



Approved 11/6/19

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019
LITTLE RIVER CASINO RESORT
EVENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Casino Resort's Event Center on November 2, 2019. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

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

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza. Pete said they have according to the agenda the Ogema had asked him to give the Opening Prayer so they have done that.

I. Opening Prayer

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

Speaker Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to please do a roll call.

B. Roll Call

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

Quorum established.

Recorder Di Piazza said eight present and one absent they have a quorum.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza. Pete said he is just going to mention that Tom Guenthardt is not here but a couple of months ago he informed him that this was the weekend that him and his wife were planning a vacation. Pete said so that is the reason he is not here today.

C. Approval of Agenda

Speaker Pete recognized Recorder Di Piazza.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 2, 2019 WITH NO CORRECTIONS;** by Di Piazza;
supported by Lewis.

Speaker Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain.
Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said eight in favor and one absent the agenda has been approved.

D. Tribal Council Minutes □ 10/23/19

Speaker Pete recognized Sandy Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said she would like to make a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES
FOR 10/23/19, ACCEPT FOR FILING;** by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain.
Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #2

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said eight in favor and one absent, Tribal Council Minutes for 10/23/19 have been accepted.

Speaker Pete thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

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

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2019-__ in the amount of \$105**
The Tribe has received a modification of additional funding.

Speaker Pete said he believed Jason Cross is here to represent this.

Jason Cross, Family Services Director, represented this agenda item. Cross said good morning. Cross said this is distribution of the 2020 Funds that they get every year. *The rest of Jason Cross' explanation could not be made out clearly because of the background noise.*

Speaker Pete thanked Jason Cross. Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.....

Recorder Di Piazza said there is no motion.

Speaker Pete said okay he needs a motion first, sorry. Pete recognized Sandy Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said she would like to make a motion.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-1102-284;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-LOW
INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)
AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING
BUDGET MB-2019-56 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$105; by Lewis;
supported by Wittenberg.**

Speaker Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #3

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said eight in favor and one absent Resolution #19-1102-284 is passed.

Speaker Pete thanked Jason Cross.

Jason Cross thanked Speaker Pete.

2. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-Performance Partnership Grant and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2019-___ in the amount of \$15,000

The Tribe has received a modification of additional funding.

Allison Smart, Aquatic/Fisheries Biologist, represented this agenda item. Smart said they are bringing forward to Council a ___ to their 2 year Performance Partnership Grant from the U.S. EPA. Smart said they used the funds for their ___ Program. Smart said this program they provide safe ___ and goes for those activities.

Speaker Pete okay and thanked Allison Smart. Pete asked is there any discussion on this. Pete said he needs a motion. Pete recognized Sandy Lewis.

Councilor Lewis said she would like to make a motion.

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-1102-284; ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP GRANT AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2019-57 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000; by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

Councilor Lewis said okay she amends that to 285.

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-1102-285; ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP GRANT AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2019-57 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000; by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

Councilor Lonn said she still supports.

Speaker Pete said okay Diane Lonn still supports. Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #4

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said eight in favor and one absent Resolution #19-1102-285 has passed.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

Speaker Pete said there is nothing under Budgeted Approval.

IV. Old Business

Monthly Reports that are due: September 2019

Reports received:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| A. Operations Report | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| B. Financial Report | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| C. Enrollment Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| D. Health Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| E. Housing Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> September 2019 |

Speaker Pete said Operations Report they have none submitted, Financial Report none submitted, Enrollment Commission none submitted, Health Commission none submitted, Housing Commission they have September 2019. Pete asked is there any discussion on those. Pete recognized Larry Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said he just wanted....he just wanted to note that the Operations Report and the Financial Report are not late. Romanelli said it is the timing of them per month and it comes up on a regular basis so neither one of them are late.

Speaker Pete said yes, correct. Pete thanked Ogema Romanelli for pointing that out.

Ogema Romanelli said he is welcome.

V. New Business

Speaker Pete said onto new business and there is none.

VI. Concluding Business

- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, November 6, 2019**

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Speaker Pete recognized Larry Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Pete. Romanelli said he is going to be giving an update right after the Council Meeting so he is going to save most of it for then. Romanelli said he can see he is on the agenda right after that. Romanelli said so he will let the meeting conclude. Romanelli said he does want to say that on a regular basis the Tribal Council and the Ogema are meeting on a weekly basis Round Table to just discuss anything that they have a concern. Romanelli said he also wanted to say that yesterday they had a Three Branch Government between the Legislative, their Judicial and the Executive Branches. Romanelli said it went on from about noon to 3-4:00 yesterday. Romanelli said it was very informative and he thinks they got a lot done so. Romanelli said that was the first time they had one of those in quite a while. Romanelli said the suggestion was made that they should have them twice a year and then as they got talking about it the three branches agreed that maybe they should do quarterly for a while so they can go through some of these issues with the Constitutional Changes. Romanelli said he is in support of that and thinks all three branches were in support of that. Romanelli said so they met yesterday and it was a good meeting.

Speaker Pete thanked Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said he is welcome.

Speaker Pete asked Ogema Romanelli that he is 100% sure that all three branches were in support of quarterly meetings.

Ogema Romanelli said yup and thanked Speaker Pete.

Speaker Pete thanked Ogema Romanelli.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Pete asked does anyone have Legislative Affairs Update. Pete recognized Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said just to report that Michigan's Attorney General, Dana Nessel, has filed a lawsuit with the Tribal Lenders Ceria. Crampton said it was reported that they were charging 300% interest, which is usually their standard charge.

Speaker Pete asked 300%.

Councilor Crampton said yes. Crampton said her lawsuit prohibits them from doing that in Michigan.

Speaker Pete said okay. Pete asked anyone else for Legislative Affairs Update. Pete said he is just going to mention a quick comment too. Pete said he really enjoyed having the Three Branches of Government Meeting together. Pete said so all things were on the table and it was a really constructive meeting and he really looks forward to them scheduling another quarterly meeting for each of them. Pete said he also wanted to thank something that they restarted is that Tribal Council and the Ogema meet regularly on a weekly basis at the Round Table. Pete said it is just to talk about things.....anything that they want to talk about and it is every day at 1:00 on Tuesday. Pete said they have started it and they will continue on Tuesday. Pete said so they really.....he really enjoys that meeting and thinks that all of Council does.....the meetings that they have with the Ogema. Pete said okay that would be it is there anything else under Legislative Affairs. Pete recognized Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said no, he is good.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Pete recognized Gary Di Piazza.

Recorder Di Piazza said he was just going to remind everybody that probably about 11 he will set back up and give out the coins. Di Piazza said if they have a sibling Tribal Member that they would like to get for their family members as long as they sign that out that they received that coin to give it to them. Di Piazza said they will be back up there in a little bit.

Speaker Pete thanked Gary Di Piazza. Pete asked is anyone else for Public Comment. Pete said okay well and thanked them for attending today.

Recorder Di Piazza said yeah go ahead he is sorry. Di Piazza said his bad.

Speaker Pete thanked Sandy Lewis. Pete said he was just reminded. Pete said he really and he really shouldn't need this kind of reminder. Pete thanked Sandy Lewis. Pete said Council also wanted to thank Grace Hendler and Kathleen Bowers for all their help that comes with this thing. Pete said he wanted to give them a little round of applause. Pete thanked them for all the things they do and sometimes he always say that it is the people in support that really keep the wheels up. Pete said he really just wanted to say that also. Pete recognized Diane Lonn.

Councilor Lonn said she just wanted to remind everybody to put their ballots in that clear box up there. Lonn said they have until 1:00. Lonn said she understands that they will introduce the people running and they will give them time to talk. Lonn said on November 12 which is the day after Veteran's Day they are having a Veteran's Celebration so anybody that is a Veteran can come in

with their spouse they will be \$10.00 but the Veteran is free. Lonn said they have _____, they have give away gifts and they have music. Lonn said they do a _____ as well so anybody.....it is open to any Veterans it doesn't have to be Tribal. Lonn said last year they had 200-300 but this year they have over five. Lonn said so it is a great event so please if they know any Veterans be sure to tell them.

Speaker Pete said okay once again he doesn't see any more hands up for right now. Pete asked can he get a motion.....okay right there. Pete said over to the.....

Jessica Steinberg, Tribal #0148, thanked Speaker Pete. Steinberg said she is curious about the three branches and it raised a question about the impartiality of the Judiciary. Steinberg said it is their responsibility to decide issues in communities like the Legislative Branch so she has a couple of questions. Steinberg asked what the expectations and necessity and is there a _____ that the Judiciary could be compromised in their impartiality with either branch. Steinberg thanked them.

Speaker Pete said that issue was brought up and there were no issues that would compromise the Judiciary Branch of their Judges. Pete said they are bringing things like Constitutional things and communication between each other. Pete said they are not bringing up anything at all that would compromise their Tribal Courts or any of their Executive Branch or any of the Legislative Branch. Pete said his thing is this is that there are some times they can never have enough of is communication. Pete said communicating with people that are in charge or have been elected or to run their Tribal Government and it was all great issues as far as he was concerned. Pete said there was no compromising of anything. Pete asked is there anything else that she has a question right here, he is sorry. Pete said there is a microphone coming to her.

Christina Castillo, Tribal #830, said she was wondering and curious about the quorum. Castillo said she hoping for better communication so she doesn't have to fly out here and she can't do that all the time. Castillo said she is sure that everyone has issues where they can't be here. Castillo said a suggestion would be if there is a possibility of live streaming or video conferencing. Castillo said they could make sure to allow people participation. Castillo said she is very happy to be here and thanked them.

Recorder Di Piazza said they do have a conference line in their chambers when they have work sessions. Di Piazza said that number he believed has been posted and is 398-6839 and that is for conferencing. Di Piazza said they also have the capability of live....not live but video conferencing in the Council Chambers for work sessions. Di Piazza said it wasn't in the Currents he doesn't know if she had gotten it in California. Di Piazza said there is a number in there to get a hold of Kathleen Bowers to set....if she wants to get into a video conferencing for a work session. Di Piazza said get a hold of her so they can get that set up and get her set up so that it is nice and smooth.

Christina Castillo thanked Recorder Di Piazza.

Speaker Pete said okay anyone else.

Councilor Crampton said yes, yes, yes.

Speaker Pete recognized Shannon Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said well he is glad she brought that up. Crampton said all of their representatives that have been on for a long time were moving in that direction right now. Crampton said they just opened up that they could be on a committee or commission if they are in the outlying area they can video conference in. Crampton said they are also linking like she said with capabilities for Council Meetings and that is in discussion for the Council right now because he knows that Cindy Champagne has been championing that of wanting to have their Council Meetings in real time with members being able to come on there and watch and then comment. Crampton thanked them.

Speaker Pete said okay he is looking. Pete asked can they get a mic there please.

Recorder Di Piazza asked can she hold that close. Di Piazza said he can't hear her.

Councilor Lonn said they can't hear her.

Councilor Crampton said hold the microphone closer.

Recorder Di Piazza thanked the member.

A Tribal member asked at one of their Membership Meetings where they had a quorum they made changes. *The Tribal member asked a question but it couldn't be heard on the tape recording.*

Speaker Pete said he does not believe so quorum has got to be in here. Pete said that was one time years back when they did establish a quorum. Pete reiterated they had a quorum at a Membership Meeting and at the Membership Meeting some of the members....okay, some of the members once they were in here they left the meeting for whatever reason and so on. Pete said then when they tried to establish things that were done the four or five, six he doesn't remember he was here that day. Pete said they established the things that the quorum....the courts ruled that there wasn't a quorum at the time when they were voting in so in his opinion he is not an attorney but in his opinion he doesn't think that would stand. Pete said okay that is just his opinion. Pete asked is there anyone else.

Recorder Di Piazza said he doesn't see anymore.

Councilor Crampton said right there.

Speaker Pete said okay so there is a hand somewhere but he doesn't see anybody.

Councilor Wittenberg said it would help if they went up in the area.....

Speaker Pete said to Shannon Crampton that he still doesn't see it.

Councilor Crampton said he thought it was Felicia.

Councilor Corey said he guessed she changed her mind.

Recorder Di Piazza said he thought he seen one but eventually not.

Councilor Crampton said he thought Felicia.....maybe not.

VII. Adjourn

Speaker Pete said so can he get if he doesn't see another hand, can he get a motion for Council to adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN; by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Pete asked is there any discussion. Pete asked is anyone going to abstain. Pete asked Recorder Di Piazza to do a roll call.

Roll Call #5

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

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Di Piazza said eight in favor and one absent they have adjourned the November 2nd Meeting at 10:26.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Gary Di Piazza,
Tribal Council Recorder