



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017
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 4, 2017. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Riley said they are going to hold one of their Saturday Meetings for the year and they have been doing this for, he thinks, the past two to three..... Riley said good morning. Riley said okay they are getting ready to call to order this is their Saturday, one of their Saturday Meetings for the year. Riley said they do this during the Elder's Meeting and he thinks they have done this for two to three years now.

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 Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call to establish quorum.

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 - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

C. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 4, 2017; by Lewis; supported by Friedel.**

Speaker 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 -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis noted the agenda has been approved for November 4, 2017.

D. Tribal Council Minutes ☐ 10/25/17

Councilor Pete said if there is no discussion he would like to make a motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FROM 10/25/17; by Pete; supported by Friedel.

Speaker Riley asked if there were 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 -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis noted Tribal Council Minutes have been approved for 10/25/17.

III. Continuing Business

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

Speaker Riley said they have nothing under Continuing Business.

IV. Old Business

Reports that are due: August and/or September 2017

Reports received:

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Financial Report | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| B. Enrollment Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| C. Natural Resource Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| D. Commerce Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| E. LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Report | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |

Speaker Riley said they have nothing under Old Business. Riley said what they like to do is keep the agenda fairly open so they can have an extended public comment period so they can answer any questions that they have.

V. New Business

A. Adoption of Amendments to Gaming Ordinance & Authorization for the Unified Legal Department to Submit to National Indian Gaming Commission for Review and Approval

Tribal Council is recommending revisions to Ordinance #10-400-10.

Speaker Riley asked if there are any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said she would like to make a motion.

MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-1104-376; ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO GAMING ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE NUMBER 10-400-01 AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE UNIFIED LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT TO NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL; by Lewis; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Riley asked if there was any discussion 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 -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-1104-376 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, November 8, 2017

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Ogema Romanelli thanked Speaker Riley. Romanelli said there is not too much on the Ogema's Update. Romanelli said he understands that this afternoon 44 North the Elders Insurance and Medicaid will be giving a brief update also their Next Generation Learning Center will have some time and Hospice will be talked about. Romanelli said their new Pharmacy that just recently had a soft opening and then the election of the Committee Members will be this afternoon.

Romanelli said recently they have the ten homes that were built at Aki and last week he believed they turned over three homes. Romanelli said they gave them the key for three homes that are open and ready for occupancy. Romanelli said they have seven more that are well under way and they should be completed at least by spring so that is going well. Romanelli said yesterday he went out to their 285 houses in Fruitport Township with 120 acres where they are building the 285, he thinks it is or there about, houses. Romanelli said that has already started if anybody has a chance to go out there it is Mt. Garfield in Sheridan on the corner that would be the southeast corner. Romanelli said if they go on one side Edwin Allen Homes are building some new homes and on the other side of the street that is their property and they will see some wonderful lots there. Romanelli said they are doing real well and have all the infrastructure done on the first phase, he thinks, four or five phases but they have the infrastructure done. Romanelli said the lots are absolutely gorgeous he just had the chance to go out there and if they have a chance, look at them they are very nice. Romanelli said so they are going to start that and are going to dig three basements and put in the concrete work before snow falls this year so they will have an early start in the spring and will just keep building. Romanelli said these are more or less in most cases built to suit so what people will do is pick out their lot, pick out the style of house they want and then go ahead. Romanelli said they have a Builder in place which is Ron Stroup. Romanelli said Ron Stroup is a local Builder who has done a lot of work in the area so that is going on. Romanelli said he can also talk about the EDC they are right on the verge of having the EDC in place which is the Economic Development Corporation and the need for the corporation is that the Tribe has several businesses now going and plan on several more so they want to put all those businesses under an Economic Development Committee Commission or Corporation so that is what they are trying to do now. Romanelli said they are putting that in place and they have some of the members already picked out. Romanelli said the Ogema and the Council at least two Council people will be sitting on that Committee as well, as far as he remembers. Romanelli said so that is his update for today.

Speaker Riley asked okay are there any questions for the Ogema.

Lynn Cooper, Tribal #1791, asked what is going on with the Muskegon Casino.

Ogema Romanelli said the Muskegon Casino, again, and thanked them for asking. Romanelli said the Muskegon Casino is at the last Membership Meeting they asked people to please write in to the Department of Interior. Romanelli said their packet which he literally say is 4 ½ to 5 inches thick and that packet is actually at the Department of Interior now. Romanelli said they are waiting on them to move it and they have been waiting several months. Romanelli said now because of the change in Administration in part they don't have the Department of Interior completely staffed and so they are waiting on that. Romanelli said they are asking them to please not.....they don't have to approve it at this point and time they just need them to move it over to the BIA in Minneapolis. Romanelli said

once they do that the BIA would only hold it for a short time and they are telling them a week or less normally. Romanelli said they would send it back to the BIA or the Department of Interior at that time. Romanelli said that is an important step that they do that loop then when it goes back to the Department of Interior once the BIA has looked at it then goes into the Federal Registrar. Romanelli said so it is actually officially announced that the Department of Interior plans on putting that land in trust and put it in the Federal Registrar. Romanelli said so that is important to do and they want that and would love to have that done within a couple of months. Romanelli said along with that they schedule one last Hearing in the Muskegon Area or Fruitport Area and once that happens that is the final step at that point. Romanelli said once they have the last Hearing they will take any notes, comments and look at it then they will make their determination to take the land in trust. Romanelli said once they decide which they hope they will take the land in trust then it comes back to the State and once it comes back to the State they hope that it is a quick process too whereas both houses, the House and the Senate have to vote on it and then the Governor has to sign off then they are cooking with gas. Romanelli said now it sounds....he doesn't know if that sounds easier or not....it is not an easy task but they hope that can be done within the next couple of years and the sooner the better. Romanelli said now as they say the Gun Lake took 12+ years and they are at this nine years and he really appreciates everybody's support. Romanelli said their support remains strong in the area in both Manistee and Muskegon by the businesses, the schools, and by Elected Officials. Romanelli said they have done a lot of work over the last four months of making those contacts stronger and getting those letters. Romanelli said he can tell them the letters from the business community has been absolutely wonderful. Romanelli said the letter from the school was excellent and they have had that. Romanelli said he wanted to thank them because he believed they had over 300 people sign that they were going to send a letter to the Department of Interior and the BIA just from their Membership Meeting. Romanelli thanked them again. Romanelli said that was a missing element. Romanelli said Councilor Pete and he went to Minneapolis several months ago and the one thing they said that the Tribe's Packet looks good and one of the best packets that they had seen. Romanelli said they said they were very supportive of them and again it is not a shoe-in and is still not a shoe-in. Romanelli said it is probably 85% chance that it will happen and a 15% that it won't happen so it is not a shoe-in but what they told them was a very good looking packet and told them they are doing everything right to date. Romanelli said so that is where they are at with the Muskegon Project so they are just waiting for that thing to happen. Romanelli said they want the Department of Interior to really move that thing forward and are making phone calls on a weekly basis, oh, what he was going to say when Councilor Pete and he went to Minneapolis the one thing they said is they have everything from the schools, the business community, and they had everything but what they don't have is those letters from the membership now they have them because of them. Romanelli said they now have over 300 letters from the members and the thing they were looking for mostly and again, they said if they had a letter from an Elder from one of the Tribal members that was an Elder that

is going through health problems or had has needs for whatever the case is.....heat assistance or whatever. Romanelli said they are having a hard time because grants and stuff are drying up as well but they said if they could get a hand written letter from an Elder that having this and can explain the need for more revenues those are the best ones. Romanelli said to believe that the people within the department absolutely look at those letters and they mean more than a business person quite honestly.

Lynn Cooper asked if they could still write those letters.

Ogema Romanelli replied that they can still write those letters absolutely.

Recorder Lewis said Ogema.....

Lynn Cooper said she has to have oxygen received 24 hours.....24-7 and the electric bill to have that oxygen concentrator and that costs a lot of money that going down the crapper and they want to have a little.....

Ogema Romanelli said absolutely and that is just the type of letter they need. Romanelli said he thinks she can get with one of the Tribal Council, he thinks Councilor Di Piazza, or anybody and they will make sure they get her a form letter or she can just write it off the cuff.

Lynn Cooper said okay she appreciates that very much.

Ogema Romanelli thanked Lynn Cooper.

Recorder Lewis said they have the letters with them at the Donation where the Bake Sale is. Lewis said they do have the letters and she encourages everybody.....they are already pre-written letters and they just have to sign them and it is available for Tribal members, spouses, descendants so anybody that hasn't signed a letter already please do so today before they leave so they can go ahead and get that into the BIA.

Lynn Cooper asked so they just fill that out and sign it and give it back to somebody like a Tribal member.

Ogema Romanelli said yes, and they don't have to be a Tribal member to write letters of support, they know, spouses or just people off the street their friends or neighbors can write these letters and they are all helpful.

Lynn Cooper said she will take a stack with her.

Ogema Romanelli thanked her very much.

Lynn Cooper thanked Tribal Council and Ogema.

Ogema Romanelli thanked her again.

Speaker Riley asked do they have anybody else with any questions for the Ogema.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Riley said alright moving down to Legislative Affairs Update at this point. Riley said he has one update that there has been a lot of movement behind the scenes on the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act and he actually got a call that he is arranging with Dan Mahoney of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Riley said they are going to talk about that shortly so he will have more of an update probably next week. Riley asked does anybody else from Council have any updates for Legislative Affairs.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Riley said okay Public Comments, right now, is the time and they have a microphone available if anybody has any public comments or questions for the Council they can go ahead and answer those for them. Riley said okay.

Councilor Di Piazza said they have somebody down there.

Speaker Riley recognized Ogema Romanelli.

Ogema Romanelli said he was going to say while they are waiting for questions, again, Dennis Banks, O____, if they talk about a Warrior he has been one for many, many years and has been a friend to all Tribes, all 150+ Tribes. Romanelli said he has been around and absolutely been a friend to Little River and has been here several times and he is going to be greatly missed. Romanelli said he was one that stepped out of the norm and took the chance.....excuse him.....and he was just a good all-around person and he will be missed by himself and others that knew him and thinks Little River if they could just say their prayers for him too that he walks on in a good way because he was actually a very special person. Romanelli thanked them for that. Romanelli said he also wanted to put a note out, they know, in his office at least it is noted that they have a lot of things going on within their Tribe people are going through a lot of health problems and he hopes they keep everyone in their prayers that are going through difficult times. Romanelli said they are not aware of it a lot of times and he just hopes that they will keep everybody in their prayers. Romanelli said the other thing is as they talk about their Warriors, their Military personnel, and they are going through some crazy times right now and he just hope that they keep everyone in mind. Romanelli thanked them.

Speaker Riley said George Le Vasseur has a microphone and he will be bringing that around.

Bridgett Ramsay, Tribal #3607, said she is curious is their Tribe making any new investments or venture.....business ventures.

Speaker Riley said currently they are kind of sticking with what they have because the EDC needs to get up and going. Riley said the Council and Ogema have actually been spread pretty thin with all the stuff that is going on lately. Riley said they know with the purchase of PLEVA and they created Aaya and APS out of that as well as Odeno and a few other irons that they have in the fire. Riley said they did just change their Investment Policy to reflect the economy since things are going a little bit better they went a little bit more aggressive and they keep a constant eye on that so if things change they are obviously going to pull back in that respect too but they monitor that very closely.

Councilor Pete said he was just going to say to mention too that different opportunities are at different times are always put on the table and their under investigation....some of them right now whether or not they make economic sense or business sense so they are looking. Pete said they have not had any final paperwork or something put in front of them and some of these are just starting out. Pete said like Speaker Riley said he agrees until the EDC gets up and totally running and have an opportunity to take a look at the things that they are looking at right now for Economic Development but he thinks it is really important and has felt this for quite a while he is really glad that the Tribe, the government, is diversifying itself because the successful Tribes that he has seen out there right now not only have the casinos which are still going to be, they know, at the top of the list but they are diversifying their money and looking at other things that they can either can help provide jobs for and can make money on it. Pete said like the Odeno Project he has been down there also and that is coming along incredibly well. Pete said just think if they sell those 280 some 82 or 5 or whatever that number is it is something in that area and it's going to be a.....its.....it's more of a longer range profitable situation for the Tribe which is what they need. Pete said so he is really.....he is really excited about it. Pete thanked them.

Diane Reeves, Tribal #3978, said hello and she is from Toledo, Ohio. Reeves said she would just like to know why Ryan Champagne and Shannon Crampton are not going to be.....have their Oaths done today. Reeves said she is out of town here so she doesn't really get the information because she lives in Toledo, Ohio.

Speaker Riley said that is something they really can't answer for her as a Council. Riley said if she wanted to catch some of the individuals around she is sure they have opinions on it but it is an on-going court case between Nikki Nelson, Dave Corey, and the Election Board then Ryan Champagne enjoined into it. Riley said they have no more information on it then the general public does but he thinks if

they give them, one of them her e-mail, they can supply her with the documents that are public record and it might just be easier for them to send them to her than for her to request from the court whatever is convenient for her.

Diane Reeves thanked them. Reeves said she does have to say that it kind of feels like they are trying to fight their way into having a representative and she does thank them for whatever they are doing to help them get this settled. Reeves thanked them again.

Speaker Riley asked do they have anyone else for public comment.

Ogema Romanelli said they have a hand up here.

Speaker Riley said he will be around with the microphone in just a second.

Kathy Eves, Tribal #0959, said she is from Detroit and she has a question where she might need a little clarification on their status of.....this is hearsay from people talking about Native Americans, Reservations, taxes and casinos. Eves said her first part of the question is can Trump interfere with building this casino that is supposedly going to come around in Muskegon the next couple of years and how are the taxes going to play into that as far as.....she is not really sure about what she is trying to ask as far as the taxes go but she was told that he is angry that people are not paying taxes, Natives, and that he wants to step in and change that rule. Eves said she wanted to know how true that is and how that affects their casino now and a casino in the future.

Speaker Riley said as far as him being able to step in, one of the things that.....the process goes through the Executive Branch of the government and the President has absolute control over the Executive Branch. Riley said he guessed the other question is why would he, it kind of flies below his radar, and he doesn't get involved in the day to days of the departments underneath him. Riley said as far as the tax issue that is something that is set by Congress. Riley said Congress has the power to levy taxes not the Executive Branch so he wouldn't be too worried about Trump interfering with that because it is not something he can do on his own and they have seen how well Congress does at getting along and getting stuff done.

Kathy Eves said okay and thanked them.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said he 100% agrees with Speaker Riley and he was going to mention some of that stuff too but they pay in lieu of taxes, they know, they have a PILT Payment up here. Pete said they pay millions and millions of dollars to the Manistee County and the Manistee County Area in lieu of taxes to the school systems and he thinks.....it's not he thinks he has been to a number of meetings

down there and some of the Superintendent of the Fruitport Schools where this is going is they are just welcoming and opening arms and can't wait. Pete said they wrote them incredible letters, five letters that were sent out to Congressman Huizenga, the BIA, and the Department of Interior and so on. Pete said he has read these letters and their.....he means these letters alone should build that casino. Pete said there is other things that they are doing down in Fruitport and they had mentioned the Muskegon.....these 280 some homes that they are talking about. Pete said they are building the homes and selling the homes but those homes are in Fruitport and they are a part of Fruitport's tax base. Pete said those other major contributing factors to the Fruitport Area so he is not really concerned about that at all personally maybe he should be but he doesn't think that they would be on the President Trump's radar to say not to do this thing in Fruitport but he thinks hopefully from what he has seen and been told is that everything that the BIA has asked them to do they had incredible back-up to do. Pete said he is just hoping that kind of thing doesn't happen but he does that they will be contributing immensely to the school system and the county down there and with this tax base and the business that they are starting down there. Pete said he is incredibly impressed with what they are doing down there so are the people that they talked to. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley asked do they have anyone else for public comment. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said well he wanted to jump back to the question of how Trump could stop the casino in Muskegon. Crampton said he doesn't think that he is looking at particularly their Tribe as a single Tribe but thinks he is looking at all the things that were Grandfathered under Obama. Crampton said one of the things they are running into right now is that they are under Obama and are Grandfathered and are destined they crossed all the t's dotted all the i's and they are there. Crampton said what Trump and his new Administration wants is a different process for taking land into trust. Crampton said that would be a Congressional Process but he doesn't want anybody Grandfathered under the old process and that is where they are at right now. Crampton said as far as taxes; taxes are usually negotiated between the State and the Tribe in lieu of taxes that they would normally get. Crampton said so it is a misconception that Tribes don't pay taxes.

Terry Collins, Tribal #1580, said he was told.....well they were told after 20 years that they were going to retake up the Per Cap vote. Collins asked how is that going right now is it 20 years. Collins said can anybody comment on it.

Speaker Riley said to Terry Collins that he was sorry and could he talk into the mic closer a little bit.

Terry Collins said there was supposed to be after 20 years a revote on the Per Cap and he was just wondering if that 20 years was up. Collins asked when that 20 years will be up for the Per Cap vote.

Speaker Riley said he is not sure and doesn't know anything about that but if that was the case then it would be ten years from now because it was done in 2008 is when it started. Riley said he guessed what is his question.....he means are.....

Councilor Di Piazza asked does he want it increased or taken away he guessed that is the question.

Terry Collins said well increased of course.

Councilor Di Piazza said of course.

Terry Collins asked if all the money that is going to these other things they are starting up is that going to come over to Per Cap or where does that money go.

Speaker Riley said the membership gets 40% off the top before the government even lays hands on that money the membership gets their 40%.

Ogema Romanelli said not of all businesses though.

Terry Collins said then.....okay.

Ogema Romanelli said just a point of clarification the 40% pertains to only gaming from the Resort and doesn't.....any other business does not go into Per Cap. Romanelli said it goes into their General Fund as the Tribe but does not go into Per Cap.

Speaker Riley asked do they have any other public comments. Riley said okay they have a couple over there.

Councilor Di Piazza said to Speaker Riley that he can put him in the queue.

Karen Love asked what is Gaming Revenue and what does it consist of.

Speaker Riley answered anything that comes over to the government from the casino. Riley said everything they make money off of hotel, slots, restaurants, salon & spa, anything that the Resort makes in profit and sends over to the government the membership gets 40% off the top.

Ogema Romanelli said to Karen Love that is where some of the confusion comes from is that while everything that is a profit from this Resort whether it be hotels or spa or whatever restaurants goes into Per Cap. Romanelli said when they pay the State it is only out of the Electronic Games of Chance they don't get things off

the hotel or whatever. Romanelli said sometimes that is what causes the confusion. Romanelli thanked them.

Sally Bell, Tribal #1755, said she had a question about those houses. Bell asked what kind of housing is that is it rental housing, houses to buy what is that. Bell said she had heard it was housing to buy and not to rent.

Speaker Riley said they are Fair Market Rentals and what they are working on right now is a policy so that they can sell the Tribe's..... Riley asked Sally Bell if she was talking about Aki.

Sally Bell said yeah.

Speaker Riley said yeah, they are working on a policy right now so any home the Tribe owns that they can set-up something with individual members and sell houses to them so in the future it is for sale but for now they are rentals.

Sally Bell said the housing in Muskegon is for sale, right.

Speaker Riley said yes that is an Economic Development.

Sally Bell said that is a whole different thing, right, that is not Tribal that is just open market, right.

Speaker Riley said right. Riley said there are other incentives in Muskegon with Odeno for Tribal members to buy. Riley said he would encourage them if they are interested to get in touch with Tom St. Dennis and there are some pretty good incentives to build and buy down in Odeno as well for Tribal members.

Sally Bell said she doesn't want to go to Muskegon. Bell thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Sally Bell. Riley said Karen Love had another question as well.

Karen Love said she was asked by somebody to ask this question. Love said she doesn't use Contracted Health or Elders Health Insurance but she was told to ask them that if people in Muskegon or outside Manistee that use this Contracted Health do they have to use the Pharmacy in Manistee or can they still go to Meijer or wherever they get their prescriptions at.

Speaker Riley said they can go anywhere. Riley said they are looking at some options to help save costs and they are looking at the potential of maybe 0 co-pay if they come to their Pharmacy or whatever but they can use it anywhere.

Karen Love said okay and thanked them.

Councilor Di Piazza said he knows the Pharmacist will be here later today to explain things but his last visit to the Clinic was flawless. Di Piazza said to get into the Clinic, get seen by the doctor, the script was sent right over to the Pharmacy via e-mail and there was no co-pay, no nothing, no calling Contract Health to have the.....have his co-pay paid. Di Piazza said it was all taken care of so it was exciting to see and that was about the second day that they were open.

Julia Nickelson, Tribal #0384, said she would like to know will this cover people out of State, the Pharmacy payment. Nickelson asked will they pay for it out of State.

Recorder Lewis said she knows that was in the talks but she is not sure what the outcome was on that. Lewis said she does believe they wanted to do by mail but really if they do utilize the Pharmacy they are saving money. Lewis said if they go to an outside source then they are going to be stuck with co-pays. Lewis said the Pharmacist will be here to definitely answer that but she knows that it was in the talks that to do mailing.

Julia Nickelson said well if they live out of State can they get it covered like they go to Walgreens and get it, it is all over the United States, and can they go to a Walgreens and have it covered.

Speaker Riley said he thinks that is a good question for Keith Jacque, and he thinks he is their Pharmacist, and he is going to be doing a Presentation later this afternoon.

Julia Nickelson said okay and thanked them.

Speaker Riley said Sally Bell has something and Kathy Eves down in front also after that.

Sally Bell said she has used the Pharmacy and it is okay but he doesn't have all the medications so if they want to change do not wait until the last thing to do so. Bell said he doesn't carry as much as Meijer or Walmart or wherever so they have to make sure he has them available but he can get it in a day. Bell said just so they know.

Speaker Riley said yeah absolutely, if they are actually thinking about changing please contact the Pharmacy in advance. Riley said they don't have a lot of room to stock everything but if they call them ahead of time they can get all the drugs they need in and make sure they are taken care of from there in on out as long as they are going to stay with them. Riley said prescription drugs, sorry.

Kathy Eves said just recently she had received in the mail for herself and her three children from EHAP-Extended Health Assistance Program that they now have to drive to their closest Tribal Facility in order.....which happens to be 50 miles

from her house and she knows it is up to 90 miles and try to apply for something there so that they can offset whatever they offer them through the Tribal Council and the same for insurance because two of her children don't have insurance. Eves said they have to go through the DHHS and try to get assistance there first or all of their benefits are denied. Eves said she is in the process of getting the forms she needs to try to go and do that. Eves said she was wondering if they could elaborate on that a little bit of why it is being done that way.

Lynn Cooper, Tribal #1791, shouted from the audience that it is in the ghetto too in Detroit.

Kathy Eves reiterated she was just wondering if they could elaborate a little bit on that.

Recorder Lewis said okay, what it is they say if it is within a 90 mile radius because they are Tribal and the majority of people are located by an IHS the option that she has is either go to the IHS and they have like free services right there. Lewis said the prescriptions, if they give them prescriptions, all they have to do is call Contract Health and they will go ahead and get that information over to the Pharmacy and they will get their prescription filled. Lewis said she really doesn't like to say it but her only other option is if they go without being referred they go to a doctor of their choice then their option is they have the co-pays.

Kathy Eves said right.

Recorder Lewis said so that is the downfall of that if she doesn't utilize IHS because they have that and it is a free service they encourage them to use that. Lewis said they encourage them to use it as much as possible because it gives them monies each year in their Budget.

Kathy Eves said right so is that like a one-time thing that they set it up or do they have to keep going every time they need something and does that include the confirmation numbers that she always has to do.

Recorder Lewis said no every time she calls Contract Health make sure she gets a confirmation number. Lewis said make sure she keeps that handy if she ever needs to go back on it she says no she called them and here is the confirmation number.

Kathy Eves said right. Eves asked what does IHS mean is that Tribal.....

Recorder Lewis answered Indian Health Services.

Kathy Eves said she didn't know that.

Recorder Lewis reiterated that if she doesn't utilize the Indian Health Services her other option is that is going to come out of her pocket.

Kathy Eves said okay just.....

Recorder Lewis said just to save her money she would do that and make sure and she encourages everybody to make sure they keep their Contract Health updated because that really helps out with medical expenses. Lewis said they renew theirs every year but if they do go to an IHS, once they go to a different facility elsewhere they will have them on record once they go to their initial visit then they are on record with them so.

Kathy Eves said that would include the prescriptions that they get through Meijer because she is hooked up with Meijer outside of Detroit and then she is trying to get the understanding of go there set everything up and if she has medication that she takes every month. Eves asked does she have to go back to that place every month or can she just.....they will just automatically refill it at Meijer or does she have to drive out to IHS every time.

Recorder Lewis said no, usually a prescription that a doctor is going to give her a prescription for about three months but she believed that the way that they are setting up their Pharmacy she believed they will be able to do it by mail but she is not positive on that. Lewis said that would give her like a month to month prescription or something.

Kathy Eves said okay.

Recorder Lewis said it will be refilled as needed.

Kathy Eves said alright but what about the DHHS the Human Services Department with insurance.

Recorder Lewis said yes they always ask, Contract Health always asks or the EHAP Program always ask that they go seek that service first because they are sort of a supplement a last resort so they ask for them to go to the State Services if they can get help there, great, if they can't then she will be covered under the EHAP. Lewis said the EHAP Program is actually a supplemental for any kind of insurance.

Kathy Eves said okay that makes sense. Eves thanked them.

Speaker Riley said alright they have Bridgett Ramsay up there with her hand up.

Bridgett Ramsay said yeah, she had heard that a toddler over the Daycare Center was found with Marijuana in its mouth. Ramsay asked has that been addressed on how to prevent that type of situation happening.

Ogema Romanelli asked do they want him to answer.

Speaker Riley said yeah would he please.

Ogema Romanelli thanked them. Romanelli said yes, the report that she heard is true. Romanelli said just to repeat it. Romanelli said at their Next Generation Daycare Center about two weeks ago he is guessing a toddler was found with Marijuana in their mouth. Romanelli said now he is not sure in what form, he guessed, he hasn't asked that part of it. Romanelli said it was handled correctly and thoroughly but he thinks it is still somewhat under investigation. Romanelli said it is an unfortunate situation. Romanelli said he can tell them that the employees have been very cooperative about it and have offered to do drug testing to make sure that it didn't come from them. Romanelli said that is not a guarantee that it didn't come from them but by all accounts and by looking at the tapes their Public Safety has been involved. Romanelli said it appears that the drug was brought in by a parent and he doesn't know in what way it was brought in by the parent but that is what it looked like now. Romanelli said they are still under investigation. Romanelli said part of the problem that he has a concern with is because he thinks they have a good system in a lot of ways but thinks it needs to be looked at yet again. Romanelli said what happens is because the Daycare Center is open and there is accessibility. Romanelli said now they do a background check on their employees that work there but they don't do background checks on the parents for example. Romanelli said he thinks that they need to be a little more careful as to where and when they let the parents come in to the different areas. Romanelli said they have a Toddler Room and other different rooms but he doesn't think that parents should be able to just go in. Romanelli said he thinks they need to make sure that there is either somebody accompanying them at that time or they restrict, again he likes the fact that parents can view their children when they want into an area that has a glass he thinks that is wonderful but he just.....he thinks they are going to look at accessibility from the general public or from.....even from some of the parents. Romanelli thanked them.

Bridgett Ramsay said she was under the understanding that the child was dropped off in the morning and the incident happened in the afternoon so in her mind she was thinking well maybe the cleaning person dropped something or whatever.

Speaker Riley said parents are in and out all day long. Riley said not every kid has a morning to afternoon schedule. Riley said yeah.

Ogema Romanelli said they were able to narrow down the timeframe and the area from the cameras but the exact angle of when and how is still under question from his understanding.

Bridgett Ramsay thanked them.

Ogema Romanelli said she is welcome.

Councilor Di Piazza asked was there not a Presentation this afternoon from Jason Cross.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah he thinks Councilor Di Piazza is saying that there is supposed to be a Presentation from the Next Generation Learning Center maybe they can give them an update.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said okay he just wanted to add a little bit to that. Pete said he has known that Director over there, Jason Cross, for a long time and he has done a remarkable job in getting that place open and serving not only their Tribal children and descendants but the entire community. Pete said to Ogema Romanelli that he believed, and he is not real sure, but didn't they just receive some kind of a Five Star Award or something for everything that they have been doing over there. Pete said he did read it but doesn't remember every bit about it but in his mind and he thinks the other part is because he thinks in his opinion and he wasn't involved in the investigation and he doesn't get involved from his end of it except for knowing about what is going on. Pete said if it was a.....which he believed is highly possible at least and he doesn't have any facts for this. Pete said a little bit was brought in because of one of the parents as they all know right now he means he could stub his toe and go get a Medical Marijuana Card from his doctor who has been around him for ten to twelve years. Pete said so anybody can get one of those he means they could have a cracked fingernail and they need medical marijuana. Pete said he is just saying that there is a high possibility that really that could have happened. Pete said at any rate he hates to see something like this become part of it and it seems to be dying down right now he is sure but Jason Cross and his staff had done immeasurable work there and he thinks they should really be commended. Pete thanked them.

Ogema Romanelli said yes, he agrees. Romanelli said the other thing is that this could have grown legs but it is not so much the incident because the incident caught at least statewide attention. Romanelli said it is how they react to it and how they respond to that situation and he thinks they did an excellent job between the staff at the center and also their Public Safety he thinks did an excellent job. Romanelli said what Ron Pete is referring to is just last week even after this incident the center received a Four Star out of a Five Star Award from the Michigan, he believed, is the Michigan Education Department, State Department received a Four Star Award which is almost impossible for a new venue like that so he thinks they deserved credit for that too. Romanelli thanked them.

Councilor Di Piazza said they said if they would have been open longer they would have had the Five Star but it has only been open six months.

Ogema Romanelli said yeah, so to get Four Stars in six months is kind of unusual.

Kathy Eves, Tribal #0959, said her question is for the Clinic why do they have to keep reapplying their status and she thinks it is every six months to a year for their benefits.

Recorder Lewis said that is just the way that EHAP Program has it set-up. Lewis said there are certain guidelines they have to.....there are certain guidelines that they have to follow with IHS so that possibly could be one of them.

Kathy Eves, Tribal #0959, said also another question on that line is like a family of eight why do they have to individually do each person. Eves said why can't they do it all on one sheet.

Recorder Lewis said she believes they do that because everybody is an individual. Lewis said they know everybody has different birth dates, everybody has.....

Kathy Eves said they can't put that on the same paper and the same document.

Recorder Lewis said no everybody has their own file just like at a doctor's office everyone has their own file so, yeah, each person has to be addressed individually.

Kathy Eves said okay and thanked them.

Rochelle, Tribal #1192, said she is wondering why no one ever answers their phones. Rochelle said she called about voting and many other things. Rochelle said she never gets an answer back and she has to call five or six times. Rochelle asked why. Rochelle said everyone is busy.

Councilor Friedel said can he asked her who she called.

Rochelle replied a number of people, many different times. Rochelle said she called Council members, the daycare lady helped her one time, and it has nothing to do with daycare. Rochelle said she finally answered her questions. Rochelle said they transferred her all around and she has to leave messages and they don't get back to her on many different things over the years.

Recorder Lewis said okay and thanked her for letting them be aware of that. Lewis said she is sure between the Executive side and their side they will address that issue.

Rochelle said they did get back to her once after a couple of weeks of her calling many different people they finally did.

Ogema Romanelli said he is not hearing the question but she is speaking about making phone calls to the Tribe, correct.

Rochelle said she doesn't have a question she has a statement. Rochelle said no one ever gets back when they call them.

Ogema Romanelli said okay.

Rochelle said no one ever answers their phones and why is that.

Ogema Romanelli said okay.

Rochelle said it never happens.

Ogema Romanelli said he can't answer for Tribal Council and can answer for himself and he can try and look at the different departments because most of the departments fall under the Ogema. Romanelli said if she calls and leaves a message, for example, if it is Education and they are not calling her back. Romanelli said he has an answering machine and even though he thinks he heard her say she called his office and it was after a week or two but he did call her back is that correct.

Rochelle said she finally did call him and he called her back. Rochelle said she is talking about the other departments around.

Ogema Romanelli said right and he is not aware that she made the call and then they are not calling her back that could be a problem. Romanelli said that is why he suggests if that is happening in whatever department that she calls she can call and leave a message on his machine and say "Ogema I just called the Education Department and have been trying for three times and I have not gotten a call back." Romanelli said it is his expectation in most cases that they call her back within 24 hours no matter what department it is. Romanelli said now there is sometimes is a problem because they have, for example, the Tax Department has one person that is working in the Tax Department. Romanelli said now if she goes off on training which she does to Lansing or whatever and she is gone for three days and she calls on a Monday it may be a week before she gets a call back. Romanelli said everybody should call her back if she doesn't get a call back in a reasonable amount of time she should call and leave a message on his message machine. Romanelli said what he does then when people have done that is he will call the department and say this person called on Monday and here it is a week and a half later and they have not called them back. Romanelli said they then respond to him to say they just made contact with the person or they will also say they have left three messages with that person and have called them back but all they got was a machine that they couldn't leave a message. Romanelli said he has had that too. Romanelli said he had one last week where somebody called and said Ogema they need to call blah, blah, blah and they never gave him their

name or phone number. Romanelli said what he did was he kept that message so if they called him back and tell they called last week and he can play their message for them because they never left their name or phone number and he couldn't recognize the voice. Romanelli said so the best thing to do for the Executive Branch is to call and leave a message with him if they are having a problem getting through but please note the time, the date and the department and that will help. Romanelli said as far as Tribal Council he can't do anything about Tribal Council or the Courts.

Speaker Riley said he just wanted to let her know that the best way to get a hold of Tribal Council because they actually don't spend much time in their offices. Riley said they are at meetings with each other, at meetings with staff from the Resort, at meetings with commissions and not much time in their day is actually spent in their office near a phone. Riley said the best way to reach anyone from Tribal Council is to contact either Grace Hendler or Kathleen Bowers and leave a message with them and they will get it to them immediately.

Rochelle said okay so he is saying that the one day that she can't take care of whatever she needed to take care of it will always be more than one day.

Ogema Romanelli said he can't hear.

Rochelle said that shouldn't happen.

Speaker Riley said he is saying on their side if they give it to Kathleen Bowers or Grace Hendler then that message will be in their hands within usually five to ten minutes.

Rochelle said okay but she is talking about other departments too.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley asked was there any more questions or public comments.

Councilor Di Piazza said one way in the back.

Speaker Riley said George Le Vasseur will be right there with the microphone.

Councilor Di Piazza said they have two others.

Susan Thull, Tribal #3727, said she was just wondering with Marty Trevan they're having a fundraiser and she knows that Gary Di Piazza started a GoFundMe page and she did talk to Marty Trevan and asked him if he had a savings account because she looked at the GoFundMe and she never liked to go through GoFundMe. Thull said they take a percentage and it looked like to her, and correct her if she is wrong, but it looks to her like they take 8%. Thull asked is she wrong and only 5%. Thull asked does someone know. Thull said anyways

she thought it was 8% and she doesn't want to give them 8% so she will write a check to Marty Trevan so that he can put that in. Thull said she was just wondering is that something, she knows there would be some paperwork, but she is sure that they got some employees around that could handle that. Thull asked is that something they could maybe do for their people is to have something where they could have their own internal GoFundMe where they can have a bank account where they could accept donations for someone when they are in need. Thull said she sure.....she means she wouldn't mind maybe they would have to have 1-2% they know Administration Fees but she just doesn't.....she wants to help Marty Trevan and she knows a lot of other people do too but she doesn't want to help GoFundMe. Thull said she means it is a nice program she guessed for those that have no other way but she just looks at that and thinks why can't they take care of their own without going through someone else.

Ogema Romanelli said right.

Recorder Lewis said okay Susan Thull when this came about they as Native People when they have a hard time they don't get up and ask people. Lewis said someone came and approached her and asked if there was something they could do to help Marty Trevan out so all of them there put their heads together and they do have the Bake Sale going on today, they have a Donation Jar over at the C-Store. Lewis said she believed Councilor Friedel is going to go ahead and set up a Silent Auction so when Sandy Mezeske and Connie Waitner do their Thanksgiving Dinner over at Aki and Councilor Di Piazza set up the Face Book but they are setting up a 501C 3 so if they would like to be on board with that keep in contact with her. Lewis said if Susan Thull would like to go ahead and help out with that.....

Susan Thull said so they can in the future.

Recorder Lewis answered yes.

Susan Thull said oh, that is wonderful so they are thinking ahead and that is just what she wanted to know is if they could because she sees all the things they are doing. Thull said she brought up items for the Silent Auction with her today. Thull said she did talk to Marty Trevan and plan on donating. Thull said she has always tried to participate with that kind of thing too, they know, so she just.....and she appreciates all that they are doing now but she did want to just to see in the future if there was something they could do.

Recorder Lewis said they are going to go ahead and get the 501C 3 and if she will get her on board with that.

Susan Thull said that is wonderful and thanked Recorder Lewis. Thull said she really appreciates that.

Recorder Lewis said they have so many things, so many issues and people have things going on that they do need a venue that they can help them out.

Susan Thull said wonderful, wonderful.

Recorder Lewis said so everyone working together they will get that done.

Susan Thull thanked them. Thull said they are looking to their needs and she appreciates that. Thull thanked them again.

Speaker Riley said the reason they landed on creating their own Charitable Organization is as Tribal members, not as Councilors, because they sat down and they looked at all the red tape that everything has to go through when the government is involved. Riley said they decided they are all Tribal members individually here and let them start their own thing and they can have some of them be on the Board to start but will get some other Tribal members and just set up a Board and get it all set up so stay tuned. Riley said they will keep everybody apprised of what is going on. Riley recognized Councilor Crampton.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to add on that is the importance of sitting at the EDC and getting diversity going. Crampton said a lot of the funding that they have whether it is Grant Funding, Federal Dollars or Gaming Dollars are coming with strings attached. Crampton said if they have their own generated money business.....their own business that generates funds they can do whatever they want with that. Crampton said the Sister Programs that they now have without the guidelines.

Sally Jobes, Tribal #1924, said she just has a question about dental. Jobes said she knows it is taking them a while to get their Pharmacy. Jobes said she was wondering if there is anything in line for a Dental and in the meantime she was told that they could go to other places like.....she doesn't know about Mt. Pleasant because her sister and her used to go there but they cut that off from them because they were not Federally Recognized at the time. Jobes said she was told that now they can go up to Peshabetown to their Dental. Jobes said that is true.

Tribal Council said yes.

Sally Jobes said she didn't know that. Jobes said okay great.

Councilor Di Piazza said there is a Dentistry right next to the Learning Center also.

Speaker Riley said sliding scale, right.

Councilor Di Piazza said yes, sliding scale, a Dentist does that.

Sally Jobes said she goes to the Clinic here because she is eligible for Medicaid. Jobes said she didn't think anybody else knew that either so. Jobes thanked them.

Tribal member didn't give her name or Tribal number. Tribal member said she calls EHAP a lot and she calls the Education Department a lot and she calls Enrollment a lot. Tribal member said she has three kids all in school and herself and she just wanted to say that she never had a problem with people returning her calls to her. Tribal member said she speaks with Rhonda Koon, Yvonne Parsons and Roberta Davis and she wanted to thank them all for all the help they have given her because they have been really helpful.

Ogema Romanelli thanked the Tribal member. Romanelli said they know it does depend.....he didn't want to make excuses for their departments because sometimes they are in meetings and training. Romanelli said he really does wish that if anybody does run across a problem please contact his number if they are not getting no response because he absolutely.....if he missed more than four to five calls in a ten years that he hasn't responded to he really thinks it is not many more because he tries and calls back. Romanelli said even if he is on.....a lot of the times he is on travel for four or five days so it may be a week but he will always try and call back. Romanelli said he will always contact somebody whether no matter what the department is he will send them an e-mail and say this person has been calling for this amount of time and he wants a response from them. Romanelli said he makes sure that they have made the contact once he has informed them of it and so that is the way they do it. Romanelli said he can tell them again about three weeks ago he was in the Muskegon Office and a gentleman came in, one of the Tribal members, and said he had not be able to get through the main line for at least four days and he is really upset. Romanelli said he said okay and asked if he was calling this number and he showed him the 800 number and he said yes that is the number he is calling. Romanelli said please call it because he is standing right there by his desk. Romanelli said he called it and their main desk said "Little River may I help you" and maybe it was just coincidental that they just happen to answer that time but he will do anything he can to make that happen. Romanelli said the other thing is he does unless they have a reason he expects them to return calls within 24 hours. Romanelli said he thinks that is the courtesy thing to do and actually if they can return the call sooner but he does have a 24 hour issue. Romanelli said if this happens from a department on numerous times and in his case if he hears it three times they are going to get a write-up. Romanelli said they have several write-ups that they can get then they are down the road so this is a process that they do. Romanelli said please call his office if they are having that problem for everything but the Council and the courts. Romanelli thanked them. Romanelli said also for the words he does appreciate it.

Speaker Riley recognized Bernadene Crampton.

Bernadene Crampton, Tribal #3921, said she just has a general comment. Crampton said that every time she looks through the Council Agendas there are several reports that there are no reports submitted. Crampton said she was just wondering how long this has been going on and are the reports ever submitted.

Speaker Riley said those are actually standing agenda items and doesn't think they have any reports aside from one or two that they are missing staff. Riley said he thinks the HR Reports with the government that they are missing staff for a long time but they just keep those on there as standing items and they fill in the current month where the "none submitted" is when they get the reports so they are all up to date currently. Riley reiterated they are all currently up to date it is just how the agenda is formatted maybe it would be a good idea to not have it on there unless something has been submitted so.

Councilor Di Piazza said don't forget the letters out on the table that they can sign, their can letters, like he said there are Tribal members from Muskegon, Elders, spouses, descendants and all of them help. Di Piazza said at the Membership Meeting they ended up with 210 that were turned in and signed. Di Piazza said Miigwech for getting them done. Di Piazza said if they haven't filled one out or signed one please do. Di Piazza reiterated Miigwech.

Speaker Riley said it looks like they have exhausted the queue here so. Riley said he just wanted to give a "thank you" to everybody who went out there and bought the bake goods or just put money in the jar. Riley said it is great when they can see their community working together and helping one of their own. Riley said also he just wanted to thank the Elders personally for the opportunity to be up there and to address them it is a real honor. Riley said let's see, alright, if there is no further questions he will entertain a motion to adjourn this meeting at 11:07.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 11:07; by Lewis; supported by Pete.

Speaker 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 -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (8-0-0-1)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grace A. Hendler".

Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Lewis".

Sandra Lewis,
Tribal Council Recorder