

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on February 8, 2017. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

I. Opening Prayer

Terri Tyler, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin.

Walk with our people who we have lost, loved ones.
There had been so many recently.
Help them along their way.
Miigwech, Giizhemanidoo, Miigwech, Miigwech.

Speaker Johnson thanked Terri Tyler for her wonderful words. Johnson said he wanted to build onto that is the fact that they had a very difficult year this year. Johnson said already they had several people walk on more than normal. Johnson said the last he heard it was well over ten or around ten that has walked on just this last month. Johnson said before he goes to the roll call he would like to acknowledge a couple of people in their audience. Johnson said they have both the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tem from Manistee here to listen to their Council Meeting. Johnson said he wanted to welcome them here and looks forward to working with them in the future.

Julie Wolfe said, from the audience, it is not very loud and she can't hear him speaking clearly.

Speaker Johnson apologized and said he will try to speak up a little bit then.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was not called to order and the time was not noted.

B. Roll Call

J. Riley - Present	Vacant	F. Medacco- Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza- Present	M. Wabindato -Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	V. Johnson - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Others Present: John Pabami, Chuck Fisher, Mike Walter, Kelly Maser, Archie Martell, Shanaviah Canales, Spring Medacco, Jennifer Crampton, Julie Wolfe, Dave Corey, Jake Kequom, Steve Wheeler, Diane Lonn, Bill Willis, Darleen Martin, Erin Pontiac, Terri Tyler.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, Mary Thomas, Ogema Romanelli, Officer Umlauf, Officer Brown, Officer Robles, Elaine Porter, Rebecca Liebing, Caitlin Rollins, Manistee Mayor, Manistee Mayor Pro Tem.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2017 WITH NO CHANGES; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #1

J. Riley - Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley noted the agenda is adopted.

D. Tribal Council Minutes 2/1/17

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 2/1/17 FOR FILING; by Lewis; supported by Wabindato.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain. Johnson said he will be abstaining because he was not in attendance and was on vacation on this day. Johnson said with that said it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #2

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes	
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Abstain	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-1-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley noted the minutes are accepted.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

1. Approving the grant application for the U.S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation Purpose #5 OVW Violence Against Women Tribal Government Program Funds

This is an approval to apply for DOJ OVW Purpose #5 that will pay for one full time staff person and continue to provide services to Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Dating Violence.

Shanaviah Canales, Domestic Violence Coordinator, and Chuck Fisher, from the Grants Department, represented this agenda item. Canales said she is asking for approval to reapply for the OVW Violence Against Women Purpose Area 5 Grant. Canales said it is a three year grant and the maximum that they can ask for is \$450,000 and there is no match needed.

Councilor Di Piazza asked when is the grant due by.

Shanaviah Canales responded that it is due February 28th.

Councilor Di Piazza said there is no match.

Shanaviah Canales reiterated that there is no match.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, asked if this was a reoccurring grant and what does the \$450 potentially that they receive in grant dollars where does it go and get spent to benefit members.

Shanaviah Canales said it will be like what they have right now. Canales said it will be for Transitional Housing, Legal Aide Services, and it will be for support services which can include Emergency Shelter, Emergency food and clothing,

Furnishing a house, and transportation. Canales said it covers the nine county service area.

Speaker Johnson asked how long will this grant be good for.

Shanaviah Canales said three years.

Chuck Fisher said he would like to chip in on part of that answer as well. Fisher said this is a CTAS and the Department of Justice large grant funding opportunity for all Tribal Organizations. Fisher said it is a nine part application with potentially nine different grants within the larger program. Fisher said they are only addressing Purpose Area 5. Fisher said there are other Purpose Areas that they could have applied for that they elected not to so.

Councilor Lewis said it was brought to their attention on males and can they use this also because it is not just women that deal with domestic violence. Lewis asked if that was open to where men can come in and access services.

Shanaviah Canales answered absolutely and they had one.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0208-047;
APPROVING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COORDINATED TRIBAL
ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION PURPOSE #5 OVW VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FUNDS
FOR A FY2017 THREE YEAR TERM AT THE RATE OF \$450,000;
by Medacco; supported by Riley.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #3

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes	
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-047 is passed.

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a**

modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$174,000

The contract funds are awarded as part of the 2017 Self-Governance Compact.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said Item #1 is additional funding they received from the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the 2017 Self-Governance Compact. Willis said this is actually the second allocation they received which basically brings them up to almost \$500,000 of the projected \$2.1 million of funding. Willis said they just need to.....all of the funding is associated with base funding programs which include Family Services, Natural Resources.....anyway so it is the base programs under the Self-Governance Compact.

Speaker Johnson said it is open for discussion and/or a motion.

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-0208-048; ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2017-06 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$174,000; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #4

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-048 is passed.

2. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Indian Health Services and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$1,516,272

The contract funds are awarded as part of the 2017 Self-Governance Compact.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said this is funding they received from the Department of Health and Human Services better known as Indian Health Services. Willis said this is the first appropriation they

received or allocation they received from them under the 2017 Self-Governance Compact in the amount of \$1,516,272 of which \$181,037 is for Contract Support. Willis said the rest of the funding is base funding.

Councilor Di Piazza asked if this was extremely early.

Bill Willis replied yes extremely early. Willis said it represents about 60% of what they projected of the total funding would be for 2017 so they are on a good track.

Speaker Johnson said it is open for discussion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0208-049;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-INDIAN
HEALTH SERVICES AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO
THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2017-07 IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$1,516,272; by Medacco; supported by Di Piazza.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #5

J. Riley - Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-049 is passed.

Speaker Johnson said he just wanted to make a quick comment on the last two items both B.1 and B.2. Johnson said these are Self-Governance items and reoccurring items that they will see every year. Johnson said he wanted to thank both the Ogema's staff when Jessica Burger was on there and Council's Janine Sam who worked so hard to get Self-Governance moving forward and now they have this stuff in place. Johnson asked he said Jessica Burger didn't he.

Councilors Crampton and Medacco said Speaker Johnson said Janine Sam.

Speaker Johnson apologized and said it was both Janine Sam and Jessica Burger worked very hard on this item now they are starting to see the benefits from it. Johnson said he doesn't want to forget this and just wants to remember his colleagues and the people in the audience on how this came about.

3. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2017-__-1st QTR to fund Attorney Costs in the Tribal Ogema v. Tribal Council Case in the amount of \$10,000

Tribal Council has received a Certification of Availability of Funds #2017-003 from the Accounting Department signed by the Chief Financial Officer.

Speaker Johnson said he knows the item itself has the Recorder's name on it but he will just give a quick update on this. Johnson said there are some costs in regards to the Ogema verses Tribal Council on the case they currently have in front of them and this is funds to help support the legal costs for.

MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0208-050; APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION 2017-03-1st QTR TO FUND ATTORNEY FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRIBAL OGEMA v. TRIBAL COUNCIL CASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000; by Riley; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Johnny Pabami, Tribal #2978, said so they the citizens are paying the legal fees for them guys to sit there and keep going to court. Pabami said those guys continue to fight in court and they are the ones paying the bill for it. Pabami asked if that was accurate.

Councilor Crampton said no.

Johnny Pabami said okay can they explain it to them then.

Councilor Crampton said Tribal Council didn't bring the case and action the Ogema did. Crampton said they have to respond.

Johnny Pabami said okay but yet they are still paying.....the citizens are still paying for it.

Speaker Johnson said it is coming out of the.....

Johnny Pabami interrupted and said they are paying for their representation.

Speaker Johnson said they are paying for the legal fees, yes.

Johnny Pabami said they are.

Speaker Johnson reiterated yes. Johnson said it is coming out of the Budget for the government so what he is making reference to it because the people are part of

the government, he believed that is the tack that Johnny Pabami is taking on this is that.....

Johnny Pabami said the people are supposed to be a part of the government but the people are not part of the government.

Councilor Crampton said that is not entirely accurate because it is coming out of funds that do not come out of the Revenue Allocation portion of the membership's money so that is not entirely accurate.

Johnny Pabami said to Councilor Crampton okay so where is the money coming from then.

Councilor Crampton replied from the appropriations to the government and they can't be touching the Revenue Allocation Program. Crampton said it is not money that is available to the membership so it is not coming from the membership's pockets.

Speaker Johnson asked if there is any other discussion on this item. Johnson asked if they had a motion on this, right.

Recorder Riley replied yes.

Roll Call #6

J. Riley - Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- No	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-0)
 1 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-050 is passed.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Speaker Johnson noted they do not have anything in the item area C for Approval of Budgeted Expenditures.

IV. Old Business

- A. **Financial Report**
 December 2016 (Received 1/31/17) None Submitted
- B. **Health Commission**
 December 2016 None Submitted
- C. **Commerce Commission**
 May, June & December 2016 None Submitted
- D. **Natural Resource Commission**

- December 2016** **None Submitted**
- E. Elders Committee Minutes**
November 3, 2016 **November 4-6**
- F. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report** 1. **October 2016**
2. **November 2016**
3. **December 2016**
- G. LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Report**
May thru December 2016 **None Submitted**

Speaker Johnson said they do have Preference Reports and the Elders Committee Reports for filing. Johnson asked Recorder Riley if there is any action items that they have to do.

Recorder Riley responded no.

Speaker Johnson said with that said it will be noted that they will be filed.

V. New Business

A. Authorization for the Creation of a Restricted Account for Capital Replacement Reserve

Tribal Ogema and Tribal Council have recognized the need to restrict funds for future capital replacement needs.

Speaker Johnson said it is open for discussion and/or a motion.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, asked what exactly is this because it is not very clear on here. Wolfe said it is just two sentences, a Restricted Account for Capital Replacement. Wolfe asked what expenditures did they have in Capital Reserve that need replaced.

Councilor Crampton said the funds are coming from Ramah Navajo-Jewel Case, the settlement that he thinks 250 Tribes are involved in. Crampton said it is going to cover the costs they already incurred.

Julie Wolfe asked the cost of what.

Councilor Crampton responded the costs they already spent in Tribal dollars and it is just replenishing it. Crampton reiterated it is a settlement from the Jewel Case.

Julie Wolfe said okay and thanked them.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion.....

Recorder Riley said he just wanted to add that fund goes for Building Maintenance, Vehicles and there a few other things. Riley asked Steve Wheeler if he could elaborate on what else that fund is used for please.

Steve Wheeler, Tribal CFO, represented this agenda item. Wheeler said the Capital Replacement Reserve is for any capital needs the Tribe has. Wheeler said currently they don't have any money budgeted or set aside for capital needs for the future. Wheeler said it could be heating or air conditioning goes down in one of their buildings, one of their leased buildings, roofing, plumbing, heating or electrical. Wheeler said any large needs that they have they don't have any money set aside and in the work session some time ago they discussed taking this settlement money and restricting it in a Restricted Reserve Account to be accessed for capital events. Wheeler said the money can only be accessed by Council resolution because once it is restricted by Council resolution it can only be accessed by resolution to use the funds so it would have to come forth to the ____ Council.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item or a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-0208-051;
 CREATION OF A RESTRICTED ACCOUNT FOR CAPITAL
 REPLACEMENT RESERVE;** by Lewis; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #7

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)
 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-051 is passed.

B. Authorization to release restriction on Commodities Renovation Reserve

The Tribe acknowledges completion of the renovation for the Commodities Program and releases restriction on the unused balance in the reserve account in the amount of \$10,995.38.

Steve Wheeler, Tribal CFO, represented this agenda item. Wheeler said this is basically.....some time ago the Tribe had restricted funds for the Commodities Renovation.....the Commodities Department Renovation. Wheeler said they restricted \$130,000 back in the end of 2014. Wheeler said as they all know the

project has been completed and there is no outstanding items there. Wheeler said there was \$10,995.38 left in this reserve and the project is completed. Wheeler said they just want to release restriction of those funds. Wheeler said once the funds are restricted, the restriction is released, and they just become unrestricted cash that just moves back into their unrestricted cash.

Speaker Johnson said it is open for discussion and/or a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-0208-052;
 AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE RESTRICTIONS OF
 COMMODITIES RENOVATION RESERVE; by Lewis; supported by
 Wittenberg.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion. Johnson said it so noted that this ten.....almost \$11,000 and what they are saying it was under budget on the total cost of the project which is how much they saved. Johnson said he wants to thank the people who worked on it to ensure they were under budget. Johnson said with that said any other discussion on this item.

Roll Call #8

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-052 is passed.

C. Permanent Adoption of Amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance #04-200-01

Tribal Council held a final work session on January 31, 2017 to review any comments or issues submitted during the 30 Day Comment Period prior to adopting the amendments permanently.

Speaker Johnson said to Councilor Di Piazza that maybe want to share with their membership what this is about.

Councilor Di Piazza said the Constitutional Changes some things needed to be changed on the Enrollment doc....ordinance to the closing of enrollment and such. Di Piazza said basically the change and also a couple of verbiage things that needed to be addressed but other than that it is basically to address the Constitutional Changes of closing enrollment to coincide so they both match.

Recorder Riley said he was just going to say their Enrollment Officer is present in the audience and helped make these changes she might be able to get up and give some specifics please.

Diane Lonn, Enrollment Officer, said she would rather defer to their attorney.

Caitlin Rollins, Unified Legal Department Attorney, represented this agenda item. Rollins said the first change was to adopt the new 2016 Constitutional Amendments and then also as a result to that change the file review period from every two years to five years. Rollins said those were the two main changes. Rollins said there is also another small change in the ordinance it had the Tribal Ogema is required to sign all the enrollment cards but that wasn't being done because there is just not enough room for that so that was taken out as well.

Recorder Riley said to the Tribal Ogema that his hand must had been getting cramped up from doing all that.

Speaker Johnson asked if they had a motion on this yet.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0208-053;
PERMANENT ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE
ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE #04-200-01; by Di Piazza; supported by
Wittenberg.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Ogema Romanelli said he has no discussion on this but just wanted to make people aware that he did receive a communication just recently. Romanelli said this is just for the record of an adult person who has a relationship that could possibly have been enrolled in a Tribe however, this restricts it but this person just found out as an adult person that they may have been eligible for enrollment. Romanelli said that is just one of those things that happens but just to let people know that those situations are out there.

Speaker Johnson thanked the Ogema. Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said going off what the Ogema just stated. Wolfe asked if there isn't a provision for adult members that may possibly be eligible for enrollment still submit their application and they are not locked out. Wolfe asked if they didn't put in a provision for that.

Recorder Riley stated they have to be adopted.

Speaker Johnson said as Recorder Riley said they have to be adopted or newly born he believed also.

Julie Wolfe said that is not the case of what they are talking about it's not an adoption just a relationship.

Tribal Ogema and Tribal Council said yes.

Councilor Crampton said they also, he remembers seeing the letter, and in the letter the lady apologized for being complacent too because she didn't sign up or her father didn't sign up he guessed that is what she was saying. Crampton reiterated that she was just apologizing for not getting to it sooner.

Diane Lonn, Tribal #0194 and Enrollment Director, said what happened is she did receive three letters and she talked to the father and the daughter. Lonn said the father was taken away and put in a home when he was very young, in a foster, and was mistreated very badly so when he became an adult he never told his kids anything. Lonn said he didn't want them to know anything about his Native background because it was so bad. Lonn said it wasn't until she started doing some genealogy that she finally found out and he opened up that yes she was entitled to be a member of this Tribe but because of the terrible background and the abuse he took as a kid he didn't want her to even know he was Indian so that left.....it is almost like an adopted person. Lonn said she is now sad and everything else that can't get in. Lonn said she talked to her and said to her to still apply and they will just keep it on file. Lonn said some day it may be opened up. Lonn said she is sure they will have others because there was so many children in Manistee and they are one of the biggest.....the Tribe has the most adopted people where they were taken away and now all of a sudden they are finding out and when children are abused or an only child or Mt. Pleasant they don't want to talk about what happened way back then. Lonn said so they don't tell them, their children, that they are Native or where they belong until later. Lonn said when she did find out they already closed the rolls.

Speaker Johnson thanked Diane Lonn for the update.

Recorder Riley said just as a remainder to everybody that this is a Constitutional Change that was done by the membership and it's their Constitution, everybody's Constitution, so if at any time they want as a people to open that back up or make exceptions for extenuating circumstances or anything like that, they know, it is in their hands so just throwing that out there.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item. Johnson asked if they had a motion on this right.

Councilor Lewis said yes.

Roll Call #9

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-053 is passed.

D. Approval of Donation of \$1,100 to Muskegon County Cooperating Churches

The approval for the Tribe to sponsor a Food Truck in Muskegon for 15,000 pounds of food which will feed up to 300 Families at the cost of \$1,100. The date of distribution will be determined once the resolution is approved. Tribal Council & Tribal Ogema each donating \$550 each.

Shanaviah Canales, Domestic Violence Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Canales said they are asking for approval of donations of \$1,100 for the Muskegon County Cooperating Churches which is a 15 pound.....it's a food truck with 15 pounds of food for 300 families so if the Tribe would like to sponsor.

Councilors Riley and Crampton said 15 pounds don't seem like enough.

Shanaviah Canales apologized and said 15,000 pounds.

Speaker Johnson asked if there were any questions or discussion or a motion on this item.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said it says cooperating churches. Wolfe asked do they have to be a member of the churches to receive that and how Tribal members are going to know that this is available or that the Tribe sponsored it. Wolfe asked if it included the Caterie Circle which is a really active church in Muskegon.

Shanaviah Canales replied the Muskegon Cooperating Churches is the one who organizes it and it is Feeding America..... West Michigan Feeding America so those are the ones who just arrange it. Canales said yes there will be some marketing on the advertising that the Tribe is sponsoring.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0208-054;
 APPROVAL OF DONATION OF \$1,100 TO MUSKEGON
 COUNTY COOPERATING CHURCHES;** by Di Piazza; supported by
 Wittenberg.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain.

Councilor Crampton said it should be noted that this is a parcel project so it is coming half.....the donation is coming from the Council side and half is coming from the Ogema side. Crampton said he just wanted to acknowledge that.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Roll Call #10

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-054 is passed.

E. Approving a Letter of Support for Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Victim Service Program

Execution of a letter to be sent to Nadine M. Neufville, Acting Director for Office on Violence Against Women, that will be submitted with DOJ OVW Tribal Government Program Solicitation Grant Packet (Item III A.1).

Shanaviah Canales, Domestic Violence Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Canales said this is asking for approval for a Letter of Support from the Ogema and Tribal Council to submit with the solicitation of the grant for the OVW Purpose Area 5.

Speaker Johnson said it is open for discussion and/or a motion.

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-0208-055; APPROVING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #11

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -
				Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #17-0208-055 is passed.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, February 15, 2017

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Ogema Romanelli said there is really nothing new to report to the membership. Romanelli said a lot of internal things that they are doing inside the government day to day business. Romanelli said the only thing that has changed is last week he mentioned he was putting forward an Informational Meeting.....a State of the Tribe Meeting on February 18th that has now been reserved in the Three Fires Room and is going to go from 10:00 until 12:00 and 1:00 until 3:00 he believed. Romanelli said people are welcome to send in their questions, if they have questions, it will be a State of the Tribe where he will be trying to be giving an update as to where the Tribe is at and go from there. Romanelli said it is also an Informational Meeting because sometimes there is information that gets out that is actually incorrect or incomplete. Romanelli said he tries to provide something that is a little more correct in his opinion and that is why he likes to have.....he will try and have some employees there if he can but he would also like to have other Elected Officials represented too so they can answer Tribal member questions. Romanelli said he prefers that the questions.....and this is what happens at Tribal Council.....or at.....well both Council Meetings and at Membership Meetings. Romanelli said people will ask a question like how much was this or what.....off the top of his head if he doesn't know the question is coming he can't give a clear answer however if they send it in advance they can get the proper information. Romanelli said if they have a little more advance notice they can give a better answer and that is what he hopes to do. Romanelli said sometimes like he said the information that comes to him comes back as incorrect. Romanelli said he doesn't know how it started or where it goes but just to get people a little more clear understanding is what the intent is. Romanelli said if the meeting doesn't need to go three hours they obviously won't do so but he thinks there is enough to keep them going for a couple of hours anyway.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said to the Ogema just wondering why now two months before Membership Meeting and everything he just talked about seems similar to what he addresses in his Meet and Greet in the Spring Membership Meeting. Wolfe asked what the purpose is of calling it two months early when people can't get here. Wolfe said it is short notice they are already at.....what is today....February 8th so ten day's notice that he is giving people to attend an important meeting.

Ogema Romanelli said actually he gave notice prior to today so it is longer than ten. Romanelli said yeah he can put something in stone on a rock out in front of the Government Center a year before and he is going to get a complaint one way or the other. Romanelli said it is short notice and the timeliness is kind of odd but they know what happens here and this happens at every election time. Romanelli

said the misinformation starts to bubble up and he gets frustrated with it at times because it seems like it comes with election time. Romanelli said people are voting, the Tribal members have the right to vote for their candidates, for example and he doesn't think this is an election thing. Romanelli said what he wants is he wants people to not be putting out misinformation and wants people to have the correct information. Romanelli said for example, and this was brought up before, for example and he doesn't have any documents that can show his side but the information that bubbles out and he gets it. Romanelli said he has copies of Face Book and he can put the Face Book out there that the *Ogema is going to bid on houses that is why he has his construction company that he is revamping and he is going to make all this money and he is going to put this in his son's name and they are going to take over.* Romanelli said they know that is misinformation.

Julie Wolfe said he answered that very clearly at Membership and she was one of the persons that questioned.....

Ogema Romanelli said the essence that time has been put out on Face Book again. Romanelli said that doesn't help him, it doesn't help their Leader, it does not help the Tribe to have that kind of nonsense out there so he is saying here is a good place. Romanelli said there is an Informational Meeting coming up on February 18th and whoever put that out there please bring their information forward. Romanelli said that says this is what the Ogema is doing because he can tell them that he would not do business with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as a business partner. Romanelli said he thinks the Tribe is a wonderful business partner and thinks that they can do some great things but for him as an Elected Official and in his capacity it would be a Conflict of Interest for him to do so. Romanelli said so at this time it wouldn't be a good arrangement but the Tribe could do so many things.

Julie Wolfe said to the Ogema her second question is does he have an agenda or some formal items that he is going to be presenting first so they know how to get their questions in so that he can answer them and not get the rhetorical "*I'll look into that.*"

Ogema Romanelli said sure and that is insulting to him because he thinks he needs to look into things before just running at the mouth. Romanelli said that is just his honest opinion.

Julie Wolfe said how can they.....they can send any kind of question into to him and they don't have any agenda on what he plans on going over but just knows that it is an Informational Meeting from 10:00 to 3:00.

Ogema Romanelli said that is correct.

Julie Wolfe said so she is asking for more specific information so she can submit her questions respectfully.

Ogema Romanelli said he put out there that she could e-mail it to him or she can mail her questions into him, correct. Romanelli said if people would do it sooner than later.

Julie Wolfe said she wanted an agenda on what he plans on presenting.

Ogema Romanelli said he plans on presenting any information, any questions that he can legally answer because there are court things that they have to be careful of, there are personnel issues that they have to be careful of, and there are contractual things that they have to be careful of. Romanelli said he can't answer them even if he wanted to. Romanelli said if people would present them in a clear manner and attach their name to them he would be more than happy to answer them. Romanelli said he doesn't want to get into his personal family which sometimes he refuses to do because what his kids do or his wife does or his grandchildren do he shouldn't have to answer that. Romanelli said he had that before too so.

Speaker Johnson said he thinks what Julie Wolfe.....

Ogema Romanelli said to Julie Wolfe just send in her questions. Romanelli said he is asking and the sooner she does it the more information he can give. Romanelli said this will be recorded. Romanelli said he has already asked that it be recorded and he also asked that it be live-streamed because he would like people to be able to get a much information as quickly as possible. Romanelli said if he could have a call-in he would do so with that. Romanelli said it is not that easy to do so he will get as much.....he finds it funny that sometimes when they are trying to give information they get resistance when they are trying to give the right information. Romanelli said that is the best he can do.

Speaker Johnson said he can understand what Julie Wolfe was trying to ask the Ogema for is that the short notice on the Informational Meeting without an agenda. Johnson said he thinks what they are asking here is if nothing else make the agenda because it is the first time they are doing this of this short nature that they need to pull together an agenda on that item and the guidelines and what the expectations for the membership when they come to this Information Meeting and what to expect.

Ogema Romanelli said they can do that.

Speaker Johnson said he would expect that would help Julie Wolfe out and the membership out.

Ogema Romanelli said to watch the Rapid River News on Monday and it will be a little more clear.

Julie Wolfe thanked them.

Speaker Johnson said they are still in the Business Update and asked are there any other questions.

Councilor Crampton said just as he clarified the separation of the donation and the contribution from the Ogema's Office he wants to clarify for the membership so it doesn't get misunderstood that this is not a meeting of the Council who is calling this it is the Ogema that is calling this meeting and it is his meeting. Crampton said he has some information that he wants to share and has extended an invitation to the other Elected Officials so this is not a meeting of the Council.

Ogema Romanelli said that is correct and thanked Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Lewis asked if that is the same night as the Round Dance.

Councilor Crampton said yes.

Ogema Romanelli said yes.

Councilor Lewis said she wants to apologize now because she knows some of them are not going to be there due to the circumstances of the Round Dance situation. Lewis said she knows a lot of them are contributed their time to that. Lewis said she can only as a person herself ask that if the Ogema could postpone his meeting until after their April Meeting or after the Elections. Lewis reiterated that she can only ask him that as a person if he could postpone until then.

Ogema Romanelli said he would think then in that case maybe the Officers could attend and he is looking for representation from the Tribal Council so that they can get both sides of an issue if it is a place that is somewhere in between or a question between one side or the other maybe the Officers should attend. Romanelli said he is not looking for all eight people to attend and understands that the Round Dance is there.

Councilor Wittenberg said it is pretty cut and dry about an agenda. Wittenberg said all the Ogema is asking for is whatever questions jotted down and send it onto him. Wittenberg said that way his circle can turn around and go through it and answer it, right.

Ogema Romanelli said sure.

Councilor Wittenberg said that is the way that he took it. Wittenberg said it is kind of black and white.

Ogema Romanelli said he has held these Informational Meetings before, by the way, several times and their...actually each one of them have been recorded and people can refer back to them if they choose to so. Romanelli said to Councilor Lewis that he thanks her for his concern too.

Councilor Crampton said another point of clarification and he just looked it up and thinks the first time that it was mentioned in Council was last week at the Wednesday Meeting.

Ogema Romanelli said yes.

Councilor Crampton said last week is the first time Council has heard of it.

Ogema Romanelli said that is correct.

Speaker Johnson said he thinks they discussed this pretty well. Johnson said one item that he asked the Ogema to think about is that it February now and it won't be long that they will be doing some sugaring. Johnson said he is hoping that they have the facilities set up so they can have their children out there and they can continue doing that as they have in the years past for sugaring. Johnson said he doesn't know what the changes of organization because things have happened and transpired over the last year he would just like hopefully they can continue doing this.

Councilor Di Piazza said that will take place in March and believed March the 4th through the 6th they will be tapping and collecting syrup then the 11th after the Snow snake which will be at Aki on March 11th then they will firing up the kettle to do some maple syrup.

Speaker Johnson thanked Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza continue with on the 18th he will probably.....yeah.....he will probably be over at the casino no meanies if he fall....nods out and falls asleep but hey. Di Piazza said it will be a long day but what is new.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was anything else on Business Update.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Johnson asked if there is anything on Legislative.

Councilor Crampton said crack downs at the DL Pipeline started and journalists Jeanie Nomae was arrested yesterday for trespassing and the crack downs are continuing. Crampton said Michigan Native, Betsy De Vos, was elected to the Secretary of Education with an historic vote. Crampton said it was split so it was decided by the Vice President, Mr. Pence, and that is about it.

Speaker Johnson said he just wanted to add that there is a meeting in Lansing with the Tribes and the Governor. Johnson said that is going to happen he believes on

the 22nd of February and he plans on attending that. Johnson said just for everybody to be aware of that.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Johnson said he invites any Tribal member to come up, give their name and Tribal I.D. at this point.

Diane Lonn, Tribal #0194, said she just wanted to remind everybody that the Michigan Indian Elders Association they are sponsoring it this year and the Elders Committee is working with the two representatives. Lonn said it will be the 3rd, 4th, and the 5th of April. Lonn said the 4th is Welcome to Elders, no children, one spouse or significant other but it will be open all day. Lonn said there will be breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Lonn said there will be speakers, auction, and entertainment. Lonn said there will be a variety of things that will be going on that day and she did put it in the Rapid River and they are trying to get the word out.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was anything else for public comments.

The purpose of closed session is to discuss business matters considered privileged or confidential involving consideration of bids/contracts, pending legal issues, and/or personnel matters.

MOTION TO END FIRST OPEN AT 10:49 A.M; by Medacco;
supported by Lewis.

Roll Call #12

J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes	
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

VIII. Open Session

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 12:23 p.m.

MOTION TO GO INTO SECOND OPEN AT 12:23; by Lewis;
supported by Wabindato.

Roll Call #13

J. Riley - Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Speaker Johnson asked Recorder Riley if they had any items to move from closed to open.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

MOTION TO MOVE RESOLUTION, MOTION AND ROLL CALL VOTE FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS C.2 THROUGH C.5; by Riley; supported by Medacco.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #14

J. Riley - Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

1 Vacant

Recorder Riley noted the items are moved.

The following resolutions, motions and roll call votes were moved from Closed to Open Session.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 17-0208-056, APPROVING THE OGEMA'S EXECUTION OF THE FY-2017 SUBCONTRACT FOR BIOLOGICAL SERVICES WITH THE INTER-TRIBAL FISHERIES AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM, SAULT STE. MARIE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$46,400; by Medacco; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anyone was going to abstain from the vote.

Roll Call #C-3

R. Wittenberg - Yes	S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - Yes
V. Johnson - Yes	F. Medacco - Yes	J. Riley - Yes

Vacant	M. Wabindato– Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes
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Motion carried (8-0-0-0-1)

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 17-0208-057,
APPROVING THE OGEMA’S EXECUTION OF THE FY-2017
SUBCONTRACT FOR ADMINISTRATION SERVICES WITH
THE CHIPPEWA OTTAWA RESOURCE AUTHORITY IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$70,712; by Medacco; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anyone was going to abstain from the vote.

Roll Call #C-4

R. Wittenberg - Yes	S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza – Yes
V. Johnson - Yes	F. Medacco – Yes	J. Riley – Yes
Vacant	M. Wabindato– Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0-1)

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 17-0208-059,
RATIFICATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH GRAND VALLEY
AUTOMATION FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ON THE
GOVERNMENT CENTER HVAC CONTROL SYSTEM; by
Medacco; supported by Riley.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anyone was going to abstain from the vote.

Roll Call #C-9

R. Wittenberg - Yes	S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza – Yes
V. Johnson - Yes	F. Medacco – Yes	J. Riley – Yes
Vacant	M. Wabindato– Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0-1)

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 17-0208-060,
RATIFICATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH VAN DYKEN
MECHANICAL FOR THE MAINTENANCE ON THE
GOVERNMENT CENTER HVAC SYSTEM; by Medacco; supported
by Riley.**

Speaker Johnson asked if anyone was going to abstain from the vote.

Roll Call #C-10

R. Wittenberg - Yes	S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza – Yes
V. Johnson - Yes	F. Medacco – Yes	J. Riley – Yes
Vacant	M. Wabindato– Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0-1)

This concludes the items moved from Closed to Open Session.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO END SECOND OPEN AT 12:24; by Lewis; supported by Wabindato.

Roll Call #15

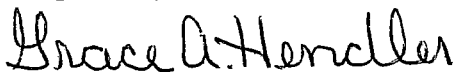
J. Riley -	Yes	Vacant	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

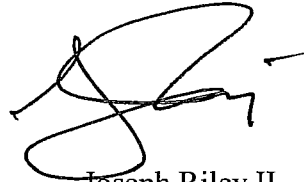
1 Vacant

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Joseph Riley II,
Tribal Council Recorder