



Approved 7/14/21

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2021
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 , 2021. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Di Piazza said to Speaker Pete that the recorder is on.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza. Pete said um, welcome everyone to the Tribal Council Regular Meeting for Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 6 p.m. via ZOOM. Pete repeated welcome everyone. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza would he please do an Opening Prayer for them. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza would he please remember the 200 plus Indian Children that were found buried at that school in Canada....the First Nations. Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

I. Opening Prayer

Gary Di Piazza, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer.

Creator, look after us as we go through these days.
Hold your loving and healing hands around the ones that are in need.
That need your healing and need your love to raise them up.
Look after the front line employees and people that serve us.
Keep them.....keep them safe.
Keep us all safe.
Look after the children that have been just abandoned with no names.
Let them go where they need to be.
Let them be at rest.
Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza would he please do a.....they have called it to order.....would he please do a roll call.

B. Roll Call

T. Guenthardt -Present	C. Champagne -Present	D. Corey -	Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza -	Present	R. Pete - Present
R. Wittenberg- Present	D. Lonn -	Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Recorder Di Piazza said nine are present they have a quorum at 6:02.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

Others Present: Pam Johnson, Matthew Chandler, Valerie Mc Donnell, Julie Wolfe, Jamie Friedel, Frank Beaver, Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar, Kathy Gibson, Al Metzger, Kevin Tyler, Nikki Nelson, Steve Parsons, Sara Agosa, Susan Thull, Michael Burmeister, Chelsea Densmore, Sandy Mezeske, Allison Smart, Caitlin Carey, Corey Wells, Diane Reeves, Joanne Green, Laura Echelbarger, Martha Howell, iPhone, Michelle Sinclair, Grace Hendler, Brad Pringle, 231 730-2010, 231 690-3498, 231 392-4602, 715 370-3574, 231 564-8435, 231 887-9856, 231 215-2739, 920 386-8086, 231 794-0066.

C. Approval of Agenda

Councilor Champagne said to Ron Pete that she would like to make a motion. Champagne said motion to vote to have the agenda changed or deleted.

Speaker Pete said what he heard was to have the agenda changed or the agenda deleted.

Councilor Champagne said correct.

Speaker Pete said okay, there is a.....is there a second.

Councilor Lewis said support.

MOTION TO DELETE THE AGENDA; by Champagne; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Pete said okay he has a motion from Cindy Champagne to have the agenda deleted and Sandy Lewis in support. Pete asked is there any further discussion.

Councilor Champagne said to Ron Pete that she would like to make a comment please.

Speaker Pete said und.....ver.....go ahead Cindy Champagne.

Councilor Champagne said the reason she is suggesting this is Gary Di Piazza added on three or four items outside the timeline for one thing. Champagne said for another thing he added on the Election Board um, regulation that in her opinion according to the ordinance is illegal so why is that on the agenda at this time. Champagne said they don't have a final. Champagne said those are her reasons for wanting to get rid of the agenda or change it. Champagne thanked them.

Speaker Pete said okay, right now the motion is on the floor for her to delete the agenda. Pete said that is what the motion was seconded at. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to go ahead.

Recorder Di Piazza said he was going to say the two.....the two items that need to be done came in over the weekend for legal aspects that need to be done and as far as the ah, Partial Report um, under the Election Ordinance 7.01 that will be placed on the next available Council Meeting or call a Special Meeting within five days. Di Piazza said also in the Election.....the Election Regulations they can submit a Partial.....a Partial Final Report. Di Piazza said so he is doing what he needs to do.

Councilor Champagne asked Ron Pete if she could get back in please just to say.....

Speaker Pete said okay, just a minute. Pete asked Gary Di Piazza if he was finished.

Recorder Di Piazza said yeah, he is all set.

Councilor Lonn said to Ron Pete that she would like to be in as well.

Speaker Pete said okay, just a moment he has got a queue. Pete said give him a minute. Pete said he has got Shannon Crampton first, then he has got Cindy Champagne, and then he has Diane Lonn. Pete said go ahead Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton thanked Speaker Pete. Crampton said well, he would just like to point out.....he would just like to point out Mr. Di Piazza, the Recorder, has brought up the Election Regulations and no, they cannot.....in fact.....the fact that they have this shows that the Election Board has violated their own Election Regulations. Crampton said let him read for them from their own Election Regulations....*Section 11, Reporting Election Results, number C, Approval.....the Election Board shall vote on whether.....*

They was a sound of crumbling or crunching paper in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Councilor Crampton continued.....hey, hey, mute their phone or set it down.....

A participant was coughing in the background on the ZOOM recording but it wasn't clear who was doing it or where it came from.

Councilor Crampton continued.....whoever is doing that.....

Speaker Pete said okay, can they please have the phones muted, okay. Pete said go ahead.....he didn't even hear that while it was so go ahead Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said yeah, he thinks that was the intent. Crampton said um, *the Election Board shall vote on whether to approve the Final Report or submit a Final Partial Report after the scheduled time for withdrawals, recounts requests, and election challenges has lapsed or after all recounts or challenges have been completed whichever is l-a-t-e-r.* Crampton said he has a court appearance on Monday so right now they violated their rule....Election Regulations by voting on this in the first place to send it to them. Crampton said so he wants this held as evidence and he will be using it Monday. Crampton thanked them.

Speaker Pete said okay. Pete asked Shannon Crampton if he was finished.

Councilor Crampton said yes.

Speaker Pete said okay.....okay he has got Cindy Champagne. Pete said he has Cynthia Champagne and then he has got Diane Lonn. Pete said Councilor Champagne please go ahead.

Councilor Champagne thanked Ron Pete.

Kathy Gibson identified herself. Gibson asked may she get in the queue Larry Romanelli or Ron Pete.

Speaker Pete said just a moment Kathy Gibson he will be with her in a minute. Pete said he has got Cindy Champagne first. Pete said to Cindy Champagne please state what she is going to state.

Councilor Champagne said yes, Ron Pete. Champagne thanked Ron Pete. Champagne said well, first of all, Gary Di Piazza, the regulations don't supersede the ordinance....the ordinance is law. Champagne said that is what they have to go by is the law not the regulation they can put the regulations together but it does not supersede the ordinance. Champagne thanked them.

Councilor Guenthardt coughed loudly in the background on the ZOOM recording.

Speaker Pete said okay, Diane Lonn. Pete repeated Diane Lonn.

Councilor Lonn said for once she does agree with Mr. Crampton they have to present it to them first for approval before they can put it on the agenda and she doesn't see.....and guess what she wants to get.....be out of it but if they are not following their own rules then she thinks they are wrong. Lonn thanked them.

Speaker Pete said okay he thinks he has got Kathy Gibson first. Pete said Kathy Gibson.

Kathy Gibson, Election Board Member, thanked Ron Pete. Gibson said she is sorry she is flipping to her regulations right now. Gibson said according to their regulations they can submit and they are allowed to submit a partial to the Tribal Council and therefore that is what they did. Gibson said they submitted a partial um, um, a partial results to the Tribal Council. Gibson said um, then it is up to the Tribal Council when they put it on the agenda so as far as violating their regulations they have not done that. Gibson said to Shannon Crampton that he is correct *Section 11, page 18*, it does say approval.....*the Election Board shall vote on whether to approve the Final Report or submit a Partial Final Report after the scheduled time for withdrawals, recount requests, and the Election Ordinance has lapsed or after all recounts and challenges have been completed whichever is later.* Gibson said in the positions that they have approved for partial all those are completed there is no further disputes or challenges on those items that were approved at the Election Board Meeting um, the other night for final approval. Gibson thanked them.

Speaker Pete thanked Kathy Gibson. Pete said okay, he has Shannon Crampton. Pete asked does anybody else want to get in this queue that he missed.

Recorder Di Piazza said he does.

Speaker Pete said well then he is after Shannon Crampton. Pete said go ahead Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton thanked Ron Pete. Crampton said um, well right there what she just read he wants everybody to go to that section.....that 7.01.....he is getting sick and tired of people not understanding what they are reading. Crampton said the comprehension problem here is avid it says.....*or after all challenges have completed.* Crampton said he has got a scheduling conference his has not even started so yeah they did violate their own regulations because it says that vote shall take place after not before.....

Kathy Gibson asked can she be put back into the queue, please.

Speaker Pete said okay, Kathy Gibson, when Shannon Crampton is done.

Councilor Crampton said well, why.....why are they open to that. Crampton said them guys have it right there, Gary Di Piazza, throw it up so the membership can see it because that is exactly what it says or after they have been completed whichever is l-a-t-e-r. Crampton said not whichever one is first..... whichever one is l-a-t-e-r. Crampton said it is pretty simple to understand that would mean his challenge which hasn't even started yet would be L-A-T-E-R. Crampton thank them.

Speaker Pete said okay, Gary Di Piazza.

Recorder Di Piazza said he doesn't have that right handy. Di Piazza said if he has got that info screen share it himself. Di Piazza said um, anyways this happened....

A Participant in the background was making comments on the ZOOM recording but it wasn't picked up clearly what they were saying.

Recorder Di Piazza continued.....when Frankie Medacco.....excuse him.....he has the floor.

Speaker Pete said go ahead.

Recorder Di Piazza said this happened back when ah, Frankie Medacco and all that went on when was that.....how long ago.....

Speaker Pete said four years.

Recorder Di Piazza said four years ago.....

Grace Hendler made a comment but it wasn't picked up on ZOOM recording nor could it be made out clearly what was said.

Recorder Di Piazza said when people got sworn in and that dragged out for he doesn't know.....

Speaker Pete said a year and a half.

Recorder Di Piazza said so he is just saying this has already transpired once so.

Councilor Wittenberg identified himself. Wittenberg said he would like to get into the queue please.

Speaker Pete said okay, he has got....he....he....he is doing the best he can here, okay. Pete said it is just popping up all over so if Gary Di Piazza is done, right now, he has got Kathy Gibson, he has got Nikki Nelson, he has got Shannon

Crampton again, and then he has got Ron Wittenberg. Pete asked has he missed anybody.

Michael Burmeister identified himself.

Speaker Pete apologized. Pete said okay, right now he has got Kathy Gibson, he has got Nikki Nelson, Shannon Crampton, um, he is sorry who else, Michael Burmeister. Pete said okay go ahead Kathy Gibson.

Kathy Gibson said um, just first she would like to say they should probably appreciate and not disregard or insinuate that people don't understand things. Gibson said she thinks that is um, not following their Seven Grandfather Teachings and to act like that is not professional or according to their Seven Grandfather Teachings. Gibson said so she would just like to put that out there and remind people that they do have Seven Grandfather Teachings about respect, humility, kindness, and maybe those need to be reviewed and she has stated that prior in several Council Meetings and Work Sessions. Gibson said so with that being said, again, page 18 C, and she did have the discussion.....the Election Board had this discussion with um, Legal, and/or the positions that they presented for Partial Final Report does have um, anything at this point and time is outstanding. Gibson said the positions that may be in question are not bring presented to the Tribal Council as a Partial Final Report. Gibson said so she would just like to clarify that um, and state that it as such. Gibson said she understands that it says "or" but the question is not the "or" is what they are looking at. Gibson said they are looking at the Partial Final Report with the Office of Chief Judge specifically, the Office of Appellate Judge-Law Trained specifically, Office of Appellate Judge-Elder specifically, Office of Election Board specifically, Office of Tribal Council Nine County specifically, and also Office of Tribal Council-At Large. Gibson said they do not have any disputes nor challenges that are pending on any of those positions that the Election Board voted on as to present the Partial Final Report to the Council. Gibson said it is up to the Council to determine when that goes on the agenda as she believed Mr. Di Piazza read that it has to.....once it is presented to the Tribal Council it needs to be on the agenda within the next five business days or a Special Meeting needs to be requested for that. Gibson thanked them.

Speaker Pete thanked Kathy Gibson for her kind words. Pete said okay, he has Nikki Nelson. Pete said go ahead Nikki Nelson.

Nikki Nelson thanked Speaker Pete. Nelson, Tribal #0421, said um, she just wanted to....to put her input on a couple of things. Nelson said she knows Gary Di Piazza had mentioned this and yes, there is a precedence set when the Nelson/Cory v. Election Board Case where this exact same thing happened with the exact same seat might she add it was the Outlying um, the Outlying Seat that was held. Nelson said she also does believe it was Mr. Crampton that was one of the ones that was held up and she doesn't recall at that time of him complaining at

that time about.....about the delay in seating so that is first of all. Nelson said second of all, she did hear a Councilor.....she can't.....she is not exactly sure who had mentioned that does it matter what the regulations say it is the ordinance that needs to be followed. Nelson said that is true the regulations are supposed to be written to be cohesive with the ordinance but the fact of the matter is this Council approved the regulations that they are discussing so them.....themselves.....approved those. Nelson said so the Council.....she is sorry the Council approved the regulations prior to this election and there was no problem then. Nelson said so she means as a citizen she just likes to see this.....this go forward. Nelson thanked them.

Speaker Pete thanked Nikki Nelson so much.

Nikki Nelson said oh, she is sorry, if she could, one more thing.

Speaker Pete said yes.

Nikki Nelson said she also liked to see um, she don't see why they need to um, get rid of the whole agenda if they could.....if there is only a handful of things that are an issue.

Speaker Pete said okay, Nikki Nelson, he is going to answer her and then he is going to go to Shannon Crampton. Pete said that was what was presented on the floor and that is what was seconded by Councilor Lewis. Pete said so that is what they are doing right now they are voting on what was presented on the floor. Pete said he is sorry. Pete said Shannon Crampton go ahead.

Councilor Crampton said yeah, well one of their teachings is actually truth and if they want to use the other ones to stifle that that is fine but that doesn't work with him. Crampton said the actual writing on number C 7.1 says the *Election Board shall vote on whether to approve the Final Report or submit a Partial Final Report after the scheduled time for withdrawals, recounts requests and election times as challenged has lapsed or after all recounts and challenges have been completed w-h-i-c-h-e-v-e-r is l-a-t-e-r*. Crampton said now they just heard Miss Gibson state he insulted her because he said something about comprehension. Crampton said if she can't comprehend that he is not insulting her he is being very descriptive. Crampton said that is saying right there she can't.....cannot even take that vote until the challenges have been completed w-h-i-c-h-e-v-e-r is l-a-t-e-r. Crampton said now please tell them who is the legal person who gave them that advice because that is absolutely fraudulent.

Kathy Gibson interrupted. Gibson asked can she get back in the queue please.

Speaker Pete said okay he is going to put her in the queue he has got a queue going. Pete said right after.....when Shannon Crampton is done he is going to honor the queue.

Councilor Crampton said okay, and to settle something and actually if they go to the court opinions 2017 they will see um, Mrs. ____ discussing with the Attorney Janet Simmons where she says she was getting threatened with a lawsuit if she didn't bring forth the um, seating that was her so Mrs. Nelson's that absolutely nice try but wrong cigar.....she didn't get it. Crampton said anyways um, that is what the wording says and they are bond by the ordinance there is no mention of a partial ordinance or partial report in the ordinance.....it says Final Report. Crampton said this is also figured out in Mrs. Nelson's case. Crampton said now once again C-Approval.....the Election Board shall vote on whether to approve the Final Report or submit a Partial Final Report after the scheduled time....that means they vote after the scheduled time for withdrawals, recount requests and election challenges have lapsed or after recounts or challenges have been completed whichever is later. Crampton said that is what that "or" means. Crampton said it separates them and whichever one is later. Crampton said the challenges have not been completed that would be later. Crampton said so Tribal Council is bond by its own ordinance did.....cannot accept this and yes, the Election Board did violate their own regulations because they can't even take that that vote in virtue if it being here on the agenda means they took that vote. Crampton thanked them.

Councilor Lonn said she makes a call Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Pete said okay, just a moment she can make the call but he has got onto the queue first then he has her in the call, okay. Pete said he cannot do that until he gets the queue.

Councilor Crampton said no, no, no, no, no. *Crampton's other comments could not be heard clearly on the ZOOM recording.*

Councilor Lonn said once she makes the call it stops.

Councilor Crampton said it stops right then.

Councilor Lonn said yup. Lonn said they have done that in the past.

Speaker Pete said okay, Diane Lonn, he is sorry he is just trying to get peoplehave people say their words so it is all done. Pete said Diane Lonn has called the question. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to please do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

T. Guenthardt -Yes	C. Champagne -Yes	D. Corey -	No
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza - No	R. Pete -	No
R. Wittenberg- Yes	D. Lonn - Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (6-3-0-0)

Recorder Di Piazza six in favor and three against the agenda has been deleted Di Piazza said see them later everybody.

Speaker Pete said okay, that means they have no agenda and the agenda is not approved so it looks to him like he has to be on this Council. Pete his retirement was going to be next Wednesday but now it is gone.

Recorder Di Piazza said he did his due diligence.

Speaker Pete thanked them all.

Councilor Crampton said the meeting is over.

Speaker Pete said it is over he just said.

Recorder Di Piazza said so why doesn't he come in here and turn off the ZOOM.

D. Tribal Council Minutes

III. Continuing Business

- A. Grants & Contracts**
- B. Budget Modifications**
- C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

VI. Concluding Business

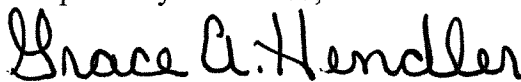
- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, June 9, 2021**
- B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**
- C. Legislative Affairs Update**
- D. Public Comment Period**

VIII. Open Session

- A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session**

IX. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Gary Di Piazza,
Tribal Council Recorder