

***Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
Election Board  
Open Session Meeting Minutes  
Date: September 18, 2025***

**I. Call to order:**

Lee made a motion to open the Open session meeting at 7:15 P.M.

|                            |                       |                         |
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| Roll Call:                 |                       |                         |
| Kathy Gibson – Present     | JoJo Green – Present  | Kristi Fowler – Present |
| Shawwna Gonzalez – Present | Lee Ivinson – Present |                         |

**II. Others Present: Laura Echelbarger 2276, Karen Love 2494, Sandy Mezeske 0018**

**III. Discussion:**

**IV. Lee discussed the number of registered voters 617 9-County and 647-Outlying.**

**Transcript**

**Lee:**

And then, and alright. Good evening. I'm going to call to order the open session for the election board. September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:15 P. M. Roll call, Kathy.

**Kathy:** Present.

**Lee:** JoJo.

**JoJo:** Present.

**Lee:** Kristi

**Kristi:** Present.

**Lee:** Shawna.

**Shawwna:** Here.

**Lee:** All right, everybody's present. If we could take down the names and tribal ID numbers of tribal numbers that have so graciously given us their time. We have Laura.

**Laura:** Hello, 2276.

**Lee:** Thank you. And I I'm going to say that we probably know who this is, but Ms. Love, could you say your name and tribal ID number?

**Karen Love:** Are you talking to me?

**Lee:** Well, yeah.

**Karen Love:** Well, good evening, you beautiful ladies. Yes, I'm listening in tonight.

Karen Love 2494.

**Lee:**

Wonderful. All right. All right. So the election board did not receive any questions for tonight's open session. But in discussion with the group, we kind of want to go over just a few things. probably a few things that we've been working on, and.

**Shawwna:**

Sandy Mezeske is coming in. Sorry.

**Lee:** That's okay.

**Shawwna:** I'm gonna admit her right now.

**Lee:** Alright. Good evening, Sandy. Thank you for attending. Could you say your name and Tribal ID?

**Sandy Mezeske:** Sandy Mezeski 0018.

**Lee:** Thank you. Thank you. So just to recap, the election board did not receive any questions submittals within that 48 hour period. So with that, we're just going to kind of go over maybe some things that we've been working on and also disclose or give information about our registered voters. So currently, we have a total of 1,264 registered voters, with 617 residing in Nine County and 647 residing in Outline. Some of the activities that the Election Board has been doing is posting out notices to our Facebook page, as well as managing our website. and putting out little reminders for our membership to update their information or correct their information that may be affecting their voter registration. We have continuously been receiving updates or new voter registrations. I actually processed 4 today. So they are coming in. But as tribal members, if we could just be, you know, diligent in sharing that information with our fellow tribal members, especially informing them that this, excuse me for a second, I got to show my work. Informing our tribal members that the information has to come to the election board. that the election board manages the voter registration list, and that we only utilized enrollment department to verify tribal membership information. That's simply, that's their only responsibility. The election board is gearing up for the membership meeting. Basically just going over those little specifics of what we're going to be bringing, informing IT, of of the resources that we need from them. We worked on our quorum count form to ensure that that was updated. Of course, informing and training our new election board members, Jojo Green and Kristi Fowler, and that's been going very, very well. One truly exciting thing that I that I want the membership to know about is the work that we have done and achieved on the website. Much more functional in in what we have listed, much more organized.

We have Jojo, the the web wizard who we hope is going to be able to train us. In the event, you know that that she has to take some time off so we can continue updating and maintaining the website. And it's just plain pretty. I mean, the design of the website is pretty. Something else that we have accomplished is a few of our branding logos. We have updated them to be specific for things for our marketing pieces, for our letter logos. as well as our website, something that is eye-catching that when you look at it, you'll be like, oh, that's the election board. So that's been pretty refreshing as well. We don't have any information on, you know, what we're doing regulation wise. It's mostly just been working on getting everybody up to date, our new ones up to date with regulations and of course, taking care of some legal areas. That have been kind of ongoing. So that's pretty much what the election board has been doing as of late.

**Sandy Mezeske:** And Lee, this is Sandy.

**Lee:** Okay.

**Sandy Mezeske:**

Just question. Did you receive my e-mail? I sent an e-mail.

Probably a couple weeks ago. Maybe 3 weeks ago I sent it. It was just it was what it was. It was just a question. And I don't know who it's just the secretary that gets the emails.

**Shawwna:** But we did see that e-mail. We discussed it. It wasn't really relayed as a question though. We thought it was just advice you're giving us, right? Yeah.

**Sandy Mezeske:** Yeah, I believe that. But I also have another concern. You know, that that membership meeting ordinance is probably going to probably get on the agenda next week. You know, I'm thinking, you know, how is that going to affect the election board if that is passed.

**Lee:** So without going into detail, you know, because it wasn't a specific question for tonight, I can state that the election board did provide comment during the comment period. And at this point, we just have to see what was taken into consideration and see how it rolls out. Are there things within that proposed ordinance that are going to be a struggle? Yeah, there are. But right now we just kind of have to wait and see how that's going to, how that's going to pan out.

**Sandy Mezeske:** I appreciate that only because, you know, in my feeling, you know, on the whole thing, you know, it's the, it's the Ogema's meeting to begin with and you know, how can you abide by any of that ordinance whatsoever? So, you know, but I thank the election board to at least look at that and know that it's a possibility that it's gonna be more work for you guys, you girls, you know. But as always, I know that you'll do a great job and be very professional about it. So thank you.

**Lee:** Oh, thank you. Thank you, Sandy. Okay. So with that, I don't think I don't have anything further to say any of our other election board members. Is there anything that you want to say to our audience?

**Kathy:** Nope, just thanks for joining us and taking the time to be here.

**Lee:** Absolutely. Appreciate that. All right. So with that, we're going to go ahead and close open session at 7:25 PM. And that was my motion.

**Kathy:** Support.

**Lee:** Roll call. Kathy.

**Kathy:** Yes.

**Lee:** Lee, yes

**Lee:** Shawna

**Shawna:** Yes

**Lee:** Kristi

**Kristi:** Yes.

**Lee:** JoJo.

**JoJo:** Yes.

**Lee:** Thank you all.

**Kristi:**

Thank you guys.

**Lee:** Have a good night. Thank you. Hey, girl, stay on.

## **V. Adjournment:**

Lee made a motion to adjourn the Open Session at 7:25 P.M. Supported by Kathy.

|                       |                   |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Roll Call:            |                   |                     |
| Kathy Gibson – Yes    | JoJo Green – Yes  | Kristi Fowler – Yes |
| Shawna Gonzalez – Yes | Lee Iverson – Yes |                     |