inhouse counselor
- III. Discussion:
- IV. Continuing Business:
- V. Concluding Business:
  - A. Meeting Date January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

- VI. Adjourn Open Session 1:29 PM
  - Motion to move into Closed Session at 1:29 PM
  - Made by: Gonzalez
  - Supported by: Knapp

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Knapp
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

- VII. Adjourn Meeting
  - Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:02 PM
  - Made by: Gonzalez
  - Supported by: Knapp

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Knapp
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:19 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore  
 Absent: Corey Wells, Cynthia Champagne, Tom Guenhardt  
 Others Present: Jonathan Hauswirth, Stephanie Persenaire,  
 Rachel Kops

C. Approval of Agenda for January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to approve the agenda

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to postpone minutes until next meeting

Made by: Densmore

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

II. New Business:

A. Approval of 2023 Binojeeuk Commission Meeting Calendar

Motion to approve the 2023 Calendar

Made by: Densmore

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

III. Discussion:

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business:

A. Next Meeting Date February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:26 PM

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

## **MONTHLY REPORT February 2023**

The Binojeeuk Commission is created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe's rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Children's Code.

### Officers:

1. Shawna Gonzalez	Term Ending:	9/20/25
2. Corey Wells	Term Ending:	9/20/23
3. Chelsea Densmore	Term Ending:	9/20/25
4. Alicia Knapp	Term Ending:	9/20/25

### Monthly Activities:

1. Total cases reviewed for the month (2)
2. Submitted dates for open session minutes 2-3-23, 2-24-23
3. Submitted dates for closed session minutes 2-3-23, 1-24-23

### Discussion Points/Concerns:

1. Case Managers updated ICWA cases (2)
2. Recommendations issued on ICWA cases (0)
3. Two older cases were updated, Still no ruling from the Judge on one case, opinion was expected in November. Briefed on the ongoing noncompliance ICWA issues involving DHHS. Expert Witness training was discussed and the options for training at the ICWA Conference.



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:19 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Alicia Goff, Corey Wells, Chelsea Densmore

Others Present: Stephanie Persenaire,

C. Approval of Agenda for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Motion to approve agenda

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for: 1-6-23 & 1-26-23 with edits

Motion to approve Minutes

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

- II. New Business: Submission of calendar.
- III. Discussion:
- IV. Continuing Business: Expert Witness, ICWA Conference
- V. Concluding Business:
  - A. Meeting Date, February 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ 1:00 PM

- VI. Adjourn Open Session 2:05 PM
  - Motion to move into Closed Session at 2:05 PM
  - Made by: Densmore
  - Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

- VII. Adjourn Meeting
  - Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 PM
  - Made by: Goff
  - Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*





**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**February 24<sup>th</sup> 2023**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: Chelsea Densmore 1:03 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present:, Corey Wells Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore

Absent: Shawna Gonzalez, Cynthia Champagne, Tom Guenhardt

Others Present: Jonathan Hauswirth,

C. Approval of Agenda for Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to approve the agenda.

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for None Submitted

Motion to postpone minutes until next meeting.

Made by:

Supported by:

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

II. New Business:

III. Discussion: Conference Travel Details

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:23 PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:38PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

## **MONTHLY REPORT March 2023**

The Binojeeuk Commission is created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe's rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Children's Code.

### Officers:

- |                     |              |         |
|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| 1. Shawna Gonzalez  | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 2. Corey Wells      | Term Ending: | 9/20/23 |
| 3. Chelsea Densmore | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 4. Alicia Knapp     | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |

### Monthly Activities:

1. Total cases reviewed for the month (3)
2. Submitted dates for open session minutes 3-3-23, 3-17-23
3. Submitted dates for closed session minutes 3-3-23, 3-17-23 3-24-23

### Discussion Points/Concerns:

1. Case Managers updated ICWA cases (2)
2. Recommendations issued on ICWA cases (1)
3. Two older cases were updated, Still no ruling from the Judge on one case, opinion was expected in November. Briefed on the ongoing noncompliance ICWA issues involving DHHS. Expert Witness training was discussed and the options for training at the ICWA Conference. One Emergency meeting to issue recommendations for an upcoming court case.



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
 Binojeeuk Commission  
 Administration Office  
 2608 Government Center Dr.  
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes  
 March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:02 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore

Absent: Cynthia Champagne, Tom Guenhardt

Others Present: Jonathan Hauswirth, Stephanie Persenaire

C. Approval of Agenda for March 3, 2023

Motion to approve the agenda.

Made by: Densmore

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to postpone minutes until next meeting.

Made by:

Supported by:

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

**II. New Business:**



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:03 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells, Chelsea Densmore

Absent: Cynthia Champagne, Tom Guenhardt, Alicia Goff

Others Present: Jonathan Hauswirth, Stephanie Persenaire

C. Approval of Agenda for March 17, 2023

Motion to approve the agenda.

Made by: Densmore

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Motion to postpone minutes until next meeting.

Made by:

Supported by:

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

II. New Business:

III. Discussion: Conference Travel Details

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:23 PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 3-0-1*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

## **MONTHLY REPORT July 2023**

The Binojeeuk Commission is created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe's rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Children's Code.

### **Officers:**

- |                     |              |         |
|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| 1. Shawna Gonzalez  | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 2. Corey Wells      | Term Ending: | 9/20/23 |
| 3. Chelsea Densmore | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 4. Alicia Knapp     | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |

### **Monthly Activities:**

1. Total cases reviewed for the month (3)
2. Submitted dates for open session minutes 6/2/23, 6/16/23
3. Submitted dates for closed session minutes 6/2/23, 6/16/23

### **Discussion Points/Concerns:**

1. Case Managers updated ICWA cases (2)
2. Recommendations issued on ICWA cases (0)
3. Three Case Updates were heard by the Commission this month.



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes  
July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:03 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells, Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore

Others Present: Rachel Kops Pam Johnson

C. Approval of Agenda for July 7<sup>th</sup> 2023

Motion to approve the agenda with edits

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for 5/4/23 and 6/19/23

Motion to approve

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Gonzalez

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

**II. New Business:**



III. Discussion: Training Session continuing, need to know who wants to go so council can replace the travel budget. Tribal Liaisons are going to be on the agenda soon.

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: Friday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:16PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Binojeeuk Commission  
Administration Office  
2608 Government Center Dr.  
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes  
July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:05 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells, Alicia Goff, Chelsea  
Densmore  
Others Present: JH/SP

C. Approval of Agenda for July 21<sup>st</sup> 2023

Motion to approve the agenda with edits

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for 7/7/23

Motion to approve

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

**II. New Business:**

III. Discussion:

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: Friday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:08PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:51 PM

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
 Binojeeuk Commission  
 Administration Office  
 2608 Government Center Dr.  
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**MONTHLY REPORT  
 August 2023**

The Binojeeuk Commission is created for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the child and promoting the stability and security of the Tribe and its Indian families by fully exercising the Tribe’s rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Children’s Code.

**Officers:**

- |                     |              |         |
|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| 1. Shawna Gonzalez  | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 2. Corey Wells      | Term Ending: | 9/20/23 |
| 3. Chelsea Densmore | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |
| 4. Alicia Knapp     | Term Ending: | 9/20/25 |

**Monthly Activities:**

1. Total cases reviewed for the month (4)
2. Submitted dates for open session minutes 8/04/23, 8/18/23
3. Submitted dates for closed session minutes 8/04/23, 8/18/23

**Discussion Points/Concerns:**

1. Case Managers updated ICWA cases (2)
2. Recommendations issued on ICWA cases (0)
3. Three Case Updates along with a potential case were heard by the Commission this month.



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:04 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells, Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore

Others Present: RK/SP

C. Approval of Agenda for August 4<sup>th</sup> 2023

Motion to approve the agenda with edits

Made by: Goff

Supported by: Wells

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for None Submitted

Motion to approve

Made by:

Supported by:

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff

*Motion approved 0-0-0*

**II. New Business:**

III. Discussion:

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: Friday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:24PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:34 PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
**Binojeeuk Commission**  
**Administration Office**  
**2608 Government Center Dr.**  
**Manistee, Michigan 49660**

**Open Session Minutes**  
**August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**I. General Business**

A. Call to Order: Shawna Gonzalez 1:03 PM

B. Roll Call:

Present: Shawna Gonzalez, Corey Wells, Alicia Goff, Chelsea Densmore

Others Present: JH

C. Approval of Agenda for August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to approve the agenda with edits

Made by: Wells

Supported by: Goff

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes for None

Motion to approve

Made by:

Supported by:

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff

*Motion approved 0-0-0*

**II. New Business:**

III. Discussion: Discussed expanding the recommendations so that its more detailed and perhaps fairer to the parents and children. Binojeeuk needs the parent case service plan.

IV. Continuing Business:

V. Concluding Business: 8/30/23 Next Meeting

VI. Adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session

Motion to move into adjourn Open Session and move into Closed Session at 1:10PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:11 PM

Made by: Gonzalez

Supported by: Densmore

Gonzalez	Wells	Densmore	Goff
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Motion approved 4-0-0*





Gaa Ching Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek  
LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
2608 Government Center Drive  
Manistee, MI 49660

BINOJEEUK COMMISSION

BY-LAWS

**Article I. Title; Authority; Purpose.**

- 1.01. *Title.* This entity shall be officially known as the Binojeeuk Commission and may be referred to in the short form as "Binojeeuk." The official office and mailing address is 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, Michigan, 49660.
- 1.02. *Authority.* The Binojeeuk Commission is created by the Children's Protection Code, Ordinance #98-900-01, Section 5, and the adoption of these By-Laws by:
- a. Tribal Council Resolution #02-0529-07, *Adoption of Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws;*
  - b. Tribal Council Resolution #02-0619-05, *Amendment to Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws to Allow for Attendance at Meeting by a Commissioner By Phone Conference.*
  - c. Tribal Council Resolution #10-0616-182, *Approval of Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws.*
  - d. Tribal Council Resolution #16-1026-327, *Amendment to Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws to change the term of office from two (2) years to four (4) years and to fix grammatical errors and typos.*
  - e. Tribal Council Resolution #18-1219-374, *Amendment to Binojeeuk Commission By-laws to add licensing and monitoring of childcare facilities under duties and responsibilities, update compensation procedures, and fix grammatical errors, typos, and formatting.*
  - f. Tribal Council Resolution #20-0930-275, *Amendments to Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws to change the regularly scheduled meeting to the first and third Tuesday of the month.*
  - g. Tribal Council Resolution # 22-0316-043, *Amendments to Binojeeuk Commission By-Laws to change the regularly scheduled meeting to the first and third Friday of the month.*

- 1.03. *Purpose.* The Binojeeuk Commission is created to provide for the welfare, care, and protection of the Indian children and families of the Little River Band, to provide for the safety of tribal children and to preserve family unity, to provide and follow procedures for intervention in state court proceedings regarding Indian children, to provide and follow procedures for the transfer of jurisdiction over Indian children from state to Tribal court(s), and to exercise this Tribe's rights and responsibilities under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

## **Article II. Members.**

- 2.01. *Members.* The Binojeeuk Commission shall have five (5) members who are Tribal members and have reached the age of twenty-one (21).
- 2.02. *Term of Office.* The term of office for a member of the Binojeeuk Commission shall be for four (4) years unless the Tribal Council authorizes a longer term to stagger terms of office to assure the stability of the Commission.
- 2.03. *Officers.* The members of the Binojeeuk Commission shall select one (1) member to serve as Chairperson and one (1) member to serve as Secretary of the Commission. No member may serve in two (2) officer positions. A vacancy created in an officer position shall be filled for the remainder of the vacant term.
  - a. *Chairperson.* This officer shall be responsible for:
    1. Calling and presiding at all Binojeeuk Commission meetings;
    2. Managing and reporting on all finances of the Binojeeuk Commission to the Tribal government;
    3. Reporting to the Tribal Council or others as directed by Tribal Council; and
    4. Signing all correspondence and representing the entity at all meetings with outside entities, unless by motion, the Binojeeuk Commission designates another member to act as a representative at a meeting with outside entities.
  - b. *Secretary.* This officer is responsible for:
    1. Maintaining all minutes, agendas, reports, and correspondence of the Binojeeuk Commission; and
    2. Presiding at official meetings of the Binojeeuk Commission in the absence of the Chairperson.

### **Article III. Duties and Responsibilities.**

- 3.01. The Binojeeuk Commission shall act under the authority expressly delegated to it by the Tribal Council in the Children's Protection Code, Ordinance #98-900-01 or in other enactments by the Tribal Council. The Binojeeuk Commission shall have the following duties:
- a. Advise the Tribal Council and the Tribal Court on child welfare matters and recommend policies and procedures for implementing federal and Tribal child welfare law;
  - b. Monitor child welfare proceedings involving Tribal members in state or Tribal courts;
  - c. Be advised of pending state court proceedings as provided in the Indian Child Welfare Act and make recommendations regarding intervention in such proceedings and transfer of jurisdiction from state court to Tribal Court;
  - d. Conduct informal conferences with a child and the child's parent(s), guardian, or custodian as provided in the Children's Protection Code to discuss alternatives to formal court jurisdiction for resolving concerns about the proper care and supervision of a child;
  - e. Make recommendations to authorize the filing of a child-in-need-of-care petitions in the Tribal Court pursuant to the Children's Protection Code;
  - f. Make recommendations to the Tribal Family Services workers, placement agency workers, and the Tribal Prosecutor regarding the care, custody, and supervision of Tribal children under court jurisdiction, including recommendations as to the case plan, guardianship, and termination of parental rights;
  - g. License and monitor group, shelter, foster, and adoptive homes, child placement agencies;
  - h. License and monitor childcare facilities and issue Child Care Providers Licenses;
  - i. Monitor Little River Band of Ottawa Indians children who reside in foster, adoptive, or group homes through child placement agencies; and
  - j. Engage in further activities necessary to protect and improve the welfare of the children of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

## Article IV. Meetings.

- 4.01 *Meetings.* The Binojeeuk Commission shall meet at least twice per month at a location designated in the monthly agenda. The Binojeeuk Commission may only conduct formal meetings for action on the Reservation of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Meetings shall by default take place on the first and third Friday of the month, unless otherwise noticed and meeting dates are subject to change due to holidays, government closures, or quorum.
- 4.02 *Special Meetings.* The Chairperson may call special meetings by giving at least twenty-four (24) hours' notice to all members. Such notice shall be in writing where possible, provided that, the Chairperson or Secretary may telephone all members and follow up with written notice when prior written notice is not feasible. Members may attend special or emergency meetings by telephone. Special meetings may be called for the purpose of:
- a. Conducting business that, if delayed until such time as a regular meeting is held, it would be detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the Tribe, its members, or the purposes of the Binojeeuk Commission; or
  - b. Conducting hearings regarding matters, including, but not limited to, permits and license issuance or revocation, or for the purposes of hearing matters, related to citations and or other orders of the Binojeeuk Commission.
- 4.03 *Quorum.* A quorum for formal business shall consist of at least one officer and one other member of the Binojeeuk Commission.
- 4.04 *Agenda.* Every meeting shall be conducted in accordance with an agenda. The Binojeeuk Commission may, by majority vote, accept additional items for the agenda, at the time of the meeting, which were not given prior notice. Each agenda shall contain the following sections, and any other sections as may be necessary to clearly identify the business to be conducted:
- a. Optional opening prayer or moment of silence;
  - b. General Business;
    1. Call to order and time of call;
    2. Roll call of members present;
    3. Approval of agenda; and
    4. Approval of available open session minutes.
  - c. Public comment;

- d. Updates and Reports;
- e. Closed session;
  - 1. Approval of available closed session minutes;
  - 2. Closed hearings, if any; and
  - 3. Contracts, litigation or personnel matters.
- f. Return to open session;
- g. Agenda items for next meeting; and
- h. Adjournment.

4.05 *Minutes.* The minutes shall be drafted to clearly identify:

- a. The date and time the meeting was called to order;
- b. The members present;
- c. Adoption of the agenda, and any amendments;
- d. Any action taken regarding each agenda item; and
- e. The date and time the meeting was concluded, and the manner in which it was concluded (i.e., loss of quorum, completed, etc.).

4.06 *Compensation.* Commissioners shall be compensated in an amount set by Tribal Council resolution.

**Article V. Employees; Liaison.**

5.01. *Employees.* The Binojeeuk Commission does not have the power to employ individuals.

5.02. *Liaison.*

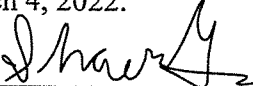
- a. The Tribal Council shall assign as a liaison a Council Member to provide communication between the Council and the Binojeeuk Commission.
- b. The Chairperson shall act as a liaison to Tribal Council to provide communication to departments as necessary and Tribal Council at work sessions, public meetings, or otherwise. The Binojeeuk Commission may select a member other than the chairperson to act as liaison by majority vote.

**Article VI. Amendment; Repeal.**

- 6.01. *Amendment.* These bylaws shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Binojeeuk Commission for amendment and reauthorization. All amendments must be presented at least one meeting per prior to action and must be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present. Amendments are final when presented to and approved by the Tribal Council by resolution.
- 6.02. *Repeal.* These By-Laws may be repealed by the presentation of a request to the Tribal Council by the Binojeeuk Commission in the form of a resolution containing the reasons a repeal of the By-Laws is necessary. The Commission must approve the repealing resolution by a two-thirds vote of the members present. Further, the Tribal Council may unilaterally repeal these By-Laws by amendment to the Children's Protection Code or by adoption of a resolution calling for the repeal of the Binojeeuk Commission's By-Laws.

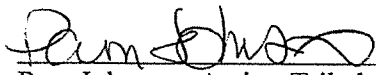
**CERTIFICATION**

I, Shawna Gonzales, as Chairperson of the Binojeeuk Commission, do hereby certify that the Binojeeuk Commission adopted these By-laws at a regular meeting held on March 4, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shawna Gonzalez, Chairperson

3-17-2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, Pam Johnson, Tribal Council Recorder do hereby certify that the Tribal Council, approved these By-Laws by the adoption of Tribal Council Resolution #22-0316-043.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pam Johnson, Acting Tribal Council  
Recorder

3/16/2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date