

Approved
12/20/2023



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, May 10th, 2023
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 May 10th, 2023. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Wittenberg says sorry, about that I was on mute. I would like to welcome everybody to the Wednesday May 10th 2023 Tribal Council meeting, and what I am gonna do is go through uh, the numbers phone number 0066.

Micheal Burmeister said 945

Recorder Wittenberg said Chelsea Densmore

Chelsea Densmore said 3225

Recorder Wittenberg said Corey Wells, I would presume

Corey Wells said 4839

Recorder Wittenberg said Carol Ann Chabot

Carol Ann Chabot said 3742. Good Morning

Recorder Wittenberg said and then Keegan Bordeaux is our attorney. I see a Laura Echelbarger

Laura Echelbarger said Good Morning Everyone 2276.

Recorder Wittenberg says and Lee

Robert McCaslin said Lee 0748

Recorder Wittenberg said Lee Ivinson

Lee Ivinson said Good morning 99

Recorder Wittenberg said Martha Howell

Martha Howell said 3635

Recorder Wittenberg said Melissa

Melissa Waitner said Tribal employee

Recorder Wittenberg said Misty Silvis

Misty Silvis said Good morning 2488

Recorder Wittenberg said we have Sandra Lewis here Council person, Sara Agosa

Sara Agosa said 4478

Recorder Wittenberg said and then we have uh Speaker Crampton, Shawna Guest

Shawna Gonzalez said 4700

Recorder Wittenberg said Susan Thull

Susan Thull said 3727

Recorder Wittenberg said Thressa LaHaye

Thressa LaHaye said 4651

Recorder Wittenberg said Tina McClellan Payment

Tina McClellan Payment said tribal ID 2917

Recorder Wittenberg said Victoria Wells

Victoria Wells said 4841 Good morning

Recorder Wittenberg said Good morning, Mno Gizhep and the last 4 digits of this phone number 2226

Tammy Burmeister said Good Morning Recorder Wittenberg, this is Tammy Burmeister 351.

Recorder Wittenberg said Miigwech and a Mno Gizhep to you, and Speaker Crampton, oh I do have a couple more here, forgive me a second. Tasha Smith. Tasha smith I believe you are on

Tasha Smith said good morning.

Recorder Wittenberg said do you have a tribal number?

Tasha Smith said I believe it 5561.

Recorder Wittenberg said alright. Miigwech. Ok uh Speaker Crampton. I have uh went through the list. I'll give it to you to take, I gotta take

Speaker Crampton ok and good morning. Thank you everyone for attending today and we'll start today's meeting off with a Prayer, if the recorder would be so kind to do so, I would greatly appreciate it.

I. Opening Prayer

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

We thank you for this day and everything in it we ask that you be with us today. Speak with us from within. Help us to hear your voice, to turn around and speak and talk and walk in a good way. We ask that you be with all our members and our people throughout the world, that even our brothers and sisters and that are not Anishnaabe be to be with them also. We thank you for all we have and all we don't have. Aho Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech, Miigwech

Speaker Crampton says Ok thank you Recorder Wittenberg. We'll call this meeting to order at your time there and if you would do a roll call

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

B. Roll Call

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

Quorum established

Speaker Crampton say thank you very much and that is going to take us down to approval of the agenda. I'll entertain a motion to approve the agenda.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH NEW BUSINESS, B,C,D,E,F ADD; AND CLOSED F, ADD by Councilor Wittenberg; supported by Councilor Wolfe.

Speaker Crampton said I apologize but was that Councilor Johnson?

Councilor Johnson says no

Recorder Wittenberg says it was Julie, uh Speaker Crampton

Speaker Crampton says alright, I apologize again, you guys got the blinds open and it's hard to see, so I have a motion by Councilor Wittenberg, supported by Councilor Wolfe. Is anybody going to abstain on the item? Is there any further discussion from council? Any further discussion from the membership? One more time for council, hearing none, please do a roll call.

Roll Call # 2

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

Motion carried (5-3-0-1)

Recorder Wittenberg says 5 in favor the agenda has been approved.

Speaker Crampton says alright, thank you very much, and that takes us down to let me get it here,

D. Tribal Council Minutes

We don't have any submitted at this time.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

None submitted.

B. Budget Modifications

None submitted.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

None Submitted

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

A. Authorizing Approval of an Addendum to Master Service Agreement (# 17-1129-414) Rose Pest Solutions

D. Underwood says Miigwech Speaker Crampton. Aani My Name is Deahna Underwood. I am the maintenance office manager the purpose of this item is to request Tribal Council to authorize the proposed addendum to the master service agreement. The tribe's current pest management master agreement of services with Rose Pest Solutions. They're awarded the contracts through the request for proposal process. The addendum to

the master service agreement is to add a new account and services to the newly built food distribution center Rose has recommended per the food, per the FDA food service, survey completed by the environmental health services to provide twice monthly on-site services. For the legal review, the agreement would increase by \$3217.62. This includes a one-time account setup fee, 24 on site services and the initial cost for external and internal, internal devices the work session for the addendum was completed yesterday. Rose has provided quality services and is in good standing with the tribe. Miigwech for your time and consideration and I will turn it back to council for questions.

Speaker Crampton says yeah, do we have any questions for Miss Underwood at this time? Ok, not from council, any from the membership?

Councilor Wolfe says Speaker Crampton we do have one issue with the resolution. it is in the certification of adoption it has at a regular closed session of the Little River band of Ottawa Indians and this is open.

Speaker Crampton says how would you, how would you like to handle that?

Councilor Wolfe says we can change it on the floor in that certification adoption because it is an open session item. There's nothing confidential, proprietary in this contract, correct?

D. Underwood says something that cannot picked up on the zoom recording.

Speaker Crampton says so would you like to amend it in the motion?

Councilor Wolfe says just one second please. *Inaudible*. Ok if there's no further questions I'm prepared to make the motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-0510-076 WITH THE CORRECTION ON THE CERTIFICATE ADOPTION THAT ITS AN OPEN SESSION ITEM AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM TO MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT #17-1129-414 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS; by J. Wolfe; supported by P. Johnson.

Councilor Lewis says can you reread the resolution number please?

Councilor Wolfe says yep. 23-0510-076.

Councilor Lewis says alright Thank you.

Speaker Crampton says alright I have a motion by Councilor Wolfe supported by Councilor Johnson. Is there anybody going to abstain on the item?

Councilor Wolfe says so its Wolfe by Johnson.

Speaker Crampton says what's that?

Councilor Wolfe the motion was made by me.

Speaker Crampton says yes, by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Johnson. Is there anybody going to abstain on the item. Is there any further discussion from Council? Anything further from the membership? One more time for council? Hearing none, please do a roll call.

Roll Call # 3

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Wittenberg says resolution #23-0510-076 has passed.

D. Underwood says Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton says thank you. Ok that's going to take us down to the next item of business. Let me bring up the agenda here which is

B. Approval of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic Plan

And that is Mr. Pringle

B. Pringle says Good Moring Council and membership. This is for the approval of Resolution of The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 Strategic plan. Whereas the Tribal Council requires by the Budget Appropriations Act of 2013 to maintain the strategic plan and whereas Tribal Council speaker authorized the Comptroller General to complete a strategic plan meeting the requirements of the Budget Appropriation Act of 2013, whereas Tribal Council Comptroller General has had held multiple work sessions for input and made any improvements on the strategic plan and whereas the tribal council recognizes the immediate need for the implementation of the plan in a timely manner but recognizes that the plan will lead a work session review in 60 days for additional input from membership and participants. Now, therefore resolve the Tribal Council the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby approves The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2023 strategic plan is presented by the Tribal Council or is presented by Comptroller General.

Speaker Crampton says ok does anybody have any questions for Mr. Pringle at this time? Ok. I just wanted to say a very good job, Mr. Pringle and a good job to council. This is another document where the council went through and found all the deficiencies and I'm pretty sure we got a good portion of them and so I just want to say good job to the council and thank you Mr. Pringle for your time and your effort and thank you for all your contributions from the membership as well and at this time we'll enter a motion.

Councilor Wolfe says I can make that motion.

**MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF
OTTAWA INDIANS 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN RESOLUTION
#23-0510-077: by J. Wolfe; Supported by R. Wittenberg.**

Speaker Crampton says ok. I have a motion by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Wittenberg. Is anyone going to abstain. Is there any further discussion from the council? Anything from the membership?

Councilor Wolfe says that was me the made the motion, Councilor Wolfe.

Speaker Crampton says ok we have a motion by Councilor Wolfe, supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Wittenberg says yeah

Speaker Crampton says ok. Is there anybody going to abstain on the item? Is there any further discussion from council?

Councilor Wolfe says I just wanted to add one comment that this because we are going to be reviewing this in 60 days we would like input and comments from membership. This will be posted to the web page area on the legislative portion and also in the area where you can comment on other ordinances that are getting changed, I don't know what section that is but it'll be posted in two spots and you could submit your comments to the at the regular e-mail of comments@LRBOI-nsn.gov

Speaker Crampton says thank you Councilor Wolfe. Is there anything further from council? Is there any questions from the membership. Jolene O'Signac. And then I'll get Ogema Romanelli after O'Signac. Jolene you have the floor. Jolene?

J. O'Signac says I'm sorry I couldn't get it to unmute, uh just a point of clarification, is this the same legislation that council approved last week with incorrect information from the Ogema?

Councilor Wolfe says no, last week was the monthly report for March.

O'Signac says ok

Councilor Wolfe says so it's changing the plan.

J. O'Signac says alright thank you.

Councilor Wolfe says and I just want to also clarify I did look that up and it would be under the legislative branch under public comment for proposed ordinance and regulations where the document would be posted for membership input, thank you.

J. O'Signac says thank you.

Speaker Crampton says Jolene, are you there?

J. O'Signac says yes, thank you. Thank you.

Speaker Crampton says alright thank you. Ogema Romanelli?

Ogema Romanelli says I'd also like to recognize the executive branch and the judicial branch for their part of putting information into this strategic plan thank you.

Speaker Crampton says you are correct, and I apologize both branches contributed and were integral part of getting this done so I apologize and that was remiss and not mentioning that, OK any further questions? Alright please do roll call.

Roll Call #4

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

Motion carried (7-1-0-1)

Recorder Wittenberg says resolution #23-0510-077 has passed.

B. Pringle says thank you council.

Speaker Crampton says thank you once again and thank you to all the branches that participated. I think this is a great service and membership and what they expect, just good job, so thank you everyone who participated. That's going to bring us down to our next business which is

Councilor Lewis says speaker your computer is dragging

Speaker Crampton says which is Number C which is C. Amending the Compensation for the Tribal Council

Recorder Wittenberg says Councilor I mean Mr. Crampton

Speaker Crampton says I am not sure

Speaker Crampton comments are not clear on the zoom recording.

Councilor Wolfe says Mr. Crampton, we can't hear you from here your audio is dragging.

Speaker Crampton says I know the past we've been continuing resolutions, but I think those are

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton your voice is dragging.

Speaker Crampton says I apologize. Can you hear me now?

Recorder Wittenberg says you're echoing

Speaker Crampton says can you hear me now?

Recorder Wittenberg says come again one more time please.

Speaker Crampton says can we take a 5-minute recess? I'm going to reset this really quick.

Recorder Wittenberg says ok minutes.

Recess begins: 10:24a

Zoom continues to record while in recess.

Recess Ends 10:43a

Recorder Wittenberg says 8435, you're on mute,

Speaker Crampton says Shannon Crampton 1747

Recorder Wittenberg says ok are we Speaker Crampton ready to resume?

Speaker Crampton says OK I want to apologize for the membership. All of a sudden my computer just went totally dead for some reason right when we come to that agenda item, so let me pull up the agenda here, I got a secondary going on and we are at the approval of the little or I'm sorry Amending the Compensation for the Tribal Council

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton we had a recess so to resume on I can do a roll call.

Speaker Crampton yeah so lets uh, we'll come out of recess and we do a roll call.

Recorder Wittenberg ok, at 10:43 ok

Roll Call

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

Quorum established

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton we do have Quorum.

Speaker Crampton says that takes us down to the next item of business which is 1 that I put on the ADD. Its

ADD: C. Amending the Compensation for the Tribal Council

In the past, well first of all I don't know if there's need for any other but this one. I tried to clarify that last night but I guess I didn't clarify it. In the past the council has adopted continuing compensations for the Election Board, the Ogema, the Council, the Judges, everyone but I don't think that those are actually needed unless there's something to act upon, lowering the amount or raising the amount levels pretty much continue so I'm not sure if continuing compensations are actually neither are just highly symbolic, so I would ask Mr. Bordeaux

K. Bordeaux says thank you Mr. Speaker. That was my understanding when I read the previous resolutions is that they have continuation clauses. I think the discussion that we had was there was some symbolic or ceremonial or otherwise purpose for why it had continued in the past.

Speaker Crampton asked Ok so it's largely symbolic?

K. Bordeaux says from a legal perspective, yes.

Speaker Crampton says OK well I know I just wanna clarify, clarify things up for the future councils or anything so the continuing compensations aren't really needed. The only thing would, would be needed is if you're acting on anything and when I had put on for the Tribal Council is that I'm bringing forth a task force to set compensation levels but back in 2015 for largely, well let that be around the bush and let's have some professional courtesy, largely political reasons, the council was kept at a level of 2007 or 2008 and not moved up. Now what I'm putting through for today is to bring the council up to those to 2015 mid-range levels which are probably going to work out at the next task force, this estimation of calculation at probably at the lower end of the spectrum or at the bottom end of it even makes the spectrum but these are the 2015 levels and that would put everybody at the suggested, what we have for the market studies and that would make the job a little bit easier for any task force going forward, than having to go back and do this again and like I said this is not bringing up any raises is bringing up a mistake that was made back in 2015, which is largely political. There's no other way to say it but this just corrects the issue and brings everything up, so I'm sorry and I apologize to the membership but I'm on the phone now and I can't see the hands of Mr. Recorder if you would get the hands. Are there any questions from Tribal Council? Any questions

Recorder Wittenberg says uh Councilor DiPiazza has his hand up.

Speaker Crampton says sure Councilor DiPiazza go ahead

Councilor DiPiazza says well I have to raise a concern as far as Article IV Section 6(f)2 then when a council member has a personal interest in an issue or matter to be voted on by the council other than common to all tribal members. Increasing my compensation adheres to that severely so I believe that to give me give, to vote ourselves a monetary increase if it was a run through the task force it'd be a little different situation but that's where I'm at with it so.

Speaker Crampton says so OK well I just want to clarify that this is not council has never voted for Gary DiPiazza or Shannon Crampton to have a raise. What this is is a compensation level that was set as an elected officials of market study from 2015 for the Valiant and what you're doing is setting the appropriate compensation level for the council that's the body that's coming in after you now if you were to vote as council was sitting here voting on the monetary raise for Gary DiPiazza, I can see your point or Shannon Crampton or anybody on the council. I can see your point.

Councilor DiPiazza says but it's, it's still raising our compensation level so to me that part runs under personal gain increase, so you guys are gonna so what you are gonna do. I'm stating that on the record that.

Recorder Wittenberg says Councilor Wever has her hand up also Speaker Crampton.

Speaker Crampton says OK well I'll just get I just want to make sure they clarify what we're understanding what we're talking about here it's not an individual increase and the correct statute that's in the constitution is personal benefit versus the common interest of the tribe

Councilor DiPiazza says it's a personal benefit.

Speaker Crampton says versus the common. Ok I have not got time for this compensation problem. Um, Shirley Wever

Councilor Wever says oh I just wanted to say how come the Ogema doesn't give us the raise when he gives the government building, I think it is it 3% a year? Well I that's all I want to say.

Recorder Wittenberg says uh Speaker Crampton, Ogema Romanelli now uh he is want to be in the queue here.

Ogema Romanelli says sure, I can answer that question.

Speaker Crampton says I think I can answer the question but go ahead Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli Says ok I can answer that question very clearly. The employees were eligible Tribal Council are not employees of the tribe. Does that answer the question?

Speaker Crampton says I do believe so and I have to concur with the Ogema, that's exactly right.

Ogema Romanelli says Thank you.

Speaker Crampton says and unfortunately we are in

Councilor Wever says something that cannot be picked up on the zoom recording.

Speaker Crampton says no unfortunately here's the, here's the problem that we have that the council is the one that's set for doing all the elected officials we're the ones that do this and that's why there was a compensation study so there wasn't just picking out names from a hat, now what had happened is and it keeps happening is the incorrect interpretation of our constitution, if you're setting the level for the council which is the way the council has been doing it for all these past years all these past years, council has been doing. What they do is they set the compensation level for the Tribal Council coming in prior to them and that's the way we've always done it, that's been the practice. Now the body coming in after us will not be able to vote on that, at all, up or down because that will directly impact that body. The only opportunity they will have to change it, like we have here today and hopefully that's the point of the task force is I don't think we've been correctly doing this I think that it should be done earlier.

Councilor DiPiazza says something that was not heard clearly.

Speaker Crampton says yeah around January or so it should be done a lot sooner or a lot sooner than this but in the past, I just wanted to let people know that our records have actually set this up to where that's been the day or the week before. This has been remised that we've had to do this now and like I said this is to bring it up to the appropriate level of 2015 I think this was the mid-range of 2015 was the last study that we had done and that's why it brought up these numbers but it's not increase in council's pay this body will not be here next week. There will be a new body they will not be able to act on it one way or another, up or down.

Recorder Wittenberg says Ogema is stills, Romanelli is still at the, wants his queue , I guess to respond Speaker Crampton.

Speaker Crampton says oh, oh go ahead Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli says ok thank you, I think this action actually is very improper and it's wrong on many levels. Normally this is done long before the elections are held and at this point by the Tribal Council. The speaker said that he had other tribes wage information that he was going to distribute to the Ogema and councilors and with the and with the tribal members. I've not seen that which was going to kind of justify these actions. There are strong sentiments from our tribal members that the Tribal Council should go back to stipends, which is the way they originally were created as you know the constitution allows for the Ogema and the judges to be compensated. There's nothing in the constitution that allows for the Tribal Council to be compensated. However, if they were to, it should be going back to the stipends. As you can see here today, there is at least one Tribal Councilor who hasn't even been in offices per se for almost a year. Another one that hasn't been here for another half a year and the part of the reasons for the stipends the way they were created was to compensate people for travel, food, et cetera and their time. By the way we're doing it today, I think is still improper. The, they have multiple councilors that we haven't seen, obviously. PTO for the Ogema, the Tribal Council improperly cut the Ogema's wages back, I believe in 2012 by a legal review which I have here. It said accordingly we conclude that the 2012 decrease in the Ogema salary was contrary to the LRBOI law because the decrease that diminished the Ogema salary while

the Ogema was in office. There have been other concerns that have been brought up along the way. Also, the valiant city which you're going off from, was incorrect as well for example, the Ogema, they listed my wage should be \$70,000. At a time when I entered office at \$75,000. They're taking incorrect information. I took it back to the study group Valiant and they agreed that they probably made a mistake. I think that again, it's very clear that the Tribal Council are not employees of the tribe, otherwise they would have taxes taken out, etcetera, so I find this is a little concerning the, concerning I guess and back in 2008 when the council gave themselves a raise, the Ogema did not get a raise. That was misquoted back then and continues to be misquoted because they gave themselves a pretty healthy raise. When I first became Ogema, the councilors, once they gave themselves a salary, were at about 37,000. The Ogema at that time was making \$75,000, almost double what the council was making and for good reason. The Ogema's duties are much different than Tribal Councilors, if we were to continue the same percentage at what you're asking for now, it would put the Ogema well over \$140,000 a year, not saying that I don't deserve it but I think that we should be doing this very equally, not only the council and the Ogema but the judges and now we have Election Board that are also elected and I think the fairway to do it would be going back to the beginning and looking at the percentage wise and increasing all across the board, that would be the most realistic way of doing it. Uh, the, before I became Ogema, when I became Ogema, they had reduced my salary and my compensation. The prior Ogema's use to get 240 hours of vacation time, they cut my in half to 120 hours of compensation uh PTO compensation and so I think that this is this is very disheartening. I, I think it's ethically bankrupt to be honest with you. I think that a better thing to do with this money now I just got this 30 minutes before. I see this resolution was signed back or at least the information was signed back on May 2nd, yet I and the tribal members don't get it until 30 minutes before the start of the meeting so it's a late add and something of this magnitude I think deserves a little bit more notice so I would suggest and, and I did a quick study, it looks to be it would raise the budget by or at least impact the budget by over \$100,000. Probably more than that, maybe closer to \$150,000. With all we know we just had a couple of tribal members who have received devastating circumstances. I, I talked about putting forth an emergency fund. I think this kind of money would be better served going into an emergency fund for our tribal members rather than going into our Tribal Council who have a problem showing up for work. I think that and I'll end with this, that the membership have, have repeatedly asked Tribal Council to go back to a stipend which seems fair. Those people that show up for work whether by phone which I still disagree with, I see no reason for these empty chairs after all this time but to go back to a stipend we would even save probably another 100 to \$200,000 if we went to stipend because those people that came to work would be paid fully and those people that didn't show up to work would not be paid and we would save another 100,000 plus there so we can save a quarter of a million dollars and that would go into emergency fund of sorts, rather than going to a number of people that don't show up for work, don't do their job on a regular basis with that I'll end, thank you very much.

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton, I do have Councilor Pam Johnson and Councilor Gary DiPiazza, it would be Pam first.

Speaker Crampton says ok go ahead Councilor Johnson, then Councilor DiPiazza.

Councilor Johnson says so after all that, I guess I just want to point out I have an issue with this just because when we did the budgets we had had there was a COLA raises in there for the government center and we took that out. I don't think it's appropriate that we removed the employees COLA raises yet we're going to compensate ours and bring it up to what was in 17. We don't think we should necessarily do that now if we would have left the COLA raises in there and yes, I get it we had shortfalls in our budget but we left ours still in, how fair is that? I mean on a regular basis, the employees here work extremely hard. We still know that some of them are under, are still what some of us would consider underpaid because some of them they do work their butt off and they deserve to have those COLA raises and we took that out because of shortfalls and stuff but we left in for ourselves, that I don't agree with if, if we would have left in COLA raises for the government employees, I could be more, by far, open to compensating ours but being that we didn't, I can't support this knowing that we took out the employees COLA raises for this year even with shortfalls. That's it, thank you.

Speaker Crampton says alright Council DiPiazza.

Councilor DiPiazza says oh, yeah I was just going to echo what the Ogema had said that the constitution doesn't, it's not in there that we get any compensation. Also a lot of us have given up a lot of better positions over our lives to be a servant to our members because I'm a servant, I'm not an employee I'm, I'm the servant for citizens that's all of them big young old so you know and yeah I was depressed that you took out the COLA raises for employees that need it more than most of us and still left the reason there for the elected officials and, you can say it's for the membership but technically when you're voting your own pay especially to increase it create some great big quasis, quasis mess so I'll leave it at that.

Recorder Wittenberg says Councilor Tom Guenthardt has his hand up.

Speaker Crampton says go ahead Councilor Guenthardt.

Councilor Guenthardt says I don't approve this 10, it's a \$10,000 raise for the speaker and the recorder and the council members about 9 something, plus the cost of living then you go to all the other departments. You cut their COLA, the COLA, cost of living and you're continuing the compensation for everybody else. How can you justify giving yourself a \$10,000 raise and not nobody else at all? That's just, that's just hard to believe that we would do that especially the COLA where everybody could get a little bit but we're going to get a \$10,000 raise plus the COLA. I don't even know how you, the constituents couldn't even agree to that your, your, your, people are just unbelievable that's all thank you.

Recorder Wittenberg says uh councilor or Speaker Crampton

Councilor Wolfe says I had my hand up.

Recorder Wittenberg says oh I'm sorry, Councilor Wolfe has her hand up

Speaker Crampton says who? I'm sorry

Councilor Wolfe says did you say go ahead?

Speaker Crampton says hello? Yes, please go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe says ok. So looking at the amending the compensation for Tribal Council, I do agree with what is being presented and that this compensation package is not individually impacting each of us councilors as the way it reflects in the constitution because we are a body. We function as a body the only action we take as a body and this is adjusting compensation for the new body that is going to be sworn in after the election this amending compensation packet, doesn't take effect, if it passes until the newly seated councilors are seating in, when we look at this this item has been budgeted since 2009 when we got the last increase. When we got that increase in 2009 it was only about a 15% increase, then through all those continuing years we stayed at the same rate but we continue to increase the Chief Judge, the Ogema, the Associate Judge positions at different times. The last increase for the Ogema position was a 20% increase and that and for the Chief Judge and Associate Judge was an increase of 35%. That happened in 2018. Tribal Council has not received an increase from their original salary dates since 2009. They saw a need for compensation for this position to get people that could be actual public servants and dedicate their time their talents and their expertise into this position as legislators for your nation, we're not just simple employees. We're making legislation for the entire nation. We represent all four thousand members that are enrolled in Little River Band of Ottawa Indians so it is a needed thing and they had foresight in 2003 is when they first identified a need for compensation and it was implemented then they continued every year at election time to continue compensation under the established compensation policy. It does become a political question at the time because there's no immediate body or task compensation committee or task force making recommendations or studying the wages for the elected officials. We are looking at remedying that we are bringing that in place but at this time that is a minimal reasonable increase for your elected officials of the body of Tribal Council. It's comparative to the market study in 2015. It's not a full increase, it's a minimal increase, it comes at mid-range. It brings the salary range only to \$31.16. Then there's an extra portion for this recorder and the extra supplemental for the speaker because of their duties and obligations are different than all Tribal Council members separately so this isn't, this isn't extreme and it doesn't take us higher or out of range or give us more than what other elected officials of this nation are being compensated so I just went to end with that and I hope this sitting body considers that because it's not an individual raise for you it's for making the compensation for elected officials as a body in the interests of the membership that's my comment. Thank you.

Recorder Wittenberg says uh Speaker Crampton, Ogema Romanelli would like to get back here

Councilor Wolfe says they have one here

Recorder Wittenberg says oh I'm sorry Janine Sam

Speaker Crampton says oh, ok go ahead Miss Sam

J. Sam says Miigwech Thank you, Janine Sam 150. Just a couple contributions to the comment. I am a citizen. I believe that my opinion should be just as valued as other citizens and I completely object to stipends or any kind of process involving stipends unless all the executives the Ogema and Tribal Council go to the same process. It is not a process that works and it's not a process that's fair. That would also result in possibly removing all benefits benefited position as well the taxation issues what causes the Tribal Council not to have taxes withheld similar to how the Ogema's compensation is treated differently because of treaty fishing rights. It's not about their status as employees or not employees. Secondly, I don't think any elected officials should have PTO because you should be allowed time off, have notice provisions in place and be able to be gone with your full pay and that is for Ogema or council because even while you're gone, if there's something that comes up and you have to come back to the reservation to take care of business that's what you have to do. This whole discussion is really how, how do I want to put this, the Tribal Council is not any less of a representative of the people than any other office in the organization so if you're telling me that you want to diminish the compensation for the council representatives, what that really is saying to me is that we're diminishing the status of the people because that's who they're voicing for and I, for one as a citizen, don't appreciate that standpoint. Compensation often gets confused with performance. I don't disagree with what the Ogema is saying about expectations for people to show up to work. This expectation is not new and that expectation usually takes care of itself at the vote. People who aren't showing up to office usually don't get returned to office. That's how it's been and that's how it should be because it's the people's choice on who they put in that seat to carry their voice. People don't have to like it but that's the system we have in place so when we talk about compensation based on what Councilor DiPiazza is saying then you all could never vote on a budget because you get a paycheck no matter what the paycheck amount is if you're going to personalize it down to that level then how in the world could you ever vote on a budget because you all benefit one way or another either your health care is paid for, or your travels paid for, I mean if we're going to talk in these types of, you know, we're moving forward in this fashion then I guess y'all can travel on your own dime too. I guess you all can just pay for your own medical on your own dime too. I mean that's how ridiculous as somebody listening, that's what it sounds like to me. This is a modern tribal government. We're falling behind in so many areas, I see it every day and the quality of the work that's being done isn't what we're debating here. It is treating all of our elected officials and I'm not even talking about myself as an election board member, I'm just talking about the Ogema and the council. That's two branches of government that the people put in place in the constitution, they're supposed to be walking hand in hand never happen for whatever however many years this is going on but that's, that is a real problem, is it shouldn't affect the Ogema one bit what the council gets paid and it shouldn't affect the council except that they have to authorize the Ogema's compensation and if you get information and data that supports those raises then for the executive or the council that's what the decision should be based on is what, what is a data saying and I kind of know and I don't think the compensation being proposed is unreasonable at all and I can't hand over compensation from other tribes but I absolutely have access to it from at least four or five different nations here because of my position and I can say that even at this level the council moving into this compensation level is just barely scratching the surface and so you know maybe pay for the studies

maybe hire a better contractor, I don't know but I would really hope at some point in time our citizenship evolves past this notion of punching clocks and factory work and stipends and all these other things because so many important initiatives for our people are not happening because of all this this type of whatever conversations going on here but you know as an elected official if the Ogema should be getting paid \$100,000 plus then that's what the job is worth it doesn't mean anything about the person serving the role it's what is the job worth and you know employees and the inflation right now, every time they go to the store they're losing 6% and if we're not keeping up on that and if we're not finding resources for that, if we're having to cut employee salaries because we're not keeping up on those trends then there's a whole lot of overhaul that needs to happen here but my, my support is for the council to treat itself fairly, it's not voting itself or raise these are different people who are going to come into this office, I object to stipends, there's probably not a whole lot of other people on the call that will say the same thing but the people I talked to don't support that notion and so just because you have a loud voice saying it doesn't mean that that's the whole membership. I'm going to ask people not to refrain from saying the membership wants because as an election board person I can tell you we sent out a survey. We had a public meeting and there's two different viewpoints on registered voters and right now, I don't have a clear picture on what membership wants I have a clear picture on what certain people want but that doesn't mean it's the whole membership so I'd like you to just reconsider what you're doing with compensation in general and overall treat your employees fairly and it does mean dedicating the resources that you should, treat the Ogema fairly, treat the council fairly but we're going to go back to this oh I'd can't vote on this because it's a conflict of interest then you can't vote on any other budget that comes forward either because at some point in time that financial incentive whether it's paid travel or whatever it is, you're going to do that based on something that I can't have access to as a citizen so all of those arguments hold no weight for me, people don't want it it's always political, it's always been political but as a citizen I need my representatives to show up, I need my representatives to stay current, I need my representatives to be reading all kinds of source information from all over the place because the issues coming down the pipe at Indian tribes if people haven't been paying attention go way beyond whether or not we had a Muskegon casino it's happening quickly and it's happening on multiple levels and this is my expectation is that you are all keeping yourselves engaged keeping up on these current trends and making sure that our tribe isn't going to suffer for a lack of involvement at federal levels and state levels, thank you.

Recorder Wittenberg says I have Ogema Romanelli back up here and then goes to uh, Cynthia Shantz and Councilor Wolfe also has her hand up.

Speaker Crampton and well I'm going to go to Cynthia Shantz first because she hasn't been heard yet

Recorder Wittenberg says ok

Speaker Crampton says and then the Ogema will get to get the chance to rant his thing after that.

Ogema Romanelli says what? Did you say rant?

Speaker Crampton says yeah I did. It's awful demoralizing that somebody got a way over the amount they're supposed to be paid, to hear you talk like this, it's just demoralizing you're morally bankrupt.

Cynthia Shantz says I think

Speaker Crampton says Mrs. Shantz

C. Shantz says Thank you. I just want to state that the money has to come from somewhere so just please consider that. I know we all got an increase in our per cap and I, I'm not a budget person so I'm not trying to criticize or anything, I just need you all to be aware that you know, that the money has to come from somewhere and that's one of the reasons why there was a budget, a budget issues so thank you. That's all.

Speaker Crampton says Ogema Romanelli then Councilor Wolfe

Ogema Romanelli says Thank you, I just want to address Councilor Wolfe's assessment that said you believe the last time the council got a raise it was about a 14% raise?

Councilor Wolfe Says in 2009 it was a 15% increase.

Ogema Romanelli says I have, it went from 37,400 to 55,800 which would be almost a 40% raise by resolution 03-0419-100. I've heard the speaker and I've heard I believe uh, Miss Sam state they have information from other tribes. I've not seen that come forward. The information the Valiant report or the study is incorrect on several levels, we knew that at the time, we still know that, I don't disagree with uh Miss Sam's assertion that is political, it's always been political, it was political before I became Ogema. The others before me also suffered from the same problem the and that's why I believe we should be across the board percentage wise let's go back to the start and if we want to go to stipends or we want to do a wage salary go back and do it percentage wise so that people aren't left off again there was a time where the council when I was running for office again stated that the oh, was severely underpaid and it was a major effort until that's when I was running for election once they found out I was reelected that all that stopped then there was no longer an issue for the council or for the Ogema so I just think the, the best way and the fairest way would go back to percentage wise and increase across the board everyone's if you're going to do this thing I still believe that some of this money could be utilized in a better way and that being for emergency funds etcetera so I'll leave it at that. Thank you.

Speaker Crampton says Councilor Wolfe

Councilor Wolfe says so some of the comments that I forgot when I was originally speaking I just want to add in there, I do want to address that the entire tribal government got a 3% raise or cola increase in October of 2022 that was part of the reason for looking at the shortfall and considering and not leaving it budgeted for 2023 because they had just received one and some of those were very substantial because they were based on years

of service versus just an annual justice equal what the Ogema was talking about across the board. Some people got compensated highly and others got minimal increases at the lowest amount of 3% that happened in October of 2022. Second when we talk about this budget or this \$150,000 that potentially it's going to cost the tribe, that is already budgeted in 20, in December 2022 all of us voted to pass that budget and this amount was budgeted in there for Tribal Council to receive this compensation increase in the coming year because we knew it was an election year and it was time to reevaluate it. Also, from the long term that budgeted amount for this increase for Tribal Council has been in there for many, many years. I don't know if that exact amount but I think it's been in there for many, many years to increase the compensation for Tribal Council at these levels, so that is budgeted so this money is budgeted for 2023 and that all passed by Tribal Council knowing that it was budgeted for this amount and the other ones were out and then I want to speak to the COLA raise that Councilor Guenthardt raised in this resolution it does not guarantee a COLA raise to Tribal Council. The annual salary of each councilor shall be adjusted by any cost of living adjustment that's approved by Tribal Council so it makes it a mirror for a COLA raise if that's the intent and wishes of the body but it does not guarantee one in here, so it's not going to continue to increase and the last point that I want to point out that I think is important, in this resolution its finally resolved that the compensation resolution may be subject to amendment in order to comply with the general membership enactment of compensation conditions for payment so if the membership wants to they can take an action and, and adjust the compensation for Tribal Council if this resolution is passed and adopted so I just wanted to add those clarifying comments thank you.

Speaker Crampton says thank you Councilor Wolfe. Can you hear me?

Recorder Wittenberg says yes

Speaker Crampton says ok, well I just want to clear up a few things that have been said, when what count what Ogema Romanelli was talking about in 2003 when it was first created was there is no council members on this body that sits here. He constantly says council and gives you impression that this body but none of the people sat there sitting today sat on that council and nobody on this council sat on the council in 2012 that diminished his pay. He constantly does that and then doesn't tell the membership well oh it was this body, it was this body and leads them to believe it's us. It's not. Council actually put in raises for the membership or the employees for three years straight in a row and Ogema Romanelli did not give them to and when he did one person got, I think it was either 22 or 30% and the rest of the people got nothing and the way he's been given out these, these raises and these COLAs is percentage wise and as Councilor Wolfe stated that the people at the top get the best the people at the bottom get nothing so when you're talking about fairly to the members I just, I think that's morally bankrupt there this is for council this is for the body coming in after us and to hold them at the standard that Janine was talking about, you can't sign per cap checks now. How many you got the \$5000? How many of you got the 1500? How many you got the 300? See you're just playing a game, you're not these are things that the membership can even easily back up and check that you're just playing a political game. Stipends can be abused. Absolutely abused. You think it's bad now, go to stipend per work session watch somebody load it up to 70 work

sessions that week but way over what we're getting now this is a study as Ogema Romanelli said was is off and it's off on the low end so doing what we're doing now, we're probably way below the standard, way below the standard and again if you're going to hold what, what Councilor DiPiazza says as a standard, holy cow, let's go back and check who cashed those checks, I'm seeing a little double talk here. This is for, I understand the game is to keep everybody low so that nobody can afford to be there except the people of Manistee. This council has corrected so many things and found out that the Ogema and the councils of past have not been following any of those that they fixed. This is probably one of the most productive councils of all time and I'm just trying to get them up to the standard of 2015 and as you heard the Ogema already stated that's below and he's absolutely right, now going forward this just sets everybody up for what should have happened 2015 but we went through the same thing we're doing today the small childish immature play and council was left out going forward after this everybody should be set at the valiant study report now we're going to create a task force that takes care of this so this doesn't happen any other time. This is about correcting issues and that's all this does today is correct an issue that should have been corrected in 2015 and with that I'm done.

Recorder Wittenberg says on my end here, I turn around and have Speaker Crampton, Susan Thull, Cynthia Shantz, Janine Sam and then Ogema Romanelli, and then Martha Howell.

Multiple Councilors are speaking at the same time.

Councilor Wolfe says yeah he was in after

Recorder Wittenberg says yeah uh Tom, Tom Guenthardt would be first on top of everything here. Ok,

Speaker Crampton says let's go with who hasn't spoken first because that'd be Martha Howell.

M. Howell says Miigwech. I just wanted to say that I just heard that the speaker say that his current pay wasn't enough to drive into town. If that's that case, then I'd like to see every, every single employee who's making under \$55,000 a year get a raise. Thank you.

Councilor Wever says Tommy, is it Tom's

Councilor Guenthardt says I'd like to entertain a motion to approve resolution 23-0510-078, amending the compensation for Tribal Council

Councilor Wever says support

Speaker Crampton says we have a motion on the floor by Councilor Guenthardt, supported by Councilor Wever. Is anybody going to abstain on the item. Any discussion from Council? Any further discussion from the membership? Hearing nothing please do a roll call.

C. Shantz says no, no, no, no, I had my hand up.

Recorder Wittenberg says we had three people

Speaker Crampton says I, I apologize Mr. Wittenberg would you please pick them up?

Recorder Wittenberg says Susan Thull was on and then Cynthia Shantz and then Janine Sam them the three that had there hands up.

Speaker Crampton says yeah I'll start with Susan because she hadn't spoke yet in this item. Go ahead Susan

S. Thull says thank you. I just wanted to say that when Ogema Romanelli was saying that the money that would be used for these raises he would like to see this better used to support the membership with um, emergency type things but since he's been Ogema, he's created positions that also impact that budget and also impacted his job. He's created leads and he's created a Chief of Staff and he's just added Tribal Manager now that reduces his workload I'm assuming so in a way that's an additional raise for him if you will and that again could have impact could impact the budget so when we're um, looking at all of this I do believe that we should have a compensation task force. I think that um, I don't believe in the stipends at all. I wish that, that would that people would stop bringing that up it just seems to me that it's just a few but they are the loudest and I believe that council does deserve a better salary. I think that they should actually earn that but I think that we need to have that raised in order to get qualified people that will actually do the reading and it's a lot of reading and the research and it's a lot of research there's a lot of laws that need to be reviewed and changed updated ordinances and so forth. I don't want someone voting, I don't want someone just to attend agenda review, do no research or reading on their own come in to the lodge and vote on something with no idea of the impact. I want councilors that have knowledge that will seek out knowledge and I don't see that right now. I, I see a few but not everyone and if we can use, if we can give our elected officials a better salary, maybe we can get these people in there that will actually do that research that's all I have to say thank you.

Councilor Wolfe says she's calling me Gary and I'm telling her were in open session, want her to join from your phone?

Councilor DiPiazza says something that cannot be heard on the zoom recording

Councilor Wolfe says then why are you telling me to join her?

Councilor DiPiazza says well I don't know.

Speaker Crampton says ok, who's next in queue ? I think it's Janine. I'm sorry Cynthia Shantz.

Recorder Wittenberg says uh, Chelsea Densmore, she hasn't spoke before and then it would do to Janine and Cynthia and then Ogema Romanelli again has his hand up.

Speaker Crampton says ok, ok, go ahead Chelsea.

C. Densmore says Thank you Mr. Speaker. Chelsea Densmore 3225 .I will make it super fast because there's a ton of people and I totally didn't mean to jump in line so you know miigwech but I just want to agree with Susan. I think that she brought up a point that's not talked about a lot because I do think that it tends to get political and personal I'm not disagreeing the layers there but I think that she brought up a really good point, in that no disrespect to anyone that sits on, you know, everybody agrees and disagrees and all of that but looking at the future, you do wanna make sure that you're getting a good candidates right, and there are plenty of people that I'm sure say why would I do that when I could do this that has a lot less stress right, because there is a lot of stress with that job and do you want to have people in that position that understand the laws that are being written that can understand all of the documentation and add to that right, and be writing the legislation and do you want to have people with lots of experience you know, maybe education regarding law right, or you know whatever it is so I'm not, I'm not saying that you guys aren't doing a great job but it is something to think about that you want to make sure and be encouraging people to give the citizens more opportunity for choosing who they want to pick to, I think that it's a reasonable idea to be looking at bringing it up to current, current pay right, I also personally think that we should be looking at increasing the minimum wage for employees and you know at the casino and everything else but I don't think that those conversations have to go hand in hand either right, I don't think we always have to look at all or nothing you know what I mean so I do think that this is something you guys should consider and especially when you're looking at it you're only talking about 10,000, it's not like it's jumped up that high or maybe that's not the right term. I haven't heard a single person yet and maybe I just missed it but say what the actual pay is and what the actual number would be that would added to so I would love if somebody could answer that, Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton says ok, thank you Councilor Wolfe do you have those numbers there, so you just read off real quick?

Recorder Wittenberg: Ok we have Speaker Crampton Janine, Cynthia, and then Ogema Romanelli and then Gary D, Councilor Gary DiPiazza

Speaker Crampton says Ok so who's next Cynthia?

J. Sam says actually I think I was speaker.

Speaker Crampton says oh ok, then go ahead Janine

J. Sam says thank you so much I really quickly, I wanna make a clarifying point, I mentioned having access to data before however, I can't share that data because I have specific nondisclosure agreements that have been executed with certain other agencies but you can also look up information just in a Google search Oregon tribes, the, let's see Umatilla Tribe full time tribal council makes 80,000 a year. Cookwell Tribe full time Tribe Council makes 79,200 and then there are other tribes that have part-time designations, and those part time positions are compensated accordingly. Select Tribe has

part time Tribal Council at 20,800 a year this memo went out about maybe 18 months ago and then the gamit, it goes all the way to Cherokee Nation which is one of the most wealthy nations in the United States, their tribal counselors went from 63,000 to 99,000 and then they will hit 121,000 annual compensation by 2024. Tribal Council speakers right 75,000 will go to 110,000 and then ultimately 133,000. the difference is that tribe has a lot of other fiscal resources and financial resources available to them but they also expect their council to have a higher performance level as well and so I guess the other thing I want to advocate for is that if there needs to be an emergency fund, yes the money has to come from somewhere. One of my other citizens I just heard that being said and it's so hard to fund all the priorities, but I do think that one should not be dependent on the other and maybe there's other resources that can be tapped into but certainly you know there's things that can be done to assist people on emergency basis and it doesn't always have to say if this then that type of reasoning. It should be this *and* that type of reasoning and if that means we need to do a lot a lot more digging and roll the sleeves up to find additional financial resources to make all these things happen then that's what it means thank you so much and thank you for your time today because I do have to leave the meeting now.

Speaker Crampton says thank you. I do believe Miss Shantz, Miss Shantz?

Councilor DiPiazza says you had her on.

C. Shantz says Oh hi sorry thank you. The, the money has to come from somewhere though so it's got to be, I mean there's only it's, it's a limited pot so you just can't create money out of nowhere so you know also when, when there's Tribal Council and the Ogema's office and, and laws are enacted prior to the current elected officials, you are, everyone's still benefits OK, so this council benefits from previous councils who benefited from previous councils and the same goes for the Ogema so you, you can't really just separate those things out and say well that was before because you know this did not happen the way it, it should have and, and as far as the money goes, you're all voting to adjust your pay to levels of from 2015 but then the Ogema or doesn't get, is not allowed to have a raise I'm not sure exactly maybe I'm misspeaking but if, if you're so underpaid then why don't you create a compensation task force and follow what they have to say instead of just going ahead and giving yourself a raise right now and giving the next council a raise right now if, if you're so underpaid then it I mean maybe, maybe your raise will be more under a task force so I mean really I, I think it should be should be researched better because I, I know there there's other tribes who have their council make more but there are some tribes who have their council less, paid less and, and that you know I mean you have to take into consideration the cost of living expenses you know, I mean property it's, it's different all over the country and no matter, where you go you know, in, in Washington the State of Washington, cost of living is way higher than in Manistee MI so you have to expect their pay it's going to be higher and then I hope, I hope that you take that into consideration, thank you.

Speaker Crampton says ok before we go any further I just wanna make sure the people understand no, I did not say I this is not too much for me to drive into Manistee. That was Martha Howell. So, what happens is people take words other people say and they keep

using them and it kind of bleeds into the conversation. What is happening here is I'm trying to move council up to what they should have been in 2015 after that, there will be a task force to look at all elected officials *not* just the council but the Ogema too and take into account what we take in and what should be appropriate level for a council or a tribe our size so that way it's being characterized is either highly political or just really nasty or it's not understood correctly but that's where that's for there and I wanted to make put that out there. Ok and I do believe we have Cynthia and Janine, uh Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli says OK thank you I just want to address a couple of things that came up. First off, I think probably if you have, if you're creating a task force for a wage study or compensation task force, you probably should wait for that task force to complete their study, by the way it should be the Ogema that makes those appointments to the task force I do believe. Speaker Crampton you said they're at the top they got healthy raises and at the bottom they got nothing. It's actually an incorrect statement and also I wanna speak to Susan Thull's assertion that the Ogema create, has created jobs and she mentioned a couple of leads and I created the chief of staff I also wanted to know that the chief of staff position eliminated an executive assistant the two leads did away with the assistant tribal manager and actually pays less than what we would pay a tribal manager we also eliminated jobs such as property manager assistant tribal manager members assistance director which I don't necessarily believe all should have been eliminated but so when you're talking about eliminating positions or adding positions we need to be clear on what's been eliminated and what's been added also not to affect councils too much but they've added positions as well if you did it on a percentage basis they would be almost 100% increase I'm not saying I disagree with those additions but let's be clear on and who's adding and who's subtracting here thank you

Speaker Crampton says well I just wanted to add you also created Advisory Board and they are paid, and you also forecast, reforecast the casino twice which lowered per cap to the membership so if we're talking about I think we used maybe we shouldn't do re forecast and lower the per cap

Ogema Romanelli says, and I must say that the Advisory Board that was created eliminated the Board of Directors or the Tribal Council eliminated the Board of Directors, these people are paid almost over a decade later about the same wage that was being paid to the Board of Directors.

Speaker Crampton says I don't want to get semantics, the point was that Susan was right you did create positions now that compensated which could be used for better money which is more than

Ogema Romanelli says well the, the assumption from Susan was that I'm adding positions and that's incorrect without saying I'm also eliminating positions or changing positions.

Speaker Crampton says you did create them by executive order, so she was correct.

Councilor DiPiazza says that's because there is no controlling document in place.

Speaker Crampton says it doesn't ok, hey look at we're going to get into this later but that in the court case that's let's go to Mr. DiPiazza now.

Councilor DiPiazza says then why bring I was just going to say on advisory there is no controlling document or ordinance in place right now by the Board of Directors was rescinded by council and then the other was nullified by the courts being unconstitutional so there is no controlling document, just so everybody's aware.

Speaker Crampton says there's, just so everybody's aware yes, there is. There's the constitution, there's also a court.

Councilor DiPiazza and Speaker Crampton are speaking at the same time,

Theres also a court, there's also a court order productivity.

Councilor DiPiazza says I didn't ask for your commentary.

Speaker Crampton says for your executive order

Councilor Wolfe says Recorder we want to get back to the item.

Speaker Crampton says Mr. DiPiazza is get back on the item and no more lies please.

Councilor DiPiazza says I was just saying I didn't need a commentary, commentary on it

Speaker Crampton says and I don't care, you're not going to lie to the membership.

Councilor DiPiazza says well you brought the item up you brought that

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton we have a *inaudible* and he hasn't said anything and Councilor Wolfe.

Councilor DiPiazza says am I still in the queue or did you throw me out.

Speaker Crampton says you're in the queue but please get to the point.

Councilor DiPiazza says oh like I said you're the one the brought that up subject matter up so anyways, the increase is like 5.44 an hour for the speaker, so everybody is getting increased by you know at least 4 bucks. I think it's 4 something an hour for all councilors, and again how is that not a pay increase. I don't understand how that's not, and if you're going to make an Advisory Board then let the Advisory Board do their function and bring that forward and back in 2019 that, that pay was voted down so you know like I said most of us, are can spend money just as well as anybody else I spend so much on gas money I, I definitely need a raise you know, but it's a raise, it's not just a cost of living it's not just bringing up, it is bringing it up but it's still an increase in the bottom line and into our paycheck, which to me is a personal because you're increasing my pay and yeah I voted on the budget but that affected the whole membership not just councils increase in there and I voted before to take it out because if you want to do an

Advisory Board, group, task force whatever you want to call it then do that and if it was brought forward for the new ones coming in then that should state that, that the new ones coming in they'll get the pay increase and then in 2025, the next bunch get it, the one sitting here wouldn't get that pay increase you wanna do it that way groovy, great, wonderful, other than that yeah I'm all set right now so

Speaker Crampton says I'd like to point out that Mr. DiPiazza, also got the pay and the checks and the ARPA and everything so no, this isn't that's a pointless argument and that is absolutely a lie, that's a conflict of interest and *inaudible*

Councilor DiPiazza says I didn't ask for your commentary again,

Speaker Crampton says I'm not asking for your permission to speak, I'm speaking, now stay out of the queue while I'm speaking.

Councilor DiPiazza says well then don't, I don't need to, you don't need to rebuttal everybody's statement, and all the others

Speaker Crampton says so did you, be quiet Mr. DiPiazza, be quiet Mr. DiPiazza. You're not in the queue, I waited for you to finish, you finished, now stop.

Councilor DiPiazza says well then not when

Speaker Crampton says no, no, look at you.

Councilor DiPiazza is speaking and can not be heard clearly on the zoom recording

Speaker Crampton says you, you correct everybody else with those words too, now stop it. This is my opinion Mr. DiPiazza, control yourself,

Councilor DiPiazza says you don't control yourself, you don't need to rebuttal everybody

Speaker Crampton says you don't like it when people correct you, I'm, sorry that's a childish amateur thing that you're doing, please

Councilor DiPiazza says then I will correct, then I will correct you every time you're wrong.

Speaker Crampton says that it is fine now to stay out of the queue, stop acting like a small child respect the queue and be an adult.

Councilor DiPiazza says I will correct you every time you're wrong. It's your stance.

Speaker Crampton says Mr, Mr. DiPiazza Calm down, calm down act like an adult, respect the tribal laws, our way our customs, you are not in the queue. Now be respectful and be an adult ok?

Councilor DiPiazza says ok, really?

Speaker Crampton says my opinion.

Recorder Wittenberg says can we go on

Speaker Crampton says now listen everybody sees that, hears him say that he practices our customs watch what he's doing right now, watch what he is doing right now because that's somebody running their mouth and then not backing it up with their actions.

Councilor Wever says are you guys leaving?

Speaker Crampton says Now what was I saying again,

Councilor DiPiazza says something that cannot be heard clearly on the zoom recording.

Speaker Crampton says I am in the queue and I'm going to keep going

Councilor DiPiazza says you keep rebuttal everybody's statement and if you want to stay be an adult grown up.

Speaker Crampton says no, no you cannot listen please stop Mr. DiPiazza, I'm tired of this, please, I mean please. This is what I'm trying to get past

Councilor DiPiazza says something that can not be heard clearly on the zoom recording

Speaker Crampton says and we don't have to get people like you on council because we don't, I'm actually trying to help the membership out so we don't have to keep doing this year after year with people like you on council.

Councilor DiPiazza says well you don't *inaudible*

Speaker Crampton says I understand, I understand why you want to keep at such a low level. You filed bankruptcy, you also have social security,

M. Burmeister says that's, that's a little bit uncalled for you.

C. Shantz says uncalled for speaker, your not to be bringing personal information

Speaker Crampton says no, no, no

Councilor DiPiazza says let him ramble

M. Burmeister says a lot of people, a lot of people have seen your police record too you know, so let's just keep it clean.

Councilor DiPiazza says if you want to bring up the *inaudible* in Grand Traverse Bay that are on you then that's fine too

S. Mezeske says Crampton *inaudible* as well

Speaker Crampton says listen, listen, listen, listen. This is a queue watch who is respecting it I would sit here and listen to all of you my time in the queue , like I said membership watch who says that they respect our customs and then what they do. That's the actions. Now to continue what I was saying you will find that the actions do not match up with the words today even on cashing checks, even on Ogema Romanelli saying that he gave out the COLAs, here to sit there and just kept put into the budget. This money has all be budgeted for, inaudible, make this professional, yeah and I, I, get have we have \$20,000 rambling against they should be doing

Ogema Romanelli says quorum call.

Speaker Crampton says ok he's not a member of council

Recorder Wittenberg says I have the Ogema Romanelli up here, asked for a quorum call

Speaker Crampton says every year this happens, and this is what this is trying to avoid this should have happened in 2015. *Speaker Crampton's audio keeps going in and out and he can not be heard clearly on the zoom recording.* They, so the same the same thing every time but hey there's no conflict of interest to give the Ogema over what he's supposed to get. There's nobody on council, you talk about work, this council has been the most one of the most productive, I, and the attendance in the work sessions, I'm talking about *inaudible* and the need to throw *inaudible*

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton

C. Densmore says Mr. Speaker I'm sorry you're breaking up a little bit you're cutting in and out, I just wanted to make you aware I'm sorry.

Speaker Crampton says oh no I, I, I, apologize and I'll give it over to Mr. Romanelli.

Recorder Wittenberg says Speaker Crampton Ogema Romanelli called for a quorum call, because we did have a couple people walk out here.

Speaker Crampton says ok.

Recorder Wittenberg says ok at 11:54 well he called it at 11:52 but I'm doing it now at 11:54. Who is that?

M. Burmeister mic is unmuted and his conversation is interrupting the roll call

Speaker Crampton says it's Tom, he's in his car. He's not at work. Did you guys, anybody hear that?

Recorder Wittenberg says I can't hear that.

Speaker Crampton says let's pay that hillbilly some more money.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-0510-078 AMENDING

**THE COMPENSATION FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL
Motion by T. Guenthardt, supported by S. Wever.**

Roll Call #5

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

Quorum Established

Councilor Champagne says I'm sorry Ron, I'm here this is Cindy I can't get my phone unhooked.

Speaker Crampton says we do have quorum.

Recorder Wittenberg says we have quorum.

Unknown member says the votes been taken

Recorder Wittenberg says we do have quorum.

Speaker Crampton says there's no vote been taken, whoever it is running your mouth be quiet.

Recorder Wittenberg says ok Speaker Crampton we do have quorum.

Speaker Crampton says ok there's a motion on the floor,

Recorder Wittenberg says ok there's a motion

Speaker Crampton says and I'm calling the question.

Recorder Wittenberg says who's calling the question?

Speaker Crampton says Shannon Crampton.

Recorder Wittenberg says ok.

Speaker Crampton says Mr Recorder please do a roll call.

Councilor Champagne says here

Speaker Crampton says its yes or no. It's not here, and it's on Tribal Council amending their pay.

Recorder says yes or no Cindy Champagne

Councilor Champagne says I'm sorry yes.

Unknown member says she doesn't know what she's voting on?

Roll Call #6

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

Motion carried (5-2-0-2)

Recorder Wittenberg says 5 in favor, 2 against, 2 absent. Resolution number 23-0510-078 passed.

Councilor DiPiazza says I don't know what to tell you either

Speaker Crampton says alright thank you and I want to note

C. Densmore says Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Crampton says hello?

C. Densmore says hi, I'm so sorry. I just I had a question, I didn't understand it, Chelsea Densmore 3225. When you did the quorum, Gary was absent but then Gary walked in during the, like when you were actually voting and then he voted

Speaker Crampton says but there was no objection from the Ogema

C. Densmore says like, I just, I guess I didn't understand because I like they did the quorum call and he wasn't there then he was there, but he do you see what I'm, saying? Like so is it.

Speaker Crampton says I know exactly what you're saying and I don't, the Ogema said anything about it but its one of his people that supports him, so he doesn't say anything about it so

C. Shantz says the just the same thing happened with Cindy Champagne.

Speaker Crampton says yes but the votes been taken so I mean I, I don't know where we go from here but the votes already passed,

C. Densmore says well just for me it, it doesn't really matter for you guys if the vote passed it passed 5/6, 5/7 doesn't make a difference but I guess I just didn't understand. I understand with Cindy Champagne because you were taking attendance and then she was included like you would do with a conversation, I guess I just didn't understand with this, so you see what I'm saying? Like how it was being called? I just figured I'd point that out otherwise it like everything seems to go to court, do you know what I mean?

Speaker Crampton says yes, we'll have, we'll have to

C. Shantz says Cindy Champagne's been absent the whole time she didn't even know what she was voting on.

Speaker Crampton says Mrs. Shantz please, Mrs. Shantz please stop chatting

Councilor Champagne says Shannon Can I say something? Shannon this is Cindy

Speaker Crampton says yes. Hold on please I want to get some, I understand. I'll get you in the queue Cindy. Mrs. Densmore now listen we've already taken the vote and this is gone passed so the discussion on this item is closed. I'm only entertaining Mrs. Densmore's question because she's asking a procedure and I'm saying we'll address that later everything on this item is closed, the discussion, everything so we're moving on to the next item. Cynthia Shantz do you have something on the next item?

Recorder Wittenberg says Councilor Johnson had her hand up.

Speaker Crampton says well as long as Councilor Johnson understands the votes already taken the discussion on this item is closed. So what's your question Mrs. Johnson.

Councilor Johnson says well mine was on the procedure as well because of the fact that when quorum call was done the recorder had said we lost quorum and the Cindy jumped on and said no she was there so does the automatically give us *inaudible*

Speaker Crampton says Cindy was showing up, Cindy was showing up and I know the way you want it to go but the reality is she was showing up and just couldn't get herself off of mute, it happens every week so

Councilor Johnson says no *inaudible*

Speaker Crampton says and the discussion on this item is closed.

Councilor Johnson says no it does not happen every week, it is a legitimate question the recorder said we lost quorum any other time when we've had the possibility of a quorum,

Speaker Crampton says Mrs. Johnson we're not reversing the vote, you're not getting your way if you have a problem, file a complaint,

Councilor DiPiazza says we can file in court.

Councilor Johnson says oh my gosh

Speaker Crampton says now do you have a do you have something on the next item because discussion on that item is closed so now it's on to item C which is amending the compensation I mean, continuing compensation for the election board do you have something for that item if not I'll entertain a motion on continuing compensation for the election board

L. Echelbarger says I raised my hand

Speaker Crampton says who raised their hand, is it Cynthia Shantz?

M. Burmeister says I had mine raised as well.

Councilor DiPiazza says I wanted mine heard. I want to know.

Speaker Crampton says wait, wait, wait we're listen, listen, listen. Mrs. Densmore this is going to be more of taking us back into the conversation that's already over I'm not going to allow it.

C. Densmore says no, I was just going to answer you within the queue , it was Laura Echelberger and then the 0066 number that's I was just trying to help you with that

Speaker Crampton says oh thank you very much Mrs. Echelbarger.

L. Echelbarger says thank you speaker Laura Echelbarger 2276. I just wanted to, I guess just point out for the record that the Election Board compensation continuation is also included on your agenda along with the other elected officials I just wanted that on record thank you.

Speaker Crampton says yes, and that's the next item of business I'm trying to get to alright what was it 0066? Is that the number?

C. Densmore says yes

M. Burmeister says yes, can you hear me now?

Speaker Crampton says yeah we can all hear you go ahead

M. Burmeister says hey what was that vote again please, what was the vote on that, the numbers.

Recorder Wittenberg says 5 in favor 2 against and 2 absent.

M. Burmeister says very good thank you.

Recorder Wittenberg says aho.

Speaker Crampton says OK we're on the next item which is

D. Continuing the Compensation for Election Board

and I'll entertain a motion if there's no questions on that item.

Recorder Wittenberg says I'll make

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-0510-079 CONTINUE THE
COMPENSATION FOR THE ELECTION BOARD Motion by
R. Wittenberg, supported by J. Wolfe**

Speaker Crampton says I believe I got a motion by Councilor Wittenberg supported by Councilor Wolfe . Is anybody going to abstain? Is there any further discussion from council? Anything from the members and Mr. Recorder if you could pick them up if there's any questions. Alright, one more time for council. Hearing nothing, please do a roll call

Roll Call #7

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Wittenberg says resolution #23-0510-079 has passed.

Speaker Crampton says thank you and that's going to take us down to the next item of business which is

E. Continuing the Compensation for the Tribal Ogema

And I will entertain a motion on that item.

Councilor Wolfe says I have one comment.

Speaker Crampton says oh go ahead.

Councilor Wolfe says when we're talking about the compensation for the Ogema I just want members to be aware that Ogema does have two offices that are paid for by the Tribal Government. He is allowed for a tribal vehicle that is all totally paid for and covered by the Tribal Government and he does have PTO and vacation time and he does get health, dental and vision insurance and he is eligible to participate in the retirement plan and he is entitled to all tribal holidays that's my comment. Thank you.

Speaker Crampton says thank you. Ok I'll entertain a motion on the continuing compensation for the Tribal Ogema.

Councilor Wolfe says I can make that motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-0510-080 CONTINUE COMPENSATION FOR THE TRIBAL OGEMA; Motion by J. Wolfe, supported by R. Wittenberg

Speaker Crampton says is anyone going to abstain on the item? Is there any further discussion from council? Anything from the membership? One more time for the council? Hearing nothing, please do a roll call

Councilor Wolfe says do you want to get those on

Recorder Wittenberg says oh we do have two hands up, Sara Agosa and the number is 0066.

Speaker Crampton says I believe that is Councilor Guenthardt, so Sara Agosa go ahead.

S. Agosa says what is the salary for the Ogema and is it at market level?

Speaker Crampton says I'm sorry was that to me?

S. Agosa says I'm asking anyone on council.

Speaker Crampton says ok will the market study that, the last market study that we did have, I believe it got increased to 90 back in 2018. I'm not sure where it's sitting now in the market study which he claims is under had it at in 81 in 2018. Ok, 0066 is that Councilor Guenthardt.

M. Burmeister says I took my hand down

Speaker Crampton says ok. Sorry about that. Ok we do have a motion on the floor?

Councilor Wolfe says yes.

Speaker Crampton says let's do if there's no other questions, please do roll call.

Roll Call # 8

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

Motion carried (6-1-0-2)

Recorder Wittenberg says Resolution #23-0510-080 has passed.

Speaker Crampton says thank you and that's going to take you to the next item of business which is

F. Continuing the Compensation for Tribal Court Judges

and I will entertain a motion if there's no discussion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-0510-081, CONTINUING
THE COMPENSATION FOR TRIBAL COURT JUDGES;
Motion by R. Wittenberg, supported by Councilor Wolfe**

Speaker Crampton says ok I believe I have a motion by Councilor Wittenberg, supported by Councilor Wolfe. Is anybody going to abstain? Is there any further discussion on the item for Tribal Council? Anything from the membership?

Recorder Wittenberg says Susan

Speaker Crampton says one more time for council. Oh I'm sorry Susan Thull.

S. Thull says thank you. I just wanted to say that I checked the court docket today and the appellate has a docket for May of 2023. The last time they had anything on the docket was May of 2022. That means it's been a year since they have heard any motions. I think that that is an awfully long time to put off hearing motions or cases settling cases and also I would like the membership to note that they do utilize zoom for all their hearings. There's so much, so many, I we should say there's a few voices raised constantly complaining about zoom and constantly complaining about not being present and we have an Appellate court that has not met since May of 2022. I happen to have a case that has been sitting there this entire time and the case that I have in the appellate, they are just determining whether to dismiss the case or not so they haven't even heard it yet. I do not believe that this is well, I actually believe that this is infringing on my civil rights. When I have a case in front of the appellate court and they are not having anything on a docket, the docket for a year so I just wanted this on the record, and I wanted everyone to be aware of this fact and I thought that during their continuing compensation it would be a good time to bring that up. Miigwech.

Recorder Wittenberg says aho.

Speaker Crampton says Thank you and I think that that's something that a task force would actually contemplate and I'm looking forward to the task force doing things in public so that the membership would have an input too because I do see that as a double standard you have a bunch of people setting up here talking about council and attending work and zoom and you have a court that has not worked in almost a year and collected a paycheck but there's no concern and they were given the increase in 2015 so I see your point and I hear you loud and clear. These are the things that should be considered by a task force when they're doing these things because the court even in there by their own standards is not here for the benefits for the benefit of the membership and if they're not providing a benefit and they're just obstructing that needs to be considered but that's neither here nor there and that's something that the task force should take up right now we, we have the continuing compensation for the tribal court judges. Do we have a motion?

Recorder Wittenberg says oh we do have, Speaker Crampton, Chelsea Densmore and Sara Agosa, and Cynthia

Speaker Crampton says Oh I just want to make sure before I get there that we have a motion on the floor, so we're picking these guys up in conversation. I'll go to Chelsea Densmore.

C. Densmore says thank you Mr. Speaker Chelsea Densmore 3225. I had a question about the compensation, are the judges paid on a salary?

Speaker Crampton says I do believe they are paid just like the other elected officials, yes

Councilor Wolfe says they are paid by a salary

C. Densmore says ok thank you. My other question is I think somebody had mentioned earlier that the judges pay is in the constitution is that correct?

Councilor Wolfe says it's, it's referenced in the constitution it's not set in amount it just says tribal council determines

C. Densmore says ok, ok, no I get what you're saying now so I guess for me I think that you guys should when you're talking about I, I understand I heard at the beginning that it's just kind of a formality that you guys have these ones on as well but I think when you're talking about continuing it, that looks to me like what you're gonna do throughout the year and I think you guys should consider especially with the hours that the judges are putting in regarding the cases, maybe looking at stipends. I think Susan brought up a really good point and that should be something that's considered if that's something that Tribal Council could do. Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton says ok. Thank you Sarah Agosa.

S. Agosa says I also consider that the appellate or appellate rather lawsuits are being delayed and I definitely think there should be much more attention, focus on the judicial branch on how they're using their time and I hope that when the task force is created that this is top priority thank you. That is my

Speaker Crampton says and I apologize was there anybody else in the queue Mr. Recorder?

Councilor Wolfe says Cynthia Shantz.

Speaker Crampton says Cynthia Shantz go ahead.

C. Shantz says so the compensation board is good enough for everyone else except for Tribal Council so the Tribal Court needs to go under should get their pay should go under consideration of this I, I I'm really I'm really tired of, of it's you have to follow these rules but we don't and that seems to be some of council members attitude on this and I'm just wanted to make that statement known. As far as appellate, appellate issue shouldn't that go before the court #1 and #2 there's, I saw only one person running for Appellate Judge and I just not sure why anyone else didn't run if we are all concerned about this so thank you.

Speaker Crampton says thank you. Is there anybody else in the queue Mr. Recorder?

Recorder Wittenberg says Cynthia Shantz was the last name up here Speaker Crampton.

Speaker Crampton says ok, do we have motion on the floor?

Councilor Wolfe says yes

Recorder Wittenberg says yes, motion by Julie

Speaker Crampton says yes, well I just want to add that well, let's go thru this vote first, I'll pick it up in public comment. So if there are any more are there any more questions from council? Hearing nothing, please do a roll call.

Councilor DiPiazza states something that could not be heard clearly on the zoom recording.

Councilor DiPiazza says that's what it states.

Speaker Crampton says were there any more questions? If not please do a roll call. And you're speaking, your mics not on.

Recorder Wittenberg says I'm sorry your absolutely right, I had it off. I'll start over.

Roll Call #9

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Wittenberg says resolution #23-0510-081 has passed.

Speaker Crampton says ok. Thank you and that is going to take us down to

IX. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, May 17, 2022

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Councilor Wolfe says he's not present so there's none.

Recorder Wittenberg says right.

Councilor DiPiazza says he left when we lost quorum.

Speaker Crampton says is there have we lost quorum?

Councilor Wolfe says no

Councilor DiPiazza says earlier that was announced.

Recorder Wittenberg says it was my mistake.

Speaker Crampton says Oh my God, yeah ok listen it didn't, it didn't matter when Dave, Dave Corey had to redo the vote either so he's talking nonsense. Don't pay any attention so we're now, we're moving on to

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Does anybody have anything for Legislative affairs update?

Councilor Wolfe says you wanna go?

Councilor DiPiazza says no go head

Councilor Wolfe says Ok, I have two. Just one, we know our annual Jiingtamok coming up here in July we have that scheduled for July 15th and 16th we are needing some volunteers for that so if you're interested in volunteering that weekend please reach out to me I can let you know what is needed and then I wanted to mention on behalf of the Natural Resource Commission they are having their elk and bear permit drawing that is going to be June 10th at 1:00 PM if you're still interested applications are being accepted for those permits and they are due May 19th to the Natural Resource Department thank you.

Speaker Crampton says ok do we have anything else for Legislative affairs? Ok, thank you everyone. That is going to take us down to

D. Public Comment Period

And Mr. Recorder if you could pick up the people.

Recorder Wittenberg says yes, we have Sara Agosa, Laura Echelberger, and Lee guest.

Speaker Crampton Lee Ivinson or Lee McCaslin,

Recorder Wittenberg says McCaslin.

Speaker Crampton says ok, we will go with the first is Sara Agosa.

S. Agosa says my question is about compensation for the Ogema. This is a follow up question why does the tribe pay for two offices for the Ogema's use and how much time does the Ogema spends physically in Manistee per week? Those are my questions.
Thanks

Councilor Wolfe says I can respond since I brought in the comment.

Speaker Crampton says please go ahead

Councilor Wolfe says he has one located here in Manistee and he has one in in the properties that are located in Muskegon. I don't think those are itemized as to exact cost or how much it is and then from what I understand he reports to the Muskegon office on Mondays and Fridays and he's only available in Manistee Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. That's the way I'm understanding he could have a different schedule but that's the way I believe it is.

Speaker Crampton says Ms. Agosa does that answer your question?

S. Agosa says I'm sorry there is, there is an indirect cost associated with having two offices such as utility bills and things like that did tribal council break that down at all in their review?

Councilor Wolfe says no we did not.

S. Agosa says thank you.

Speaker Crampton says no, but I can say that I disagree with that strongly because the position of the argument is to manage and oversee the enterprises on the property and you cannot do that sitting in your office down in Muskegon when your business and your enterprises are up in Manistee. The way the reason I've opposed it is because now the tribe is incurring a cost that where that money could be better spent on the membership rather than providing an excuse for somebody to say I'm in the office

A. Romanelli says but it's OK for council to work from home?

Speaker Crampton says what are you talking, we're not, what is it? What is it costing the tribe? Nothing. But were paying how much money for your daddy do to what? Yeah, I thought so. Alright who's next in the queue Mr. Recorder?

Recorder Wittenberg says Laura Echelberger and then Lee Guest

Speaker Crampton says alright, alright Laura Echelberger and the Lee McCaslin

L. Echelberger says Thank you. Laura Echelberger 2276, Cynthia Shantz had made a comment regarding the pay for judges and I just, it made me think that I should clarify nothing came up when the Election Boards pay came up so I just wanted to clarify for the membership in case there were any questions the Election Board is paid by stipends, stipends only and we are working off of I think we looked at it last year sometime with some work sessions during the last speaker so I could be a year or two off but I think we're working off of 2010 numbers and I think that's it I just wanted to make a clarification in case she had some questions on it since there was a discussion about the judges, thank you.

Speaker Crampton says no thank you before before you get to Lee I just wanted to add that yeah, that's why I didn't I envisioned that the task force be looking at the pay for the Election Board too because they're kind of they're kind of an anomaly when it was put together there really was no destination to how they would be paid, who would do it whether they were elected officials, or not there was a lot of things left off, so these are the things that council can clarify under a task force because I do, the other problem that we're having is how would you, what would be the metric since there's no other tribe that has an election, an election board so this is some of the things that could be that task force will have to figure out thank you.

L. McCaslin Says I just wanted to bring up in public comment that, if we brought a lot of good issues today just sitting back and listening and the reason why I bring that up is because I look at a legislative body, not just our own but also the state and the Senate and

we haven't got off Robert's rules yet and you know I'd like to see this council as we're moving in, just like you're moving in to other things, is to bring up the Mason manual of late, legislative procedures, that way we can bring ourselves into the turn of the 21st century here somewhere you know, so that manual has a bunch of procedures that would further our tribe and our benefits of understanding when meetings are addressed and we wouldn't have to go back over the same playing field because there's no grassroots there and, and, and you know so when you take that and you and you take that as a learning and a teaching because that right there that, that's Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedures and then you can see by different incidents that happen in the country and your state and your, your house and your Senate you know, and see how that all plays a part within the educational or the curriculum, when we're holding meetings. I just wanted to give thanks to the judicial system of Minnesota the, the firelight.org and educational treaties out there at a different level through zoom, through the zoom lens. It was a victorious day protecting the waters rolling up onto the lands so I wanted to thank the fire lights for doing that and all their participation out there was an incredible day in an Indian country and that's, that's what I will I'll close with thank you.

Speaker Crampton says thank you, thank you, thank you. Very good news, very good words. I do believe you are absolutely correct, and we should probably start working on moving away from the parliamentary procedures that were established by England not even the United States. I agree with you totally is there anybody else in the queue for public comment?

Recorder Wittenberg says yes, we do have Susan Thull.

Speaker Crampton says Susan Thull go ahead.

S. Thull says thank you. I just wanted to say chi Miigwech to elder McCaslin. I always learn something when he speaks, and I just appreciate so much when he shares with us. He just gave us good information today, I appreciate it. I had the honor of transcribing his prayer at one of our council meetings it was lengthy and I didn't grasp at all when I was hearing it when he was speaking at the council meeting but transcribing it, gave me a lot of information I learned a lot from that I just I just want him to know that he's very much appreciated and I enjoy hearing him speak during these council meetings so chi Miigwech.

Speaker Crampton says thank you. is there anybody else for public comment at this time?

Recorder Wittenberg says I don't know if Lee took his hand down or he put it back up.

Speaker Crampton says Mr. McCaslin do you have something to add?

Recorder Wittenberg says can't hear you sir.

Speaker Crampton says Mr. McCaslin we can't hear you

L. McCaslin says Chi Miigwech Susan. No, I didn't have any, I meant to put my hand down.

Recorder Wittenberg says ok, Miigwech. I see

Speaker Crampton says ok, if there's nobody else, I just want to say one quick thing and that, I appreciate the council actually taking a step and being professional today and I just wanted to point out for the membership there's a lot of things that are put out there for you to absorb and it's a lot of propaganda. The Tribal Council is obligated under the constitution to come here one day out of the month there are multiple work sessions all week long. I, I hardly missed a one since being here. The day that you're supposed to be here, the Wednesday, we have council members getting up and walking out, those are the ones who are being paid that are leaving on their own. The only they were constitutionally obligated to be here walking out of meetings, those are the ones so when you hear the rhetoric of the ones not showing up for work, the ones that are walking out on those Wednesdays those are the ones, thank you, Alright then I'll entertain a motion to end first open.

Recorder Wittenberg says

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE FIRST OPEN SESSION at 12:32;
Motion by R. Wittenberg, supported by J. Wolfe.**

Speaker Crampton says ok, have a motion by Councilor Wittenberg, supported by Councilor Wolfe. Is there anybody going to abstain on the item? Is there any further discussion from council? Anything further from the membership? One more time for council hearing nothing please do a roll call

Roll Call #10

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

Motion carried (6-0-0-3)

Recorder Wittenberg says Cindy you're still on mute. All right 1,2,3,4,5,6 in favor. End our first open.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32p.m

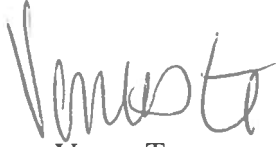
2nd open session was not recorded and there wasn't anything noted on the roll call sheets either

VIII. Open Session

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

IX. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Venus Torres".

Venus Torres
Designated Transcriber

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ron Wittenberg".

Ron Wittenberg
Tribal Council Recorder