

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on May 2, 2018. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

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

Speaker Riley said welcome everybody this is their regular meeting for Wednesday, May 2nd and they are going to get started this morning with their Opening Prayer as usual. Riley said Ron Pete is going to lead them in that.

I. Opening Prayer

Ron Pete, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer.

Our Heavenly Father, our Creator.

Thank you again for such a glorious day.

Giving this day to us to enjoy, to come together as a Tribal Council in our Council Meeting.

Guide us and be with us.

Make sure that we think with our hearts as we proceed with decisions that affect our citizenry.

Bless all of our Tribal citizens with their young children, parents and Elders.

Be with them and bless them and put your healing hand on them.

Bless our First Responders, our Police Force.

Be with them as they go about their duties protecting us.

Bring them home safely to their families.

Bless all of our Troops wherever they are serving throughout this world.

Be with them and put your loving hand on them.

Bless their families and bring them home safely to their families.

Bless my Grandson who is now in the Marine Corps.

Be with him.

In our Heavenly Father's Name. Amen.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

Speaker Riley said he just wanted to let everybody know that Diane Lonn is off and has recently had surgery. Riley said she is recovering still so please keep her in their thoughts. Riley said Frankie Medacco is off this week and believed he is attending a Church Retreat and is on vacation this week. Riley said to Recorder Lewis with that will she please do a roll call.

B. Roll Call

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

Quorum established.

Others Present: Peggy & Jim Derouin, Alan Tyler, Darleen Martin, Margaret Scott, Kathy Sam, Jennifer Crampton, Bill Willis, Boo Battice, Matt Battice, Jason Cross.

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

C. Approval of Agenda

Speaker Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 2nd, 2018 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF VII B.1.a IS AN ADD AND VII B.3. IS AN ADD; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Riley asked is there any discussion on the agenda. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis said the agenda has been approved for May 2, 2018.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

D. Tribal Council Minutes 4/25/18

**MOTION TO ACCEPT TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR
4/25/18; by Pete; supported by Di Piazza.**

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

Roll Call #2

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis said approval of Tribal Council Minutes for 4/25/18 is accepted for filing.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

Speaker Riley said they have nothing today under Grants & Contracts.

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2018-__ in the amount of \$259,395**

The contract funds are awarded as part of the 2018 Self-Governance Compact.

Speaker Riley said Bill Willis will be representing this as their Budget Coordinator. Riley said to Bill Willis that he had the floor.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said good morning and thanked them. Willis said this item represents Modification #5 to the BIA Self-Governance Compact for 2018. Willis said the money is specifically awarded for Contract Support Costs. Willis said in 2018 they estimated they were going to receive in total \$500,000 for Contract Support Costs and this brings them up to about 52%. Willis said as far as total funding they estimated they were going to receive \$1,923,539 and currently they are at \$610,078. Willis said they just need to accept the money and amend the Operating Budget.

Speaker Riley asked does anybody have any questions. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said he knows this was on the microphone but he really didn't hear all that stuff. Pete asked is this about where he thinks they would expect to be at this time of the year.

Bill Willis said yeah, they are over.....it is over 50% of what they projected and they are not even in June yet so they will probably receive the \$500,000 plus hopefully.

Councilor Pete said great. Pete asked can he make a motion. Pete said with that being said if there is no other questions he is prepared to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-138;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR-HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND APPROVING A
MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2018-26 IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$259,395; by Pete.**

Speaker Riley said the HHS portion was actually amended from the item.

Councilor Pete said okay so he.....

Speaker Riley said amend his motion.

Councilor Pete said he amends it and would he amend it.

Speaker Riley asked Councilor Lewis if she still supports that.

Councilor Pete said sorry he missed that and Speaker Riley is right.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-138;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING
BUDGET MB-2018-26 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$259,395; by ;Pete
supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any further questions on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #3

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #18-0502-138 has been approved.

2. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Caregiver Support and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2018-__ in the amount of \$8,403

The Tribe has received Year Two Funding.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said yes and thanked them. Willis said this item is a partial funding for year two of this program which goes through March 31st of next year. Willis said they do anticipate getting additional funding. Willis said they just need to accept the money and amend the Operating Budget. Willis said Jason Cross is here should Council have any particular questions regarding this.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he doesn't have any questions but if there is none he will make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-139;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-
CAREGIVER SUPPORT AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION
TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2018-27 IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$8,403; by Di Piazza; supported by Pete.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions on this item. Riley asked is there any further discussion. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #4

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #18-0502-139 has been approved.

3. Acceptance of grant funds from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2018-__ in the amount of \$44,500

The Tribe has received Year Two Funding for the Community Service Block Grant.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said this is an award through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for a program called Community Services Block Grant. Willis said the majority of the money is being put into Client Services which means it will go directly to the members through some programs and services. Willis said this is year two funding and the program runs through February 28 of 2019. Willis said once again Jason Cross is here should Council have any questions.

Speaker Riley asked well does anybody have any questions. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said if there are no questions then he is prepared to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-140;
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET
MB-2018-28 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,500; by Pete; supported by Di
Piazza.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions. Riley asked is there any further discussion or questions on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #5

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #18-0502-140 has been approved.

Bill Willis thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Bill Willis.

4. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2018-__-2nd QTR to fund Professional Services for the Next Generation Learning Center in the amount of \$30,084

Tribal Council has received a Certification of Availability of Funds #2018-010 from the Accounting Department signed by the Chief Financial Officer.

Speaker Riley said Jason Cross their Family Services Director is here to represent this and that he had the floor.

Jason Cross, Family Services Director, represented this agenda item. Cross said good morning. Cross said this is related to an item on their closed session Contract Approval Agenda today to cover the costs of Custodial Services as well as managing the kitchen at the Next Generation Learning Center. Cross said what they are going to do is shift some employees around so at the end of day this will actually save them money when they take out factoring employee salaries and benefits.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said he doesn't have a question and it sounds great. Pete said if there isn't any other questions he is prepared to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-141;
APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION 2018-29-2nd
QTR TO FUND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE NEXT
GENERATION LEARNING CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$30,084; by Pete; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions on this item.

Councilor Wittenberg said here comes Grace Hendler.

Councilor Pete said he made a mistake.

Speaker Riley asked Councilor Pete if he said 29 or 09.

Councilor Di Piazza said he thought he said 29.

Councilor Pete said he said 29.

Speaker Riley said 09, okay. Riley asked Councilor Pete if he would like to amend his motion.

Councilor Pete said he amends his motion to 09.

Speaker Riley asked Councilor Wittenberg if he still supports that.

Councilor Wittenberg said yes.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #18-0502-141;
APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION 2018-09-2nd
QTR TO FUND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE NEXT
GENERAL LEARNING CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,084;
by Pete; supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Riley asked now are there any abstentions. Riley asked is there any further discussion or questions on this one. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #6

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #18-0502-141 has been approved.

Jason Cross thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Jason Cross.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

1. Approval for Ron Wittenberg to attend the Behavioral Health Conference in Washington, D.C. July 25-27, 2018

The conference takes place at the Shoreham Hotel.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said yeah he would like to share on this. Wittenberg said it is promoting connection between culture and purpose. Wittenberg said what it is is culture is prevention and prevents substance abuse and mental health issues. Wittenberg said it goes inside with the Opiates and everything.....things like that is going on around the country. Wittenberg said that is what it is concerning. Wittenberg thanked them.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said with that being said if there is no questions he will make a motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE FOR RON WITTENBERG TO ATTEND THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. JULY 25-27, 2018; by Di Piazza; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions. Riley said with no abstentions. Riley asked is there any further questions or discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #7

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

Motion carried (6-0-1-2)

Recorder Lewis said the motion has carried for Ron Wittenberg to attend the Behavioral Health Conference in Washington, D.C. July 25-27, 2018.

2. Approval for Diane Lonn to attend the Behavioral Health Conference in Washington, D.C. July 25-27, 2018

The conference takes place at the Shoreham Hotel.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said if there is no questions he will make that motion.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL FOR DIANE LONN TO ATTEND THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. JULY 25-27, 2018; by Di Piazza; supported by Pete.

Speaker Riley asked is anybody going to abstain from this one. Riley asked is there any further questions or discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #8

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis said travel has been approved for Diane Lonn to attend the Behavioral Health Conference in Washington, D.C. July 25-27, 2018.

IV. Old Business

Reports that are due:

- A. **Financial Report**
March 2018 Due
- B. **Accounting Report**
March 2018 Due
- C. **Binojeeuk Commission**
January, February & March 2018 Due
- D. **Enrollment Commission**

Reports received:

- None Submitted
- None Submitted
- None Submitted
- March 2018

**E. Natural Resource Commission
February & March 2018 Due**

None Submitted

Speaker Riley said they have some reports that are due. Riley said the Financial Report for March. Riley said he can't see Grace Hendler. Riley asked Grace Hendler if they haven't gotten the March one recently.

Grace Hendler responded yes but it won't be on until the May 16th Meeting.

Speaker Riley said he thought he remembered seeing it yesterday or something. Riley said they do have the March Financial Report in their possession so that one is taken care of. Riley said it has just not been put on the agenda just yet. Riley asked if the Accounting Report for March 2018 was also with that.

Grace Hendler replied no.

Speaker Riley said Binojeeuk Commission January, February and March are still due. Riley said the Enrollment Commission did hand in their March.....oh, never mind. Riley asked did the March 2018.....alright that is how he reads this, okay. Riley said it has been a while. Riley said a whole week. Riley said Natural Resource Commission they are still looking for February and March. Riley asked is there any comments or discussion on these items. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said the NRC should be caught up after the next meeting.

Speaker Riley thanked Councilor Di Piazza.

V. New Business

Speaker Riley said there is nothing here.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, May 16, 2018

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Ogema Romanelli said he just wanted to say that he did receive some information from the Democratic Party and the Republican Party on their List of Dates for Delegates and being the Delegate to most of the Committees he just felt that they know.....there was something wrong and he doesn't know what was going wrong but they weren't coming to him but they got that resolved now. Romanelli said they had a major issue that came up on Face Book again. Romanelli said it was a tenant issue with some of Tribal Housing that kind of got blown out of the water there for a while. Romanelli said it was just not pretty, again, they had Phil Memberto, Melanie Ceplina, Val Chandler, Janine Sam, Don Koon at least responding and getting involved with this. Romanelli said much of the

information that was put on there was incorrect. Romanelli said they discussed it.....Council, Ogema and members of the EDC had a meeting and discussed the situation. Romanelli reiterated that much of the information was not put on Face Book and it was not they understood an Eviction Notice that was sent out. Romanelli said it had to do with the sale of the property and that there were other options that were given. Romanelli said he won't go into too much detail. Romanelli said the Council was aware also that there was also the possibility of selling a couple of houses in town because there was so much work that needed to be done but it was the EDC that eventually made the decision to sell the property. Romanelli said on the EDC there are seven member board which includes the Ogema, two Council members; Frankie Medacco and Ron Pete, and they have Tribal members for example, Frank Lewis and they also have Jim Nedeau who are all on there. Romanelli said it was unanimous decision to sell the properties. Romanelli said again it isn't a move out the next day. Romanelli said there is a lot of information that was not put out. Romanelli said he is more as an EDC member and as the Ogema willing to discuss those questions that are still pending out there if anybody has questions. Romanelli said these types of things do not help their Tribe when there is misinformation put out there. Romanelli said the thing that the person should have done and he is still not clear who is the tenant is but this tenant if there is an issue should contact the department and not go to Face Book because that creates a lot of problems. Romanelli said with that he will leave it alone. Romanelli said they had.....he checked on his travel, travel has been an issue and spent about \$1,000 this year on travel aside from the Shoreline which is going to Washington, D.C. on the benefit of their Muskegon Casino. Romanelli said he is more than willing to share any of that information if they want to know more about that. Romanelli said he looked up attorney's fees that was brought up last meeting, again, he is willing to share that information with anybody that wants to see it. Romanelli said the last thing he has they had a work session on the 32 hour work week that was presented and taken off the agenda. Romanelli said they had a work session yesterday at about 3:00 and he won't go into a lot of detail. Romanelli said he was disappointed and thinks there is a lot of information that he was disappointed with and Council is free to talk about it. Romanelli said he is kind of wore out from some of it going on for as long as it has. Romanelli said that is it and thinks that is his report.

Speaker Riley thanked Ogema Romanelli. Riley said he just wanted to add one thing that with the house going up for sale. Riley said he did take a look and there is a house right next door that has been for sale for over six months.

Ogema Romanelli said right.

Speaker Riley said so it's not like it is going to be sold tomorrow or anything. Riley said it is not a high demand area so.

Ogema Romanelli said there were the options of moving to other Tribal Housing, possible sale to the individuals, etc. Romanelli thanked Speaker Riley. Romanelli asked is there anything else.

Speaker Riley thanked the Ogema. Riley said alright onto Legislative Affairs Update.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Riley said Councilor Lewis has something here.

Recorder Lewis said her and Councilor Wittenberg had attended the Self-Governance Conference, April 22nd through the 26th. Lewis said some of the issues that were brought up is their Budget. Lewis said they went to the Contract Support Costs Meeting and they are talking about cutting their CHR Program and Health Education Program which is something that they definitely need to be able to educate their people on how to utilize like Diabetic, if they are newly Diabetic information and educating them like that. Lewis said the CHR Program they are talking about putting \$0 in that Budget which would be very detrimental to them because their CHR people are the ones that are like front line for any Elders or Handicapped. Lewis said they go to their homes anybody that is home-bound and they go to their home and access all their needs. Lewis said they do blood pressures so they definitely do need funding in that. Lewis said also they were told that the way that they are going to look at their Clinic now is if a Tribal member goes in there twice a year then they get funding from that but if a Tribal member goes in and only goes once a year or doesn't go in they are not going to be counted in their funding. Lewis said she wants everybody to stay healthy but if they can get in there and get a Wellness Check, etc. so that is how they are going to count their funding is if a Tribal member goes in twice a year to their Clinic. Lewis said also they had something that came across their desk and they are working on it. Lewis said that is the National Congress of American Indians and National Indian Health Board is also working with Health and Human Services to resolve this issue. Lewis said what the issue is the Medicare Program and the Medicaid Program is going to make it mandatory for people to work 20 hours a week in order to receive that benefit. Lewis said now being that they are.....their status as a Tribal Government they are considered exempt from that or should be considered exempt from that because of their political status. Lewis said they don't want that interfering at all with their sovereignty so they are keeping up on this issue and they will keep everyone updated on it. Lewis prompted Councilor Wittenberg to speak.

Councilor Wittenberg said he would like to also share. Wittenberg said they were talking about Natural Resources and environmental impacts, spending and sustaining of their culture and traditions. Wittenberg said they were talking about how different Tribes out there turned around and had different things going on such as the radio station. Wittenberg said they had another one out there about

the Farm Bureau and the realization about agriculture and how different Tribes are going out there and growing things like crops then turning around and taking them and selling them back to their own Tribal members. Wittenberg said one of the big things out there they turned around a firm from New Zealand and they were the Tepol Apirana Ngata. Wittenberg said they are a Nation down in New Zealand and they came up there and they shared about how they run their government and how the different branches and they turned around and answer one to another. Wittenberg said they also turned around and talked about how they learn from their mistakes and it is something that sometimes they forget about. Wittenberg said it was real interesting listening to them from how they missed out and went down and they learned from those things. Wittenberg said they don't turn around and so to speak well that didn't work and that didn't work so for him it was pretty.....he enjoyed it truly. Wittenberg said also he had the fine opportunity to go down to the Partnership for Family Wellness down at Four Winds and again the BIA was there, the Justice Service was there, the Vision of Drug Enforcement was there, and Public Service was there and they also turned around and talked about the Opiate Crisis that is going on throughout the communities here in town and throughout Indian Country. Wittenberg said it is not something that they alone are getting touched by it. Wittenberg said to be honest with them it is throughout the whole world is being affected by it even down in New Zealand. Wittenberg said that was one of the things they shared down there. Wittenberg said it was pretty awesome. Wittenberg said they said it was one in 20 or if they want to say 5% of high school students use Opiates. Wittenberg said not only them as adults but then there are their kids to think about because they are their leaders of tomorrow. Wittenberg said so he firmly behind that and liked to be involved in it. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said she also wanted to state that the Maori People from New Zealand they had joined Self-Governance and have been in there for three years now. Lewis said their system is very organized and they did say they were going to be travelling through Michigan. Lewis said to Ogema Romanelli that she will get their information to him and she doesn't know if he wanted to set up a Presentation with them. Lewis said they do a very nice Presentation and maybe they can take a few things from them then add to their mix. Lewis said she also wanted to say that Self-Governance next year will be at the Grand Traverse Band Resort so she is not sure exactly what they are going to do on supporting that but she really thinks that they need to be hands-on on that because their Sister Tribe is going to be the ones sponsoring that. Lewis thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Councilor Lewis. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said last week Thursday there was a consultation with the State on CWD and Mad Cow Disease. Di Piazza said still collecting some information from the State and such on how they were going to proceed on this

and such. Di Piazza said it is already in a couple of their nine counties and Kent or two of their counties. Di Piazza said the State just sent him some information that he needs to review because he just got it yesterday. Di Piazza said they are taking it serious but they are also concerned that it is going to affect their pocketbook and people not wanting to deer hunt. Di Piazza said so it is difficult but something to keep on everybody's radar. Di Piazza said years ago he worked for the USDA taking blood samples from cows for _____ Disease that is highly contagious to humans but they could cook it out of the meat so all the meat went to hot dogs and baloney. Di Piazza said everyday he could have sworn he caught it which that is just nerve wracking to know that they may catch something that they are exposed to. Di Piazza said okay he is done.

Speaker Riley said to Councilor Di Piazza, yeah there is millions of viruses every day that fall to the earth from space and think about that for a while.

Councilor Di Piazza said yeah but they are not licking the blood out of a cow's heart.

Speaker Riley said he just wanted to give an update. Riley said he actually attended the National Indian Gaming Association Membership Meeting the week before last in Las Vegas. Riley said there was a lot of good discussion and some movement towards lifting the ban on Sports Betting which if they decide to go into they would still negotiate, they know, in their Compact to be able to do that. Riley said it is a possibility for the future if it's something that maybe decide to go into. Riley said there was a lot of good information regarding the issue that Councilor Lewis spoke about and there were a few other things going on. Riley said some of the elections happened and their Regional Delegate is Brandon Stevenson still. Riley said there was actually a really good Presentation out there on culture and why it is important to incorporate their culture into their style of governing. Riley said it is not to necessarily do things in the old ways but to make sure that their culture is reflected in their thinking because without it the natural evolution of their people won't be correct. Riley said they will turn into something that they are not. Riley said so that really hit home for him and he thinks that was a very important thing that he took away from that. Riley asked does anybody else have anything for Legislative Affairs. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to mention that there is over a 100 Native Americans running for State Legislature, Congress, and Senate. Crampton said there are 13 Candidates for the U.S. House, one for U.S. Senate, ten Candidates for Statewide Offices, 94 Candidates for State Legislature and 57 Native American women running for Congress.

Speaker Riley said one Native American running for the Governor of Idaho, was it?

Councilor Crampton said yes. Crampton said so call your friends, get on the horn, and let's get them in office.

Speaker Riley said okay if that is it for Legislative Affairs they will move onto Public Comment.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Riley asked does anybody have anything for Public Comment. Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said on May 15th which is on a Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Manistee High School through Be Da Bin is hosting an Opiate-Heroin Awareness Community Outreach. Wittenberg said again the BIA will be there and the Office of Justice Service will be there, Indian Police Academy will be there, Division of Drug Enforcement and they will be talking about identification and effects of Opiates, Heroin, Drugs, Fentanyl and causes of overdose at the community level. Wittenberg said that is open to anybody and everybody. Wittenberg said again it is at the High School and that is where he thinks and feels that they also let that awareness in out there. Wittenberg said it would be nice to see Tribal Leaders there because they seem to listen more from Tribal Leaders than just people that are out there and coming. Wittenberg said himself he plans on being there. Wittenberg said Miigwech.

Speaker Riley said to Councilor Wittenberg Miigwech. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said this will probably sound redundant and they will get sick of hearing it but on May the 19th in Muskegon.....he was down there at St. Michaels last Friday and spent a good hour with Sister Mary.....the room that he saw where they are going to have it at that time was set for 125 in a function that they were doing. Pete said it is a very nice room and it will even seat more than that. Pete said they have a big kitchen so bring their Pot Lucks and they are going to bring the stuff that they are going to buy from the Resort. Pete said just keep that open and anybody that wants to go to Muskegon on May the 19th it starts at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michaels and it goes until 2:00 p.m. or roughly around that time. Pete said it is a great place to meet and he thinks they will have a.....they will have some kind of discussion point agenda and they will have a nice time. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Councilor Pete. Riley said if there is nothing else for Public Comment they will be moving into closed session.....oh, Boo Battice.

Boo Battice, Tribal #2644, said public comment. Battice said he is still looking for direction when it comes to fishing, people sitting down, because he doesn't know which Business Plan to write up. Battice said he can come to them with a

100 different ways but that wasn't the concern right now he is asking for people to help, step up and guide, and help. Battice said the other question is how much discussion at these Opium or Opiate is actually in the other direction because they don't grow Poppy in America. Battice said it is not just the people.....let's help these kids don't get him wrong but how are they getting it in their hands. Battice said hopefully they are discussing both ends of this and showing that little bit of lenience to these people and it is not just their fault. Battice said they should know that and they are going to help them get out of this. Battice said that is just a comment, they know, hopefully they are discussing both ends at these things. Battice thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Boo Battice. Riley said he has Councilor Crampton next.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to say the Opioid Crisis is hitting Indian Country hardest of all the cultures and if they think about it they really need to self-police themselves. Crampton said people are bringing it onto.....everybody knows who that person is bringing it onto that Reservation. Crampton said it is not something they go putting a Bill Board up saying they are selling Opioids. Crampton said it is all word of mouth, they talk to their friends, the talk to their buddies and they all know who that person is in every community they know who is bringing it in. Crampton said they just got to give it some tough love and get real.

Speaker Riley said okay that is it for Public Comment.

The purpose of closed session is to discuss business matters considered privileged or confidential involving consideration of bids/contracts, pending legal issues, and/or personnel matters.

Tribal Council recessed at 10:37 a.m.

VIII. Open Session

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

Speaker Riley said he will entertain a motion to go into second open at 11:29.

Tribal Council reconvened in Open Session at 11:29 a.m.

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

Quorum established.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

Speaker Riley asked do they have anything to move from closed to open.

Recorder Lewis said yes.

MOTION TO MOVE MOTION AND ROLL CALL VOTE FOR RESOLUTION #18-0502-142; THE MOTION OF SUPPORT LETTERS REGARDING NCAI MEDICAID AND THE SUPPORT LETTER FOR TARA SWEENEY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS; RESOLUTION #18-0502-143, MOTION, ROLL CALL AND VOTE; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Riley asked are there any abstentions or any discussion. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #9

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

Recorder Lewis said motion and vote for Resolution #18-0502-142 is moved to open, also the motion regarding NCAI Letter, Tara Sweeney-Secretary for Indian Affairs is moved into open and motion, roll call and vote for Resolution #18-0502-143.

The following motions and roll call votes were moved from Closed to Open Session.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 18-0502-142, AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION # 18-0425-134 THAT AUTHORIZED TRANSFER OF 215 ACRE GOLF COURSE PROPERTY FROM LITTLE RIVER TRIBAL GOVERNMENT TO LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT; by Pete; supported by Friedel.

Roll Call #C-3

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

Motion carried (5-2-0-2)

MOTION TO APPROVE BOTH LETTERS; by DiPiazza; supported by Pete.

Riley asked if there are any abstentions.

Roll Call #C-4

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 18-0502-143,
 RATIFICATION OF CONTRACT WITH AT YOUR SERVICE,
 INC. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO THE NEXT
 GENERATION LEARNING CENTER;** by DiPiazza; supported by Pete

Roll Call #C-5

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

This concludes the items moved from Closed to Open Session. The letters that were released from Closed Session are attached to these Open Session Minutes.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 11:32; by Pete; supported by Crampton.

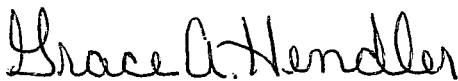
Roll Call #10

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

Motion carried (7-0-0-2)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

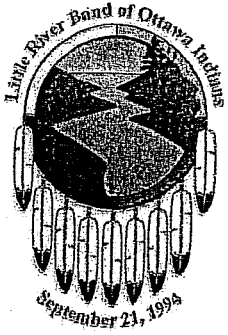
Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
 Transcribing Assistant



Sandra Lewis,
 Tribal Council Recorder



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660

Tribal Council
(231) 398-6845

May 2, 2018

The Honorable John Hoeven, Chairman
The Honorable Tom Udall, Vice Chairman
Committee on Indian Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Support for the Nomination of Tara Sweeney for Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

Dear Chairman Hoeven and Vice Chairman Udall:

The Little River Band Tribal Council would like to express their strong support for the nomination of Tara Sweeney as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the Department of Interior. We urge the Committee to end this months-long delay in the confirmation process.

Ms. Sweeney is a proven leader as a board member and past co-chair of the Alaska Federation of Natives. She is also the past chair of the Arctic Economic Council and her history of leadership at the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation speaks to her ability to take on this new role. Her focus on the advancement of all native people through economic development is commendable.

It is our understanding that this nomination has stalled due to the perceived conflict regarding her shareholder status with the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. There is simply no logical way that this Native corporate system, created by Congress, should prevent the nomination. It would effectively eliminate the possibility of Native Alaskans serving in these roles or worse would require them to sell off their birthright in order to serve in the administration.

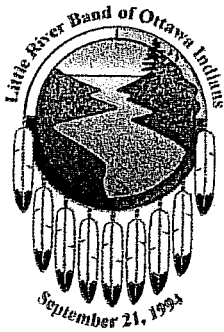
The Assistant Secretary post has been vacant since January 2016. There is no reason that Ms. Sweeney's perceived conflict cannot be addressed through recusal on specific issues as is customary.

Sincerely,

Joseph Riley, II
Tribal Council Speaker

Sandra M. Lewis
Tribal Council Recorder

cc: The Honorable Debbie Stabenow; The Honorable Gary Peters



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660

Tribal Council
(231) 398-6845

May 2, 2018

Secretary Alex Azar
Administrator Seema Verma
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

RE: Strong opposition to the decision by CMS to classify tribal governments as a racial group for the purposes of the Medicaid program.

Dear Secretary Azar and Administrator Verma:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is a federally recognized sovereign Indian Tribe governed under a Constitution adopted by the majority vote of our membership. Our ancestors exchanged, by virtue of the 1836 Treaty of Washington and later treaties, hundreds of thousands of acres of pristine Michigan wilderness for the promise that our people would forever enjoy the rights and privileges of self-governance, thereby creating a specific political designation. This has now come under attack by virtue of a complete and unprecedented reversal of agency policy.

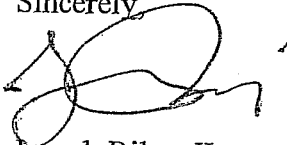
We write to bring your attention to this urgent problem. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently issued guidance authorizing state Medicaid work requirements under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. This policy change will negatively impact tribal communities unless tribal governments receive an exemption from state requirements. However, CMS claims it cannot accommodate tribal governments, reasoning that doing so would be discriminating based on race. A January 11th letter to state Medicaid directors and a January 17th letter to tribal leaders, both from CMS Director Brian Neale, deny any exemption of tribal citizens from state Medicaid waiver requests.

This guidance undermines tribal sovereignty, and ignores the U.S. Constitution, Supreme Court decisions and long-standing statutory and regulatory policies putting federal-tribal relations decisively on a government-to-government basis. It will also reduce funds available to the Indian Health Service, undermining Congress's intent in Section 1911 of the Social Security Act to authorize IHS reimbursements under Medicaid, which are paid exclusively with federal funds in accord with the federal trust relationship.

The Department of Health and Human Services must honor its trust responsibility, engage in meaningful tribal consultation, treat tribal governments as sovereigns, allow tribal governments to make decisions about their own tribal citizens, and not subject tribal authority to state policy.

Thank you for considering this urgent request.

Sincerely



Joseph Riley, II
Tribal Council Speaker



Sandra M. Lewis
Tribal Council Recorder