



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

January 9, 2023
 Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:02pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Archie Martel, Julie Wolf, Robert Robles

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the January 9, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 11/14/2022

Motion to approve:
 made by: Grocholski
 supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski -
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

- I. Law Enforcement Update:** None
- II. Natural Resources Department Update:** Archie is giving an inaudible (Zoom) update about something. Something is being continued. Virgil Johnson is impressed with the Sturgeon rearing facility but is disappointed in the survival rate of the released fish. He would like to see a more coordinated effort for restorations.
- III. Legal Dept. Update:** None
- IV. New Business:** Type D Trout Lake changes discussion.

Motion to put this item “2007 Inland Consent Decree Type D Trout Lake Regulation changes” on the February 13, 2023 agenda.

made by: Grocholski

supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - no			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0

- V. Continuing Business:** Walleye harvest changes discussion in March/April. Remove Crockery Lake from the walleye harvest. The department has been unable to obtain any walleye population numbers in the areas discussed. The state will no longer stock walleye in certain lakes, those lakes are at risk for being “fished out”.

Motion to prepare a resolution to support “2007 Inland Consent Decree proposed Walleye Table 1 changes”.

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - no			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0

Camping Regulation Discussion – The campground needs an attendant. What we have right now at the campground is not working. More policing is the

answer. Virgil wants to send the Ogema a letter asking for increased policing for the 2023 camping season.

Tribal Lands discussion – Waiting for an department update from Frank Beaver about grant funding, land cleanup, property plans, etc...

The NRC would like an update on bear, elk, and deer harvest reports for 2022.

Tippy Dam/Consumers Energy discussion. What if this. What if that. No one knows anything.

VI. Public Comment:

None

VII. Next meeting Date: 02/13/22

- Camping fee letter to the Ogema
- Cleanup of Tribal Lands
- Bear/Elk Harvest Report
- Whitetail Report
- Sturgeon Update

E. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:55pm

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

February 13, 2023
Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:02pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
John GrocholskiPresent
Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
Connie Eno.....Present
Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Frank Beaver, Pam Johnson

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the February 13, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 1/9/2023

Motion to approve:
made by: Howell
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

I. Law Enforcement Update: None

II. Natural Resources Department Update: Frank Beaver
Updates to trespass permits. Issued 37 trespass permits in 2022.

III. Legal Dept. Update: None

IV. New Business:

V. Cleanup of Tribal Land. Action only. Department just received a waste management cleanup plan. We just got funding from the EPA and we are processing/formulating a cleanup plan. It was suggested to tape off proposed “cleanup zones” so tribal members are aware of the danger and it will acknowledge that a cleanup is in process at the site.

Bear harvest report: None. A bear management workgroup works to track reports and issue permits.

Whitetail Deer harvest report: None.

VI. Continuing Business: Trout Lake Regulations

2007 Inland Consent Decree proposed Walleye Table 1 changes” Discussion: John believes the State is attempting to get us to support trophy fishing. Virgil agrees that if we approve the changes it will only support sport fishing and not benefit tribal fishers on type D lakes. We do not support addition of any more lakes.

Removal Crockery Lake. It is at risk of being fished out. We would like numbers in order to make an informed decision on changing the Walleye harvest. We are dropping the walleye discussion.

The UFO shot down supposedly had a “payload” attached which may have been dropped into either Lake Michigan or Huron. Trying to get more information and what the object was and if/ how it may affect the CORA tribes.

MHRC state and federal regulators included the tribe with discussions.

The Federal Fish and wildlife service are all making sure we are included in addressing our options. They have given us four options. Let the license expire, consumer’s walks away. Consumers sell to private firm. Relicense the dams as. Fourth option is dam removal. The CORA tribes should start

discussions. Commission would like to ensure there are enough eyes and ears paying attention to the subject of the Tippy Dam/Consumers Energy situation.

VII. Public Comment:

None

VIII. Next meeting Date: 03/13/23

- IX. Consumers Energy/Tippy Dam**
 Resolution Type D Trout Lake Regulations 2007 Consent Decree Walleye
 Clean up of Tribal Lands
 Bear Harvest Report
 Whitetail Report

E. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:26pm

made by: Grocholski

supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

March 13, 2023
 Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:05pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Frank Beaver, Julie Wolf

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the March 13, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 2/13/2023

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

- I. Law Enforcement Update:** None
- II. Natural Resources Department Update:** Frank Beaver
Sports Fishermen upset about Gilnets.
- III. Legal Dept. Update:** None
- IV. New Business:**
- V. Continuing Business: Trout Lake Regulations**

2007 Inland Consent Decree proposed Walleye Table 1 changes” Discussion:

1) Remove the four (4) lakes from the LRBOI regulations that the MDNR has removed as Type D trout lakes. This would allow LRBOI citizens additional opportunities for harvest under the general fishing regulations and not the Type D restrictions.

2) Add the seven (7) lakes to the LRBOI regulations that the MDNR has added as designated Type D lakes.

Motion to approve:

Trout Lake Regulation changes:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - abstain	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0

Cleanup of Tribal Lands: Frank is going to check about Adopt- a-Highway for 2023. Frank does not believe there is a current plan for lands cleanup at this time. The department is waiting for more information from the EPA. The Brownfield Specialists are attending the annual EPA conference and we should know more soon upon their return.

The UFO shot down supposedly had a “payload” attached which was dropped into Lake Huron. Trying to get more information and what the object was and if/ how it may affect the CORA tribes. Still waiting for more information.

MHRC state and federal regulators included the tribe with discussions.

NO bear harvest report. Commission would appreciate a report for the harvest so we can do our due diligence to determine actual harvest numbers.

Deer Harvest Report: The state pressures hunters to report. Discussion ensues about ways to support tribal hunters reporting their harvest. Trying to find solutions to determine the health of herds and populations.

The Tribe is still participating with discussion with Consumers Energy concerning Tippy Dam removal, no new news.

VI. Public Comment:

There is currently one vacant seat on NRC commission.

VII. Next meeting Date: 04/10/23

VIII. Next meeting items:

- Consumers Energy/Tippy Dam
- Clean up of Tribal Lands
- Bear and Elk Drawing discussion planning

E. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:28pm

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

April 10, 2023
 Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:07pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Absent
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Keegan Bordeaux

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the April 13, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - Absent			

Motion approved 3-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

No minutes

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - Absent			

I. Law Enforcement Update: None

II. Natural Resources Department Update: Frank Beaver

III. Legal Dept. Update: None

IV. New Business:

V. Continuing Business: Trout Lake Regulations

- 1 Campgrounds are open
- 2 Clean up of Tribal Lands > No Report
- 3 Bear Harvest Report > No Report
- 4 Elk & Bear Draw Dissociation
- June 10th Drawing
- State Drawing July 5th
- 5 Lake Huron Sidewinder Missile Report
- No information
- 5 B Walleye Table 7. List of Walleye Lake Systems Open to Harvest by Specially Regulated Methods.
- Pages have been updated

VI. Public Comment:

There is currently one vacant seat on NRC commission.

VII. Next meeting Date: 05-08-2023

VIII. Next meeting items:

- Tribal lands
- Bear Harvest
- Elk & Bear Draw Dissociation
- Adjourn Meeting**
- Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:03pm
- made by: Grocholski
- supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - Absent			

Motion approved 3-0-0-0

V. F



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

May 8, 2023
Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:03pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
John GrocholskiPresent
Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
Connie Eno.....Present
Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the May 8, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 3/13/2023 & 4/10/23

Motion to approve:
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

- I. Law Enforcement Update:** None
- II. Natural Resources Department Update:**
- III. Legal Dept. Update:** None
- IV. New Business:** Tribal Campground is open.
- V. Continuing Business:**
Bear and Elk Drawing – party planning discussion. Hot dogs, buns, chips, water, chips.
- VI. Public Comment:**
- VII. Next meeting Date:**
- VIII. Next meeting items:**

E. Adjourn Meeting due to internet outage.
 Motion to adjourn the meeting: 5:49pm
 made by: Grocholski
 supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

July 26, 2023

Open Session

Zoom Info

Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:02pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
John GrocholskiPresent
Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
Connie Eno.....Present
Vacant

I. Law Enforcement Update:

II. Natural Resources Department Update:

III. Legal Dept. Update:

IV. New Business:

V. Continuing Business: Bear and Elk Regulations Worksession.

VI. Public Comment:

VII. Next meeting Date: 08/14 /23

VIII. Next meeting items:

C. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:48pm

made by: Grocholski

supported by: Howell

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

July 10, 2023
 Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:03pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Absent
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the July 10, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – absent	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 5/8/2023

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – absent	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-0-0-0

- I. Law Enforcement Update:** None
- II. Natural Resources Department Update:**
- III. Legal Dept. Update:** None
- IV. New Business:**
- V. Continuing Business:**
Bear and Elk Booklets need updated. NRC Department has not provided any info for the September Hunt.
- VI. Public Comment:** Wildfire in Wexford and Manistee Co.
- VII. Next meeting Date: July 26, 2023 at 5pm for Elk and Bear Booklet update.**
- VIII.** Next meeting items: see above

E. Adjourn Meeting due to internet outage.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:02pm
made by: DiPiazza
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – absent	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

July 31, 2023
 Special Meeting Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:01pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the July 31, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
 made by: Eno
 supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

None submitted

I. Law Enforcement Update: None

II. Natural Resources Department Update:

III. Legal Dept. Update: None

IV. New Business:

V. Continuing Business:

**Approval of 2023 Elk Regulations
Resolution # NRC-2023-0731-003**

Motion to approve:
2023 Elk Regulations:
made by: Grocholski
supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

**VI. Approval of 2023 Bear Regulations
Resolution # NRC-2023-0731-002**

Motion to approve:
2023 Bear Regulations:
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

VII. Public Comment:

VIII. Next meeting Date: 08/14/23

IX. Next meeting items:
Consumers Energy/Tippy Dam
Clean up of Tribal Lands

E. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 5:19pm

made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

August 14, 2023
Special Meeting Minutes
Zoom Info
Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:02pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
John GrocholskiPresent
Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
Connie Eno.....Present
Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Frank Beaver, and Julie Wolfe

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the August 14, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes:

Motion to approve the July 10, 2023, July 26, 2023 and July 31, 2023 Open Session Minutes.

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

I. Law Enforcement Update: None

II. Natural Resources Department Update:

Email was received from DDHS about unsafe PFAS levels in the Pere Marquette River and Lake. Some fish species are unsafe for consumption. This notice affects parcels of the tribe's property in the Custer Cemetery Area. From Riverside Park in Scottsville downstream is affected. Councilor Wolf wants a notice put out to the tribe notifying the membership that are affected. Frank says they will get handouts from the State to give out from District 10 Health Dept. Report states 8 parts per trillion for PFAS. A fish consumption advisory has been issued for the yellow perch.

Consumers Dam update. There are a number of dams coming up for renewal of licensing. Tippy Dam and Hyodenpyl Dam will not come up until next year. Consumers are looking to sell the dams in the Muskegon watershed, as well as the two dams here locally. The MHRC coalition is working on this issue and has historically opposed Tribes in the past. This issue is quickly changing with the State now wanting to sell the properties.

Virgil is concerned about the sale of the dam to private entities. Due to prior sales of public entities to private individuals. He would like the EDC to become involved with this to possibly purchase Tippy Dam property. Franks thinks it would not be profitable. Virgil would like Eugene Magnusson and Frank Lewis to be invited to the next meeting in order to talk about the Dam issue.

III. Legal Dept. Update for Consent Decree: None

IV. New Business:

Hunting Regulations 2023 – Councilor Wolfe would like harvest numbers from the department. The NRC should make a survey to get more data from the Tribal Members. Virgil would like to get a copy of the survey used by the NRD so we can get a new survey ready for the October Membership Meeting. Virgil will request prior surveys from the Department for the September Meeting; he will also invite Frank Lewis and Eugene to the next meeting.

Motion to approve the July 10, 2023, July 26, 2023 and July 31, 2023 Open Session Minutes.

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - no			

Motion approve 3-0-0-0

- V. **Continuing Business:** Cleanup of Tribal Lands – no update.
Discussion on appointments to NRC. Virgil says there is language in the Commission ordinance that can be used to hold over NRC seats until the situation can be resolved between the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch.
- VI. **Public Comment:**
- VII. **Next meeting Date: 09/11/23**
- VIII. **Next meeting items:**
Consumers Energy/Tippy Dam with invited guests Eugene Magnusun and Frank Lewis
Clean up of Tribal Lands
Membership Survey
Consent Decree with Elyse McGowan
Pere Marquette River PFAS Update
- E. **Adjourn Meeting**
Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:02pm
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

V F



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, Michigan 49660**

September 11, 2023
Open Session Minutes
Zoom Info

Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:05pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
John GrocholskiAbsent
Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
Connie Eno.....Present
Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the September 11, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:
made by: Howell
supported by: Eno

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - absent
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes

Open Session Minutes – 8/14/2023

Motion to approve:
made by: Eno

supported by: Howell

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - absent
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0

- I. Law Enforcement Update: None**
- II. Natural Resources Department Update: None**
- III. Legal Dept. Update: None**
- IV. New Business: None**
- V. Continuing Business: No Updates on these due to lack of NRD participation.**
 - 1. Clean up of Tribal Lands**
 - 2. Removal of invasive plants on tribal property**
 - 3. Tribal Mining**
 - 4. Line 5 Update**
 - 5. Wild Rice Initiative**
 - 6. Electric Fishing Project**
 - 7. HHW Brochures**
- VI. Public Comment: Sturgeon Release: Johnson says this year was the best event hosted by the NRD ever with attendance estimated to be around 200 people. Sturgeon release area is becoming too small. There is a need to improve the spawning area.**
- VII. Next meeting Date: October 9, 2023**
- VIII. Next meeting items: see above**
- E. Adjourn Meeting:**
 - Motion to adjourn the meeting: 5:40pm
 - made by: Howell
 - supported by: Eno

Johnson - yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - absent
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 3-1-0-0