

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



**Aki Community Center
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

Elders Monthly Meeting

January 7, 2023

Roll Call

Quorum: Chairperson Jessica Steinberg called meeting together at 12:00 pm. Gary DiPizza gave prayer. All committee members were present except for Tammy Burmeister

<u>Jessica Steinberg-yes</u>	<u>Chuck Fisher-yes</u>	<u>Sandy Mezeske-yes</u>
<u>Tammy Burmeister-absent</u>	<u>Marcella Leusby-yes</u>	

Quorum:4-1-0-0

Approval of Agenda: Chuck Fisher approved the agenda, Sandy Mezeske seconded, all approved.

<u>Jessica Steinberg-yes</u>	<u>Chuck Fisher-yes</u>	<u>Sandy Mezeske-yes</u>
<u>Tammy Burmeister-absent</u>	<u>Marcella Leusby-yes</u>	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Sandy Mezeske approved November and December minutes, Chuck Fisher seconds, all approve.

<u>Jessica Steinberg-yes</u>	<u>Chuck Fisher-yes</u>	<u>Sandy Mezeske-yes</u>
<u>Tammy Burmeister-absent</u>	<u>Marcella Leusby-yes</u>	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

- 1. New Business:** Andrew Gentile gave the elders an update on the casino. Casino was doing good then covid hit. Profits went down, then in 2022 things started looking a little better, but because of the economy being down people just weren't gambling as much as before.

The Casino is getting older, renovations are starting to show up. The air conditioning just needed an overhaul, which had to come out the Capital improvement fund. The roof will soon need to be redone. Factor in the loss of employees, the rise of minimum wage, the reduction of people gambling, the rising rate of food, revenues are down. Sports betting and online gaming isn't making that much of a profit. Casino has been marketing more to get people in but the population base just isn't as good as it once was.

Good news is that our hotel was voted 3rd best in the state and customer service is number 1, best in the area. Hopefully the economy will start picking up and the customers will come back.

John Pabami gave the elders information on Elders jackets. He asked for ideas on what the elders want on the coats and what kind they would like. He will get with Dingers, a Michigan Native American company and bring that information back to the elders.

We have been having a time with the Elders luncheon. It was not budgeted into this year's funding. With Noelle leaving and slow getting a new person in there wasn't anyone to do the paperwork, the elder's luncheons have come out of the elder's meals program. Luckily Members Assistance and our new meals coordinator they have been working diligently to get the meals settled for the Elders meetings.

- 2. Old News: None**

3. Old Business: At February meeting we will be voting in new Representatives for the MIEA. We now have 2 elders representing us, Chuck Fisher and Allan Hardenburgh. but three are needed. The tribes take turns funding the quarterly meetings at their casinos. LRBOI elders was going to fund the July meeting this year, but with the Elders budget being cut 43% from last year's budget that might not happen.

Allan Hardenburgh commented that it would be nice if we could host the MIEA meeting.

Because of the budget cutting we will also have to look at other events we had planned for this year. Julie did state we could do a supplemental appropriation for more money for elder's activities.

4. Public Comment: Elders gave comments on the good times had at the Elders Conference and Christmas party. Said they were the best ones yet and are looking forward to next year! All the feedbacks we received were good, they commented that it was very informative, they learned quite a bit from the speakers, they had a relaxing and fun time.

Julie Wolf said they are working out the details for the Elders Muskegon meals. Their planning on having an external company coming in with the meals for the elders. Their meals will be at the elders building in Muskegon.

Vicki Wells gave us an update. She has been working on a meal program that consists of native food. She is working on setting up menus and some enjoyment games for the elders. She is also asking for input from the elders on what they would like to see at the meals.

Allan Hardenburgh and some of the other elders stated that it would be nice to take a trip to one of the boarding schools .It was stated that the elders need to start thinking of getting more involved in the tribe.

5. Next Meeting: February 4, 2023

6. Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. Motion made by Marcella Leusby, seconded by Chuck Fisher. All agreed.

ADD: VIC.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



Aki Community Center

Manistee, Michigan 49660

Elders Monthly Meeting

February 4, 2023

Roll Call

Quorum: Chairperson Jessica Steinberg called meeting to order at 1:01 pm. All committee members were present except for Sandy Mezeske.

Jessica Steinberg-yes	Chuck Fisher-yes	Sandy Mezeske-absent
Tammy Burmeister-yes	Marcella Leusby-yes	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Approval of Agenda: Chuck Fisher made a motion to approve the agenda and Marcella Leusby seconded, all in favor.

Jessica Steinberg-yes	Chuck Fisher-yes	Sandy Mezeske-absent
Tammy Burmeister-yes	Marcella Leusby-yes	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Chuck Fisher made a motion to approve the January 2023 minutes and Marcella Leusby seconded, all in favor.

Jessica Steinberg-yes	Chuck Fisher-yes	Sandy Mezeske-absent
Tammy Burmeister-yes	Marcella Leusby-yes	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Reports: Chuck Fisher talked about the upcoming MIEA meeting in July that the Tribe will be hosting. He said that Tribal Council agreed to sponsor in conjunction with the Pow Wow. The MIEA meeting has a standard agenda that is followed. It will start on Sunday, July 16th and run through Tuesday, July 18th. The meeting will start on Sunday afternoon attending the Pow Wow. On Sunday evening, there will be a prescheduled meeting held by the delegates. The Tribe will run the meeting on Monday and Tuesday. There is a business meeting and auction that takes place throughout the conference. The auction helps to build funds for the scholarship given.

Jessica Steinberg said she did reach out to the National Indian Health Board, National Indian Housing Authority and the National Congress of Indians.

Julie Wolfe asked if the MIEA Board helps with the meeting. Chuck said they help with the donated auction items and business meeting.

Chuck said he is looking for at least six volunteers to help the Elders committee with the planning. Chuck said he will be the contact for the volunteers. There will be breakout sessions and a presentation done by the Tribe. Each Tribe will be responsible to pay their registration fees.

The following Elders volunteered to help: John Pabami, Al Metzger, Al Hardenburgh, Jessica Steinberg, Marcella Leusby and Tammy Burmeister

Chuck mentioned the MIEA vacancy that we need to vote on. Al Hardenburgh asked if you had to be a delegate to attend a

meeting and Chuck stated yes. He mentioned that the next meeting is in April in Hannahville.

Al Metzger asked about holding this meeting virtually through ZOOM. Chuck said that it can be talked about for the future. He said no Tribe has ever done this before but it could be checked into.

Jessica Steinberg talked about the Tribal Council work session that was held on Monday, January 16th and the discussion that was held about the Elders committee group activities. It was stated that this group is becoming more political. It was said that this committees function is to nurture and cultivate teachings. Jessica was told that all the committee had to do to fund the meal at the monthly meeting was to ask Tribal Council for a supplement. Jessica said you are never to humiliate in public but take them aside to teach them. She read the statement from Shannon Crampton that she received.

Jessica Steinberg thanked the elected officials who to the invitation to attend the Elders meeting. She said if she has offended anyone or said anything inappropriate she will own it and correct it.

Ogema Romanelli also talked about the work session and said the Elders are a political group. The Tribal Constitution allows for them to vote. He said it would have been more respectful to come to the Elders and explain concerns.

Jessica Steinberg thanked the Ogema for speaking personally on these issues. She said in the future we will come together to discuss any issues there may be.

Gary DiPizza said that he hopes the person that does the name calling and belittling would follow the seven grandfather teachings.

Al Metzger asked to bring it down and the meeting moved on.

- 1. Old Business:** *Jessica Steinberg talked about the open MIEA position and how we will be voting on this. Cards were passed out to everyone so that they could vote. Currently, Chuck Fisher is the Veteran on the Board and Al Hardenburgh is the alternate. A delegate needs to be nominated.*

John Pabami and Al Hardenburgh were both nominated for the delegate position. A vote was taken by Tribal Elders and Al Hardenburgh was chosen. Al Hardenburgh had 15 votes and John Pabami had 8 votes. Three were three Elders that volunteered to be vote counters (Al Metzger, Darlene Friedel and Dale Chandler) and Gary DiPiazza was the Tribal Council liaison.

Since Al Hardenburgh held the position of alternate and now was voted in for the delegate, the alternate position is vacant. John Pabami was nominated for the alternate. A vote was taken by the Tribal Elders and John Pabami was chosen for the alternate. John Pabami had 17 votes. Three were three Elders that volunteered to be vote counters (Al Metzger, Darlene Friedel and Dale Chandler) and Gary DiPiazza was the Tribal Council liaison.

- 2. New Business:** *It was asked about the status of the work sessions on the development of an Elder Committee in Muskegon. It was discussed that this hasn't been approved only in discussion. Elders were concerned because our Tribe is here in Manistee so there should be no need for one in Muskegon nor anywhere else such as Wisconsin. The Elders budget would have to be split between the two committees if this should happen. How would these two committees communicate on things was asked. It was suggested that a committee member from Muskegon would have to attend in Manistee to report on things. It was suggested that changing of meeting place could be an idea to look at. It was mentioned that the Elders committee has a committee ordinance and workplan that has to be followed so this would also have to be followed if an Muskegon Elders committee was developed. A meal was also discussed and how that would work. Julie Wolfe mentioned*

that the Title IV Elders Meals program does include the 9 county service area so having meals in Muskegon would not be a problem. Jessica Steinberg thanked Julie for the update. John Pabami gave an update on the Elders coats and that he could order them for Elders if they'd like. Jessica Steinberg said she ordered one and it was about \$80. Al Metzger asked if Elders, Citizens or Spouse could be put on jacket.

Elected Officials Updates: Jessica Steinberg read what Shannon Crampton (Speaker) email to her.

Ogema Romanelli gave an update on the Elders conference in November and the good time that was had. The proposed Muskegon casino project extension date for the Governor to vote on is February 9th. It's not dead in the water just waiting for a response.

- 3. Public Comment: Al Metzger informed everyone that the Cultural committee is having teachings the end of March and is asking for Elders input. He said there will be a Friday evening dinner to be provided by the Elders. He said there are only three Cultural committee members now and they are in need of fire keepers. Chuck Fisher talked about cultural leave being looked at. He said that canvas tarps have been purchased for the outside of the lodge and replacing planks. There is a work session with Tribal Council to discuss about putting cameras out there because of vandalizing.**

Eugene Magnuson gave an update about the Manistee downtown project. He said the reason for the project pause has to do with cost increase for materials and finance rates. He said they are looking on other ventures such as affordable housing, food trucks to occupy the vacant property, green space, roof top bar, conference center and other things. They are waiting back on the studies that needed to be done for future development.

Jessica Steinberg said for future discussion she would like us to talk about: how to sign up for Medicare and the enrollment process.

***Chuck Fisher said for future discussion he'd like to talk about:
affordable housing, AirB&B, rent for a lot.***

4. Next Meeting: Saturday, March 4, 2023.

***5. Adjourned: Jessica Steinberg motioned to adjourn the meeting
at 3:08 pm. Chuck Fisher made the motion to adjourn and
Marcella Leusby seconded. All in favor.***

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



**Aki Community Center
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

Elders Monthly Meeting

November 4/5, 2023

Elders Conference

Roll Call: Saturday Monthly meeting

Quorum: All Present Time started: 10:20 am

Jessica Steinberg-here	Chuck Fisher-here	Sandy Mezeske-here
Dale Chandler-here	Marcella Leusby-here	

Quorum: 4--0-0-0

Guests: Larry Romanelli, Tammy Burmiester, Gary Dipiazza, Pam Johnson, Mark Dougher, Chuck Fisher- Grant Writer's, Jay Sam, Pat Wilson, Linda Hook, 44 North Elders Insurance

Approval of Agenda: Sandy made motion to approved the agenda, Marcella seconded. All approved

Jessica Steinberg-yes	Chuck Fisher-yes	Sandy Mezeske-yes
Dale Chandler-yes	Marcella Leusby-yes	

Quorum: 4--0-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Sandy made motion to approved October minutes, with corrections, Dale seconded. All approved.

Corrections made to August minutes.

Jessica Steinberg-yes	Chuck Fisher-yes	Sandy Mezeske-yes
Dale Chandler-yes	Marcella Leusby-yes	

Quorum: 4--0-0-0

1.Old Business: None

2. New Business:

November 4

Conference started at 10:20 am., the Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Conference. The theme for this years Conference was called "Strengthening our Future on Foundations of Wisdom. The overall purpose of the Conference was for the Elders to come together for ideas on how we can strengthen our group and do better things for our people and for the elders.

Day 1: Welcoming and open remarks. The Chairperson went over the purpose of this year's meeting. The visions we want to see on strengthening our people and the elders, and bringing the Elders and the tribal members together. And how we plan on accomplishing those goals.

First roundtable discussion was on past ideas and how we could change those old ideas and make them stronger. Then a brief overview of how grants can help with the strategic planning.

After lunch the visioning sessions begin.

November 5

Elder's involvement/Ideas for Strategic Plans-Children

- 1. Bring in the next generation-the Tribal children*
- 2. Have language classes just for them*
- 3. Summertime camps: to teach them the plants and their medicinal purposes. Learn the 7 Grandfather teachings, have the elders come in and have talk sessions with the youths.*
- 4. Have them become more involved in the tribe: Start a Tribal Cadet program with our tribal police department. Do a Youth Job Placement program-bring teens in parttime, for job experience a few hours a week in the different departments of the tribe and pay them minimal wage. Help with finding them summer jobs.*
- 5. Have a summer camp for the younger members.*
- 6. Give our descendants hunting and fishing rights.*
- 7. Start a family parenting program – involves all family members*
- 8. Have an Elders/Youth Council board to work with Council and the Ogema*
- 9. Start a Big Brother/Big Sister Program.*

Other ideas the Elders brought forth:

- 1. Give the Currants and the Rapid news back to the Omega's department*
- 2. Make all voting districts the same*
- 3. Raise all our children to learn they are all part of the tribe*
- 4. Involve our children more in the tribe*
- 5. Be able to mail out the Currants to tribal members. Not all members have excess to the internet or know how to work with the internet.*
- 6. Need to heal the division of the tribe and bring us back. We all share a common bond and we all have the same dreams for the tribe and our next generation.*
- 7. Change the blood quorum so our next generation can come in.*

8. Elders want the enrollment audit shut down. There's no need for one.
 9. Employees and Council need to be present at work.
 10. Better pay for our employees
 11. Start a school for trades programs for our tribal members and youth
 12. Agri- business: start an agricultural program in farming and raising animals to produce, process, and distribute farm products to local businesses and stores.
 13. Start a sawmill to produce lumber area builders
 14. Start a Construction company-need more housing
 15. Start the daycare
 16. Put businesses in Muskegon
- These were ideas the elders gave to maybe give ideas of increasing the tribe's revenue and giving tribal members jobs.*

3. Public Comment: above

4. Meeting Adjourned: Dale made motion to close meeting, Sandy seconded, all approved. Meeting closed at 2:45 pm November 5.

5. Next Meeting: December 2, 2023

Elder Secretary

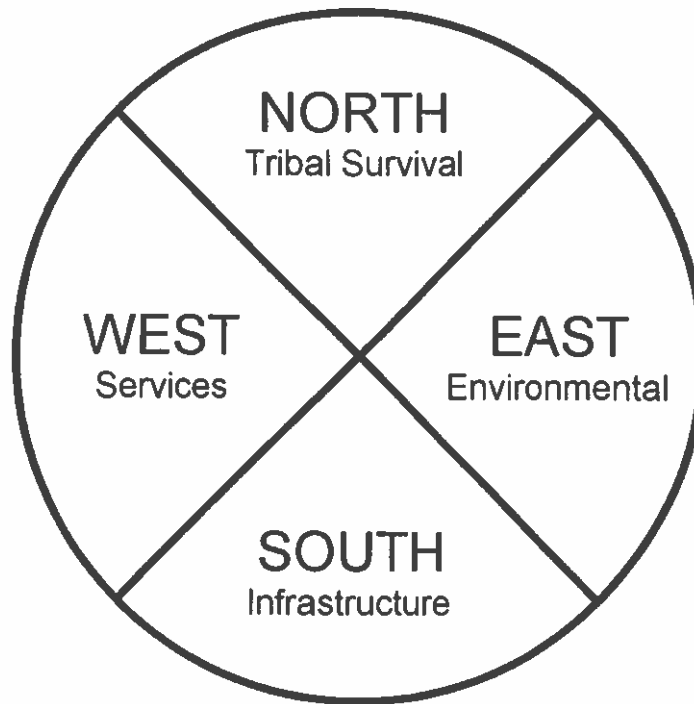


Marcella Leusby



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660

Grants Strategy 2023: Setting Directions and Goals



2023 Grant Strategy

More than twenty years after the initial Grant Strategy, looking at how the Tribe can identify and apply for grants more strategically was the spotlight of a recent effort to devise a new Grant Strategy. In March 2023 the first of two sessions were held with the Tribe's departmental directors and other key staff. At the initial meeting, directors met to brainstorm and identify projects and programs that may be suitable for grant-funded support. After the initial session, participants were asked to identify up to three priorities for grants, which included filling out a form that allowed for each participant to detail and justify their recommendations (See Grant Priority Form in Appendix). This took place during the month of April via email.

At the second director's meeting, held in May, the departmental directors reviewed and discussed the merits of each grant priority submitted after the initial meeting in March, and then determined which of the four categories of the Medicine Wheel each grant idea belonged: Environmental, Infrastructure, Services, and Tribal Survival. These four categories were retained from the 2002 Grant Strategy, given their application to the ideas generated. The next step involved ranking the priorities for each category. During the month of June, the directors submitted their ranking of all of the priorities within each of the four categories. This was also done by email. Their votes were scored and finalized, resulting in the list provided on pages 4-9 of this document. You will note that the ranking and score for each grant idea is included on the following pages.

The result of their collective input and insight is detailed in this *draft* document. Upon review and if approved by the Ogema and Tribal Council, the 2023 Grants Strategy can serve to prioritize grant development efforts over the next three to five years.

Proposed Grant Strategy 2023

<u>Environmental</u>		
<i>“Located in the East on the Medicine Wheel, it represents those issues that protect the earth and the quality of our lands and purity of our air and water.”</i>		
<u>Ran k</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	26	To install a solar microgrid to reduce electrical costs for the tribe, promote energy independence, and help to reduce greenhouse gases.
2	23	To continue providing water quality assessment in order to promote improved water quality for fish, aquatic and wildlife habitat.
3	20	To continue the rehabilitation of Native aquatic and plant species, including wild rice beds for tribal member harvesting. Continue to control and prevent the proliferation of exotic species from further impacting the biological integrity of the ceded territories.
4	17	To install a headworks upgrade and vac truck splash pad for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Plant cannot handle the grit flow into existing headworks. The splash pad will allow water to be drained naturally. These upgrades will extend the life of the treatment plant and reduce staff contact with wastewater.
5	14	To continue providing air quality monitoring in order to promote environmental health.
5	14	To provide green housing projects (active/passive solar, geothermal, etc.) at AKI, including retrofitting existing homes.

		Court cases. This would involve the expansion of the current Justice Center to create adequate spaces to accommodate these needs.
7	27	To construct and equip a supplemental health facility in Manistee and Muskegon to provide urgent care, optical, and/or dental services.
8	21	To expand water/wastewater and utility infrastructure at AKI including planning for further expansion of AKI (onto Wisner property) to include green housing projects in combination with affordable housing.
9	5	To provide more suitable office facilities (either new or renovated facility) for the Victim Services Program that will improve confidentiality and ensure client safety.
10	4	To construct an office expansion and garage addition for the Wastewater Treatment Plant to provide for needed storage and staffing needs.

		with first month's rent, damage deposit, accessing utilities, as well as finding affordable and decent housing.
10	35	To upgrade the current body camera system utilized by Public Safety in order to be compliant with legislative requirements and reduce liability issues during police contacts.
11	33	To provide Diabetes Mellitus training and treatment/services in Manistee and Muskegon.
12	25	To construct a Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services building
13	20	To provide training for Accounting, Purchasing, and Payroll staff in grant administration and budget administration to assist employees in staying current on periodic changes in grant, budget, purchasing, and audit standards.
14	12	To secure another Highway Safety Grant to provide funding for toddler and school-age children car seats. This has previously been a successful program that provides for a safety seat demonstration, installation, and proper car seat.
15	11	To fund an additional police officer that will be assigned to a task force that will aid in the reduction of drugs and associated crimes (theft, home invasion, etc.) in the three county area of Manistee, Mason and Oceana Counties.
16	8	To provide compensation for court-appointed attorneys and special visiting judges at a higher rate than are currently budgeted.
16	8	To provide seasonal tax preparation and tax advice to our members, with highest priority to our elders. Many standard tax preparers are unaware of the special filing situations for tribal members who often then miss out on eligible credits.

9	16	To continue to identify and protect species of cultural importance found on/in Tribal lands, and in the 1836/1855 Reservation boundaries.
10	10	To continue to promote Native spirituality in order to help reduce family violence and dysfunction.

Appendix

Grant Priority Form

Name:
Title:
Department:
(Circle One): Priority #: 1 2 3
1. Please identify and briefly describe your grant priority. (Circle One): Capacity-building Direct Service Other
2. What opportunity, challenge, issue or need does this program address?
3. Who do you think would administer this program? (position & department)
4. Provide an estimate for the total program cost (\$).
5. How long will it take to accomplish this program, or will it be an ongoing activity?
6. Who is the target population that will be served by this program? (For example: infants, youth, young parents, elders, all tribal citizens, etc.)
7. How will this program benefit the Tribal community, or target population?

All aspects of the wheel touch and influence all other parts. Priorities can be linked, or separated as needed/desired. Only in each area are the ranks important, as each category is the same as the next. Like a pond, no matter where a ripple begins, it will touch all the other areas. Miigwetch

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan



Meaning of Seal:

The winding river and pine tree depicted on the Seal of Tribe honor the riverine and woodland traditions and history of the Little River Ottawa people. The two (2) adult eagles represent the balance and different strengths brought to the Tribe's families and community by the male and female, as well as ones who bring our people's prayers to the Creator. The circle with the four sacred colors represents the balance of life: the four races of people, the four periods of our lifetimes, the four seasons of nature, etc. The nine feathers represent the nine historic Grand River Ottawa Bands, from whom the members of the Tribe descend.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

2023 Strategic Plan

Legislative History:

The Legislative Branch of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council is comprised of nine (9) enrolled members of the band. The adult members of the LRBOI elect members of the Tribal Council for four-year terms. Once elected by the membership, Tribal Council selects a Speaker and a Recorder. Tribal Council also oversees several Tribal Legislative Commissions, Communications and the Office of Business and Accounting Departments.

Little River Band Legislative Branch Vision Statement:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI) Legislative Vision is to strengthen and revitalize our tribal existence by exercising our sovereignty while enhancing the wellbeing of our tribal members. Create sustainable and diverse economic growth for our nation to improve the lives of our tribal members.

Guiding Principles~ 7 Grandfather Teachings

Wisdom~ Nbwaakaawin To know of these is to know truth.

Love~ Zaagidwin To know love is to know peace.

Respect~ Mnaadendimowin To honor all of creation is to have respect.

Bravery~ Aakwade'ewin To face life with courage is to know bravery.

Honesty/Generosity~ Gwekwaadiziwin /Gizhewaadizi To walk through life with Integrity is to know honesty. Help others around you.

Humility~ Dbaadendiziwin To accept yourself as a sacred part of creation is to know humility.

Truth~ Debwewin To know of these things is to know truth.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Executive Priorities

- Review and recommend uses for the Muskegon Property/Casino Plans and discuss how we can move forward.
- Ensure the Constitution and Regulations are being followed on a regular basis.
- Revamp the Organizational Chart to ensure every position is needed and every need for a position is filled. In doing so, we also want to evaluate the wage scales and duties of each position to ensure each employee is being paid fairly.
- Reopen the day care portion of the Next Generation Learning Center. There is a tremendous need by tribal members and employees for a day care service. We understand that it may be better to separate the childcare from the learning portion, as we then will not need to employ as many teacher level staff and can do the cultural learning separately.
- Longer term,
- Long Term Plan for keeping IT /Face book up to date, a larger more inclusive plan to assist the three branches.
- Look at the forming documents of the EDC LRH to ensure they comply with our Constitution.
- Look at the best way to utilize tribal dollars to assist the most TMs along with TC, ARPA, Grant and Tribal dollars.
- Work to Complete the Cemetery Project
- Continue to protect sovereignty and treaty rights.

Judicial Priorities

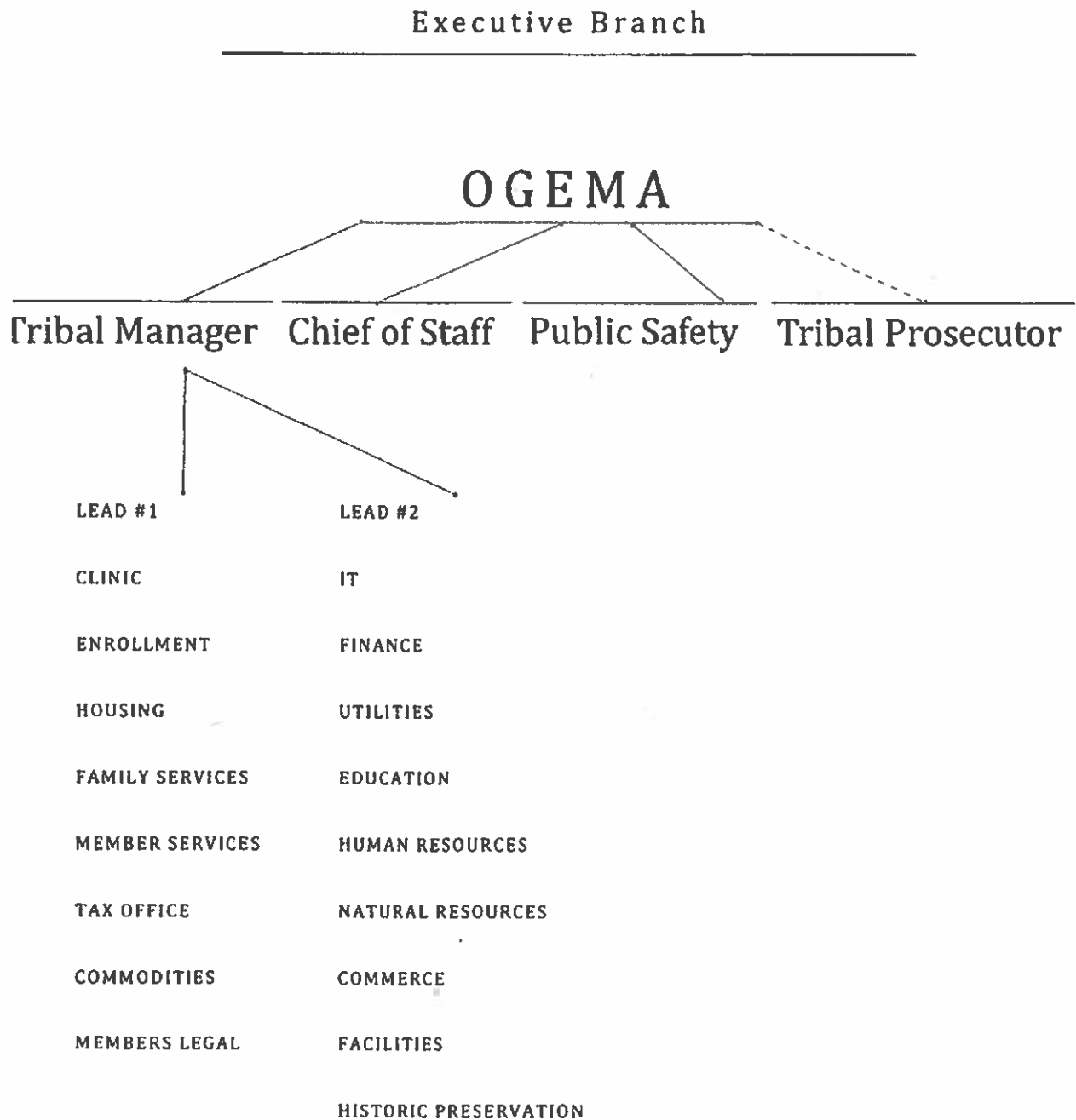
- Continue to uphold the Constitution and exercise sovereignty to the greatest extent through membership-based jurisdiction.
- Strengthen Peacemaking department.
- Speaking Anishinaabe language in Court proceedings.
- Continue to represent Little River at the Tribal, State, Federal Judicial Forum, and continue building good working relationships with state and other tribal Courts.
- Prepare for and implement jurisdiction under the Violence Against Women Act.
- Resume Summit meetings.

Shared Priorities:

- Express Culture, as listed within document as to shared priorities with Council and Ogema.
- Establish a guideline for case timeline disposition where not already established.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Executive Organizational Chart



GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Tribal Five (5) Years Plan (5.02a)

Projected Strategic Legislative Objectives Include:

By December 31st, 2023,

Manage ARPA Funding

Maximize America Rescue Plan Act ARPA funding to ensure the best use of ARPA dollars to support government operations and membership services.

Improve Membership Service Programs

Maximize grant and tribal dollars to expand membership programs and services to tribal membership.

Improve Communications

The Tribal Council implements a fully functioning Communication Department that is responsive to membership issues and fosters innovative communication throughout the Tribe.

Land Acquisition

The Tribal Council will work on a Land Acquisition Ordinance that will set goals and boundaries for the purchase and management of land acquired by the Tribe, to expand Reservation lands, using Online Gaming Tax Reimbursement funds.

Tribal Cemetery

Establish the opening of our Tribal Biimadiiziwin Cemetery on Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Trust Lands in Custer, MI, designate a Biimadiiziwin Cemetery representative govern and manage the operations by the allotment of burial rights in a plot, burial eligibility, and the maintenance of the grounds.

Monitor and Evaluate Casino Sport Book Betting

The LRRCR has operated Sports book betting for a few years. Tribal Council will review sustainability of Sports Book betting.

Muskegon Health Clinic

Maximize grant and clinic revenue to continue to expand tribal health services at our Muskegon facilities funded by revenues generated by the Muskegon Health clinic. Promote the pharmacy services to Muskegon and outlying areas to tribal membership.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Work with Executive Branch and Housing department to expand housing at Aki maadiziwin and further identify, plan and develop housing for tribal membership to increase affordable family housing units and tribal member home ownership.

Review and approve tribal budgets and crucial activities tasked to the Legislative branch. The Tribal Council will work to improve multiyear financials and allocate funds based on needs.

Ensure weekly regular session Tribal Council meetings include Public Comment period for membership input.

Improve Membership Service Programs

Maximize grants and tribal dollars to expand tribal members' services. This may include optometry program, temporary housing services, fire and rescue services, etc.

Purchase or commit land for a community farm to support the Food Sovereignty Program.

Conduct a Tribal Census

Projected Strategic Executive Objectives Include:

By June 21, 2023,

Review and recommend uses for the Muskegon Property/Casino Plans and discuss how we can move forward.

By June 30, 2023,

Look at the forming documents of the EDC LRH to ensure they comply with our Constitution.

By August 6, 2023,

Revamp the Organizational Chart to ensure every position is needed and every need for a position is filled. In doing so, we also want to evaluate the wage scales and duties of each position to ensure each employee is being paid fairly.

By September 1, 2023,

Reopen the day care portion of the Next Generation Learning Center. There is a tremendous need by tribal members and employees for a day care service. We understand that it may be better to separate the childcare from the leaning portion, as we then will not need to employ as many teacher level staff and can do the cultural learning separately.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Language:

Continue to work with the language department for translations to open court and commonly used terms.
Review to decide if more is needed.

Implementation of Violence Against Women Act Jurisdiction:

Prepare Court rules to ensure compliance with the requirements of VAWA.

Jury rules

Court Appointed Attorneys

Records -keeping and access.

Ongoing to end of 2028 - Prepare space for requirements of VAWA.

Witness area, Attorney/Client area

Safety protocols for Court staff and Court room

Establish a guideline for case timeline disposition where not already established:

Review ordinances and rules to create timeline chart for Court use. -

Establish guidelines for cases where there is no current rule or provision on disposition, including conclusion for court use.

GaaChing Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

Office of Business & Accounting Performance Goals and Objectives are measured and verified by.

- a. A department monthly Objective Worklist is turned into TC Monthly for review by Speaker/TC; they will give direction, as needed.
- b. Internal Audit Schedule is turned in monthly to TC/Speaker, they will give direction, as needed.

Tribal Communications Performance Goals and Objectives are measured and verified by.

- a. Published monthly digital “Currents” newsletter will be evaluated by Tribal Council and input from membership will be maintained, feedback will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- b. Published events and activities to Tribal social media websites will be evaluated by Tribal Council and input from membership will be maintained, feedback will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

This Legislative Performance Plan will be submitted to Tribal Council with its annual draft budgets.

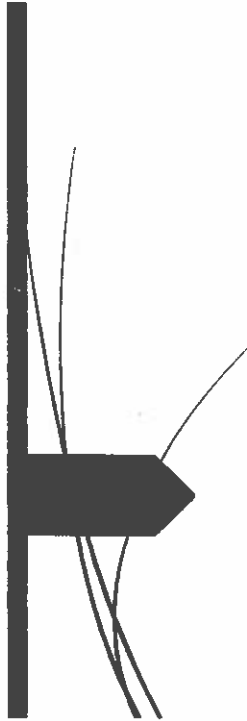
Performance Reports (5.02c)

By April 15th, the Speaker or their designee will prepare and submit to Tribal Council a performance report that reviews Legislative branches success and failures in meeting their performance goals and objectives from previous years.

Essential Services (5.02d)

The Tribal Council Speaker has prepared an essential services list of services provided by the Legislative branch. In case of budget shortfall, this list will be maintained in priority order.

1. Tribal Council Weekly Meetings
2. Tribal Council Work Sessions
3. Ensure communications to membership via LRBOI Website and tribal digital newsletter “Currents”.
4. Annual External Audit of LRBOI financial activities.
5. Ensure Tribal Activities create cultural education and opportunities to membership. Jinnptomak, Round Dance, Feast Fires and Ceremony, etc.



Strengthening Our Future On Foundations of Wisdom

LRBOI Elders Conference

November 4 & 5, 2023

Little River Casino Resort – Manistee, MI.



Strategic Planning/Visions for the Future

Elders serve as teachers, healers, advisors and mentors. They link a Tribes history with its future as *intergenerational keepers and sharers* of cultural knowledge.

How are LRBOI Elders serving their community?

What vision do we have as Elders for our community?

What solutions to our communities current challenges can we as Elders, offer our community?



**Life Stages: Challenges/Solutions/Increasing Involvement
Medicine Wheel/7 Grandfathers Guidance**

Ozawaa (Yellow)

Waabinong (East)

Mnookmi (Spring)

Sema (Tobacco)

Binoojihns (Children: <18)

Zaagidewin (Love)

Debwewin (Truth)



**Life Stages: Challenges/Solutions/Increasing Involvement
Medicine Wheel/7 Grandfathers Guidance**

Mskwaa (Red)

Zhaawanong (South)

Niibin (Spring)

Kiishig (Cedar)

Shkiniige (Youth: 18-35)

Gwekwaadeziwin (Honesty)

Aakidehewin (Courage/Bravery)



Building Our Future on Foundations of Wisdom

Ideas, Vision – Knowledge & Wisdom

Time to put our best ideas forward!

- What will our services look like?

- How can we foster increased involvement in our Government?

- **What do we as Elders have to offer our Tribe, today, tomorrow-7 generations from now?**

ADD: V1.C

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



**Aki Community Center
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

Elders Monthly Meeting

June 3, 2023

No July Meeting

Elders meeting started at 1:02 pm. Gary said Prayer

Tammy Burmiester was elected to Council in May. There will be a Special Election after lunch to fill her seat.

Special Election

Running: Dale Chandler and John Pabami

Nominations: Darlene Martin, Richard Bailey and ok'd by Virgil Johnson

Counting the votes: Councilman Gary Dipizziz, Elders Connie Waitner and Mike Burmiester.

Dale Chandler won the election.

All Elders Committee agreed to Dale being on Committee, Dale takes his seat.

Roll Call

Quorum: All Present

<i>Jessica Steinberg-Here</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-Here</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-Here</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-Here</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-Here</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

Approval of Agenda: *Sandy accepted Agenda; Marcella seconded*

<i>Jessica Steinberg-yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-yes</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

Approval of Minutes: Chuck accepted minutes; Sandy seconded

<i>Jessica Steinberg-yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske-yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler-yes</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-0-0-0

1. Old Business: None

2. New Business:

Guests were the Warriors Society, Tammy Burmiester, Julie wolfe, Gary Dipizzia and Larry Romanelli.

Jessica congratulates Dale and welcomes him to the Elders Committee.

Jessica asked the elders if they wanted to have a meeting for July. They voted to have a meeting for July 8th. She also reminded the elders of Language Camp for July 28th and 29th.

At the July meeting Jessica wants to go over the 2024 budget and asks the elders what they would like to see in the budget. Jessica also told the elders that the Elders Committee would like to do a Strategic Plan based on the next three years. And would like for the elders to give the committee any ideas they can think of.

Chuck Fisher talked of finding grants for the Elders. He is looking into one where the elders can purchase a vehicle to use for the Muskegon meals and to take Aki elders to doctor appointments and other necessities. Service areas will have to be made in the grant. He is working to get this grant done and to Council so it can be in place by August or September.

3. Public Comment

Tammy Burmeister stated council hasn't voted on liaisons yet but they were going have a round table meeting that week. They would be voting on the liaisons then.

Tammy suggested to the Elders about getting with Manistee Elders group about getting ideas for the elders' strategic plan.

Julie Wolfe asked the Elders to put in their 2024 budget a trip to Mt. Pleasant to the Boarding School event. She also asked for volunteers to work at the Pow-Wow.

Warriors Society said they would be at the Pow-Wow.

Larry Romanelli said that the Tribal Budget meeting will be August 5th from 9 m to 11 am at the Aki Center. He encourages tribal members to attend. He also stated that the tribe hosted the United Tribes meeting at the Casino. It was very well attended by the Michigan Tribe. Council was invited to attend; He was very pleased that 7 of the 9 council members attended. The Bishop from United Tribes asked the tribes to come together to go over the program of the Indian Schools.

Jessica was invited by her brother, Jay Sam, to go with him down to Lansing to the college to pick up remains of our ancestors.

When they got down there, she said she was surprised to see that that the remains were in boxes with just numbers on them and stored in a room with other remains.

After they returned to the government building, she asked Jay what he was going to do with the remains. He said for the time being he was storing them in Cultural Preservation until the cemetery was reopened back up and could get natural Resources to dig the graves for them. Jay also stated he had about a dozen sets of remains stored because he couldn't get any help with doing a ceremony for them. It was suggested that someone needed to get involved to take care of our ancestors remains if Historical Preservation couldn't do it.


Next Meeting: August 5, 2023 Elders Picnic at Pavilion

Meeting Adjourned:

Dale made a motion to adjourned the meeting, Sandy seconded, all agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Elders Secretary,


Marcella Leusby

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



*Aki Community Center
Manistee, Michigan 49660
December 2, 2023
Elders Monthly Meeting*

2023 Elders Christmas Party

Roll Call

Quorum: 4 Present, 1 absent Time started: 12:10 PM

<i>Jessica Steinberg- Here</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher-Here</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske- Here</i>
<i>Dale Chandler- absent</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby-Here</i>	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Approval of Agenda: *Chuck Fisher made motion to approved the agenda, Sandy Mezeske second. All approved*

<i>Jessica Steinberg- yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher- yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske- yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler- absent</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby- yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0

Approval of Minutes: *Sandy Mezeske made motion to approved minutes, Chuck Fisher second. All approved*

<i>Jessica Steinberg- yes</i>	<i>Chuck Fisher- yes</i>	<i>Sandy Mezeske- yes</i>
<i>Dale Chandler- absent</i>	<i>Marcella Leusby- yes</i>	

Quorum: 4-1-0-0-0

1. Old Business: *Ask Elders to think of ideas for the next meeting.*

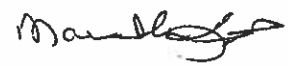
2. New Business: *November minutes were read and accepted. Jessica said because of unknown weather conditions some of the elders would like to combine the Conference and Christmas party. Jess asked the Elders what they though of this idea and asked if they would like to vote on it. The elders agreed, they voted yes to combine the Elders Conference and Christmas Party for 2024. Dates will be approved at a later date.
Closed meeting to return to party.*

3. Public Comment: *None*

4. Meeting Adjourned: 3:30 pm

5. Next Meeting: January 6th, 2024

Elders Secretary,



Marcella Leusby

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL ELDERS COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING &
*ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION***

Little River Casino Resort – Manistee, MI
December 2, 2023

- I. Prayer
- II. Lunch & Visiting - (Elder & Guest) 12:00 PM
- III. Call to Order – Jessica Steinberg, Elder’s Chairperson 12:30 PM
- IV. Roll Call of Committee Members – Marcella Leusby, Secretary
- V. Approval of Previous Board Minutes – Marcella Leusby, Secretary
- VI. Reports
 - a. Special Meeting Requests
 - b.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Combining Annual Conference and Christmas Party in 2024
 - b.
- VIII. New Business
 - a.
 - b.
- IX. Items of Information
 - a.
 - b.
- X. Updates from our Elected Officials
 - Tribal Council Elder Liaisons
 - Tribal Ogema
 - Tribal Councilors
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Close Meeting 1:30 PM
- XIII. Christmas Party Begins with the skit from the LRBOI Elder Thespians