



Approved 06/25/2025

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025
LITTLE RIVER BAND
VIA ZOOM
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on February 19, 2025. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Good morning, everyone. Uh we are here to Wednesday February 20 February 19, 2025, at 10am for the Tribal Council meeting, as I throw my glasses around. Start off with we will have

I. Opening Prayer

um by councilor DiPiazza. So, if you would please.

Councilor DiPiazza: *Prayer in Anishinaabemowin*. And what I said is I pray to all creation we can work together for the betterment of all of our citizens and to give them a better way of life. That being said Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Starting with number

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

I call this meeting to order at 10:01am. And a second, our speaker is out sick with the flu so hopefully she feels better so we will have to do a pro temp recorder. Um anybody want to be recorder...for the day.

Councilor Wever: I think we should have Shannon

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: I'd like to make a motion to appoint councilor member Gary DiPiazza tribal council recorder pro temp today.

Councilor Wever: Support

Add B. Selection of Pro Temp Recorder

Councilor DiPiazza: It's a resolution

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh resolution. Because its just for the day

Councilor Silvis: Okay. I'd like to make a motion to approve resolution #25-020 or 021. Give me a second, I got to start that one over. I'd like to make a res- Approval resolution # 25-0219-033 for the appointment of council member Gary DiPiazza as tribal council recorder pro temp.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay.

Councilor DiPiazza: *Mumbled something*

Councilor Wever: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Um any members- any council members abstaining? Question Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Um part of her motion said just for the day is it just for the day or is it like you wrote it as the resolution as needed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I was going for just for the day but.

Councilor Wolfe: So can we take a recess fix the resolution. Otherwise, I won't be supporting the item.

Councilor DiPiazza: Can fix it on the floor but

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yep, actually fix on the floor. It can um councilor Silvis would you like to amend your resolution.

Councilor Silvis: Sure, like to make a **motion to approve resolution #25-0219-033 appointment of council member Gary DiPiazza as tribal council recorder pro temp. With the last um It is further resolved to state um for February 19, 2025, only.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay so, we do have it just for the day. Uh any more discussions from councilors. Dis- Op go ahead Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Thanks, Gary, for stepping up and being recorded today so that we can continue business.

Councilor DiPiazza: Miigwech for that. I was out of the queue sorry

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other comments from council. Moving on to the membership back to council. Okay, uh we'll do roll call for this item.

Roll Call #1

J. Wolfe -	Yes	A. Metzger -	Yes	R. Wittenberg -	Yes
P. Johnson-	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes

M. Silvis-	Yes	T. Burmeister- Absent	S. Crampton - Yes
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Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Eight in favor one abstention congratulations on being recorded for the day. Thank you.
Oh, I'm sorry. Absent. Eight in favor one abstention. Oh, for the love

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Absent.

Acting Speaker Johnson: One absent. So am I. Boy, I'm glad you're calling that now. Um
Okay, let's run down the list of who is online. Please give your tribal ID number or
employee department. Um Annie Perry

Annie Perry: Morning Annie Perry Legislative council.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Because then I would have to do two and technically, it makes
it sticky. Because I can't do both positions. So that's why it was important to do the.
But I get what you're saying. Yep. Bill Ossignac.

Bill Ossignac: Bill Ossignac 3877

Acting Speaker Johnson: Beth McClellan

Beth McClellan: Beth McClellan 2915

Acting Speaker Johnson: Chris uh 2-

Chris McClellan: Chris McClellan 2916

Acting Speaker Johnson: Delia Ross.

Delia Ross: Delia Ross 2446.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Jolene Ossignac

Jolene Ossignac: Jolene Ossignac 3866

Acting Speaker Johnson: Kim 2918. Stop with the sidebars. Oh

Kimberly McClellan: Kim McClellan 2918.

Acting Speaker Johnson: LeeAnn A.

LeeAnn Austin: Oh LeeAnn Austin 3878.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Legi assistant is Chantel. She just walked out so um we'll go on
by that one. Mark Huddleston.

Mark Huddleston: Mark Huddleston 3230. Um excuse me, I'm sorry. Could I get a mic check? I want to make sure my volume's correct so you're not hearing me too loudly or not enough.

Acting Speaker Johnson: We can hear you.

Mark Huddleston: Okay, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yep. Martha Howell.

Martha Howell: Martha Howell 3635.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sandy Mezeske.

Sandy Mezeske: Sandy Mezeske 0018.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Shawna Gonzalez.

Shawna Gonzalez: Good morning 4700.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sky Gonzalez.

Sky Gonzalez: Sky Gonzalez 1042.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Staci Chaney.

Staci Cheney: 992.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Susan Thull.

Susan Thull: 3727.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Tina Payment.

Tina McClellan-Payment: Tina McClellan-Payment 2917.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Venus, our legislative director, said she has no mic today. Uh phone number 269-391-0737.

Sara Agosa: Can you hear me?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yep, we can hear you.

Sara Agosa: Sara Agosa 4478

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, thank you. Uh I believe it's 906-458-4757. Is that Vicki?

Vicki LaPorte: Yes, Vicki LaPorte

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, thank you.

Vicki LaPorte: 3384

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you everyone. I think we got everybody that came in in that uh in there. So, we will move down to roll call. Recorder uh DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

C. Roll Call

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: apologies

Roll Call #

T. Burmeister- Absent	G. DiPiazza - Present	M. Silvis - Present
R. Wittenberg - Present	J. Wolfe - Present	A. Metzger - Present
S. Crampton- Present	P. Johnson - Present	S. Wever- Present

Quorum established.

Seven are present, one is absent. You have a quorum.

Acting Speaker Johnson: That's eight

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Oh okay, she started it, honestly. Eight are present, one is absent. You have a quorum. Whoops

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Oh boy, I hope that doesn't continue for today. Uh moving down to general business

D. Approval of Agenda

Do we have anybody abstaining? Any comments on the agenda? From Council?
Comments from the membership? Back to Council? Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: I... I was just gonna ask if D was supposed to be moved in to closed

Acting Speaker Johnson: It is

Councilor Silvis: Okay that's all

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor DiP-. Recorder DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'll make a motion to approve the agenda for Wednesday, February 19, 2025, with the following corrections under general business II.B was an add. The old business VII.A is postponed the supplemental payment of general welfare assistance program 2024 COVID-19. Under new business VIII.B is postponed ratification of real estate purchase agreement with J. Phillips. Also, new business C, VIII. C, approval of state of Colorado PR tax withholding for legislative employee. And then

under new business VIII. D, that item needs to be moved to closed session. That would be-

Councilor Wolfe: That would be added to second open

Acting Speaker Johnson: Mm hmm

Pro Temp DiPiazza: Yes, for the vote yes

Councilor Wolfe: Say that again

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Would be added to closed and then added to second open for the vote under 3. Under, excuse me, 11 would be under closed XI., closed session C, bids and contracts. Under A, be moved to and also in second open under XI. A3 for the vote. Correct?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Mm hmm

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: And that's it.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay so we have a motion by recorder.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: huh

Acting Speaker Johnson: I didn't hear what she said. Um so, we have motion by Councilor DiPiazza and supported by Councilor Wever. Any discussion from council? Any discussion by, oh, I didn't see you there. Go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: For VII. New Business what is the purpose for that to be in closed

Acting Speaker Johnson: Go ahead Coun- Recorder DiPiazza

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: It does have um the tip scale as far as the actual pay that we're agreeing to with the IRS. Believe it's departmental.

Councilor Metzger: *speaking but mic is turned off*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: Um It was discussed with us yesterday and it was stated due to the tip rights. It keeps it confidential. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other discussion by councilors? Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: *speaking but mic is turned off*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wolfe

Sandy Mezeske: Councilors don't have their mics on.

Councilor Wolfe: The only documentation we have in here is a resolution and there is no individual tip rates. Agreement to establish it, but there's no documentation that shows what those are. So, I don't see the reason to move it to close either. And this was reviewed by executive legal, and nothing recommends that it be in closed. Doesn't look like it was a closed item last time we adopted it in 2023. You were recorder and Tammy was speaker.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: We can leave it open.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh Councilor, or Recorder DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Well, I'll withdraw that portion to approve the agenda, and we'll leave D open and not move it.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Any other discussion by council? Uh, Mark Huddleston, I saw you had your hand up. Go ahead.

Mark Huddleston: Yes, thank you. I, uh, I didn't catch what, uh, 11 C was. Was that going into closed?

Acting Speaker Johnson: No, that is that is being postponed.

Mark Huddleston: Could you tell me what it is? I didn't see it on the agenda.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Approval of state of Colorado PR tax withholding of a native employee.

Mark Huddleston: Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: yep

Mark Huddleston: That was that was 11 C.

Acting Speaker Johnson: No that was

Mark Huddleston: That was there

Acting Speaker Johnson: 11 C is...is being kept in an open.

Mark Huddleston: That's what I'm asking. I don't see it on the agenda. What is C

Acting Speaker Johnson: Correct

Mark Huddleston: What is the.

Acting Speaker Johnson: There's there is no, uh, 8. 8 D was going to be moved to. 11 C that has been withdrawn. So, it's stayed open

Mark Huddleston: Now I understand. Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yep. Any other citizens with comments? Okay, back to council.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Who was second

Acting Speaker Johnson: Shirley.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Can the motion be restated for clarity?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Yes.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: **Make a motion to approve the agenda for Wednesday, February 19th. 2025 with the following add under general business B. selection of pro temp recorder. Under VII. old business is postponed. Supplemental payment of the general welfare assistance program under VIII. new business. B is postponed ratification of real estate Purchase agreement with J. Phillips under VIII. new business C is postponed. Also, approval of state of Colorado PR tax withholding for legislative employee. That's it.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, do you have 1 uh member coming in? So, let's let her in before we take. Jessica, can you identify yourself please? Jessica, we're hearing something, but we're not hearing.

Jessica Steinberg: Oh, hi, Jessica Steinberg 0148 grant writer.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, where did Michael? There he is. And Michael Schrader, can you please identify yourself?

Michael Schrader: Michael Schrader, general manager, Little River 2473.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: His item is in Open now

Acting Speaker Johnson: Oh, and we did move your item to... to open. So, it is staying on the agenda as number D and VIII so.

Michael Schrader: Okay

Acting Speaker Johnson: Just to give you the FYI, since you just joined us.

Michael Schrader: Okay.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay if we have nothing else, recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	A. Metzger -	Yes
S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes	S. Wever-	Yes
G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis-	Yes	T. Burmeister -	Absent

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Eight in favor, one absent. The agenda has been approved for Wednesday, February 19th, 2025.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

E. Tribal Council Minutes None Submitted

For this week. Going down to

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

Nothing there.

B. Budget Modifications

Nothing there.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Nothing there.

IV. Acceptance of Reports

A. Report of the Tribal Ogema

1. Operations Report ☐ January 2025

Will we have anyone abstaining from that item? Any discussion? Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I'll be abstaining.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Would you like to state your reason why, please?

Councilor Wolfe: I didn't review the report.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. We do have to vote on it. So would somebody like to make a motion for... Actually, we don't need a motion for that. You might have to get to them to deliver an action there. Yeah, thank you.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Okay then.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Mm hmm

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: okay. Julie's abstention. Discussion?

Councilors speaking in the background, but mics are turned off and can't be distinguished on zoom.

Chelsea Densmore: Hi, I'm sorry. Excuse me. We can't hear your um mics are off.

Councilor Campton: No, just my mic

Councilor Wolfe: Councilor Crampton doesn't have a microphone in front of him. Someone had it removed from the chambers.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: It's right there.

Councilor Crampton: Hello

Acting Speaker Johnson: There we go

Councilor Crampton: Alright.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay

Councilor Crampton: Whoops

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Yeah, makes no difference.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I valid point Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Well, I just want to repeat for those who didn't hear me, what I was saying was that the constitution states that if there's if the councilor states a conflict of interest, the council has to vote whether that council has a conflict of interest. Um Council both did not declare a conflict of interest. What she said is she did not participate in reading the operations report before the vote. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Um any other discussion from councilors? Anything from the membership? Councilor DiPiazza

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'll make a **motion to approve the operations report for January 2025.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any support?

Councilor Silvis: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, so we have a motion by Councilor DiPiazza, support from Councilor Silvis. Any discussion from councilors? Any from the membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - Absent
J. Wolfe - Abstain	A. Metzger - No	R. Wittenberg- No
P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- No

Motion carried (4-3-1-1)

The four... four in favor, three against, three against, one abstention, and one absent. It's been approved.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

2. Financial Report ☐ **None Submitted**

Down to V. acceptance of commission reports.

Councilor Wolfe: Pam

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: On the financial report for none submitted, that officially makes the tribe nine months behind on financial reports being submitted from the executive. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you for that note. Going down to

V. Acceptance of Commission Reports

A. Binojeeuk Commission ☐ **None Submitted**

B. Enrollment Commission ☐ **December 2024**

Will we have anybody abstaining on those? Any discussion from councilors? Any from membership? Back to council. Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: They had. The Enrollment Commission had no meetings for the majority of 2024. Was 20 was December 16th on their adopted calendar that was submitted? I don't believe it was.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I don't think it was.

Councilor Wolfe: So, who approved for them to have a special meeting or go off of none on their calendar? And their bylaws are still out of date since 2019.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Correct. Um I cannot answer that one fully without actually looking at their calendar to see what they have down for their meeting dates offhand.

Councilor Wolfe: And also, the other question, it was reported by the Speaker that they didn't request a stipend for this meeting. Why would they submit minutes and not request their stipend?

Acting Speaker Johnson: That I-

Councilor Wolfe: I believe this should be postponed until we can meet with the commissioners before acceptance.

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay um on that, would you like to do a motion then?

Councilor Wolfe: can **make a motion to postpone the December 2024 Enrollment Commission report.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Discussion on that? Discussion from the membership? Back to council? Recorder DiPiazza, can you do a roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

P. Johnson -	Yes	S. Wever- No	S. Crampton- Yes
M. Silvis-	No	T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- No
A. Metzger -	Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes

Motion carried (5-3-0-1)

Councilor Wittenberg: *During roll call:* Uh, excuse me, I'd like to resend my vote. I'd like to vote yes. I'm sorry.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *During roll call:* You gotta be kidding.

Councilor Wever: *During roll call:* You're used to saying no.

Acting Speaker Johnson: *During roll call:* Stop with the sidebar down their guys.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *During roll call:* Okay Sorry about that, I'm having a pen dilemma

Acting Speaker Johnson: *During roll call*: Stop with the-

Councilor Crampton: *During roll call*: Uh what's the motion?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *During roll call*: Postpone

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Five in favor. Four against and one absent. It's been postponed

Acting Speaker Johnson: You can't have ten

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: What?

Acting Speaker Johnson: You can't have ten

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Oh, I'm sorry. That was Ron. I'm sorry. Didn't scribble him out hard enough. Five in favor. Three against. One absent. It's postponed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

C. Gaming Commission **January 2025**

Any abstentions on the item? Okay. Any discussions on those minutes? Any discussion from the membership? Back to council. Okay. I would like to entertain a motion for the item. Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: I'd like to make a **motion to accept the Gaming Commission January 2025 report.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: We have support for.

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: So, we have a motion made by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Wittenberg. Any discussion from council? Any from the membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, will you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - Absent
J. Wolfe - Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes
P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Eight in favor and one absent. They been accepted. The Gaming Commission's report has been accepted.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

D. Health Commission

☐ **None Submitted**

E. Housing Commission

☐ **December 2024, January 2025**

What- is anybody going to abstain? Discussion from the council? Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Just a notice for membership. There are two available seats on the Housing Commission. If anyone's interested, um please submit an application. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thanks for that note. Any discussion from the membership? Back to council. I would like to entertain a motion on the item. Actually, are those together or separate? Together.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: You have them together.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Any motion? Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: I'd like to make a **motion for acceptance of the Housing Commission December 2024 and January 2025 report.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. So, motion by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Wever. Any discussion from council? Any from the membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Yes
S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Eight in favor, one absent. Housing Commission reports for December 2024 and January 2025 have been accepted.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

F. Natural Resource Commission ☐ **January 2025**

Will there be anybody abstaining? Any discussion on the item from council? Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: Item EA has an error in the quorum.

Acting Speaker Johnson: E A?

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah, that's what it looks like to me. Is that EA?

Acting Speaker Johnson: That's uh the way they have their entire section. They need to go with numbers.

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah. They have-

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yeah

Councilor Wolfe: four voting and one against instead of one absent in their quorum call. That's an error.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor DiPiazza?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'll make a **motion to postpone em. Postpone Natural Resource Commission report.**

Councilor Metzger & Councilor Wolfe: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, so we have a motion to postpone from Councilor DiPiazza and supported by Metzger. He beat you by a hair.

Councilor Wolfe: That's okay.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any discussion on the item from Council? Any from the membership? Back to Council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Yes
S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- No

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. The Natural Resource Commission reports for January 2025 are postponed.

G. Biskaabiiyaang Commission ☐ **None Submitted**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to number

VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities

A. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report ☐ **January 2025**

For January, uh we have a total of 683 employees. Native is 22. Non-preference is 541. Tribal members is 73. Spouse is 16. And descendants is 31. Is anyone going to abstain from this item? Oh, for a minute I thought that was your hand. Any discussion from Councilors? Membership? Diana?

Councilor Wolfe: she can't hear

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sorry. Total 683. Native 22. Non-preference 541. Tribal spouse 73.

Councilor Wolfe: Tribal member

Acting Speaker Johnson: Or excuse me. Tribal member 73. Thank you. Spouse is 16.

Diane Lonn: 16

Acting Speaker Johnson: mm hmm

Diane Lonn: Miigwech

Acting Speaker Johnson: And descendant is 31. Descendant.

Diane Lonn: Miigwech

Acting Speaker Johnson: Anybody, any other membership have a question? Okay, back to Council and Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Just a comment that I want to make. In 2024, we had 691 employees. So, this year for January 2025, we're down eight of them. And three of those would be tribal members that filled those positions. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Thank you. Uh I will entertain a motion on the item. Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: To make a **motion for acceptance of Little River Casino preference report for January 2025.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Motion by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Metzger. Any discussion? Any discussion from membership? Back to Council. Council Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Yes	A. Metzger - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Eight in favor, one absent. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report, January 2025, has been accepted.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

B. Elders Committee

☐ None Submitted

VII. Old Business

Postponed **A. Supplemental Payment of General Welfare Assistance Program 2022 COVID-19 Pandemic Assistance Program utilizing the remaining ARPA funding of \$894,287.94** **J. Wolfe**

Councilor Wolfe: That's the title I don't know why it's duplicated.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yeah. I- Anyway, um that has been postponed. Moving down to VIII.

Councilor Wolfe: I had a comment on that one.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Oh, sorry. I missed your hand. Go ahead, Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: So, we did agree to postpone this at agenda review. I just wanted to make those same comments I made in agenda review for the membership that's participating today. We did subpoena the certification of funds from the CFO. She reported back on 2-14-2025 that there's zero dollars in the ARPA CLFRC account as of December 31st, 2024. Um she did send us an email that shows that a report on February 14th said there were \$15,371.09. It is in conflict with the document that she provided us on December 9th when we made a \$2 million allocation to the Utilities Department. We are having a special meeting on Friday to discuss the information because it is very concerning that she reports zero dollars, and the Ogema brought forward a request on December 31st for \$884,200 that was still in that balance. That was a restricted account, and all activity in that account should have done by resolution or motion, and none had happened outside of that. So, um that's why it's postponed because it says zero dollars in there. We're still figuring out that information, and we'll have an immediate the work session to discuss it further on Friday. I don't know if it's been said on that yet or not, Pam.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Have one member uh waiting to join, and then we'll move along. Where did she go? I'll give her a few more minutes. Um going down to

VIII. New Business

A. Approval for Councilor Wolfe to attend 43rd annual Protecting our children conference March 30th-April 2nd, 2025 **J. Wolfe**

So, you have the floor.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. It's just approval for my travel to attend the 43rd Annual Protecting Our Children Conference March 30th and April 2nd. Um some Binojeeuk commissioners are going as the Binojeeuk Commission liaison. I think the training would be valuable for me to attend and support. I'm bringing this forward six weeks in advance so that I can take advantage of all the discounted travel and flights, um and I'm open for questions.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Will anybody be abstaining from the item? Okay, Councilor Wolfe, thank you. Um any discussion from councilors? Councilor Silvis, go ahead.

Councilor Silvis: For one, I would like to make it noted that this is also a virtual conference, but I don't see anywhere in here where you've um submitted anything to the cost that it's going to cost you to attend. All I see is a registration.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, it's funny that you say you want me to attend virtual. You're the councilor member that brought forward two resolutions that denied virtual attendance for meetings. So why would you think virtual is important now? And I don't need a response. I have the queue. Um and I did mention in work session and agenda review that I did not have the cost on here. It's six weeks in advance. I'm following the policy to wait for approval before I submit to travel. You're not supposed to submit to travel until you have approval from Tribal Council. I know when you went out to DC, I voted no because you did it backwards on a time crunch while I'm bringing it forward six weeks in advance. That's why there's no cost in there. Right now, the only identified cost is the registration fee. The others will be calculated after I have approval and submit my forms.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay any other councilors for comment? Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. This is for the children. This is for the next seven generations. And I appreciate and I applaud Councilor Wolfe stepping up to protect the next seven generation. Uh we know constantly that ICWA is under attack. And uh we don't need to go back to the 70s. And I'm in full support of her attending this. Like I said, it's for the next seven generations, just not for today. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Recorder DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I do appreciate you bringing it ahead of time because the last travel, the check was signed on Tuesday even before it was approved. So that presents some dilemmas when it happens. So with that I'll make a motion.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, go ahead.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: **Motion to approve for Councilor Wolfe to attend the 43rd annual Protecting Our Children Conference March 30th through April 2nd, 2025.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. I have a motion by Councilor DiPiazza and support from Councilor Metzger. Any discussion from councilors? Any from the membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza. Oh, you don't have uh-

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Op

Acting Speaker Johnson: Metzger?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: My apologies.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Will you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- No
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Abstain	A. Metzger – Yes
S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson – Yes	S. Wever- Yes

Motion carried (6-1-0-1)

Six in favor, one against, one abstention, and one absent. She's been approved to travel.
Nope, Councilor Wolfe has been approved to travel.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, moving down to

Postponed **B. Ratification of Real Estate Purchase Agreement with J. Tribal Ogema
Phillips. E. McGowen-Cuellar**

Postponed **C. Approval of State of Colorado PR Tax Withholding for Tribal Ogema
Legislative Employee. C. Dunham- Tozer**

That brings us down to

**D. Approving Gaming Industry Tip Compliance Extension Tribal Ogema
Agreement with the IRS. M. Schrader**

And Michael Schrader, uh you had the floor.

Michael Schrader: Good morning, councilors. Michael Schrader, general manager from the Little River Casino. Um we're asking for approval to renew the gaming industry TIP compliance agreement that we have with the IRS. Uh this extension will go through February 20 2030. Five-year agreement. Questions.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Do we have any councilor going to abstain? You abstaining?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No, I had a question.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, uh councilors for discussion. I have recorder DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Did you say how long this was good for?

Michael Schrader: Yes, sir. This is for a five-year agreement from the 21st of this month through February 20th, 2030.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Miigwech.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Did he say 2020, never mind. Um Shannon, did you have your hand? Okay, I must just cut you out of the corner my eye. Anybody else have a question? Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor Wolfe: Could you explain to the membership what this agreement actually does or the benefits?

Michael Schrader: Yes, ma'am. So, this is uh basically a cooperative agreement between us and the IRS. Um we agree to a set um TIP um TIP rate for specific positions throughout the property that um receive TIPs. Um and as long as we follow and abide by those rates, um we can um forgo they're basically snooping around, hunting around, making sure that we are um being accurate with our reporting. So, it's kind of an agreement that we set these amounts, which are normal and average throughout the industry. Um as long as we stay within those ranges, then we don't have to worry about them coming in and looking around. Is that?

Councilor Wolfe: I have one more question. There's no um financial obligation to the tribe or the resort with this agreement, correct?

Michael Schrader: No, nothing, nope.

Councilor Wolfe: And did you actually provide the agreement for Tribal Council's records? I don't see it attached to my packet.

Michael Schrader: Yeah, we sent it um two days ago. I think it got, it wasn't in the original packet, and we forwarded it on four days ago.

Councilor Wolfe: Did you send it out, Pam? I didn't see it. It's in my packet.

Councilor Wolfe: I have five pages only.

Acting Speaker Johnson: It should have been in the regular packet.

Councilor Wolfe: As long as Tribal Council has a copy for their records, I'm comfortable. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay uh Councilor Al, Metzger sorry

Councilor Metzger: Withdrawal

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay anybody else? Any other councilors have questions? Any questions from membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza can, oh, we need a motion first. Can you, go ahead, Councilor DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No further questions. I'll make a motion to approve resolution 24-0219-034, approving gaming

Acting Speaker Johnson:35.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: 34.

Acting Speaker Johnson: 35. The last one to the travel was 34.

Councilor Wolfe: It's a motion.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No, that was just a motion.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Okay. I was thinking yours was a.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Okay.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sorry, my apologies.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: You're fine. Anyways, make a **motion to approve resolution 25-0219-034, approving gaming industry tip compensation extension agreement with the IRS.**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay so, we have a motion by Recorder DiPiazza, support by Councilor Metzger. Um is any discussion on the item? Any discussion from the membership on the item? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you take roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- Yes
G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - absent
J. Wolfe – Yes	A. Metzger – Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. Resolution 25-0219-034 is passed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you.

Michael Schrader: Thank you, Councilors.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Next up is

E. Comprehensive and complete Enrollment Audit of all S. Crampton

**Active And/or open Tribal members enrollment files
and all enrollment Files where a individual has said
membership in the Tribe.**

So, you have the floor.

Councilor Crampton: Thank you, Speaker. Um well, I spoke with the Speaker this morning. Well, in a recorder role. Um Mrs. Perry's online, isn't she?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yes

Councilor Crampton: Um I don't know if it was conveyed to you or not, Mrs. Perry, but a resolution for this item was requested. Was that conveyed to you?

Annie Perry: No, I don't have one.

Councilor Crampton: I'm sorry, I didn't get that.

Annie Perry: Could you repeat your question?

Councilor Crampton: Um yeah, Monday at um agenda review, we are. Um uh our resolution for this item was requested, and the Speaker was supposed to contact you. Was that conveyed to you?

Annie Perry: Yes, was my message back conveyed to you. I asked if you could draft one since I was out of the office yesterday. I could review it, but I didn't get one.

Councilor Crampton: Okay, can you complete one for today for second open? The whole purpose is to um kind of have one person doing the resolutions. When you go back and look at our resolutions, half of the problem is we have councilors that have been doing them incorrectly, and there's no consistency.

Annie Perry: Yeah, I definitely understand that. If we have time, I need information on what you want in the resolution. That was my message back.

Councilor Crampton: Well, if we could postpone it, then I'll have it sent to you for second open, so.

Annie Perry: Okay, sounds good.

Councilor Crampton: Okay, I'm sorry about this. So, I'll make a **motion to postpone this till second open.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Is there support?

Councilor Silvis: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, so we have a motion to postpone from Councilor Crampton. Support from Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Crampton: Well, it's here from Councilor Wolfe. Yeah, I might rescind my motion.

Acting Speaker Johnson: And Councilor Wolfe had her hand up.

Councilor Wolfe: So, from my discussion, when you had your work session and put this on, you used the previous resolution that I had drafted at um September 18th, and that was reviewed and did have a legal review on it. So, I think what we have in front of us is appropriate. We don't need additional information from Attorney Perry.

Councilor Crampton: Then that's fine. I mean, I thought that, well, you're correct.

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah, this resolution was reviewed by the attorney. I believe Attorney Pitchlynn was the one that said there's nothing in here that would be unconstitutional or invalid.

Councilor Crampton: Can we postpone that till second open and review that email? I want to make sure so there's no court cases that come up and try and knock this out.

Councilor Wolfe: Sure

Councilor Crampton: But I'll amend my motion to make a, or I'm sorry, who made the motion?

Acting Speaker Johnson: You did.

Councilor Crampton: Make a motion to postpone till second open till we can confirm uh what Councilor Wolfe has just stated.

Acting Speaker Johnson: As Councilor Silvis, I think you had supported the, or yeah, his support. Okay, you're still supporting.

Councilor Silvis: Okay.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh any discussion on the postponement of this item? Recorder DiPiazza, do you have a comment?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Well, on the item, I guess, but there was a complete 100% audit done in 2017. So, if you want to catch up with the 10-year audit, I'm all in favor to go back and spend all that money again. I won't be in favor in second open either. So that resolution 17-0503-163 was a complete 100% audit in 2017 on all members. So.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton, do you have your hand up?

Councilor Crampton: Yes, thank you. It's been explained to Councilor DiPiazza, but he doesn't seem to get it. Um the piece of paper that has been adopted in Council from since 2005 is a piece of paper. Uh the problem here at Little River, and I've already identified it through um the strategic plan, through the Budget and Appropriations Act, is that we have things that are written, and then we have instituted policy that we just do. Um adopting a piece of paper in second does not meet the law that is written. The law that is written says a qualified role. A qualified role shall contain for each person a role identification number, name, address, sex, date of birth, date of death, degree of Indian blood, and degree of Grand River, Ottawa, Michigan, Ottawa blood. Upon conclusion of the initial file review and every five years after, the Enrollment Department shall submit to the Enrollment Commission and Tribal Council in closed session a qualified role. I've just described to you what that entails. What Council has is a piece of paper, a resolution, no qualified role. I went back and checked the minutes. No, there's none in there, and we haven't had video closed session. Every time there's just a piece of paper, there's no qualified role being brought. Not once. Only a piece of paper resolution. But you can all look it up for yourself. It's 7.03. It describes a qualified role and that shall contain all that criteria. Never been brought.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh Councilor DiPiazza, you were next with your hand. I'll get you once we get to.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Yeah, you can look up the minutes for- for May 3rd, 2017. That item wasn't closed and was moved to open. You were on Council at the time, so I can't recall if it was presented to us or not at that point in time. 17 was a few days ago. But Council did vote and accepted a qualified role in 17 of a 100% audit.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Um I think Councilor DiPiazza just said it himself. It was moved to open. There's no way that everybody's files that were presented in closed could be moved to open. What was moved to open was what was presented in closed. What was presented in closed and moved to open was a single sheet of paper. Oh, maybe it was two pieces that said the resolution. So no, again, he just contradicted himself with his own words. So, if what was brought in closed on the 17th or 2017 was moved to open, there's no way that could happen if that was a qualified role. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. So, I just want to say this is just to postpone, guys. Let's not go back and forth.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No, it's fine.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I- So, it is just a motion to postpone it for the moment. Um. Yeah, I know. I'm just with you guys so we can continue moving along. And um I don't want you two to keep going back and forth. Um

Councilor Crampton: I'm not going back and forth. I'm stating the law. Mr. DiPiazza is trying to state something different.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Councilor DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'm stating what's in the minutes. The minutes say the motion, roll call, and resolution is moved to open, not the qualified role. It's right in the minutes. They're online.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Let's let this one go, guys. And lets

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, because when you make a motion to move something, you're moving what was put on the agenda into closed. There was no correction saying, we're just going to move the resolution and not the roll. So that's, you can look in the minutes for yourself. I mean, come on. He just keeps making this up.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I have it right here. It's all paper. Everything's paper.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys, guys.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Just Saying

Acting Speaker Johnson: Diane

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: on page

Acting Speaker Johnson: We'll move to membership and stop and let Diane speak.

Diane Lonn: Diane Lonn, 194. Uh Mr. Crampton is very right. In 96, was the first one. And since then, we've had numerous ones. Everyone was uh shown in closed session. Everything that he is stating, and the books are sealed. They're down in the basement. And I went down there today to confirm there is an audit for 2017 or 16. What that was done. And it has everything that Mr. Crampton is saying. And I remember numerous times that I presented it in closed session only. They never were brought out in open. Um there hasn't been one since 2016. Um I found information and paperwork where Jessica Wissner brought forward in 221, which would have been 220, uh to do an audit. And it was stopped by Mr. Champagne and Ms. Wolfe. So there has not been one since 2016. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, Uh I have Councilor. Councilor Crampton, go ahead.

Councilor Crampton: So, uh for the record, because this is a legal record now, um you're stating that you presented those in closed session?

Diane Lonn: Yes, sir

Councilor Crampton: Okay, thank you. Because there's no record of a video on them.

Diane Lonn: But I did. And everyone, so these papers.

Councilor Crampton: There is a record of you coming in and bringing a resolution. There's no role. So, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Lets uh I will put you in queue DiPiazza

Diane Lonn: Um there is. And I presented it to you guys, uh whether you were there or not. Um they looked at it and they said that's when they made the resolution that it was uh to be sealed and put away.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wolfe, you're next.

Councilor Wolfe: Well, I want clarification for the record. That is an incorrect statement by Ms. Lonn that in 2021 that I did something. That was an action of the body of Tribal Council. I may have sponsored the item, but it was not me individually that stopped your audit. And you had an and anyone in that position had the opportunity to bring it forward to be in compliance with the law. You're still out of compliance of the law, no matter how the resolution was adopted or unapplied and not followed through with. But it was an action of Tribal Council, not me as an individual with Mr. Champagne. And I support 100% audit fully. And I've told everybody numerous times it's for the integrity and accuracy of our roles for the next generations, for all the people to come, not just all of us here today. And I don't need a comment or response from you. I'm clearing the information because you inaccurately said I did an action. I didn't. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor DiPiazza, you're next.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Well, I'm going to say in 17, we didn't have Zoom. So, it's kind of hard to find that video.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Um Zoom, uh there's been video recordings of the Council meetings. There's need to be Zoom so people can participate. And I'm glad Mrs. Lonn made that statement because there's no record of any of what I just said, the detailed list of qualified role. Absolutely not. The only thing you're going to find in the Closed sessions is a resolution that's adopted. Nothing even coming close to what the law states as a qualified role. And we can easily go back and produce this. And I also want to, um this is perjury. We got a Councilor sitting up here saying that this happened in 2017. It's very easy to go back and look at these records. Very easy to go back and look at what Council adopted on that date. So, I want that investigated because that's a lie.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: I actually just wanted to thank Ms. Lonn for coming forward and stating her truths on this. And I think that, um yeah, we need to come back into being in compliance. But I think that doesn't need to go back any farther than 2017. It should be in the Enrollment Department's hands like they've always had. And I'm in support of keeping it in the Enrollment Department's hands. And if you were a true tribal leader, you wouldn't be trying to divide this tribe. You would be trying to unite it. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. Uh I looked at the 2017 resolution. And the question I had was there's six or seven dates prior to that. So back in 2017, did Council take it upon themselves to backdate other audits? Because if you look at that resolution, that's what it looks like to me. We made a resolution to approve five different audits in one setting, going back to 04, or actually 96. So, did Council back in 17 backdate for 30 years? Because if you look at that resolution in 17, that's what it looks like to me. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah. Um I'll out uh just a few weeks ago, we had a Councilor travel out to Washington, D.C. I called a friend of mine who's a real leader and asked him to um point out some things for our Councilor that was coming into D.C. to kind of give him some headway since we hadn't had any orientation on the issue. So, uh Mr. Payment got ahold of Mr. Metzger and gave him some. That's a real leader. Real leaders ain't got anything to hide from the membership. If you're setting up, you're calling yourself a leader, and you're trying to hide things from the membership. You're not a leader. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Any other comments from membership? Go ahead.

Ken Metzger: Uh Ken Metzger, 889, Tribal Elder and a member. This is well overdue. Supposed to be done every four to five years, and we ain't had an audit supposedly since 17. Uh there's a lot of cover up there, and there's reasons why they don't want it. And uh I believe 100% audit is what we need here. No questions. Thank you. Chi Miigwech

Acting Speaker Johnson: Ogema Romanelli, you're next.

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you. Uh I take exception, again, when people say that leaders are trying to hide information. Again, as this Council knows, uh I asked for an informational meeting with the Council and the Ogema sitting right here to answer questions. Uh the first one that refused to participate was Councilor Crampton. He said it would be a dog and pony show, as he usually does when we try to get real information. So, I take exception to that. I don't think he pointed it directly at me. Could have been at anybody. But after some of the comments, uh I take it personally. We also know that this, he says that you go back to the minutes and see for yourself. That's

impossible to do because there are minutes that are missing. We know that. Not accounted for. Going back to the time when Ryan Champagne was here. And I'm not sure who was uh Speaker or Recorder. But there are missing minutes. We've been asking for them for several years now. So, during some of this time, the minutes aren't there to record. I'm not going to get into the whole thing. Uh but the problem we have here is if you go into second open now, I'll probably be on the road because I have to attend a United Tribes meeting. What I'm asking is that this uh council give the membership as much notice as they can that they're going into Closed or going into second open. We never know exactly when that's going to be. And if we could get like 30 minutes notice so that uh could be uh people could attend would be very helpful. And I'll try and get on. I'll pull off the road if I have to, to be on the call during second open. But I would really ask that you give at least 30 minutes notice if you can. So that because this is of interest. I mean, it's, it's big enough that Councilor Crampton showed up in the offices today. So, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, stop.

Ogema Romanelli: Yeah, we can do that.

Acting Speaker Johnson: No, no

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, mam,

Ogema Romanelli: You let him speak off the cuff.

Acting Speaker Johnson: And I was going to.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: *Talking but unclear*

Ogema Romanelli: Ill step back

Acting Speaker Johnson: Right...To your corners, gentlemen. I have you in queue. Don't worry. Councilor DiPiazza. Hey. No, we are not.

Councilor Metzger: Call 5-0

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey. Stop guys

Councilor Wolfe: Recess.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Call to order

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it.

Councilor Wolfe: control your meeting

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey c'mon guys.

Councilor Metzger: *stated something but unclear*

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *stated something but unclear*

Acting Speaker Johnson: We are not helping the matter, guys. Councilor DiPiazza, you're next.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: That resolution I quoted, there are the years that audits were completed. 2019, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016. So, it's not covering anything up. And then if you go back and look at them resolutions from those years, there's been more than just one complete audit up to that point. I'm in all in favor of going and getting this cleaned up for the 10 years that are, should have been done. Council stopped that in 2021. Whether there was a memo, an email, I can't recall. But council stopped that because it was brought forward to do the five year. So, I'm in full support of getting, doing the 10 year and getting us caught up. Other than that, I'm not in favor of digging up bones.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, Councilor Crampton, you're next.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, my comments were for Councilor Silvis, who's the one that first said about leadership. That I don't know why Mr. Romanelli keeps jumping at people. He just jumped at a member and threatened him again. Uh this is getting ridiculous. This is over something that should have been done a long time ago. If you got nothing to hide, then you got nothing to hide. I'll be number one. I'll hold your hand if you're scared. But this is what other tribes do all the time. Nobody should be scared. But there's a reason they're scared. And I just like to point out something to you in here. Um when you're reading through 7.3, um the purpose of this was to give direction and to create a commission and to give them guidance and uh I think what they did was they kind of strayed away from the Constitution and tried to stray away from the criteria. And you can see how I think maybe I almost envision an attorney being involved. The way they did it was to take the ordinance itself and to walk it away from the Constitution. And the ordinance itself then says that uh the commission shall make rules and regulations to ensure the integrity of the records. If you look at compliance, that's not what they did. Absolutely not. And this is in our ordinance. I want to read this to you. There's constitutional criteria for to be a member in this tribe. This is what they wrote in the ordinance. Upon adoption of the Tribal uh by the tribal council of the qualified role, that's described in here that was never brought to council, the enrollment application process shall require only proof of family relationship to a person listed on the qualified role. You can look at this. You can get it yourself. Um is your uh in-laws related to you? Are your cousins who are not native related to you? That's only what's required. That's what they wrote. And I'm holding a work session to explain this further next week. And the actual attorney who came in and helped us find most of this stuff, holy cow, um the council kind

of stalled it off. It was taken off the record. We should have had it about two or three weeks ago. But it was something they were scared of, like the election ordinance. So, they stopped it. But this one was just taken off the calendar and never put back on. So, I put it back on. That will identify for all you guys, all the problems that we have here and why this is sorely needed. When you're talking about protecting our culture, if you have a culture that comes in fraudulently and takes over your tribe to about, I don't know, they could gain voter status. And where's your culture at? If they got the majority of the voters, where's your culture? What's happening to your culture? Whose culture, is it? Not this one. I've been totally confused when I came down here. I've been through, uh like I said, I'm friends with most of the leaders. I can call them up any day of time and talk to them. When I came to Little River, things are absolutely different. Absolutely different than any other tribe, any other nation, and they're in leadership. And looking at this, I can see why. We have a tribe where most of the leaders are getting shoved to the back. And I don't know, I'll leave it at that. But I can show you some employment status too. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. uh I have a comment myself that I um about this and some huge concerns about this. If what you're saying is true.

Councilor Crampton: That's right there in front of you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Aye.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *mumbled something but was unclear*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Aye. But then we come to a point where you look at different resolutions. Last week, I had read a resolution from 11 as well that covered and had stated that it went back to, whoops. Uh it did everyone's files up until then. I can't remember offhand what the number is. I can get it though uh when we go to break. But if that is the case, and different resolutions I've seen have stated that those files remain with enrollment department. Which, so council would not have those in their files at all. Any of those that they look at them only in closed. If that is the case of what you're stating, then that none of those qualified roles had been seen. Then we have several years of resolutions, our own laws then that are incorrect.

Councilor Crampton: Mm hmm

Acting Speaker Johnson: Because otherwise by those resolutions in 11, I would suggest that we go back from 11 from when the last qualified role was done. And I have you down. Um

Councilor Crampton: Well, you were saying something to my response. I'd like to respond

Acting Speaker Johnson: So, Um I'm going back from that role and looking at it. Because each one of those roles that is mentioned in the 11 resolution, every one of those files can

stand on their own. And I have a problem with if we're looking at, they were shown in closed and yet it really didn't happen. And majority of those votes, the resolution was accepted for what was in those roles. For the qualified role that was taken back to enrollment. So that is a huge issue. Then that's saying past councils for the past 20 years have all been lying. And...and that's a huge issue. Because when you look at our documentation, our qualified roles and everything have been done. They've been completed as they should have been done. We've had over 4,000 member, 4,000 and something, whatever uh it was at the time had been done. And that's a problem because I like to go through and research stuff like there's and look at it and find those things for myself. People give resolution numbers, and I will look them up and look at them and look at other things. And when you find those that says it's been done, there's no need to go back because we have resolutions, which is supposedly part of our laws. I gotcha. Um so that becomes an issue for me because now it has to be proven otherwise that that actually did not happen um without a doubt. And until that is, I... I would say by those resolutions that say it has been done on everybody from the resolution of 2011, that we would only have to go back that far. That's my opinion and my thought on it. And next we have uh Diana, if you want to come up and then I have you.

Councilor Crampton: Oh, you were responding to me. You had-

Acting Speaker Johnson: I was actually on the list.

Councilor Crampton: Okay. Okay

Acting Speaker Johnson: I was next on the list

Councilor Crampton: I'll remember what you said, so.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Good deal.

Diane Lonn: Diane Lonn, 194. Mr. Crampton, I don't understand what you even said at the last time you talked about culture. That has nothing when we're to do with um enrolling people. The Constitution says that anybody that submits an application will bring original paperwork, and I will make a copy and certify it on the back that I've seen the original. Then it says that that it will have a paper trail from that person that applied for a job or an application, a paper trail going back all the way to the Durant role. And that is in every single file. If you look at your file, you'll see your name and it'll go every pay your birth certificate, your marriage license, everything right to the Durant role. I was uh enrollment director before and every time we completed the 96, the 2008, those were brought before council in closed session, and they looked them over. They asked me questions. Um, you may shake your head all you want, sir, but they're down in the uh lock area downstairs. Um and they are the roles up till 2017. And that is down there as well. And it says going back from day one, 1996, all the way through everybody is in that book. So, they've been audited three times now. And I don't feel it personally that they have to go back again. You may say that there's mistakes made. I don't think so. We've had three different auditors come in and audit them. So, this is the same auditor. So, I

don't understand what your purpose is and wanting to go back from day one. I've also heard that you say there's 150 people that don't belong. How do you know? How do you know? Don't shake- I've got the paperwork that shows it that you said it on Facebook. How do you know there's 150 people? I'm asking you.

Councilor Crampton: Oh, she's asking me a question.

Acting Speaker Johnson: No, you can wait your turn.

Diane Lonn: Okay. Anyway, it says

Acting Speaker Johnson: One please

Diane Lonn: He says there's 150 people that shouldn't be here. I want to know how he knew that how he got the information. Because once that person is uh enrolled, no one sees those records. So, I question that. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Councilor Crampton, you're next.

Councilor Crampton: Um well, just looking at that, I wanted to get to the for the membership, just to point out the obvious here. If you go back and look at the tape, you're going to see Mrs. Lonn saying that uh enrollment audit hadn't been done since from 2016. Now she just changed it to 2017 to match Mr. DiPiazza's claims. Because when she first got up, that would prove everything that I'm saying. She just got up and said 2016. And he is trying to sell you a resolution from 2017 that couldn't possibly be accurate. Um just going back and watching the statements. And people might want to question, everybody knows here, but Mrs. Lonn was removed before from the enrollment department. Why was that Mrs. Lonn?

Sandy Mezeske: That's uncalled for.

Councilor Crampton: No, I'm just asking why were you removed from the enrollment department, Mrs. Lonn? Wasn't it for enrolling people fraudulently? Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh next up is Councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. Resolution 17-0503-163. That's what we're talking about right now. I'm going to read the resolution. And I want you to catch the numbers. Because we say we're supposed to have a qualified role every five years. Listen to the numbers. Adopting a qualified role of tribal members who files were subject to and confirmed by audits conducted in 1996, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016. Those aren't five years apart, are they? As submitted by the enrollment department with a total of 4184 living tribal members and 336 record of deceased. Now, page two. Now, therefore, it is resolved that tribal council of the Little River Band, Ottawa Indians, hereby adopts a qualified role of tribal members who files were subject to and confirmed by audits conducted by the enrollment department in 96, 04, 08, 010, 012, 014,

016. There's four audits that were conducted in two-year periods. Why? When by law they should be conducted every five years. We've had six audits. One, two, three, four, five audits in a 10-year period. But yet we can't get one for the last 10 years? Think about this, people. Pull up this resolution yourself. Look at it. Look at the dates. I am all support of new business continuing on with the audit. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Ken, you're next. Okay. Councilor Silvis?

Councilor Wolfe: Do you have me on the list?

Acting Speaker Johnson: I will add you

Councilor Wolfe: I was way up when Shannon was talking.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I missed your hand

Councilor Wolfe: Courtesy, I should be next, not after everybody.

Councilor Silvis: Anyways, I was just going to make a comment that I'm not sure when the enrollment ordinance was actually took into effect when the five years needed to be. I don't think it started back in 96 but. And on top of that, um it says in the ordinance a minimum of five years. Doesn't state a maximum of five years. So, it can be probably happened at any point because it states a minimum of five years. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor DiPiazza?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Well, enrollment was closed in 2016. The membership voted on that constitutional change. That's when it went to five years. That's why it's been two years or so beforehand. So, there's no hanky-panky here. Oh, my God. Like I said, if you want to go back to when it was presented in 21, council said, stop, don't do it. And every time I believe it was kind of brought forward, it's like, oh, no, stop. Because we want this 100% audit. You don't need to do a five-year audit. So that's why we're at 10 years. And I probably could find the email someplace where it said stop, cease and desist. So yeah, you want to go back and pick up where we left off and go forward? I'm all in support of that. You want to go back day one? I'm not going to spend a half a million or whatever it's going to cost us. Yeah, I'm good.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Uh Councilor Crampton, you're next.

Councilor Crampton: *Mumbled something in the background*

Acting Speaker Johnson: okay. Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: So, we always get to this point, should we, or shouldn't we? Every other thing that this tribe participates in, we have audits on. Whether we do them for a specified purpose, we have six, seven audits on this agenda that we're going to review

today and accept. But we can't do one for our enrollment at 100%. We did ask them, hey, let's not spend the money on the five-year audit and let's use that money that we want for the five-year audit just to this 100% complete audit. So, I don't know why that's such a big discussion. And after it was repealed, there's been no action by the department to bring forward and rectify incoming compliance with the law. So, I applaud Councilor Crampton for bringing it to the forefront and bringing it again for another...another vote on it. The department's failing. We um, you know, it's a funny thing if we look back in history. We adopted that in 2021 for 100% complete audit. It stalled. It failed. Everyone disregarded the legislation of the Tribal Council. What was past legislation, which was law. But you know what happened? We did that in December. Our enrollment coordinator quit in January. And then it was vacant for a time. And then we got an enrollment coordinator. And then she quit again. And then it was vacant for a long time. And all we've heard since Ms. Lonn has been back in the department, understaffed, unutilized, overwhelmed, don't have time to do anything. Files were everywhere, all over the floor. I couldn't complete applications. Pending membership applications were in violation of the law. They had 120 days to review. We have a newborn baby that is almost 18 months old that's just getting their provisional letter. Why do I know that? Because the member had confidence in their Tribal Council and their legislator to act, advocate for them and told me that information. The member themselves advocating for themselves, advocating for their new child enrolled member. So, there's all kinds of problems with the uh enrollment office and the audit. I get enrollments been closed since 2016. You had an audit at 2017. I don't see the problem. And we always say it's about the money or it's this or it's that. You know, every time something gets brought to this body, you know what 90% of the justification is? Well, we have the money. It's told to us. Shouldn't be about being responsible or advocating or making sure resources are equally. We have the money so we should just do it. But this one, when it comes to the financial cost of it, we can't do it. We don't want to do it. We don't want to give that benefit to our people. We're talking about all this division. At the end of the day, you know what? We're going to have a paper that's going to say, here's your audit results. When this member or that member comes to me and says, well, I don't think this one should be enrolled. I can say in 2025, here's the audit result. There was no finding on that person. Don't come to me with it. I don't have to support or advocate for you. That's what's going to uh stop all this division. But for some reason, we use it as a ploy. Let's divide everybody. Let's want it. Let's not want it. It's just craziness. I've said from the beginning in 2021, this is integrity and accuracy. Ms. Lonn says, from document 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Okay, we had 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 enrollment coordinators looking and accepting those documents at different times. We've had a plethora of commissioners looking at those documents at one time. When this started, it was to have one professional service look at every file from beginning to end to make sure all documents, all signatures, all verification was there. Look at the administration of the federal government right now. Stopping the funding, looking at that, treating like an Andrew Jackson Indian extermination. Wouldn't we want the protection of this audit for our tribe and for our tribal members and for all generations to say, we've done this. You don't have any holes in ours. But we're not looking at it that way. We're looking at it as a witch hunt. We want to disenroll. I can't speak to how Councilor Crampton thinks and what he thinks. But I have a whole different mindset of why I support the audit. And it's always every time I

say my point, I always get this question. What's the end game? The end game for me is integrity, accuracy, completeness of our role. So, there's no more questions to be asked. From an individual tribal member all the way up to the federal government. That's what this 100% complete. And it's not even 100% audit right now. I think it's proposed as a comprehensive and complete audit. I support it 100%. And I have the documentation to show this is a legitimate resolution. So, I will provide that, and we can move on to second open. You know, this, the Enrollment Commission, they prove minutes 2-16-24. They didn't meet the entire year until December 16 on an unscheduled meeting. There's problems in your enrollment. We have a secretary that signed this, submitted a resignation letter, and then got begged to stay. How does that happen? And then she signed this document, and it submits us for us to accept. Inappropriate, unprofessional. Those are my comments. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Thank you. Yes, and uh there's a lot of problems. And uh people uh know that what happened prior, and Ms. Lonn was the enrollment director at the time, or coordinator, whatever you want to call that position. She was in that position. There was people being fraudulently enrolled here against the criteria. That's what sparked all of this. So, to bring the person back that was faulted right before, and this is, members need to understand, go back and watch the tape when she said 2016, and he's trying to pass a resolution to tell you that it was started in 2017. Not even possible. Not even possible. That isn't close to possible. Now, my endgame is to make sure that these, our records are integrable, and that the people who are here are supposed to be here, so that our culture is the one that survives, that moves on. Not an invasive one that takes over, and then starts employing all their people, and giving all of our benefits and resources to theirs. That's what leaders should be watching out for. We have what we have, because our people have been held back for so long. This is a way to give them an advantage, to let them move forward. What is going on here is disgraceful. And if it wasn't, if there wasn't something wrong, there would be nobody here fighting against it. Think about the action, you, guys. What would be the problem of somebody looking at your records, and um saying, yeah, that persons supposed to be here? What is the problem? There is no problem if you're really supposed to be here. The only problem would be if you're not. And every time this comes forward, the same group of people come forward freaking out. Absolutely freaking out. But you guys should go through the enrollment ordinance and look at how poorly this was written. Um I think council- the Recorder, I'm sorry, the Speaker, the acting Speaker for today, pointed out that these were done in the past, and would that be wrong? Would the council back then be wrong? Yes, the council would be wrong back then, because like I pointed out to the judges and the executive, bring you forth the strategic plan. This hasn't been followed since it was written. The strategic plan, I think, was written in 2010. Implemented 2013, 2014, 2010? 13, okay. It hadn't been followed since it was created for the Budget and Appropriations Act. None of this is being followed in this ordinance, the enrollment ordinance. There is a way that has been comfortably instituted down here that people do things. Then there's the way that we have in the law that the membership expects. That's where the problem comes in, you guys. And that's what needs to be rectified. We either need to be compliant with our laws,

or we need to codify what we are actually doing. But right now, we're out of compliance. And here's another fun fact for you. You just had the enrollment coordinators come up here and say that it hadn't been done since 2016. How do you verify a voter list? Yeah, see, there's some huge problems here. There're some real huge problems. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Diane, you're next. Okay. Uh James, you're next. Nope. James, you're next. Chuck is after you. We're getting there.

James Dame: James Dame, 1189. We're on uh E, correct?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yes.

James Dame: And uh so, Councilor Crampton, you asked for this to be-

Councilor Crampton: postponed.

James Dame: Postponed and we've been here doing this because somebody just wants to have the last word. Is that what we're doing? Because I have an appointment with our comptroller to take care of some business. Can we just, can we, like, can I have the last word? Or maybe this gentleman have the last word so we can move on? I'm all for an audit. I'm 100% about that. I really, it doesn't bother me one bit. Heck I can go ahead and throw out names right now for my family all the way back to great, great grandparents. It doesn't bother me one bit. But we don't, I mean, we're just, this was already asked to be postponed. Let's just go and get this done, this meeting and go to our second one. Thank you.

Councilor Crampton: Can we call the question?

Acting Speaker Johnson: I have three people left and then I was going to call it that.

Councilor Crampton: It's just going to make you go on forever.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I know, but I have three people.

Councilor Crampton: But you can call the question.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I can

Councilor Crampton: Yea

Acting Speaker Johnson: but I have two people that have not spoke. One person has already spoke. So, we'll do the last two people that have not spoke and then we'll go to the vote and call it that.

Councilor Crampton: I still want to call the question. Call the question.

Acting Speaker Johnson: What's your question?

Councilor Crampton: I'm calling the question. I don't need a motion.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, Uh Recorder DiPiazza, will you do the vote?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: This is to postpone.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yes

Councilor Crampton: Postpone the second open.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- No	M. Silvis- No	T. Burmeister - Absent
J. Wolfe - Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Absent
P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- No	S. Crampton- Yes

Motion carried (4-3-0-2)

Four in favor. Three against. Two absent. It's been postponed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

F. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians B. Pringle
Internal Audit summary for the Natural Resources 4130
Department Budget.

Brad, you have the floor.

Brad Pringle: Once again, welcome uh Tribal Council Membership via Zoom. This is for resolution approval for the acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the Natural Resources department, which is 4031 budget. Whereas the Comptroller General has performed an internal audit of the 2023 Natural Resources department budget. Whereas the Comptroller General has prepared and presented the audit summary and any necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on August 30th of 2024 and in a work session on February 11th of 2025. Now, it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Natural Resources department budget dated August 30th of 2024. Um findings in the audit uh reviewed the budget for overspending and found uh 5110 workman's comp premiums and 7004 indirect cost expenses overspent. I reviewed the budget for over budgeting and found over budgeting in the employee insurance department. And my recommendations is executive management should review comments about the indirect cost expenses and budget accordingly.

Councilor Metzger: *mic off unclear through zoom*

Brad Pringle: 4031. 40. 4031.4031.

Councilor Metzger: *mic off unclear through zoom*

Councilor Wever: Support

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Who supported that?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Shirley

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Thank you.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #1

J. Wolfe -	Yes	A. Metzger -	Yes	R. Wittenberg -	Yes
P. Johnson -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes	S. Crampton -	Yes
M. Silvis -	Yes	T. Burmeister -	Absent	G. DiPiazza -	No

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

During roll call- Councilor Wolfe: *Did we just complete an audit?*

During roll call- Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Was that audit for one year, two years?*

During roll call- Brad Pringle: *Just one year, annual*

During roll call- Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Exactly. Excuse me*

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Seven in favor. One against. One Absent. Resolution 25-0212-035 passed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Going down to

**G. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Internal Audit summary for the Planning 1070-147
Department Budget.**

B. Pringle

Brad, you have the floor.

Brad Pringle: Once again, looking for a resolution approval for the acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the planning 1070-147 department budget. Whereas the Comptroller General has performed an internal audit of the 2023 planning 1070-147 department budget. And whereas the Comptroller General has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on October 1st of 2024 and in a work session on February 11th of 2025. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 planning 1070-147 department budget dated October 1st of 2024. In the uh audit findings, we found that

there was overspending in the 5,000 salaries and wages and in the 5110 workmen's comp premiums. And other than that, that's the only finding in the internal audit.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Will anybody be abstaining from this item? Any discussion from Council? Bless you. Any discussion from the membership? Back to Council. I will entertain a motion. Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Accept **Resolution 25-0219-036 Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit summary for the Planning 1070-147 Department Budget.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay motion from Councilor Metzger, supported by Councilor Wever. Any questions from Council? Okay, Mark, you have your hand up. Go ahead for the membership.

Mark Huddleston: Yes, I don't know if um Councilor Metzger has his mic off, but I didn't hear any of that.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, thank you. Any other comments from the membership? Back to Council. Okay uh Recorder DiPiazza, will you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

P. Johnson -	Yes	S. Wever-	Yes	S. Crampton-	Yes
M. Silvis-	Yes	T. Burmeister	- Absent	G. DiPiazza-	No
A. Metzger -	Absent	R. Wittenberg-	Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes

Motion carried (6-1-0-2)

Six in favor, one against, two absent. Resolution 25-0219-036 is passed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

**H. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Internal Audit summary for the Housing 1035-124
Department Budget.**

B. Pringle

Brad, so go ahead.

Brad Pringle: Once again, looking for a resolution approval for the acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for housing, 1035-124 department budget, whereas the Comptroller General has performed an internal audit of the housing department budget, whereas the Comptroller General has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on August 30th of 2024, and in a work session on February 11th of 2025. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 housing, 1035-124

department budget, dated August 30th of 2024. Findings in the audit included um reviewed the budget for overspending and found utilities overspent, and that's the only finding in the internal audit.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Here, will anybody be abstaining from this item? Okay, discussion from Council? Membership do you have uh discussion? Back to Council. Would entertain a motion on the item? Councilor Metzger?

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. This time, I'd like to make a **motion to accept resolution 25-0219-037. Acceptance of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the housing 1035-124 departmental budget.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, we have motion by Councilor Metzger, supported by Councilor Wever. Any discussion from Council? Discussion from the membership? Back to Council. Roll call, please. Recorder, DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- No
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Yes
S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Seven in favor, one against, one absent resolution 25-0219-037 is passed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, and to

I. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit summary for the Gaming Commission Surveillance 1030-120 Department Budget. **B. Pringle**

Brad go ahead.

Brad Pringle: Once again, looking for resolution approval for the acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the gaming commission surveillance, 1030-120 department budget. Whereas the Comptroller General has performed internal audit of the 2023 Gaming Commission Surveillance Department Budget. And whereas the Comptroller General has prepared and presented the audit summary and necessary supporting documents to Tribal Council and the Ogema on October 1st of 2024 and in a work session on February 11th of 2025. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby accepts the internal audit summary for the 2023 Gaming Commission Surveillance, 1030-120 department budget dated October 1st of 2024. And I found there was no audit findings at all in their internal audit for their budget. No overspend, no over-budgeting.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Will anybody be abstaining from this item? Councilor Wolfe, you'll be abstaining? Okay, uh go ahead then for discussion.

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. Brad, just want you to read the numbers of how much was returned to the general fund.

Brad Pringle: Sure, yep. Uh bottom of the internal audit, uh the Gaming Commission Surveillance Department revised budget was \$2,731,913. Their total expenditures were \$1,770,747, returning \$1,261,166 to the general fund.

Councilor Wolfe: And then for that, most of that savings was in because we did a supplemental appropriation with grant dollars to fund their upgrade in their surveillance system.

Brad Pringle: Yep, that's correct. That's correct. They put in their budget for capital asset of a surveillance system, which was well over a million dollars. And that ended up being funded by ARPA funds. Instead of there budget

Councilor Wolfe: Okay, thank you. And then other to note that \$1,261,166 by budget and appropriations, it should be earmarked and allocated for general welfare programs?

Brad Pringle: Yep, after it after a review of the accounting department and a summarization by the accounting department is supposed to be earmarked for future assets or membership services. That's correct

Councilor Wolfe: And this particular um fund isn't going into a restricted or heading to those programs.

Brad Pringle: Nope

Councilor Wolfe: It's just defaulting into the general fund.

Brad Pringle: Yep

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you

Brad Pringle: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, any other questions by council? Anything from the membership? Back to council. Yeah, I would entertain a motion. Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. This time, I'd like to make a **motion to accept resolution 25-0219-038. Acceptance of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians internal audit summary for the gaming commission surveillance 1030-120 departmental budget.**

Councilor Wever: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you, so we have motion from Councilor Metzger supported by Councilor Wever. Any discussion on this item from council? On to membership. Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do a roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – Yes
S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- No	M. Silvis- Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Seven in favor, one against, one absent. Resolution 25-0219-038 is passed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Moving down to

J. Appropriating Funds for Expenditures during the Second Quarter of FY2025 B. Pringle

Brad, you have the floor.

Brad Pringle: Once again, looking for resolution approval for the appropriation of funds for expenditures during the second quarter of fiscal year 2025. Whereas section 5.7 of the Budget Appropriations Act of 2013 requires the Tribal Council appropriation of funds for expenditures for the following years uh the following fiscal year by March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st of each fiscal year. Now it therefore resolved that the Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby appropriates the amount of \$5,672,228.25 for expenditures during the second quarter beginning April 1st of 2025. This consists of quarter gaming distribution at \$2,836,114.12 and quarter gaming per cap of \$2,836,114.13.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Would there be anybody abstaining on the item? Any discussion from Council? Councilor Wolfe?

Councilor Wolfe: So, for me, this is an item I can't support. We had a financial report due on this uh agenda and it wasn't submitted. We haven't had a closeout. We haven't had a financial report since May of 2024. We don't know what our budget looks like. We can't get accurate information from the CFO. So, to appropriate funds, I think would be irresponsible at this time. I think there needs to be a mandate. The last information we received, we had to subpoena. How can we appropriate funding appropriately if we have no knowledge of what it is? This doesn't have to be due until March 1st. There's plenty of time to get that information from the executive to get those reports caught up. It's important. We haven't completed uh our annual audit yet. It's important. So is this funding. We don't- I don't want the government to shut down. I know they need this appropriation, but it would be totally irresponsible of me not to consider the facts on the table and approve an expenditure for \$5 million, over \$5 million. I don't know what our books look like. And this information that was provided on December 12th sure tells me there's problems. So, I can't support this item. It would be irresponsible. I understand there's a court order and we're mandated and it's our, what's the word they like to

use? Ministerial duty to complete some of these laws, but we have time. We should be holding the executive accountable to give us accurate information before we just continue to make expenditures. And this is appropriation for quarter two. So, at this time, I can't support the item. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Any other councilor? Go ahead, Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Yeah, Miigwech. I uh totally agree with Councilor Wolfe. We got a pot that's out and we keep taking, taking, taking, and then we want to put in, put in, put in, and we don't even know what is in there, what ain't in it. And that's the shameful part about it. So, I totally uh agree with Councilor Wolfe, Miigwech.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Any other councilor would like to make a Councilor Silvis.

Councilor Silvis: I would just like to state that even though we're not getting our financials from the executive side, we are still getting our financials from the casino where the money does come from. And we do see that coming over. So, I would just like that to be made clear. And I would not like to see the government shut down because we are seeing funding coming from them. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor oh uh Wever, go ahead. Or Wolfe, sorry, Councilor Wolfe, sorry, my apologies there.

Councilor Wolfe: Yes, that is uh true. We do get financials from the resort, but that's only 50% of our budget. 50% of that gets allocated to government expenditures. There's grant revenue, there's uh general fund revenue, there's um income generated from departments. All of that we have no knowledge of. Since May of 2024, nine months ago, it would be irresponsible for anyone to support moving this forward. Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton, did you want to say something or? Okay

Councilor Crampton: Yes, well, see, that's the distinction for the membership to understand. There's a certain view. We see it coming over as distribution. We don't know what's how it's being treated after it gets broken down and goes to department. So, you have a layman's view saying, yeah, we get this, but the upper management mind should be thinking, yeah, how is that broken down and how is that getting delivered? Of course, we see the big package coming across the street, but it's really amateurish to say that we know where it's going since we see it coming in the door. It's kind of, I just want to make that appearance of membership, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other councilor? Okay, out to membership for discussion. Back to council, Councilor DiPiazza, did you have your?

Pro Temp Reorder DiPiazza: No

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No, it's going to be what it's going to be.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any, oh, okay, I would like to entertain a motion for this item, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you, ma'am. This time I'd like to make a motion to approve resolution 24-0219-039, appropriating funds for expenditure during the second quarter of fiscal year 2025.

Councilor Wever: Support

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Clarification, I believe you said 24.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Can you repeat your?

Councilor Metzger: Sure, to approve resolution, that's what's on the resolution. **To approve resolution 25-0219-039, appropriating funds for expenditures during the second quarter of fiscal year 2025.**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you for that correction. Uh motion made by Councilor Metzger, supported by Councilor Wever. Any discussion on the item from council? Any from the membership? Back to council. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call, please?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

S. Wever- Yes	S. Crampton- No	P. Johnson - Yes
T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes
R. Wittenberg- No	J. Wolfe – No	A. Metzger - No

Motion carried (4-4-0-1)

Four in favor, four against, one absent. Resolution 25-0219-039 has failed.

Brad Pringle: Thank you for your time.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Okay, down to

IX. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, February 26, 2025

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business

Go ahead Ogema Romanelli

Ogema Romanelli: Thank you very much. I think I have two items today that I want to bring forth. Uh the regarding the external financial audits, uh we did receive late yesterday a letter from the BIA that states that no sanctions will be going forward. So, they kind of rescinded that. So that's been a big issue for a long time. Uh it's been kind of

thrown out there in all kinds of ways. But we did receive a letter, I think it was about 4:15 yesterday. So, I will be forwarding that to the Tribal Council as well. But to ease everyone's minds, uh there are no sanctions going forward. I think there will be some findings as were uh the legislative and executive are both aware of. Uh there we will find that out, I think, at a later date and uh go from there. So that's a big relief for many people. I want to thank the staff that put so many hard hours of work into getting it done. Uh even though it wasn't timely, uh it was a lot of work. There's a lot of extra things that go on. My understanding is that there may be even a few other tribes in the same situation because you now have cova- COVID, and you have ARPA, and you have opioid and all of that plays into it. In our case, we were understaffed. We also have some missing records, both from the executive and the legislative that play into this. So, uh the good news is the sanctions are not going to go forward. We did, uh by the way, we did submit a letter um of appeal, and I don't know that that even had to play into it. So, uh with the appeal process, I think that just ends now. Uh that's the good news. Uh the second thing is uh financial reports. Now that we've submitted and been and that's why the sanctions have been lifted is because the financial audit has been submitted and received. But now that that's happened, we're going to go back and uh catch up the financial reports. We couldn't do both at the same time. Uh and hopefully within the next month, month and a half, we'll have those caught up. We really do, really do need to get those minutes caught up. And again, we're going back three years. Uh were we have missing minutes; I believe from 2021. Um I'm not sure about 2022. We have 2023, 2024, and 2025 that also need minutes. And it's really hard to get financial and approve it. And that's what the auditor said is that those minutes are very necessary to uh understand what has been brought in and what has been gone out. So, I'll leave it at that. The last thing that I have to say is that the item with the \$894,000 uh by going through the audit and completing the audit, we realized that those numbers are incorrect. I think we sent that to the tribal council before, and I'm not sure why it's still showing up as that amount of money. Uh it could be even zero. And I have some concerns here. Now that we have the audit done, the financial audit done, I think that I'm going to give uh you know take a break from it for a couple of weeks until these people can catch their breath. But I want to go back in there on a deeper dive because what we found out was not only this last audit, but the one before, there were some things that were, I think, inconsistent. And I want to make sure that this doesn't happen again. I believe that the comptroller on the legislative side should have been involved more at this one and at past ones, but I would like to invite the comptroller to also be a part of this, because I think there are some things that may have happened in the past that we need to make sure are correct and that it doesn't go on. So, with that, I'm I think that's the end of my report. Thank you.

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah, I had a question for the Ogema. Can you give an update on the Binojeeuk Commission application for the commissioner?

Ogema Romanelli: Yes, I believe uh we did that last week, didn't we?

Councilor Wolfe: Nothing's been brought forward for that person to be appointed.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay, and there was supposed to be a form that was supposed to be submitted?

Councilor Wolfe: Binojeeuk, not Biskaabiyaang, Binojeeuk is a different commission.

Ogema Romanelli: Okay, I'm not sure.

Councilor Wolfe: Vacancy

Ogema Romanelli: I'm not sure where those are at, so I can't give that to you right now

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you.

Ogema Romanelli: You're welcome.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Go ahead, Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton: Yeah, in order for our comptroller to uh um do what you're saying there, uh he needs to get information from your departments, and they've been refusing to send him information. So, if uh you could lift that, that'd be great because we had to subpoena the last information.

Ogema Romanelli: And I, yes, and I think that if you look at the Budget and Appropriations Act, the comptroller is the person that is the liaison to the external audits, and I'm not sure why that hasn't happened.

Councilor Crampton: No, what I'm talking about, when you said we want to get this cleared up from the last few years, that's great, but our comptroller needs to be able to request the information from the departments. Your departments, the executive departments, have been telling us that you said that they can't talk to us or send us stuff.

Ogema Romanelli: That's not true.

Councilor Crampton: Okay, then they can send it to us. We got it on record now so they can send us. Thank you

Ogema Romanelli: Oh yeah, you got it on record. You also have it on record that your comptroller is a liaison to the external financial audits. That's correct, right? We have that on record. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Um any other questions for the Ogema before we move on? Councilor Metzger, did you have a question? Okay. All right. Um moving on then to thank you, Ogema.

Ogema Romanelli: You're welcome.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Oh, I'm sorry. Ogema's? go ahead.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: My apologies. You said you're gonna forward that letter from BIA today?

Ogema Romanelli: Yes, I will.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Miigwech, very much.

Ogema Romanelli: You're welcome.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Uh moving down to

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Stop it, guys, come on.

Councilor Wolfe: *Unaidable*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Oh, my Lord.

Unaidable noise of councilors and Ogema

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it.

1. Tammy Burmeister

is out sick, so we will skip her. Um

2. Pam Johnson

I do not have one at this time. Uh moving down to

3. Julie Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Thank you. Um just wanna uh make note of, for the membership, I have been watching what's going on in the federal administration. Uh there's been a lot of federal layoffs that are gonna impact some of our programming. Um Indian Health Services provides direct healthcare. They're looking at, by this update, um uh more than estimated under the Indian Health Services, 850 federal employees were laid off. Some of those happened on February uh 14th, Valentine's Day. And then under the Department of Interior, um the department reported laying off 2,300 employees by some of the executive orders written by um the Trump administration. So just um note for membership, we are watching that and taking that into concern and looking at that. Uh one that hits close to my heart and why I've been following it is um Haskell's Indian uh University, Indians Nation University out in Kansas. They had a huge federal layoff in some of their, um it was over 30 or 40 uh faculty that were laid off and they were looking at um possibly closing that um BIA-funded university. Um I think it's been stopped and put on a pause at this point. But you know just if we can think about all them and lift those people up in prayer because it's you know devastating, life-changing when you lose your job. So, um just think about those. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor

4. Gary Di Piazza

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Yeah, we do keep an eye on it all, whether it's as a group or singular. Um and I did, uh Kennedy had made a statement that the IHS is underfunded and needs to be supported more and funded more. Now, there's so many articles flying around, and some of it you need to wait and see. An not pleased about a lot of it, but we'll see what transpires there. But other than that, Miigwech everybody. Be safe, it's cold, snow is heavy. I don't get anybody come showing my driveway anymore. Volunteers? Never mind.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor

5. Shirley Wever

do you have anything?

Councilor Wever: Yes, I do. Um over the weekend, we lost a member, Janis Compeau, and she leaves behind a beautiful daughter and a granddaughter that's only four years old. And that's such a, to me, uh...uh bad uh um age. Um but my hearts and I hope our prayers are with the family. God bless Janis Compeau family, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Councilor

6. Al Metzger

You're next

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. I have a couple items. Uh first, uh last week I was absent, I was out in Washington. Uh is on. Hello? Yeah, last week I was out in Washington at a meeting that was a subdivision of uh Native American uh Congresses, uh... uh the Executive Council of uh Native Americans Winter Session. Uh for me, I found it very informative and also put a lot of my worries at ease. I came away feeling that there was solidarity in that meeting, that the tribes were coming together as a concerned front. Because a lot of this discussion with this uh current administration that we have in Washington, a lot of concern, is there's a thing called DEI, diverse equity, diversity, equity and inclusion. A lot of tribal leaders were at first taken back by that. But there's a thing called nation to nation and treaty obligations. As I said about two, three weeks ago, our treaties go back to the 1600s before this country was even established. We've had treaties with the Dutch. Our ancestors, the Anishinaabe, had treaties with the Dutch. If you know our migration story, I felt I felt good that we aren't being targeted because of our race. We are on a government-to-government association, government to government dialogue. And that's what I got out of there. You know it's a lot of information that was handed out and I got pamphlets and flyers to go with that. But like I said, I found it very informative. I met quite a few different leaders from around the country, uh got quite a few different ideas popping around in my head. And it was just an awesome, awesome feeling to see so many natives in that position that they were holding as leaders. But, the other thing I want to talk about is a state Senate Bill 41. It's sponsored by uh John D'Amos, Committee's Transportation and Infrastructure. The bill is entitled Michigan Memorial Highway Act. The people of state of Michigan enact section 108, a portion of Highway 22 in Leelanau County, beginning at the intersection of Highway M-22 and

North Stallman Road and continue north to the intersection of Highway M-22 and North Putman Road shall be known as Company K Indian Veterans First Michigan Sharpshooter Civil War Memorial Highway. This one means a lot to me because of my great-grandfather, Wawa Chinodan, who happened to uh... uh spend some time down at Fort Southerner. Uh the Confederates didn't take care of him too well. He was POW back in the Union War. He was one of the lucky ones that made it home. A lot of our tribal members didn't make it home. That war was ended in 1865. Anishinaabe have been fighting either for America or against America at one time or another. Since the war of 1812, we've basically been fighting for America, even though we were not considered Americans until I believe it was uh 1928. So, I am very happy that the state is finally recognizing Company K.

Councilor Wolfe: *Inaudible*

Councilor Metzger: Uh Chi-Miigwech-o-gi-chi-da. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Um Mark, you have a question?

Mark Huddleston: Um yes, I'd like to speak to uh Al or uh

Councilor Wolfe: Comments

Mark Huddleston: Councilor Metzger, if I could, on what his comments were. Um I did hear some of that testimony. Well, I listened to the day on Wednesday, I think it was. Um and I found it kind of ironic that one of the committee members first words were, I know this seems like Groundhog Day. And uh I just thought that was kind of strange. But uh not to go on to all that, but uh I really do appreciate what you what you said about our warriors, tribal warriors. And I think we got citizenship in 1924, if I if I'm correct. And I am on the Warrior Society, and a member of our Warrior Society. I'm an honorary... honorary honorably discharged Army veteran. Um I served during peacetime in the 70s. Not to talk about me. Now, while Mr. X, I'm sorry. While Mr. Metzger, Al, if I may say that, was away, Corey I from Natural Resources, I think, is now taking over uh as the leader of the Warrior Society for our tribe. And they need a liaison for them to open up funding to be able to do anything. And I'm asking you, Al.

Councilor Metzger: I'm listening

Mark Huddleston: Excuse me, to step up and do that, please.

Councilor Metzger: Is he done?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yeah

Councilor Metzger: Are you done, Mr. Huddleston? Uh I appreciate

Mark Huddleston: Yes, thank you

Councilor Metzger: I appreciate your feelings, and I can hear your... your how emotional you are. Yes, I will for you and the other Vets. You know, uh that... that reference about Groundhog Day, it uh I believe he was talking about a movie that was uh done out with Dan Ackroyd, I believe it was, or it's a comedy, it's called Groundhog Day. And in that movie, it's a repetitive day after day. He wakes up, does the same thing when he goes to sleep. When he wakes up, it's Groundhog Day all over again. And he has to change different things during that day so he can continue on until the next day. I believe the reference was, here we go again, standing up for Native rights. Here we go again, standing up for treaty obligations. We gave over 2 billion acres for the formation of this country. 1491, there was over a hundred million Native Americans on this continent that the creator blessed us with. So, I will do you as you asked, Mr. Huddleston, and I will be calling you. Uh... uh... uh I'll get in touch with you somehow and we can exchange phone numbers. But uh I also wanna say, chi-Miigwech for your service. Aho Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay moving on down to

7. Ron Wittenberg

Councilor Wittenberg: Yes, uh Miigwech and nothing at this moment.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor

8. Misty Silvis

Councilor Silvis: No updates this week, thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay Councilor

9. Shannon Crampton

Councilor Crampton: I'm just gonna make this really quick because we had Mr. Dean waiting forever. Uh I just wanted to say that uh watching, uh I've had a couple Tribal leaders just sit and talk on the weekends about what's going on with the federal government. And uh to let you know what's going on, if you watch really close to what's called Doge now and Mr. Musk, there's an old sniper's trick. And that's if you get a man running at you, if you get a platoon or maybe a group of men running at you, you don't shoot the one in front because the other ones will lay down. You start picking them off from the one in the back. That's what Doge is doing right now. They're knocking out all the competition or any of the framework for anything other the big items that they're gonna bring forward that you will protest against, but there will be no infrastructure to support them. So, when they bring it forward, there'll be easy to knock it down. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Uh next, we're moving on to

D. Public Comment Period

Do you have a comment?

Councilor Crampton: *Inaudible*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yeah. Chuck, did you have a comment?

Councilor Wolfe: He has to come to the microphone

Acting Speaker Johnson: Come on up. Can you come on up, please? Can you come up to the mic, please?

Chuck Fisher: I was just hoping to get some idea about what time to be back for the second open. Uh an hour, usually break for an hour or, you know.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh I don't know probably, well, depending on how fast we get through here, I would say probably uh we'll break for lunch. So, we'll be back um 1, 1:15, depending what time we get done here. And then um after that, it'll prob it'll probably be about two. I'm going to say if somewhere around there.

Chuck Fisher: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Roughly. Councilor Wolfe, go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe: Um so, I just wanted to um make one comment in public comment and um see if we can get some support and assistance. Um last week, it was talked about that boat that sank um in Ludington that was owned by a tribal member. Um reached out to some people and looking for some assistance. And um what we're hoping or working towards is having a fundraiser here in the government center on March 5th, the day that we have tribal council meeting. Uh just have to get some of the paperwork filled out and filed. But that's what we're looking at. A group of women, Kwewok in the community, are looking at that and supporting and um having a bake sale auction fundraiser type uh event here on um March 5th in the government center down in the cafeteria. So, we can support that tribal member uh to get some assistance. So just um kind of giving a FYI about that so people can be looking for the information on that. And um at this time, I'm also accepting the donations if you have an item that you'd like to donate for the fundraiser. So uh that's all I have right now. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you. Mark, go ahead.

Mark Huddleston: I um I want to start by thanking uh Pam, sorry, first name, councilor, um for letting us know that the Speaker is ill. And I'd like to uh let her know that I hope she gets well soon. Um I also want to say I was informed that we had a councilor with a birthday that I wasn't aware of. And I want to wish Ron a belated birthday, a happy belated birthday. Um uh let's see, I had to write down some notes today. Uh let's see, I know there's no one there from National Resources, but I'm curious about the grant for our um solar power that we were supposed to save some money for the uh the casino on the solar array. And uh I know there was three employees that were supposed to be hired, and the grant would pay for them for three years. And then we would end up having to

pay them to continue working. Um and I don't know if maybe somebody could work on that somehow and find out where that grant's at or is that grant being used now for our uh power company or I think, what is it was NACU. Um and then, uh excuse me just a moment. Uh I'm going to leave that one out. Um I heard today about consistency, and I heard, and I understand that our tribal leaders are held to a higher standard by members. And I do realize how few members are in attendance here. So, I would like to see tribal council follow their own policy and stop these sidebars, stop the interruptions of the queues or yes. And uh actually, follow those policies. I mean, it just goes on and on. People interrupting and interrupting and oh, let's stop this and stop that. I... I don't know the exact wording of what you got your procedures are supposed to be following. But I don't know, we got to have warnings and one, two, your you need to be removed. I, I... I it's unprofessional and I don't want to point fingers. I just want, I'm asking for me and the rest of the members follow the policies, please. And I'll leave it at that. Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you uh Councilor Crampton, go ahead.

Councilor Crampton: Um yeah, I had the same concern. So, I went back, and I was looking through some uh videos that are, um some are missing, but there's a lot that are there. If you look at the councils that I ran and the councils that Mr. Kelsey ran and the councils that were run prior to that, this seems to be unique that this one got totally out of control. And if you go back and you watch, you'll see that in the initial, the initial violations, I had mentioned several times that this Speaker was letting uh a member named Councilor or Sandy Mezeske stand. Every time I said something, either say asshole or something like that, there was all kinds of profanity. And I kept pointing it out and there was only a blank response, or they would smile. And if you still go back even two weeks ago, you'll see it happening. And when the Speaker's told about it, it's that's where it gets out of control. If you go back, like I said, and watch the other Speakers that was not allowed, this has been the only council that's allowed that and it's because of family um inclusion. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg: Yes. And I want to say uh Miigwech to the Speaker today to turn around and get it under the control and zap it uh as fast as possible. So, I say Chi Miigwech for that because it could have still been in that same circle. At least we got something done and it's uh we're not going to two o'clock talking about the same thing. So, I do say, uh Speaker Johnson, Chi Miigwech.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh Councilor Wever, you are next.

Councilor Wever: Well, I disagree what um Shannon just said. Um most of the time, I thought our speaker was rude to uh Sandy Mezeske for speaking up. She told her not to be talking that way or she'd be removed from our meetings. It's um Shannon Crampton that would go on and on and on and bullying all of us. And that's where I uh have the

problem with how he calls us names day after day, uh meeting after meeting. It's the bullying that I don't like. That should have been stopped from the get-go. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton, you're next.

Councilor Crampton: I really won't get into that. I just want the members to get back and watch the tape and you'll see exactly what I'm talking about. Watch when I was a speaker, watch when uh Virgil Johnson was a speaker, watch when Joe Riley was the speaker. In fact, the one tape I had to watch when I was a speaker, I think there were people attacking the Ogema at the time and I stopped them and said, no, that's not gonna happen here, even though we're not on the best terms. That's how professional meetings are run. So, and despite what Councilor Wever keeps trying to insinuate, the facts are there on video. So, if you go back and watch the video, you'll see that's exactly what happened and what exactly inspired this one. And I told everybody, and go back and watch the tape, I think it was in, uh I wanna say it was right around this time, February of last year, that I set up and said that this Council is out of control and these are the worst two speaker, the speaker that we've ever had and quick to run to their defense was the Ogema. So, if you watch tapes, it's all there. I'm not gonna rely on he said, she said, I want you to look at it and make a judgment for yourself. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sandy, go ahead.

Sandy Mezeske: I can't laugh like Crampton does, but anyway, um he's a hypocrite. Uh Mr. Crampton, can you prove I'm a drunk?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sandy.

Sandy Mezeske: No, five times, five times, but you know, it's okay for him

Acting Speaker Johnson: I know

Sandy Mezeske: To interrupt, say what he wants to say. He wants people to go back. Oh my God, I beg you people to go back and listen to the meetings and how out of control he gets and how he interrupts, but soon as he doesn't like what somebody says, oh my God, mute her, kick her out, kick her out. Um Mr. Crampton, I stand at my word of what I said, you know, no apologies from this old lady, let me tell you, you know, but you uh totally call the kettle black all the time. But oh my God, the speaker, you know, Tammy's a good speaker. Tammy's wonderful at her job, you know, because if it was me sitting there, you wouldn't get out of control. You'd be kicked out in a heartbeat, but and Pam, you do a great job too. Uh you know, it's...it's the membership needs to know it's one councilor's opinion, not nine, but one. And if the rest of you feel the way he does, speak up, speak up, no, you don't, because you follow. I'm done, yeah he's not worth it.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Metzger, go ahead.

Councilor Metzger: Yes, is Ms. Mezeske done? Thank you, Uh I don't see any more hands up either on a monitor or in person. So, at this time, I'd like to make a motion, **make a motion to adjourn first half.**

Councilor Wever: Support.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, we have a motion from Councilor Metzger, support supported by Councilor Wever. Recorder DiPiazza, can you do roll call once you have that wrote down?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Whoops

Roll Call #

A. Metzger - Yes	S. Crampton- Yes	P. Johnson - Yes
T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe – No	S. Wever- Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Councilor Wever: Shirley that was a no vote change it

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop. Continue

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Alright well, seven in favor, one against, one absent. You would adjourn first open at 12:40, even with all the interruptions.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay, we will be uh adjourning until 1:30, and we'll be back in for closed.

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.

Councilor Metzger: Yes, I'd like to make a **motion, go on to second open.**

Councilor Wittenberg: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay thank you.

Councilor Wittenberg: At 2:44

Acting Speaker Johnson: Will you do roll call please

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

M. Silvis - Present	T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza - Present
A. Metzger- Present	R. Wittenberg – Present	J. Wolfe - Present
S. Wever- Absent	S. Crampton - Present	P. Johnson - Absent

Seven are present. two are absent. You have quorum at 2:44.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay thank you. Uh moving into.

XI. Open Session

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session-Minutes and Materials shall remain confidential

1. Binojeeuk Commission Closed Session Minutes ☐ December 2024

Go ahead councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: Thank you. At this time, I'd like to make a **motion to postpone the Binojeeuk commission closed session minutes due to a typo.**

Councilor Wolfe: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Whenever you are ready Councilor DiPiazza. Recorder DiPiazza

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- Absent	S. Crampton- Yes
M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - Absent	G. DiPiazza- Yes
A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Seven in favor, two Absent. The Binojeeuk commission closed session minutes for December 2024 are postponed

Acting Speaker Johnson: Moving down to

2. Gaming Commission Closed Session Report ☐ January 2025

Would entertain, go ahead Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe: Make a **motion to um accept Gaming Commission Closed Session report for January 2025**

Councilor Metzger: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay we have a motion by Councilor Wolfe supported by Councilor Metzger. Whenever you are ready to do roll call, please

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

S. Crampton- Yes	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister - absent
J. Wolfe – Yes	A. Metzger – Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes
P. Johnson - Yes	S. Wever- Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Councilor Metzger: What did you vote on Shirley

Councilor Wever: going on over to the casino

Councilor Metzger: What did you vote on just now

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Seven in favor, one absent the gaming commission closed session minutes January 2025

Acting Speaker Johnson: So, moving to the third item that we postponed from open was
**Comprehensive and complete Enrollment Audit of all S. Crampton
Active And/or open Tribal members enrollment files
and all enrollment Files where a individual has said
membership in the Tribe.**

Go ahead

Councilor Crampton: Yep, uh during the we postponed so we can get clarification that uh Council was afraid that there wasn't a review that we've done the resolution is correct the resolution is in front of you and uh I think that we're set. Ready for a vote.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh discussion sorry anybody going to abstain? anybody for discussion on the item? Well, we pretty much discussed it earlier.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Stated something but wasn't clear on zoom*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Um go ahead Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: Yeah, uh I think before we go too far, we're going to have to make a motion to even discuss this.

Acting Speaker Johnson: We can. This wasn't the closed item-

Councilor Metzger: Okay

Acting Speaker Johnson: this was the one that was postponed from open

Councilor Wittenberg: Yea

Acting Speaker Johnson: So, we can still discuss it.

Councilor Metzger: All right thank you for the clarification.

Acting Speaker Johnson: So right now, we're on uh... uh discussion from Councilors. Anything from membership?

Chuck Fisher: *Unheard clearly in the zoom.*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Go ahead Chuck.

Chuck Fisher: Uh this is uh not the first time that this has come before the Council of the tribe. *Unheard clearly in the zoom.* So, uh... uh has a scope of work of the auditing firm been discussed to uh any you know any degree?

Councilor Crampton: They've been negotiating with the Ogema. So, this is just to start the process and get it out there this isn't the audit or anything

Chuck Fisher: Okay so um when we initially get into you know future consideration to do with them

Councilor Crampton: I think they're up for removal.

Chuck Fisher: The commission will be up for removal.

Councilor Crampton: I think that's what I read right here.

Chuck Fisher: Okay all right um. Okay I'm good. That's all I have

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay any other membership have questions or comments? Okay back to Council. Councilor DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: So, if all the commissioners are removed off the enrollment commission who's going to sit in there and if this audit does go through who's going to be going through all them records? Of private citizens

Councilor Wolfe: I think it's a rhetorical question Shannon

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: No I really would like an answer but he needs to get into the queue instead of jumping in and interrupting.

Acting Speaker Johnson: He raised his hand

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I know

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: But she didn't. That was the question-

Councilor Wolfe: That was a rhetorical question like the rest of them.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'd like to know who's going to sit and go through all these files if there is no commission? What body gets to do that? No, I'm good. I know the answer.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Are you done?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I just want to hear it

Acting Speaker Johnson: Are you done?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Yes

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: for this moment

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton go ahead

Councilor Crampton: Fortunately for us the commission when they wrote the regulations put in compliance. You don't have to comply with anything they wrote. So, there's your answer.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I don't know who was first. Uh go ahead DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Well, we skated around the question because that be council. If there's no commission the council steps in to take that role that commission. So, council would be the one that would be going and pawing through every tribal citizens enrollment records.

Councilor Wolfe: No, we wouldn't

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Then who would?

Councilor Crampton: The audit

Acting Speaker Johnson: Just wait.

Councilor Crampton: Keep doing this

Acting Speaker Johnson: Just finishing. Are you done with your questions?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: For this minute yes.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: I'll defer to him

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay. Go ahead Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Thank you, Speaker. Well again that's a red herring of a question because uh there's nobody looking at them now. And it wouldn't be here if there hadn't been anything since 2016 and prior. Um Mrs. Lonn I think you need to go and look at what has actually transpired here. There's been a lot hidden from the membership. And when I asked her up there why she would let go of the department before. Chuck knows. Everybody knows. She didn't answer. Why didn't she answer? Because it was uh fraudulently enrolling people. I think our Speaker was on the commissioner at the time too. And Mr. Guenthardt and Mrs. Lonn. Mrs. Burmeister.

Councilor Wolfe: Carter

Councilor Crampton: Oh, Tammy Charter at the time. Yeah, this says it's Tammy Charter. Yeah, that's uh. Yeah, I know a little bit more than what people think. But yeah, there's no compliance. That's one of the problems with the ordinance right now. And the ordinance says that the commission is to uh write regulations better to ensure the integrity and the accuracy of directors. They did not do that. The regulations have no compliance whatsoever. And no the council does not take over. And if they did, can you hand me the constitution for a minute so I can read this to the members? Pam. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh huh. I got you

Councilor Crampton: There is no spot for enrollment with the executive. And if you look on page four of our constitution it's section five membership procedure. When elect a tribal council shall establish ordinances governing membership including that but not limited to enrollment and disenrollment provided that the tribal council should not have the power to change or change or establish substantial requirements for memberships in addition to those established in this article. So council is the only people who have the right to look at the whole files. If you're so worried about that look at the enrollment ordinance where the director can delegate, her authority and that means all of her authority to anybody in that department. If they hire somebody to put trash in the waste can she can delegate that the way the ordinance is written. So, I wouldn't be too worried about council looking at your files when they're constitutionally delegated to or authorized to. But the uh enrollment department can delegate the janitor to take a look at your files. Uh no thank you. I'm good.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: Uh yeah, I see there's more hands up because I'd like to make a motion.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh let's get through the hands because we even have some members that have hands up too. So, we'll go through these four councilors and then we'll hit the members and then I can come back to you for that motion okay.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Um go ahead councilor DiPiazza.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Oh, I just want to say Miigwech for clarifying that yeah tribal council does get to look at them. Should we? Should we be pawing through

Councilor Crampton: That's not what I said that's not what I said he's lying

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: That's exactly what you said

Councilor Crampton: No, I did not say that

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys let's not. Stop

Councilor Crampton: Your just scared to death

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: What's that?

Councilor Crampton: I said your just scared to death

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I'm not scared to death

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Mines right here

Acting Speaker Johnson: c'mon. Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Mines right here

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Councilor Crampton: *Stated something but wasn't clear on zoom*

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Right here

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Not gonna happen. It's already been done.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: There you go. Oh my god

Councilor Metzger: Can I make that motion now

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Let him make his motion

Councilor Weaver: *Stated something but wasn't clear on zoom*

Acting Speaker Johnson: We still have people that want to speak. So, Councilor Wolfe go ahead

Councilor Wolfe: Well, there's a lot of discussion going on and the resolution that we're voting on for just calls for the audit and some clarifying language in there. Um Tribal council finds it essential for the well-being of the tribe and all tribal members for the tribal council to select an experienced and competent audit to conduct a comprehensive and complete enrollment audit of membership files thereby ensuring compliance with our constitution promoting the peace morale and general welfare of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. This resolution mandates that Tribal Council of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby mandates the issuance of a request for proposal for conducting a comprehensive and complete audit enrollment audit of active tribal member files and file where an individual has been admitted to membership. Then it also goes further to resolve that the Ogema on receipt of one or more responses from the RFP the Ogema negotiate the terms of the agreement for the desired services and then that the work the Ogema negotiates said contract within 30 days. None of this talks about enrollment commission removal. None of about who's looking at the files. This is the first step in the process to issue the RFP and get the audit in way and bring the enrollment back into compliance. So, all this discussion of who's going to look and what's going to look at and the comments relevant to the commission being removed or not is not up for discussion in this resolution or on the table. So, let's move on with the motion Councilor Metzger making.

Councilor Metzger: Thank you

Councilor Wolfe: that's my comment.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Silvis

Councilor Silvis: I just wanted to bring up um Councilor Crampton making a comment about Ms. Lonn employment back then. She's an employee now. I think some of personal are supposed to stay in confidentiality-

Acting Speaker Johnson: Mm hmm

Councilor Silvis: In Closed and I just want to bring that to your attention that is a close matter. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay um so I just want to make a comment on this tidbit um as well. Um in relation to the comment, I made earlier, if our past resolutions were done in a false manner, then we need to prove that. I think it needs to be proved that it really didn't happen and there was no qualified roles that were shown. That's... that's where I'm at with these is I see resolutions that say that we had qualified roles all 4,000 members at the time. It had been done. Um so, I'm not totally agreeable to this. I would like to see something postponed or this just because we do have those previous resolutions that says the qualified roles and how do we know those that are sitting here, how do we know now those actually didn't happen? And that's the hard part I am having with it is that what proof do we have besides somebody's hearsay that it didn't actually happen, and those resolutions were done for giggles? Um that's kind of where I'm at. I see resolutions that say they were done all 4,000 and something at the time and I would like to see some sort of proof that says otherwise um for me. Um I see you have your hand up, but I did say I was going to go to the three.

Councilor Crampton: You asked for the proof, and I have the proof

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay.

Councilor Wolfe: He can make the motion and go to discussion again

Acting Speaker Johnson: So, um let me take the three members and then I'll let him do his motion then you can come back with your proof. Sound fair? Okay. So, Chuck you were first.

Chuck Fisher: Um I guess in away this has gotten very politicized and if it was straight business. You know that would be one thing but it's on social media. It's being brought around, and um it does not have to be a political statement or anything. That's what it is and thank you very much. Um even the resolution or the agenda says severe issues identified in the LRBOI enrollment and the audit to ensure the accuracy of our files and to avoid irreparable harm to the tribe. Now that what severe issues are we talking about? What irreparable harm are we talking about? Because of the irreparable harm that I see is a result of doing the audit and subjecting membership to um unintended consequences that you know found from the audit. Where you know their membership criteria is questioned. So, what happens after that? What happens after that?

Councilor Crampton: Do you really want to answer?

Councilor Wolfe: You're not in the queue you can't answer.

Councilor Crampton: I would say well just um think about what you just said. The only people that would be removed are people who don't qualify to be here.

Chuck Fisher: Okay so we are talking about removal.

Councilor Crampton: No what we're talking about what you just said and I'm answering what you just said.

Councilor Wolfe: Going back and forth Pam

Councilor Crampton: He's trying to steer this to something political. Um no there was something done wrong here. I'm trying to rectify it. Um you want to politicize it? Everybody that objects to it wants to politicize it.

Chuck Fisher: Don't put this on me.

Councilor Crampton: Don't put this on me then

Councilor Wolfe: Pam

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys

Councilor Crampton: No, don't put this on me then

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay I'm gonna stop this before this gets too far as far as your answer. Are you done with your comments, or do you have more to say? I don't have a clock in here so

Councilor Wolfe: I did it was three he had uh two one minute and 54 seconds left, and I restarted because I thought he was finished.

Chuck Fisher: Okay

Acting Speaker Johnson: Fair enough.

Councilor Wolfe: I restarted at two and Chuck got more comments.

Acting Speaker Johnson: We can give you a full two-minute Chuck.

Chuck Fisher: No that's alright

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay so moving on to next uh Mark you were next.

Mark Huddleston: Yeah, um I can't seem to get my video on here. All right um yeah, I uh have a couple of problems. I mean some of the writing in in these files may be misinterpreted or not being able to be read properly. By let's say I don't know what you would call it. Someone that is able to read uh like illegible handwriting and decipher it. So, or there's a wrong letter somewhere or a period and you're putting this on these people that you're doing this to. And I also want to say now that I've been listening to this for five years and all I heard was people being targeted. The Ogema. Gary. Continuously. Gary called a white boy and everything else and then now I'm seeing people laughing. Laughing and this angers me more than you know. And now how many people have passed? Does anybody have any kind of a number since 2011 when one of your council members that was a former member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians stated in a comment that we need to take our tribe back. Okay. So how many people have died thinking that their children and their grandchildren may not be members in this tribe? How much grief have you put on them? You put people in their graves because of this as far as I'm concerned. And here you want to do an audit? Start with me. Can you see it? Can you read any of that on the bottom there? Start with me.

Councilor Crampton: *Stated something but not clear through zoom*

Mark Huddleston: Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thanks Mark. Sandy go ahead.

Sandy Mezeske: I'd like to go back probably months ago um when Mr. Pitchlynn was, I believe it was a work session because he was on view at that time. He was on Zoom, and he made a comment that he had read... read everything, the ordinance, the bylaws from the Enrollment Commission and he found nothing wrong with it. He said it was well written. Who from council and was there a vote to contact Mr. Pitchlynn because Mr. Pitchlynn did say if you have any other issues I'll take it under advisement. Was there a vote from council the whole council to say hey here's the issues let's send them to Pitchlynn? And I think council seems to forget too way back then you're the ones that stopped the Enrollment Commission and now you're on the bandwagon oh they're out of compliance, they're out of this, they're out of that. Did you forget that you discussed all that? That you were going to stop them? You're going to stop and work on the ordinance? You're going to talk to them and do the bylaws? What happened to that? Where's that at? You're the ones that stopped that commission and now you want to remove them. Yeah, Chuck you're there, you're on the hit list.

Councilor Crampton: *Speaking in the background but unclear.*

Sandy Mezeske: I sent my papers in for the Enrollment Commission. Am I going to get votes to sit on it?

Councilor Crampton: *Speaking in the background but unclear.*

Sandy Mezeske: Yeah, that's a Crampton laugh um

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop.

Sandy Mezeske: yeah, whatever you know it is it's a headhunter and at the time that this vote comes up Mr. Crampton should

Acting Speaker Johnson: Sandy

Sandy Mezeske: Abstain. There should be a conflict of interest. He has said yeah go ahead with your little mini innie hint. Thank you for showing up today because you can't vote next week. Um anyway, he's already stated well his first statement was 2,000 then he lowered it to 1,500. How does he know? How does he know? Yes, you did Mr. Crampton you can sit there and laugh and giggle and throw your hand around. You stated it-

Councilor Wolfe: Terrified

Sandy Mezeske: That people are stealing from the tribe. Well, you steal your paycheck every week?

Councilor Wolfe: That's not the agenda item. Speaker

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey

Councilor Wolfe: Point of order

Sandy Mezeske: You know Julie you're on his bandwagon.

Councilor Wolfe: Who

Sandy Mezeske: The one next to you and the one Al. You know what keep your comment. You don't have the queue.

Councilor Wolfe: You said something about Shannon going off the queue like that

Sandy Mezeske: You don't have the queue. Oh, you know but everybody else can talk the way they want right? Nobody stops them. Nobody stops them.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey

Councilor Weaver: Just vote

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: See yours

Sandy Mezeske: I'm just telling you. I'm just telling you Mr. Pitchlynn stated that they were well written. Who from council-

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Speaking in the background but unclear.*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Sandy Mezeske: contacted him with issues? Two people that responded to my email was Misty and Tammy. Anybody else going to stand up? Anybody else going to stand up-

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey

Sandy Mezeske: and say yes, I did?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Ronald

Councilor Wittenberg: Well, tell her don't tell me.

Sandy Mezeske: Hey you know what

Councilor Crampton: There all so terrified.

Councilor Wittenberg: *Speaking in the background but unclear.*

Sandy Mezeske: Because I'm the drunk Ron. I'm the drunk and every time you look at me you look at me different. I know. Anyway.

ZOOM WAS SHUT OFF

Acting Speaker Johnson: Go ahead

Councilor Wittenberg: One more time

Councilor Wever: take three

Councilor Crampton: Thank you, Shirley. All right, so what I'm saying is that, yeah, all the scare tactics and everything you brought our elders into that's unfair, because there's elders that wanted this done for a long time and stood up there forever and said that. So no, there isn't a division on here, and I just like to say to the members again, why would you be concerned? The only people that would be affected are people who don't meet the criteria. So, think about that when you hear all these excuses and all these things about dividing things, you're not dividing anybody. If somebody comes into your house and steals your stuff, you don't go, hey, let's have a party. You call the cops. This is ridiculous. I've never seen a tribe this scared before in my life. And that's why um I already felt Turtle Talk. I want to find out, they want to find out about the outcome of this, and I'm totally going to send it to them, because I'd like to have everybody find out about this too, all our nations. This is ridiculous. This is absolutely ridiculous. And our ancestors, if you look back there land was stolen from us, from non-members, we have

claims about that. So that's what our ancestors felt about, non-members. And if you look at our treaties, our headman had to be bribed to take anybody who's half-blooded. So no, they do not, that's not our ancestors' wishes. Anybody trying to bend that is a lie. And those books, I think it's Kaplan, or Kaplan is the guy's name, all of our treaties are in there. Take a look at that book by Kaplan. At the front of it, you're going to find out that they didn't even want half-bloods. So no, they weren't all, hey, everybody come on in and call yourself Indian and take all the resources. That was not their intent. So yeah, just when you're speaking out of fear, please do not disperse our elders. There's a lot of them that wanted this to happen. Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor DiPiazza you were next

Pro Tempore Recorder DiPiazza: Well, a lot of them get a hold of me too. There's a lot that don't want to do this because it is a witch hunt. And you just pretty well said it was. We're taking resources and we're stealing the resources. So, who's stealing the resources? And nobody's running scared. We had a complete audit in 16. The resolutions dated 17. Like I said, we're going to do it with a five-year and 21. And I believe there's an email. There's something on that order to the enroll or the enrollment department to not do it. Because that 100% audit was on the table. So, I can't support it. If you want to go with it, get caught up with the 10-year, yippie I yo. Full support. Go back and dig everybody up. Can't do it. I'm done

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wittenberg

Councilor Wittenberg: Yeah, I say Miigwech for this and I understand some views. And I can understand other views. Uh this is just for it to go through turn around and have an audit done and people say well those who ain't. But I do know that the... that there are some unenrolled. And there are that are enrolled. And I know uh different ones uh that are up on top that turnaround and basically said the same thing. And that will put people in a frenzy. They try to unnaturally say it's political and things like that. And well, I guess maybe if my adopted sister was Native then I would be, oh, no, you can't do that. But my adopted sister was probably the same name. And you turn around and look back as in many things and I turn around and understand. And to me, it's just saying what is exactly going on. The BIA says I can't do nothing. You have to bring it forward. And that's what you're scared of is what the BIA would say. Because I'm enrolled with the BIA. And this and that. But the BIA actually ain't involved with this here deal. That's where I'm at. So, I can be like the gentleman here earlier, turned around and say, for me, first in line and I'm not. And I had no problem then myself being put first in line. The sad thing about it is that even though when they had individual audit names came up, the same names come up that they know that they're Why didn't they go through names? Oh, well, this name come up. We had that one already. Let's go reshuffle and put in who hasn't been on there. But so, yeah, it's questions like that that turned around and turn around and bring up the same family name. And then, well, we're good. We're clear. No, that's wrong. I'd like the same person having the same, bringing up a lotto number and they turn around and keep having the same person that wins. Instead of nope this person won already, so back in. But those are my thoughts. I think, and feel, even along with all this, I think for

Trump, if he has his way, we all are going to be cashing in our cards. And this Little River casino out there, I'm sure, Trump Casino, they'll be going across the lane on me. So be happy with what you got today. So, this, even though this is coming up now, I don't think we, this ain't nothing compared to what I think and feel possibly could come up in uh the past time goes and say in the next four years. He might be so many billionaires, but to think of all these casinos that turn around and go up underneath his name of and add to those billions. So no, I'm not scared of this. And like I say, if I say, well, Ron, you're not, then I'm sorry. Okay, here's my card. Journey was nice. Miigwech. But that's who I am.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Yeah. Um when I say something, I just want everybody to understand. Councilor DiPiazza is trying to redirect my answers that the childish, childish, childish thing that goes on in kindergarten. Um what I say is what I say. He takes it and tries to turn it around and spin it to a scare tactic. I fear nothing. I'll be second if Councilor Wittenberg wants to be first. But no, nothing he says represents me. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Uh any other councilors? Councilor Metzger, go ahead.

Councilor Metzger: Yeah, I think uh I think all tribal members need to read Chicago 1836, Article 6. Specifically, Article 6. That's all I'm going to say on that. Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other, go ahead, Councilor Wever.

Councilor Wever: I just want to say, if you start removing people that shouldn't be on the enrollment, what are we going to do? Go to court? We're going to be in court with all these people.

Acting Speaker Johnson: I gotcha

Councilor Wever: Then what do we do? How many years will that take to even remove those people? Because they're going to be in court with us. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Crampton

Councilor Crampton: Tribal Council doesn't remove anybody. There's a process within the Constitution and with the rules. All Council would do is be giving back the outcome of the report. Council has no power to remove anybody but the Golden Law. So that statement, I want members to understand it's a false statement. There's no way we can do what Councilor Wever is talking about. Thank you.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other councilors? Okay, moving on to uh tribal membership. Um Delia, you were first. Go ahead

Councilor Crampton: *Stated something but unclear*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop guys

Councilor Wever: That's Chuck

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Councilor Crampton: I know its Chuck

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Delia Ross: Good afternoon. Okay, fellas. Can I speak? Okay. Um going back to the certified audit, as I said before, if it's been done, where is it? Where's the list of people that were certified? It's so easy to do. If you just get the list and show it to everybody, then we'd know. And we wouldn't be going through all this. Secondly, as an elder, I'm sure I'm speaking for some elders and not all, I don't see what the problem is. I've been kicked out the tribe. My whole family was kicked out. All hundred of us were kicked out the tribe. We had to prove who we were. Nobody cared at that time that they kicked the whole family out, took away the kids' money, our kids' money, supposed to be put in a trust because we appealed us being put out. Nobody cared. And did they ever get their money back? No, because nobody knows what happened to it. That was way back in the 90s. And yes, we did go to court. We had to get a lawyer. We had to do all of that. We had to come up there and make that trip because we do not live in Michigan. And we had to do all of that to prove that we were who we said we were. And in the end, we ended up having to get DNA tests. So, you know, okay, kick us out, do what you can, but we know who we are. And you told us to prove it, so we did. I really don't see what the issue is, why people don't want to do this audit. If you're who you say you are, then prove it like I had to. It's not a problem. If you know who you are, then we need to do the audit. If you don't want to do this audit, then there's something wrong. What is it that you're afraid of? There should be no fear from anyone in doing a 100% audit if, in fact, you are who you say you are. And I guess that's kind of where my problem is because I've been through it personally. And, like I said, we were kicked out. Prove who you are. We did. We're back in. So, you know, not wanting to do the 100% audit causes me and I'm sure other tribal members to wonder, why don't you want to do this? It's been five years. We're out of compliance. Just do what you need to do and let's get over and done with this. We've been arguing about this for how many years now? How many years have we been doing this? We've been going through this for some time now. As an elder and getting older by the day here, I'm kind of getting tired of this same argument for years. It makes no sense. None whatsoever. I listened this morning to the meeting where they're talking about all the files are in the basement. Then you take yourselves down there. Get those files out of the basement and show us. Show us. Prove to us that the people have been certified. It's so easy to do. So very easy. Thank you. That's all I have to say for now.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Okay uh go ahead Sandy

Councilor Wolfe: She doesn't get a second public comment

Councilor Silvis: It was a second and first motion

Councilor Wolfe: No, it doesn't matter

Acting Speaker Johnson: Its not a public comment

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Stated something but it wasn't clear on zoom*

Councilor Wolfe: Oh, yeah, that's right. It's not a public comment.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Yeah

Councilor Crampton: Sara Agosa

Councilor Wolfe: Sara never does yeah

Acting Speaker Johnson: That's public comment, though, of where we cut people off at.

Councilor Crampton: No that's anytime she comments on anything. They don't let her comment twice. Sara Agosa has stepped up and said it seven times.

Councilor Silvis: That's one before and one after the motion

Councilor Crampton: Okay

Acting Speaker Johnson: Right

Councilor Crampton: Just let her do her scare tactics. And let's get it over with so we can-

Acting Speaker Johnson: All right, Sandy, go ahead.

Sandy Mezeske: Oh, scare tactics. That was intelligent. Um anyway, I would still like council to take under consideration that Mr. Crampton has a conflict of interest in voting only because of all of his posts that have been transpired. The list of names okay the list of names is out there. Also, the fact that he's called Gary, an adopted white boy. He's pointed his finger at the Ogema. Put your hand down, Al.

In the background: Okay c'mon

Sandy Mezeske: You know what? Here's the thing. Here's the thing. If you think about it,

Councilors over talking each other in background

Sandy Mezeske: Al and Ron and Shannon have said, you know, put up about the 2004 audit like they've seen it. Okay. There's a definite conflict.

Acting Speaker Johnson: She's saying you have a conflict

Arguing in the background

Sandy Mezeske: Everyone can raise their hand to say no.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Sandy Mezeske: But somebody on council needs to address the fact of a conflict of interest. He has one. Period. Thank you.

Councilor Wever: Thank you Sandy

Acting Speaker Johnson: Any other member wants to say anything? Okay. Oh, go ahead, Mark.

Mark Huddleston: Um what little I know of our traditions, what I've learned, I have to apologize for my, um the way I spoke. I fear nothing. I don't know why. I keep hearing, what are you scared of? What are you scared of? And I hear um a detriment to the tribe. And they're stealing our money. How much money has been given to these people by the same people that say it's a detriment to the tribe and they're stealing money? And once again, I want to apologize. I apologize to everyone. I'm learning my traditions, our traditions. And I'm sorry. But that's all I have to say.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Back to council. For last minute, go ahead, Councilor Metzger.

Councilor Metzger: As elected official, I feel that I can raise my hand anytime. I mean, even though I'm a practicing pagan and a heathen and a savage, that old lady that refers to me as evil, a detriment to the tribe, no good, a Shannon Crampton follower, ma'am, you better step back and take a real look at reality. Because I am a practicing evil. I'm a pagan. So, when you refer to me as being evil, I take that as a compliment coming from you.

Sandy Mezeske: You are welcome

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it Sandy

Councilor Metzger: I got the floor. You've had the floor when you were a councilor. You've had the opportunity to go back to stipend when you were a councilor. Did you? Sit there and bitch and moan about things

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Metzger

Councilor Metzger: What have you done?

Councilor Wever: Pam he shouldn't be talking like that

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Scott Wahr: Your off track

Councilor Metzger: She brought my name up.

Sandy Mezeske: No, I didn't, No I didn't

Acting Speaker Johnson: That's not even close to what the topic is.

Councilor Crampton: You allowed it by letting her do that in the first place

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah

Councilor Crampton: He's responding. He's in the queue

Acting Speaker Johnson: How

Scott Wahr: Lead by example

Councilor Crampton: Can you get him out of here

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Councilor Metzger: There's a motion on the floor

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop. Recorder DiPiazza can you do roll call please

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: I certainly can

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: If everybody could quit talking

Councilor Crampton: *Speaking but can't hear clearly in zoom*

Acting Speaker Johnson: Just do roll call

Councilor Crampton: Here but we already know what the truth is

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Right here, buckaroo

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it. Can you do roll call?

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Would you like to see it

Councilor Crampton: No, you're scared to-

Acting Speaker Johnson: Do roll call. Guys

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: If anybody wants to see it, they're more than welcome.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Councilors over talking each other.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Turn around. Turn around so everybody

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: So, they can see you laugh. Hyena. Turn around so they can see that.

Councilor Crampton: *Mumbled something but was unclear*

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- No	M. Silvis- No	T. Burmeister - Absent
J. Wolfe - Yes	A. Metzger - Yes	R. Wittenberg- Yes
P. Johnson - No	S. Wever- No	S. Crampton- Yes

Motion carried (4-4-0-1)

Councilor Crampton: I'm not scared of nothing

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Councilor Wolfe: You started it Gary

Acting Speaker Johnson: You guys c'mon on. Just finish-

Councilor Wittenberg: stated something but wasn't clear through zoom

Acting Speaker Johnson: this and be done.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: 4 in favor,

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: 4 against, 1 absent. Resolution 25-0219-040 has failed.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Councilor Wever did you have something?

Antonio Romanelli: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: Are you just rooting?

Councilor Wever: I'm just um, I don't know

Councilor Wolfe: In weird behavior yeah. She doesn't have

Councilor Crampton: All the chicklets can go home now

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop!

Councilor Wever: *Mumbled something but was unclear*

Councilor Crampton: First day she- *Rest was unclear in zoom*

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: She had her hand up.

Councilor Wever: Well, I want to make a **motion to end the whole thing**

Acting Speaker Johnson: Ok.

Councilor Silvis: To adjourn

Councilor Wever: **Adjourned**

Councilor Silvis: Support

Acting Speaker Johnson: Thank you

Councilor Wolfe: Canada

Councilor Crampton: So, the-

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop! Guys

Arguing in the background to many people speaking at once to make out on zoom

Sandy Mezeske: \$1,000 fine if you punch him.

Councilor Crampton: Pat, why aren't you doing something? He didn't tell us. Pat, why aren't you doing something?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop. Can you please do roll call

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: *Arguing during roll call*

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Absent
S. Crampton - No	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister- Absent
J. Wolfe - No	A. Metzger- No	R. Wittenberg- No

Motion carried (3-4-0-2)

Three in favor, four against, two absent we're still in second open

Councilor Wever: You're not arresting anyone

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Councilor Silvis: Wait a second, we didn't adjourn it failed

Councilor Wolfe: Yeah, we're still in session

Councilor Silvis: So, we're still in session

Councilor Wever: Not arresting or help

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Councilor Wolfe: Why did he walk over here threatening?

Councilor Wever: He didn't threaten him

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it!

Councilor Wolfe: You're not on the other side of the room. Over here

Councilor Silvis: I can witness it

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Councilor Crampton: I don't care he walked over here in a threatening Manner. You saw it.

Councilor Silvis: Nobody saw anything

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Really

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it!

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Go with that

Councilor Crampton: Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh.

Councilor Wittenberg: You might as well have been threatening Manner because-

Councilors talking in the background over each other

Acting Speaker Johnson: Hey

Councilor Wolfe: Make a **motion to end second open**

Beth McClellan: You guys are an embarrassment

Councilor Wolfe: Yay

Councilor Crampton: Thank you

Acting Speaker Johnson: You guys stop

Councilor Wolfe: We have a motion on the floor

Michelle Sinclair: You all do this all the time. All you got to do is end the meeting.

Councilor Crampton: Cmon lets go

Acting Speaker Johnson: You guys turned on the last motion.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: The roads are getting bad.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it and just do roll call please

Councilor Wolfe: Don't have far to go. hey, you got bad tires? Stay away from Shirley.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stay away from the snowbanks.

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Who's supporting?

Acting Speaker Johnson: Shh Shh- Councilor Crampton. Pull a new sheet up good lord

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Ahh its fine

Acting Speaker Johnson: Oh my god

XII. Adjourn

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza:

Roll Call #

G. DiPiazza- Yes	P. Johnson- Yes	S. Wever - Yes
S. Crampton - No	M. Silvis- Yes	T. Burmeister- Absent
J. Wolfe - Yes	A. Metzger- No	R. Wittenberg- No

Motion carried (3-4-0-2)

Conversations during roll call

Councilor Wolfe: Cutting you Ron

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Oh, yeah, that's assault.

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Councilor Wolfe: Actually, a call Gary and you know it

Acting Speaker Johnson: Guys! Please do the roll call

Councilor Wittenberg: It's the same thing as somebody wants to turn around and hit the table.

Kimberly McClellan: It is a professional meeting at your age and not like a three-year-old.

Sandy Mezeske: Hey, you won't even see him for six weeks.

Councilor Crampton: Um Sandy- Shut off Sandy

Councilor Wolfe: Sandy should be in the waiting room

Acting Speaker Johnson: Stop it

Pro Temp Recorder DiPiazza: Looks like five in favor, three against.

Councilor Wever: One absent.

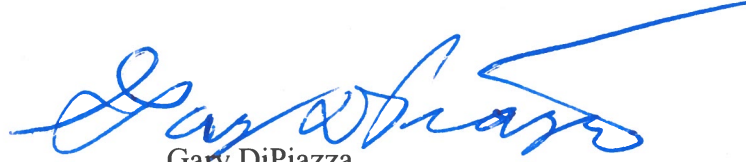
Councilor Crampton: Okay

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chantel Gamelin,
Transcribing Assistant



Gary DiPiazza,
Tribal Council Pro Temp Recorder