



Approved 3/27/19

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019  
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 March 20, 2019. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Lewis said to Speaker Riley that the recorder is on.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis. Riley said welcome everybody to their regularly scheduled Tribal Council Meeting for March 20, 2019. Riley said they will get started with their Opening Prayer and Ron Wittenberg is going to do that for them.

**I. Opening Prayer**

Ron Wittenberg, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin and Shagnaash.

Chi Miigwech for all the things that you have gifted us.  
The things we have and the things we don't have.  
I ask that you be with us all.  
Help us walk in a good way.  
Help our hearts and our Spirits the guide that is above our shoulders.  
We thank you for this day and everything in it.  
Ahaaw. Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech.

**II. General Business**

**A. Call to Order**

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**B. Roll Call**

J. Riley - Present	J. Friedel - Present	D. Corey - Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	R. Pete - Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Recorder Lewis confirmed they had a quorum.

Others Present: Delores Jenkins, Darleen Martin, Jennifer Crampton, Nikki Nelson, Jason Cross, Margaret Scott.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, George Le Vasseur, Mary Thomas, Ogema Romanelli, Officers Umlauf and Robles, Rebecca Liebing, Elise Mc Gowen-Cuellar.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019 WITH THE FOLLOWING ADD OF V. B. AND ALSO ADD V C; by Lewis; supported by Crampton.**

Speaker Riley asked is there any discussion on the agenda. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete thanked Speaker Riley. Pete said he just wants to because he knows that they are being live cast and he wanted for his own public record to say that he protests adding C. on this agenda. Pete said there was absolutely no discussion and he knew nothing about it.....they had no discussion or any work session on doing something that this which involves financial position to the Tribe, to the Resort and to this government adding that and he knew nothing about this until late yesterday afternoon that the possibility was going to happen. Pete said he stopped the Recorder this morning and she showed him it is going to happen so he don't know why they couldn't have an open work session on this so that Tribal members also could weigh in on this. Pete said this is a financial thing that is coming down that is going to affect the Resort and it is going to affect the government and/or both. Pete said they add this like this it reminds him of Washington politics where they add something late at night then they it gets snuck on the agenda. Pete said he just.... to them.....to let them know that he disapproves of this and that he protests it. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Councilor Pete. Riley asked any other comments. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said adds has been common here since 2005 and beyond so it is nothing new.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah it is new when it pops up on the agenda without any notice or anything. Di Piazza said he tried to get something on the agenda and it was removed twice even under the proper channels so to put this on at a late hour.....yeah....but those guys are going to do what they are going to do so.

Speaker Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said to Councilor Di Piazza to add to that she also had the same thing happen to her where she put something on the agenda and it had been removed like a few times that has happened to her but yeah this was brought to her and normally she doesn't say no to anyone now that she is Recorder. Lewis said if somebody wants to put something on the agenda, she does allow it so she feels that herself she is doing her job.

Councilor Pete said he is done.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said any inference that was done incorrectly is absolutely wrong. Crampton said all the paperwork was filled out. Crampton said the Constitution says any Tribal Council Member can put anything on the agenda that they want. Crampton said they are there for the vote if they do not like it vote no.

Councilor Pete said Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said he would like to respond to that. Pete said he is not even inferencing or he is not saying that this thing was done either illegally or against Tribal Council Constitutional Rules he is just saying he thinks it is a dirty way to do it.

Speaker Riley said okay and thanked Councilor Pete. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #1**

J. Riley -	No	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	No	R. Pete -	No
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (5-3-0-1)

Recorder Lewis said the agenda has been approved for Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

**D. Tribal Council Minutes    ☐ 3/13/19**

Speaker Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF  
TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 3/13/19; by Lewis; supported by  
Wittenberg.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions.

Councilor Crampton said yes.

Speaker Riley asked any discussion on the minutes. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #2**

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Abstain	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-0-1-1)

Recorder Lewis said Tribal Council Minutes for 3/13/19 have been accepted for filing.

**III. Continuing Business**

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

Speaker Riley said okay onto.....he guessed there is nothing there so they will move on.

**IV. Old Business**

**Reports that are due: January 2019**

- A. Operations Report**
- B. Financial Report**
- C. Natural Resource Commission  
September 2018**

**Reports received:**

- 1. ☐ January 2019**
- 2. ☐ February 2019**
  - ☐ None Submitted
- ☐ None Submitted

Speaker Riley said they got the January 2019 and February Operations Reports. Riley said it looks like that is it. Riley asked is there any discussion on those.

**V. New Business**

**A. Amendment to the Approved Family Services Organizational Structure to include additional staff for the Family Services Department**

The Family Services is requesting a modification to the Organizational Structure of the department to accommodate new employees who will be employed by the Family Services Department. These positions are entirely grant funded.

Speaker Riley said it is Mr. Cross and to go ahead.

Jason Cross, Family Services Director, represented this agenda item. Cross said good morning. Cross said he is asking approval to add two positions to the Organizational Chart and they are both grant funded. Cross said they will be posted as grant funded and these won't impact the Tribal Budget.

Speaker Riley said okay are there any questions or discussion or a motion. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said yeah, what they have here it says the positions are entirely grant funded so that means for the life of them and there is no Tribal dollars committed to it?

Jason Cross said yes, if the grant goes away so does the job.

Councilor Crampton said okay.

Jason Cross said the benefits are included in that as well, salary. Cross said it includes also equipment for them, supplies for them to use so it doesn't.....they are not.....there is no costs that aren't on there so everything that person or people use will be grant funded.

Councilor Crampton said the benefits and everything are grant funded.

Jason Cross said yes, laptop, cell phones, supplies and all of it is in the grant, both grants.

Councilor Crampton said nice and thanked Jason Cross.

Speaker Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said if there are no further questions, she would like to make a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-0320-064;  
AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED FAMILY SERVICES  
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL  
STAFF FOR THE VICTIMS SERVICES AND BE-DA-BIN  
DIVISIONS;** by Lewis; supported by Friedel.

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions. Riley said no abstentions or any questions or discussion. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #3**

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #19-0320-064 has been approved.

**B. Authorizing Tribal Council Donation of \$250 and Tribal Ogema Match of \$250 for a total of \$500 to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Princess Trip to the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 25-27, 2019**

Tribal Leadership has determined that donations to organizations which contribute to the well-being of the community are appropriate for the purposes established by the Revenue Allocation Plan and the restrictions imposed by IGRA.

Speaker Riley asked are there any questions or discussion on this item. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said to Speaker Riley that if there is no questions he is prepared to make a motion. Pete said he believed it is a resolution, correct.

Recorder Lewis said yes.

Councilor Pete said okay and thanked Recorder Lewis.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0320-065;  
AUTHORIZING THE TRIBAL COUNCIL DONATION OF \$250  
AND TRIBAL OGEMA MATCH OF \$250 FOR A TOTAL OF \$500  
TO THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
PRINCESS TRIP TO THE GATHERING OF THE NATIONS POW**

**WOW IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO ON APRIL 25-27, 2019; by Pete; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Riley said he has one question and he will get to him in one second. Riley asked is there a 501 C3 associated with this because according to their Charitable Donations Ordinance there is required to be a 501 C3 before they can make a donation.

Recorder Lewis said yeah that is what she talked to him about. Lewis said she thought like he was already aware that there is not a 501 C3 and that is why she asked him yesterday what they were taking it out of and he said Activities Line.

Speaker Riley said then it wouldn't be a donation it would be a sponsorship or something else.

Recorder Lewis said okay would they like to amend that to sponsor.

Councilor Pete said to Speaker Riley okay could he amend that resolution and say sponsor.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19-0320-065;  
AUTHORIZING THE TRIBAL COUNCIL SUPPORT OF \$250 AND  
TRIBAL OGEMA MATCH OF \$250 FOR A TOTAL OF \$500 TO  
SPONSOR THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS  
PRINCESS TRIP TO THE GATHERING OF THE NATIONS POW  
WOW IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO ON APRIL 25-27,  
2019; by Pete; supported by Lewis.**

Councilor Pete asked does that meet the requirements.

Speaker Riley said he believed so.

Recorder Lewis said she still supports.

Speaker Riley recognized Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah, that was one of his questions so if it is legitimate by going through and making it a sponsorship then the \$250 from the Ogema still stands. Romanelli said he also wanted to let the people know that there is \$5,000 to \$7,000 that is put into the Historic Preservation Budget for the Princess as well. Romanelli said it is his understanding this Princess is going to Albuquerque with two people, which he is assuming, would be her mother and someone else. Romanelli said they are paying for the.....the plane trip is being paid for out of that money and he thinks a rental car.

Recorder Lewis said she does want to say “*thank you*” for supporting her she is an amazing representative for the Tribe also the money that they do put in Historic Preservation doesn’t just go to her because come summer their Pow Wow Time there will be a new Princess in there so that money is split up.

Ogema Romanelli said it is still for the Princes but it might not be for this Princess is what she is saying.

Recorder Lewis said it is split up between the both of them so it is not like she is allotted the full amount although she really travels for them to a lot of places and it is just amazing the way she represents them.

Ogema Romanelli said right and thanked them.

Speaker Riley recognized Nikki Nelson.

Nikki Nelson, Tribal #0421, said she just wanted to add that this year she actually never intended on being their Princess but they didn’t have any representatives so she took it on a second year. Nelson said so it was never even her intention to represent them she did it an extra year for them. Nelson said she thinks that is commendable for a young girl.

Ogema Romanelli said yes.

Councilor Pete said he does too.

Speaker Riley asked is there any further discussion. Riley said with nothing further. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #4**

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #19-0320-065 has been approved.

Speaker Riley said okay.

Councilor Crampton said they need to have a new resolution because this is with a donation and everything.

Speaker Riley apologized.



Councilor Crampton repeated they need a new resolution because this one is totally written with donation.

Speaker Riley said yeah they will get the new resolution based on the amended motion.

**C. Authorizing the Unified Legal Department to Amend the Revenue Allocation Plan to Provide 50% of Revenue to be Reserved for Per Capita Payments**

Tribal Council believes that 50% of Net Gaming Revenue should be allocated to the Individual Per Capita Distribution.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley said he guessed they will get started on the discussion here. Riley said he thinks that the adding of this during an election period is bad taste especially considering throwing it on there is basically right now they are in a time where people would make decisions that they wouldn't normally make based on.....based on votes. Riley said the person who put this on here is currently running against the person who vetoed this exact item previously so he guessed he just feels like this is a political game of chicken and he thinks that there should have been at least some work sessions and some other consideration. Riley said the Revenue Allocation Plan isn't made up of just the 50% that goes to Per Capita Distributions, there is General Welfare that is considered, there is Charitable Donations, there is Economic Development and they are not even taking into consideration what the percentages are on those other specific areas just the 50% that is going specifically to the membership. Riley said they know he has no problem specifically with going up to the 50% but he thinks that this is just in poor taste and poor planning that this was put out here the way it was and the timing that followed. Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yes he can understand where he is coming from and coming up at this time so to speak the year but he believed it was brought up across the pond there. Wittenberg said when it was brought up there he doesn't know or understand where he is coming from and that they are just following the stream here.

Councilor Crampton said Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton asked Councilor Pete if he was in the queue first.

Councilor Pete said no he thought Gary Di Piazza's hand was up.

*Someone commented that it was Gary Di Piazza.*

Councilor Pete said he is not in the queue.

Speaker Riley said if he was Gary Di Piazza was first.

Councilor Di Piazza said that was his question. Di Piazza said what that 10% where is that coming from. Di Piazza asked is that coming out of General Welfare, is that coming out of EHAP they are going to have to deal with the Elder's Supplemental Insurance. Di Piazza said they know 10% is 10% where are they going to pull that from. Di Piazza asked does that mean Housing has to be do they need to increase Housing because that is subsidized through it or they know the Utility Plant. Di Piazza said a lot of them things are subsidized with that 10% so. Di Piazza said he thinks he is hamstringing the government on some things but.....that is it.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he will defer to the Ogema.

Speaker Riley recognized Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said he didn't even have his hand up he was waiting for information to come around so. Romanelli said he is here to answer questions.

Speaker Riley said to Councilor Crampton, okay, go ahead.

Councilor Crampton said he thinks it was in poor taste for their Speaker to express his personal views on the situation and he thinks it is a play by him. Crampton said he is tired of this because it has been ten years that the members wanted this. Crampton said they have been asking for this for ten years. Crampton said where the money is coming from is all outlined in the Revenue Allocation Plan he doesn't see how he can sit up there and even ask these questions.

Speaker Riley said he would answer to that he had ten years to bring this forward and waited until now.

Councilor Crampton said he is in the queue and can he please contain himself a little bit. Crampton said anyway he is not backing down....

Speaker Riley said please direct all his....all his speak to.....his comments to the Chair.

Councilor Crampton asked to the Chair.

Speaker Riley said yes the Chair of the meeting is where his comments are supposed to be addressed please do so.

Councilor Crampton said no. Crampton said he is talking to the membership. Crampton said he apologizes for nothing.

Speaker Riley said if he continues to be out of order, he will have him removed from this meeting.

Councilor Crampton said to Speaker Riley to do what he is going to do. Crampton said to Speaker Riley that he is a child.

Speaker Riley said continue.

Councilor Crampton said he is done.

Ogema Romanelli said to Speaker Riley that he has Ron Pete standing in line if that is the way it is going.

Councilor Pete thanked Speaker Riley. Pete said he will address his comments to the Speaker who is the Chair of this Council. Pete said he thinks 100% what he is thinking is that this is in poor taste of bringing this out at this time. Pete said he doesn't know he wasn't here in 2005 he was working across the street in 2005. Pete said he doesn't know anything about anything about bringing it to 50% Per Cap what it was stated. Pete said he still thinks that money has got to come from somewhere. Pete asked so where is he going to take it from. Pete asked is he going to take it from the funds of the government. Pete asked where is he going to take it from. Pete asked is he going to take it from the Capital Reserves over there from the Resort so they can't buy machines. Pete said well it has got to come from somewhere either way it is going to hurt the Tribe financially somewhere. Pete said it is going to hurt the Tribe, it is going to cost jobs or it is going to cost programs. Pete said it is that simple. Pete said this is a very poor time to do this during an election period and if they really wanted it to be talking to their membership, they should be talking to their membership about this in April at the Membership Meeting and get some input from their membership on what they want to do. Pete said they will have a few of them there during April. Pete said at least let's bring this up Council they are all on stage anyways and the Ogema. Pete said let's bring this up and have an honest discussion about it there then see what the membership wants to do rather than taking from a few posts that they spoke or meeting a few people here or a few people there. Pete said they are going to have a few hundred people there. Pete said he knows that doesn't represent four thousand members of this Tribe but it represents a lot more taking a couple of calls or a couple of shots from somewhere else. Pete said he again protests the way this thing was brought up. Pete said it was brought up, to him, in the middle of the damn night then put on their agenda so they got to deal with this and publically he is going to tell them he thinks this is a ridiculous thing to be voting on this time of the year when the ballots are about ready to be going out.

Speaker Riley said okay and recognized Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Riley. Romanelli said this issue was brought up to him in Wisconsin and it was brought up by a Tribal member. Romanelli said his answer to her was.....the question was that before Tribal Council had proposed a 50% Per Cap and the Ogema vetoed it. Romanelli said yes he did veto it and she said if Council brings it up again would he veto it again. Romanelli said he said he would not veto it again. Romanelli said he still thinks it is a very bad situation and doesn't think it is good for the Tribe but no he is not going to step in front of a Council that votes for it again because if people voted the Councilors in and he is assuming that each of them are voting on behalf of the .....of their constituents. Romanelli said they say they talked to their constituents then they will be voting on their behalf then that must mean if they vote for this then most of the membership is for going to 50%. Romanelli said he still disagrees with it and knows it is bad, bad practices, bad for the government. Romanelli said there are a lot of things that are wrong with this and he is not sure why they be making a legal issue out of this and going to Unified Legal rather than going to their Accounting Department or to their various departments who have to provide services to their membership so he doesn't know why this is a Unified Legal. Romanelli said this has been talked about for ten years as they've talked about and this has to come out of the Revenue Allocation Plan. Romanelli said the Revenue Allocation Plan pie is there and has a 40% and a 7% as they know and the different things. Romanelli said if they are going to move that from 40% to 50% it absolutely has to come out of some of those other areas. Romanelli said what is the break down and have they thought about that. Romanelli asked have they already talked about it and could they please inform him what those percentages are now. Romanelli asked anyone? Romanelli said anyone can they give him those percentages they should have talked about it. Romanelli said they can't be presenting this to their Unified Legal and taking that kind of money and not know what the percentages break down is. Romanelli said they know what it is now but what is it going to be and where is the 10% coming from. Romanelli said please answer him that.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said to Ogema Romanelli yeah the way he looks at it then he turned around and he said now if Council and brings it forward yes he had vetoed it before but if Council and brings it up he will pass it. Wittenberg asked Ogema Romanelli is that what he said.

Ogema Romanelli said no that is not what he said.

Councilor Wittenberg said isn't that what he just said.

Ogema Romanelli said he said he will not veto it if Council brings it up. Romanelli said if they passed it.....

Councilor Wittenberg said he said he would not veto it so.

Speaker Riley said this is turning into another side bar discussion.

Ogema Romanelli apologized. Romanelli said to Ron Wittenberg to go ahead.

Speaker Riley said let's continue with the way this meeting is supposed to run.

Councilor Wittenberg said he said he would not veto it then he would seem to think in his mind that for one this doesn't jump off the hoop and they are off to the races. Wittenberg said they open the gates up and there is going to be something in work behind it just like they do everything else. Wittenberg said that is why he was curious that if in his mind that he would seem to think well he would have said he will veto it until they come up with a plan that narrows it down but that is just his thought.

Ogema Romanelli said the response.....

Councilor Wittenberg thanked them.

Ogema Romanelli said .....in answer to that the responsibility has to be for the people that are voting on this. Romanelli said he should have that plan in place. Romanelli said he is simply asking what the ratio if they are going to move this money they want to put this 10% or take 10% out where are they taking it out of which other areas. Romanelli said please tell him. Romanelli said they should have had this discussion they had it on the plate for ten years. Romanelli asked where does that money come from and what part of the pie.

Councilor Wittenberg said to Ogema Romanelli that he is the one that said yes.

Speaker Riley said okay.....

Ogema Romanelli said he did not say yes.

Speaker Riley said okay.....okay.

Councilor Wittenberg said to Ogema Romanelli that he said he wasn't going to veto it.

Ogema Romanelli said he wouldn't veto it, yes, no because.....

Speaker Riley said this.....this is again turning into another sidebar discussion and please direct all their comments towards the Chair.

Ogema Romanelli said then he just has a couple more things if he could. Romanelli said he guessed the timing to him is awkward as well that they bring it up. Romanelli said he would prefer that, from what he understands, and they talked to their constituents he guessed he talked to his. Romanelli said there is an overwhelming group that in his mind doesn't want the 50% to happen especially at this time. Romanelli said there are ramifications that can happen to their services, to their employees, to their Tribe and so it just shocks him.....shocks him that they can't tell him the percentages that they are planning on taking this out of.

Councilor Crampton said Joe Riley.

Councilor Pete he has.....

Speaker Riley apologized. Riley said he was..... Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton asked how much money is returned back to the government every year that they don't use.

Ogema Romanelli said he is not sure what that is.

Councilor Crampton said he doesn't know the percentage.

Ogema Romanelli said he doesn't know the complete numbers. Romanelli said he knows that there is a sizable amount and that is part of the problem as well. Romanelli said so he didn't answer the question though.

Councilor Crampton said it will take roughly about.....

Ogema Romanelli said he is bringing this forward what could he tell him.

Councilor Crampton said he has to be quiet or it is going to take roughly about two.....

Speaker Riley interjected with all right, all right wait for him to finish his comment.

Ogema Romanelli said go ahead.

Councilor Crampton said it is going to take roughly about \$2.3 and they give that back about every year so he means come on quit playing games.

Ogema Romanelli said please tell him the percentages.

Ogema Romanelli said nope. Romanelli said nope he sure didn't. Romanelli said the percentages within the pie.

Councilor Crampton said \$2.3 million is what this is going to take this increase.

Ogema Romanelli asked where does that.....

Councilor Crampton said what does he give back every year it is a simple question.

Ogema Romanelli asked what part of the pie.

Councilor Crampton said he should know that he has been there for 12 years.

Ogema Romanelli said right. Romanelli said it changes every year and is not the same amount he should know that being on Council for his second or third time.

Councilor Crampton asked Ogema Romanelli to give him a rough estimate.

Ogema Romanelli said a couple of a million dollars, yes.

Councilor Crampton said okay.

Ogema Romanelli said so why does he say that.....then he has to ask him Council keeps saying that there is all these problems with their Resort and that it is not making the money it should. Romanelli said yeah they put \$2 million back in the Budget and again that is just a rough estimate please don't hold him to the \$2 million dollars. Romanelli said he is simply asking if they are going to change it they should know the percentages that is coming out of the pie. Romanelli said it is as simple as that. Romanelli thanked them.

Councilor Pete said he had his hand.....

Speaker Riley said all right, all right. Riley said to Councilor Pete before he gets to him he just wanted to state one thing. Riley said in the past money has been coming back over here and their Reserves has been increasing but over the last couple of years their Financial Reserves have actually decreased.

Councilor Pete said yes.

Speaker Riley said so that.....he thinks that is an important distinction to make. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete thanked Speaker Riley. Pete said to Speaker Riley he has been patiently waiting for some time. Pete said he can answer the Ogema on that because there hasn't been a work session they haven't talked about the financial

end of this on where this is going to come from. Pete said at least if they had one he wasn't invited. Pete repeated he wasn't invited to that work session they supposedly had in fact they didn't supposedly had it they never had it. Pete said so he thinks when they are making a decision like this that involves money they need to be able to talk about it. Pete said he will tell them another thing he is just going to publically state right now he knows that he on Tribal Council and they represent everyone but Tribal Council believes that 50% of the Net Gaming Revenue should be obligated to individual Per Cap Distribution he is going to say publically this is one Tribal Councilor that doesn't believe it.

Speaker Riley said all right. Riley recognized Darleen Martin.

Darleen Martin, Tribal #0575, said according to the \_\_\_\_\_ paper and how it is written she would assume that Tribal Council.....Tribal Council has agreed on 50%. Martin said the way it looks here on paper, black and white, on yellow that everyone has agreed to this. Martin said she is wondering where this came from because she hears so many people against.

Speaker Riley said he can actually answer that question. Riley said when they fill out an Agenda Request it has specific fields on it and the narrative field is generally where somebody will put like comments like for example with New Business Item A. the new Family Services is requesting a modification or whatever. Riley said generally the narrative describes the item above. Riley said the Item C. in particular makes an assumption because there have been no work sessions on this specifically that Tribal Council is going to pass this. Riley said the assumption is that they all agree that.....not that they all agree but enough of them agree to make it pass. Riley said that is the assumption that is put in there.

Darleen Martin said her assumption is the whole Tribal Council because that is what it says here.

Councilor Pete said he had nothing to do with it.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said yeah there are a lot of reasons that their resources are down right now, the funding is down, well one of the big ones is the Shoreline Task Force. Crampton said that is why the Reserves are down and if they were all coming out here on every and everything was agreed to they wouldn't even be voting it would just be yes. Crampton asked how many times has that happened where everybody votes yes. Crampton said that is a rarity.

Speaker Riley said um.....

Councilor Pete said Mr. Speaker.



Speaker Riley said yes Mr. Pete then Ogema Romanelli.

Councilor Pete said okay he, he, he.... Pete said they don't always agree on stuff and that is why there is different votes on here but at least he would think someone would have invited him as a Councilor to a work session on this. Pete said on this stuff that involves this much money and this thing what is going to happen to the Tribe, to the Resort and to the government funding and everything. Pete said he would think that the average person would think that they would have a work session on it and talk about this. Pete said to Darleen Martin no he knew nothing about this, nothing.

Speaker Riley said all right.

Ogema Romanelli said he is going to pass.

Speaker Riley said okay.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Riley.

Speaker Riley said he has a copy of the resolution in front of him and one of the questions he has here is because this is a work session that Council has had not specifically moving the 50% but they have had work sessions about including their children. Riley said that was.....that according to the resolution is not a consideration in this one. Riley said he guessed whoever wrote the resolution could they explain why that isn't a consideration adding their minor children.

Councilor Crampton said he just copied what was there before and he thought their children picked up on the Muskegon Casino. Crampton asked that should be here in what July or June.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said all right he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION#19-0320-066;  
AUTHORIZING THE UNIFIED LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO  
AMEND THE REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN TO PROVIDE  
FOR 50% OF REVENUE TO BE RESERVED FOR PER CAPITA  
PAYMENTS;** by Crampton; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions or any further discussion. Riley recognized Councilor Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said he will abstain because it's in the middle of a voting year and he is running.

Recorder Lewis said yeah she is abstaining too.

Speaker Riley recognized Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said yes and he thanks Councilor Friedel for that but he thinks....

Councilor Pete said Sandy Lewis abstained too.

Ogema Romanelli said.....whoever is abstaining if they follow the rules in the Constitution that has to be voted on just for their information.

Councilor Friedel said okay he will vote then. Friedel said he will take his abstention back.

Speaker Riley said what.....he is sorry.

Recorder Lewis said she does like to say to that she does feel that they know a work session but there are going to end up being more work sessions. Lewis said she doesn't appreciate people speaking for her and saying that she is doing this for political reasons because she is not. Lewis said they know she has no.....she can't tell them whether or not yes she is going to get in or she is not. Lewis said her job here is to take care of her people and their well-being. Lewis said so if she is not allowed to abstain she is going to keep doing what she does. Lewis said she doesn't appreciate people putting words out there for her because they don't know. Lewis said they haven't called her or have sat down and talked with her so if they want her in-thought, her insight, come talk to her. Lewis said she thinks taking care of their people that is the whole reason she is here and yes, they do need to have their children in there also. Lewis said yes she is talking to them.

Speaker Riley said okay he is just making sure.

Recorder Lewis said to Speaker Riley that the membership happens to be hearing her right now. Lewis said she is here to take care of her people and if she is not here tomorrow, she is going to make sure that they are taken care of before she leaves. Lewis said there is plenty of money in this place....there is plenty of money and they know to sit here and scare the people that they are going to cut funding, they are going to cut all their programs no they are not. Lewis said there is better ways to go about this then the way it is going. Lewis said she has respect for her people and she is not doing this because of campaign but she might not be here tomorrow. Lewis said if she is not she is going to make sure that her future generations are provided for and that her Elders are taken care of. Lewis thanked them.

Councilor Crampton said Ahaaw.

Councilor Wittenberg agreed.

Speaker Riley said okay with the first....he is sorry.....recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to clarify something. Crampton said Robert's Rules of Order the Council can vote on it but they cannot compel anyone to vote.

Speaker Riley said right, right, they can vote on whether or not they believe there is a Conflict of Interest.

Councilor Crampton said yeah but they can abstain if they want.

Councilor Wittenberg said um-hum.

Speaker Riley said um-hum. Riley said so he guess he will leave it up to Council whether they want to go through the procedural matter on that since....he means people are going to vote how they are going to vote anyway. Riley said he is sorry he had Darleen Martin and then Mr. Wittenberg.

Darleen Martin, Tribal #0575, said she would like to know.....she thought most of their programs were funded and not by just the Tribe just like Mr. Cross got funding now a lot of their programs are funded through grants. Martin said one of them is shaking their head no and one is shaking their head yes.

Speaker Riley said the only programs through Member's Assistance that is grant funded is the Low Income Heating or the LIHEAP Program and that is actually on the chopping block for this year. Riley said whether or not it gets funded through the appropriations process in the Congress or not that is still up in the air but it is a zero amount in Trump's Budget. Riley said every program in the Member's Assistance Guidebook every program that they have is funded by General Welfare dollars that are part of the Revenue Allocation Plan. Riley said to Jason Cross if he is wrong he can correct him. Riley said he believed that is the way it is.

Jason Cross said Well & Septic is funded by IHS.

Speaker Riley said he is sorry he missed that one. Riley said the Well & Septic is funded by Indian Health Services.

Darleen Martin said okay and thanked them.

Speaker Riley said um, he got to start writing these names down. Riley said he think he had Ron or Mr. Wittenberg then he has Ms. Nelson and then he has Mr. Ogema.

Councilor Wittenberg said he can understand now different things coming up to the table here and yes they've been sitting at the Round Table talking about this. Wittenberg said he also believed that when things come up here on the table that it is up to the individual to vote how they want to vote regardless of what the other one or how the other one feels. Wittenberg said he knows himself this would have never been brought up if through the channels if it wasn't put out there and to him if it would have been that way right at the start that it could have been eliminated this coming up to the table but because of that now it is at the table they can't.....he can't change yesterday no more than they can change yesterday. Wittenberg said so what they got to do the way what he has to do is deal with it. Wittenberg said he is not looking at who is going to vote for what or who is going to vote for what but he is going to vote on what is in front of him today. Wittenberg thanked them. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Riley said okay and thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Riley said all right Miss Nelson.

Nikki Nelson, Tribal #0421, said first she would just like to say that she doesn't think that this was ever political until one Councilor voiced his political opinion that it was being made political so that is where it became political. Nelson said second of all they are talking about a matter of a couple million dollars and just a couple of months ago they dissolved an entire Department's Budget which was a little over one million dollars to put into one subsidy department, to put into the EDC. Nelson said now they are only asking for a million more to put into however many members so if they don't have a problem with dissolving an entire Department's Budget of a million dollars, \$1.17 million, she thinks it was dollars and giving it to one person to finance they certainly shouldn't have a problem giving two million dollars to the membership that they are serving. Nelson thanked them.

Speaker Riley said Mr. Ogema.

Ogema Romanelli said this will probably be his last comment but they know they will have to look at that pie chart, the Revenue Allocation Plan if this goes forward because it has to change. Romanelli said he is shocked that those numbers aren't put out there but they will have to look at that. Romanelli said he also thinks that they talk about Seven Generations thinking and Seven Generation funding but they don't always adhere to that when they are making their decisions. Romanelli said the fact that they talked about this before that the Elders get twice what those 55 under get. Romanelli said then they eliminate the children from that and he really thinks if they going to go to all that trouble of opening it up and they are going to reallocate that pie they might want to consider what they are going to do for those children as well and for the future generations. Romanelli said so if they are going to go that route so be it. Romanelli thanked them.

Councilor Wittenberg said support.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah he would have been more comfortable seeing that allotted to the children. Di Piazza said the way this resolution reads they are just going to hand out 50% to the way it is already allocated to the age groups. Di Piazza said there is nothing about work sessions or anything this is direct to Unified Legal to make this alteration then implement it. Di Piazza said so there is no consideration for children or no consideration even where that.....where they are going to take that percentage out of that pie. Di Piazza said at the end of the day it still has to come out of there some place whether they are going to take it out of Government Operations, General Welfare because that is a real pie. Di Piazza said that is a real number. Di Piazza asked are they going to subsidized everything that they took that percentage away from or are they going to take that out of the....they know out of the Reserves. Di Piazza said um.....

Speaker Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said to Gary Di Piazza as the Recorder she will put a work session on so they can get all those questions answered.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton asked Gary Di Piazza if he was done.

Councilor Di Piazza said yep.

Councilor Crampton said he was just making sure. Crampton said he just wanted to state this was his idea and brought it forward. Crampton said Councilor Friedel and Lewis had nothing to do with it. Crampton said he saw they were taking some abuse online so they didn't have anything to do with it other than just pointing at it today. Crampton said he believed this is a scare tactic it is a huge scare tactic. Crampton said two million is put back and it is unused from this government every year and that is all it is going to take. Crampton said this is a big huge scare tactic and there is no bigger advocate for the children at the time when this plan was originally written than himself so he is glad to hear them support that. Crampton said let's get this through and amend it.

Speaker Riley asked is there any further discussion. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #5**

J. Riley -	No	J. Friedel -	No	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	No	R. Pete -	No
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion failed (4-4-0-1)

Recorder Lewis said four in favor and four against motion failed.

**VI. Concluding Business**

**A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

**B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**

Ogema Romanelli said he is going to pass.

Speaker Riley said okay.

Ogema Romanelli said he will pass on the update. Romanelli said there is really nothing going on other than what just went on so. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Ogema Romanelli.

**C. Legislative Affairs Update**

Speaker Riley asked does anybody have anything for Legislative Affairs.

No updates were offered.

**D. Public Comment Period**

Speaker Riley recognized Nikki Nelson.

Nikki Nelson, Tribal #0421, said hi, she just wanted to see there was a lot of talk about including children. Nelson said a great way to start getting their kids what they need would be to approve the funding for the bus that Education has been asking for two years because that would get a lot of kids from Muskegon and from here to the programs and stuff they need. Nelson said so if that could be done that would be an awesome start to get the kids where they need them to be.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Nikki Nelson. Romanelli said part of the issue with that also is they already have a bus that sits out in their parking lot for much of the time from Family Services that has been offered to Education time and again so unless they want to use that initially and show that there is another need other than that bus. Romanelli said he doesn't see going forward with the request again. Romanelli said the other thing is they have to make sure when they are carting children around that these people that are driving these buses are fully

licensed properly and they are not just having employees that aren't licensed properly driving the children around. Romanelli said that puts them at great liability.

Nikki Nelson said that is true, yeah.

Ogema Romanelli said so they have access to the red bus that sits in the parking lot 85% of the time.

Nikki Nelson said okay.

Speaker Riley said okay if that is it for public comment. Riley said Mr. Crampton and Mr. Corey immediately after.

Councilor Crampton said he will defer to his Elder.

Councilor Corey said he just wanted to say that this weekend from noon to three is a little Open House at the Sugar Shack for kids and families alike. Corey said that is it.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to say that the \_\_\_\_ Chairman Terrance Tibbits has walked on and he would like to remember him.

Councilor Pete said to Speaker Riley that he wanted some clarification from Mr. Corey because he was asked is that both days this weekend Saturday and Sunday or just one of the days.

Councilor Corey said Sunday just Sunday.

Councilor Pete said oh, just Sunday, okay, from what noon to three.

Councilor Corey said noon to three.

Councilor Pete said they are going to have some food there too.

Nikki Nelson said there will be lunch such as sandwiches and stuff.

Councilor Pete said he was asked by two Tribal members. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley said okay with that being wrapped up.

***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.***

Tribal Council recessed at 10:45 a.m.

### **VIII. Open Session**

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 11:14 a.m.

J. Riley - Present	J. Friedel - Present	D. Corey - Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	R. Pete - Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	D. Lonn - Absent	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

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

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis do they have any items to move to Open Session.

Recorder Lewis replied yes.

#### **MOTION TO MOVE RESOLUTION #19-0320-068 AND 069; MOTION, ROLL CALL AND VOTE; by Lewis; supported by Friedel.**

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis that she was going to move the entirety of D.1. out.

Recorder Lewis asked does he want the entirety of that.

Councilor Crampton asked entirety of what.

Speaker Riley said the ethical complaint results.

Recorder Lewis said she thought he said motion, roll call and vote.

Councilor Pete asked didn't they say they wanted that in open session.

Speaker Riley asked do they want....do they want to move it out as redacted so they can have Legal look through it and make sure that there is nothing in there that would be considered Closed Session.

Councilor Crampton said that would be a wiser move.

Recorder Lewis said okay.

Speaker Riley said all right so.....

Recorder Lewis said so she amends that motion then.



**MOTION TO MOVE D.1. IS REDACTED AND #19-0320-069;  
MOTION, ROLL CALL AND VOTE;** by Lewis; supported by Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said he still supports that.

Speaker Riley said it is still supported by Jamie Friedel. Riley asked are there any abstentions or discussion. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

**Roll Call #6**

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis said okay so redacted D.1. and also D.2. motion, roll call and vote #19-0320-069.

Speaker Riley said all right and thanked Recorder Lewis.

*The following item was moved from Closed to Open Session.*

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 19-0320-069,  
ACCEPTANCE & RATIFICATION OF THE LITTLE RIVER  
BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT –  
2019-02 – MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT AUDIT –  
CHAPTER 4;** by Friedel; supported by Pete.

**Roll Call #C-5**

R. Wittenberg –	Yes	S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza –	Yes
D. Lonn -	Absent	D. Corey –	Yes	J. Riley –	Yes
J. Friedel -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

*This concludes the items moved from Closed to Open Session.*

**IX. Adjourn**

Speaker Riley said he will entertain a motion to adjourn at 11:17.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 11:17;** by Di Piazza; supported by Wittenberg.

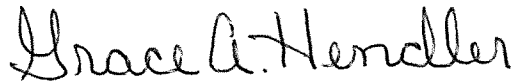
**Roll Call #7**

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	D. Corey -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Absent	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler  
Transcribing Assistant



Sandra Lewis,  
Tribal Council Recorder