



Approved 6/22/22

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2022
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 June 15, 2022. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Wolfe said good morning everyone they are here for their regularly scheduled Tribal Council Meeting for Wednesday, June 15th they are starting at 10:07 a.m. Wolfe said um, this is for the Little River Band.....they are in the Little River Band Government Center Lodge and they are hosting online via ZOOM. Wolfe said first they will go over the Participants online to make sure they are eligible to be here. Wolfe said when she calls their user handler please identify themselves with their name and Tribal I.D. or if they are participating as Staff. Wolfe said first on the list she sees Al Metzger.

Al Metzger said #0890 Tribal member.

Speaker Wolfe said Cindy Champagne.

Councilor Champagne said Councilor.

Speaker Wolfe said Connie Waitner.

Connie Waitner said #0022.

Speaker Wolfe said Corey Wells.

Corey Wells said #4839.

Speaker Wolfe said Elise Mc Gowan-Cuellar.

Elise Mc Gowan-Cuellar said Staff Attorney.

Speaker Wolfe said G. Hendler that is their Legislative Assistant and she doesn't have a microphone for audio. Wolfe said Jeff.

Jeff Smallwood said IT.

Speaker Wolfe said Martha Howell.

Martha Howell said #3635 and Little River Press Secretary.

Speaker Wolfe said Sandy M.

Sandy Mezeske said #0018.

Speaker Wolfe said Valerie Chandler.

Valerie Chandler said Tax Officer and Tribal member #0236.

Speaker Wolfe said Venus Wilson-Torres.

Venus Wilson-Torres said Staff and Tribal member #1102.

Speaker Wolfe thanked them. Wolfe said so it looks like everyone is eligible to stay on and participate in the meeting,

I. Opening Prayer

Speaker Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza is going to give that this morning.

Gary Di Piazza, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin and Shagnaash.

Creator, let's us all work together for the betterment of all our citizens.

Give us a good way of life.

Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech.

Speaker Wolfe thanked him for that.

II. General Business

Wolfe said Pam will go ahead and enter the one in the Waiting Room and get identification for the record. Wolfe said she does believe the audio is connected now. Wolfe said they just went through the online Participants and when they called the user handler if she could identify for the record they just admitted Cynthea Shantz she thinks.

Cynthea Shantz said Shantz yes, #3356.

Speaker Wolfe thanked her.

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:11 a.m.

Speaker Wolfe said Pam please do a roll call.

B. Roll Call

T. Guenthardt -Present	C. Champagne -Present	P. Johnson -	Present
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Present	S. Wever - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	J. Wolfe -	Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Acting Recorder Johnson said quorum is established.

C. Approval of Agenda

Speaker Wolfe said Councilor Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said she makes a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JUNE 15, 2022
WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF III 1. REVISED, III 2.
REVISED AND POSTPONED; X D, 3. REVISED, 4. REVISED AND
5. REVISED; by Lewis; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstentions. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions. Wolfe asked is there any discussion on the item. Wolfe repeated any discussion on the item. Wolfe said seeing none Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -No	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever - Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said motion has passed, seven in favor and one against.

Speaker Wolfe said just a reminder for Participants online if they are not muted if they could take the time to mute their phone. Wolfe said that moves them on.

D. Tribal Council Minutes

☐ 5/25/22
☐ 4/13/22

☐ 4/20/22
☐ 6/1/22

Speaker Wolfe said she would entertain a motion on acceptance of those minutes. Wolfe said Councilor Lewis.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR
5/25/22, 4/20/22, 4/13/22, AND 6/1/22; by Lewis; supported by
Wittenberg.**

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstentions on the item. Wolfe asked would any Tribal Councilors wish to abstain. Wolfe said seeing none it is open for discussion. Wolfe said seeing no discussion Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #2

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -
			Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor motion is passed.

Speaker Wolfe thanked them.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

**1. Approval for the Natural Resources Department to Submit a
Grant Application to the United States Environmental
Protection Agency for a Performance Partnership Grant for a
total of \$798,156**

The NRD is planning to apply for a PPG with USEPA for funding for GAP, CWA, 106/319 and CERCLA 128a Programs. The total amount of funding for two years is \$798,156. The Grant funds the Water Quality, GAP and Brownfield Programs.

Speaker Wolfe said this item is being brought forward by the Tribal Ogema with Allison Smart as designee. Wolfe said she will turn it over to Allison for introduction of the item.

Allison Smart, Environmental Division Manager of the Natural Resources Department, represented this agenda item. Smart said ah, the grant application that she is bringing forward to them today is a non-competitive grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Smart said this funds most of their Environmental Division work. Smart said um, as mentioned it is a grant ah, that is a two year grant for FY23 and FY24 that follows the Federal Fiscal Year of October through September 30 so it ends September 30, 2024 for a total of \$798,156. Smart said there is no match to this grant anymore there was a recent change to that through regulations of the Performance Partnership Grants as well as just to bring it to the attention so it's not hidden. Smart said they are not pulling any Indirect Costs out of this because of their last Indirect Cost Rate was approved in 2019 and the EPA will not approve any Indirect Costs to come out of

the grant at this time. Smart said they can always modify that when they get an updated and approved Indirect Cost Rate. Smart said it funds 3.2 positions and overall covers their water quality sampling, their Brownfield Program and their Indian General Assistance Program that focuses on building capacity in things like oil spill response, consultation and coordination through USEPA, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Forest Service, NOAA so it is a major part of how they build their relationships with their Federal and State Partners. Smart said so with that.

Speaker Wolfe said they do have revised on there and just clarification on the revision when the resolution was first submitted there were a lot of um, or some acronyms in there and so they just asked um, Allison to include those so like it has um, the Clean Water Act Section 106, Clean Water Act Section 319 those were spelled out and Indian General Assistance Program was....is....and the acronym is IGAP and then the Brownfield is um, CRC 128a so those are identified in the resolution. Wolfe said she just wanted to explain that revision for Tribal members um, so then she will ask for any abstentions on the item. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will entertain a motion.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make a motion.

Councilor Di Piazza said he had a question but that's okay. Di Piazza said go for it. Di Piazza said oh, sorry....whatever.

Speaker Wolfe said go ahead Councilor Guenthardt.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #22-0615-105;
APPROVAL FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
TO SUBMIT A PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP (PPG) GRANT
APPLICATION FOR \$798,156 TO THE UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA) IN
SUPPORT OF THE GAP, WATER QUALITY, AND
BROWNFIELDS PROGRAMS;** by Guenthardt; supported by
Wittenberg.

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for discussion. Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza asked how many years is this for.

Allison Smart answered this is a two year grant so it will run from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024.

Councilor Di Piazza said okay. Di Piazza said no, that's it. Di Piazza thanked them.

Speaker Wolfe said okay, any additional discussion or questions from Tribal Council and/or Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing no one in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #3

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes	
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor motion is passed.

Allison Smart thanked them.

Speaker Wolfe thanked them.

2. **Approval to apply for the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) FY2022 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Formula Grant for \$663,204 from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)**
Approval to apply for FY 2022 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Formula Grant for \$663,204 from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).

Speaker Wolfe said this item has been revised and postponed.

B. Budget Modifications

Speaker Wolfe noted they have none.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Speaker Wolfe noted there is none.

IV. Acceptance of Reports

A. Report of the Tribal Ogema

1. **Operations Report** ☐ None Submitted
2. **Financial Report** ☐ None Submitted

Speaker Wolfe noted one the Operations Report none submitted. Wolfe said two Financial Report none submitted.

V. Acceptance of Commission Reports

A. Binojeeuk Commission ☐ May 2022

Speaker Wolfe said she would entertain a motion on acceptance of the report. Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he will make a motion.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BINOJEEUK COMMISSION
REPORT FOR MAY 2022;** by Di Piazza; supported by Johnson.

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstentions from Tribal Council. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions it is open for discussion. Wolfe asked any discussion from Tribal Council and/or Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing none Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #4

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes	
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said seven...excuse her....eight in favor motion is passed.

Speaker Wolfe thanked her.

B. Enrollment Commission ☐ None Submitted

Speaker Wolfe noted they have no report submitted.

C. Gaming Commission ☐ May 2022

Speaker Wolfe said she will entertain a motion on the item. Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE GAMING COMMISSION REPORT
FOR MAY 2022;** by Di Piazza; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Wolfe asked are there any abstentions from Tribal Council. Wolfe asked any abstentions. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will open it for discussion with Tribal Council and/or Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing no one wishing to be in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #5

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -No	P. Johnson -	Yes	
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-1-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said seven in favor and one against it has been accepted.

D. Health Commission ☐ **None Submitted**

Speaker Wolfe noted they have no report submitted.

E. Housing Commission ☐ **May 2022**

Speaker Wolfe said she will entertain a motion on the item. Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE HOUSING COMMISSION REPORT
FOR MAY 2022;** by Di Piazza; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Wolfe said again they will ask for any abstentions with Tribal Council. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will open it up for discussion. Wolfe said it is open for discussion with Tribal Council and/or Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing no one in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #6

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes	
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor minutes have been accepted.

Speaker Wolfe thanked them.

F. Natural Resource Commission ☐ **None Submitted**

Speaker Wolfe noted they have none submitted. Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he was just going to say the ah, they didn't have a meeting this month because they had the Elk and Bear Draw on Saturday on the 11th so.

Speaker Wolfe said that wouldn't be May Minutes.

Councilor Di Piazza said humh.

Speaker Wolfe repeated that wouldn't be May Minutes that would be for June. Wolfe said they are only on May.

Councilor Di Piazza made the same similar sound in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Di Piazza said oh.

Acting Recorder Johnson made a comment in the background on the ZOOM recording but it couldn't be made out what she said.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah, true, okay never mind. Di Piazza said he is good.

Speaker Wolfe said okay.

VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities

A. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report ☐ May 2022

Speaker Wolfe said she will entertain a motion. Wolfe said Councilor Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said she will make a motion.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT PREFERENCE REPORT FOR MAY 2022; by Lewis; supported by Johnson.

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstentions on the item. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will open it up for discussion from Tribal Council and open for discussion with Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing no one wishing to be in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #7

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -
			Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor minutes have been accepted.

Speaker Wolfe thanked them.

B. Biskaabiiyang Committee

☐ None Submitted

Speaker Wolfe noted they have no minutes to accept.

VII. Old Business

A. Financial Report ☐ April 2022

This item was postponed from the 6/1/22 Agenda.

Speaker Wolfe said she will entertain a motion on the item. Wolfe said Councilor Johnson.

Acting Recorder Johnson said she will make a motion.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2022; by Johnson; supported by Guenthardt.

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstention from Tribal Council. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will open it for discussion with Tribal Council and/or Tribal members. Wolfe said seeing no one wishing to be in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #8

T. Guenthardt - Yes	C. Champagne - Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -
			Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor it is passed.

VIII. New Business

Speaker Wolfe noted they have none submitted.

IX. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, June 22, 2022

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Speaker Wolfe said she does see the Ogema there and she will turn the floor over to him.

Ogema Romanelli thanked her very much. Romanelli said he only has one update at this time. Romanelli said tomorrow is the deadline for their Muskegon Casino Project, approval or disapproval from the Governor. Romanelli said after 12 ½ or 13 years they are now at the final day ah, which is Thursday. Romanelli said he would assume they will give her until midnight for her to make a decision.

Romanelli said he has no idea or sign if it is going to be yes or no. Romanelli said they had so many rumors out there and articles. Romanelli said he just has no idea whether she will give a yes or a no obviously they are looking for a yes.

Romanelli said he thinks they have done the best job that they can to move this

forward. Romanelli said if she says no obviously its no. Romanelli said if she says yes that is obviously a yes if she says nothing that is a no. Romanelli said so after tomorrow at the end of the day at least he will be able to give a fuller explanation of what is going on and where they go from there depending if it is a no or a yes he will be able to give them more information there. Romanelli said ah, he thinks they just have to hold out they are doing everything as they said. Romanelli said their Tribe has been in touch with the Governor's Staff and with the Department of Interior over the last few weeks. Romanelli said it appears right now that their project is being held tentatively with the Grand River Band ah, pursuit of Federal Recognition. Romanelli said by all indications that should not be happening. Romanelli said they are two separate issues and they should be judged on their own merit. Romanelli said their project has had little to do with Grand River's Federal Recognition and vice versa so that is the ____ that's been for the last few weeks at least. Romanelli said that's probably incorrect they are talking with the Governor's Staff now. Romanelli said the Governor asked for she did have one year to sign and she asked for a six month extension which she was granted she recently asked for another extension which she was denied by the Department of Interior for reasonable reasons. Romanelli said that is not a normal process so unfortunately she could not get another extension. Romanelli said as they know Deb Haaland is the first Tribal woman to hold a position of Secretary of Interior that is the first ever that she was appointed and they have all respect for her and her staff. Romanelli said her staff is very well qualified he thinks most of them have been here as long as he has and they know their jobs, they follow the rules, and that's why it took them 12 ½ years to get to where they are at. Romanelli said if Grand River.....and again, they have never opposed Grand River's efforts for Federal Recognition in fact they encouraged them to do so. Romanelli said so where it goes from here they will know by tomorrow so he will keep them posted from there. Romanelli thanked them very much.

Speaker Wolfe thanked him. Wolfe said that moves them on.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Wolfe said Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said now he can bring it up. Di Piazza said Saturday they had the Elk and Bear Draw. Di Piazza said um, there were five Elk to be um, divvied up. Di Piazza said there was one Elder which was any Elk and then just one any Elk and three antlerless. Di Piazza said so them were all done with the Bingo Machine. Di Piazza said alternates were drawn. Di Piazza said the Bear they had 61 applicants um, and like Baldwin, everyone kind of wants Baldwin because that is the area well it a little further but um, it is quite a big area and this, they know, this area and there is like 40 Bear for this area. Di Piazza said calculations look like almost everybody got what zone they wanted the first choice except for nine citizens so. Di Piazza said some wanted Red Oak and other places but.....and that may change because somebody might not want that Bear Permit so out of 61

applicants, Tribal citizens, only nine didn't really get what zone they wanted. Di Piazza said there are 218 Bear available for all the zones so if they didn't get Baldwin there are other zones available so. Di Piazza said he is done. Di Piazza said Miigwech everybody.

Speaker Wolfe said okay, thanks for that update. Wolfe asked any other Councilors under Legislative Affair Update. Wolfe said seeing none that moves them onto D.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Wolfe said it is open for Tribal members in Public Comment Period. Wolfe said seeing no one wishing to be in the queue that would move them to Closed Session.

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.

Speaker Wolfe said she would entertain a motion to End First Open.

MOTION TO END FIRST OPEN AT 10:29; by Wittenberg; supported by Wever.

Speaker Wolfe said she will ask for any abstentions on the item. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions she will open it up for discussion. Wolfe said seeing no one in the queue Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #9

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	P. Johnson -	Yes	
Vacant	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-0)

Acting Recorder Johnson said eight in favor ah, they end at 10:32.

Speaker Wolfe thanked everyone.

XI. Open Session

Speaker Wolfe said good afternoon they are here for their Second Open Session. Wolfe said um, she will entertain a motion to go into Second Open.

Councilor Guenthardt said he will make it.

Councilor Wittenberg said he will support.

MOTION TO GO INTO SECOND OPEN; by Guenthardt; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Wolfe asked any abstentions. Wolfe said it is open for discussion. Wolfe said Pam please do a roll call.

Roll Call #10

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Johnson said seven present and one absent they are in at 12:14.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

Speaker Wolfe said under Open Session they have one agenda item A.. Wolfe said they have none that they need to move.

There were no items to be moved from Closed to Open Session.

XII. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN SECOND OPEN AT 12:14; by Wittenberg; supported by Guenthardt.

Speaker Wolfe asked any abstentions. Wolfe said seeing no abstentions. Wolfe said open for discussion. Wolfe said with no discussion Pam please do a roll call.

A Participant was talking in the background on the ZOOM recording but it couldn't be determined what they were saying clearly or who they were.

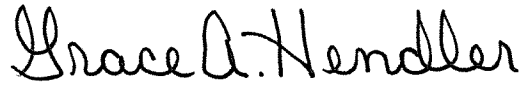
Roll Call #11

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Absent	P. Johnson -	Yes
Vacant	G. DiPiazza - Yes	S. Wever -	Yes
R. Wittenberg- Yes	J. Wolfe - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-0-1)

Acting Recorder Johnson said seven in favor and one absent they are adjourned at 12:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grace A. Hendler". The script is cursive and fluid.

Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam Johnson". The script is cursive and fluid.

Pam Johnson,
Acting Council Recorder