Council News

Current Constitution

1. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall serve an approximate four (4) year term of office.
2. The candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve an approximate two (2) year term of office. (c) One position on the Tribal Council shall elected by those members residing outside the nine (9) county district and shall serve an approximate two (2) year term of office.
(d) The candidate for the office of Tribal Ogema who receives the majority of votes cast shall serve an approximate four (4) year term of office. If no one (1) candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election shall be held between the two (2) candidates who received the highest number of votes.
(e) The Tribal Council in office when this Constitution is adopted shall appoint an Election Board consisting of five (5) adult members of the Tribe. Such appointments shall be made no later than thirty (30) days after this Constitution is adopted.
(f) The service of the Election Board members appointed to conduct the first election shall expire immediately upon completion of their duties, in order that the first-elected Tribal Ogema and Tribal Council may make appointments to the Election Board.
(g) The Election Board shall issue such rules and regulations, consistent with this Constitution, as it deems necessary to properly conduct the first election. Such rules and regulations shall be issued no later than ninety (90) days after appointments are made to the Election Board.
(h) The Election Board shall register eligible voters of the Tribe and provide for conducting the first election.

Proposed Changes

PROPOSAL #4- Should Article V Section 2 be amended as follows:
Section 2 - Qualifications. A Tribal Member must meet the following qualifications to be a candidate or nominee for Ogema, or to retain his or her seat as Ogema:
(a) He or she must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age or older and a resident of the State of Michigan for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled election.
(b) He or she must disclose to the Membership if any of the following apply:
1. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction for a crime involving fraud or misrepresentation; and/or
2. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any crime listed in the Major Crimes Act (U.S. Stat. Vol.23, Chapter 341) (murder, manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to murder, arson, burglary or larceny); and/or
3. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any felony in any jurisdiction, or for any other offense, the victim of which offense was the Tribe, or any Tribal business, enterprise, department or program; and/or Resolution #15-1209-373 Page 5 of7
4. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction for any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed, and/or is registered in any jurisdiction's list or sexual offenders.
(c) Upon election, he or she must establish a permanent physical residence that allows the Ogema to be available within the nine-county district described in subsection 2(b)(1) of Article IV within 60 days of his or her swearing-in ceremony.

Current Constitution

Section 2 - Qualifications. Any member of the Tribe who is twenty-five (25) years of age or older, who has resided within the nine (9) county district defined in subsection 2(b)(1) of Article IV, for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled election may serve as Tribal Ogema.
Section 3 - Term of Office.
(a) The Tribal Ogema's term of office shall be four (4) years. (b) The Tribal Ogema will continue in office until his/her successor is sworn in by the Tribal Court, the office is deemed vacant, or he/she is removed as the Tribal Ogema. (c) If the Ogema ceases to be a member of the Tribe, he/she will automatically forfeit the Ogema position.
(d) If the Ogema ceases to reside in the nine (9) county district defined in subsection 2(b)(1) of Article IV, he/she will automatically forfeit the Ogema position.
(e) There shall be no prohibition against continuous service.
Section 4 - Election of the Tribal Ogema. The Tribal Ogema shall be the candidate seeking the office who receives a majority of the tribal vote cast for that position. If no one (1) candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election shall be held between the two (2) highest vote recipients.

Proposed Changes

PROPOSAL #5- Should Article IV Section 3 be amended as follows:
Section 2 - Qualifications. A Tribal Member must meet the following qualifications to be a candidate or nominee for Tribal Council, or to retain his or her seat as Tribal Council:
(a) He or she must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age or older and a resident of the State of Michigan for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled election.
(b) He or she must disclose to the Membership if any of the following apply:
1. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction for a crime involving fraud or misrepresentation; and/or
2. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any crime listed in the Major Crimes Act (U.S. Stat. Vol.23, Chapter 341) (murder, manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to murder, arson, burglary or larceny); and/or
3. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any felony in any jurisdiction, or for any other offense, the victim of which offense was the Tribe, or any Tribal business, enterprise, department or program; and/or
4. He or she has any current prosecution pending or has any conviction for any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed, and/or is registered in any jurisdiction's list or sexual offenders.

Current Constitution

Section 3 - Qualifications. Any member of the Tribe who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older who has resided within the State of Michigan for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled election may serve on the Tribal Council.

Proposed Changes

PROPOSAL #6- Should Article VI Section 2 be amended as follows:
ARTICLE VI - TRIBAL COURT
Section 2 - Qualifications.
(a) Member of the Tribe. Any member of Tribe may serve as a Tribal Judge provided he/she is twenty-five (25) years of age or older, is not a member of the Tribal Council or the Ogema or running for a seat on the Tribal Councilor for the office of the Ogema, and has not been convicted of any crime of dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor been convicted of a felony under Tribal, or State law within the ten (10) year period immediately preceding the date of the election, or, in the event of a vacancy under Article X, Section 4(a), hislher appointment.