



**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER AND VIA ZOOM
OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on October 15, 2025. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Speaker Crampton:

I. Opening Prayer

Councilor Wittenberg, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin.

Speaker Crampton:

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

At 10:14AM

B. Roll Call

Recorder Thull:

Burmeister - Present	Wittenberg - Present	Crampton - Present
DiPiazza - Present	Wolfe - Present	Waitner - Present
Silvis - Present	Metzger - Present	Thull - Present

Quorum established.

Speaker Crampton:

C. Approval of Agenda

Recorder Thull: **Motion to Approve the Agenda for Wednesday, October 15, 2025 With The Following Updates. An add for III B 7 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service And Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025- -in the Amount of \$12,151.02 and VIII 3 Remove Motion to Post Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internet Gaming Revenue Distribution Ordinance for 30-day Public Comment and 11 Remove Elder's Conference and add 12 Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2025- -4th QTR To Fund Montana & Associates LLC in the Amount of \$701,750. supported by Councilor Metzger.**

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #1

Wittenberg-Yes	Crampton -Yes	DiPiazza - No
Wolfe- Yes	Waitner - No	Silvis - No
Metzger- Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister - No

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

D. Tribal Council Minutes

Councilor Metzger: **MOTION TO ACCEPT TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES 10/1/25 & 10/8/25 FOR FILING**; supported by Recorder Thull.

Councilor Burmeister: Just to note for the record, I will not be supporting the 10/8/25 minutes, due to the fact that I was never called to establish quorum at the end, so but was recorded as absent. I am just stating that for the record. Thank you.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #2

Crampton	- Yes	DiPiazza	- No	Wolfe	- Yes
Waitner	- No	Silvis	- No	Metzger	- Yes
Thull	- Yes	Burmeister	- No	Wittenberg	- Yes

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

III. Continuing Business

- A. Grants & Contracts**
- B. Budget**

- 1. Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency – 2025-2027 Performance Partnership Grant and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-64 in the Amount of \$361,765**

Frank Beaver represented the item.

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-219 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency – 2025-2027 Performance Partnership Grant and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-64 in the Amount of \$361,765.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #3

Wolfe	- Yes	Waitner	- Yes	Silvis	- Yes
Metzger	- Yes	Thull	- Yes	Burmeister	- Yes
Wittenberg	- Yes	Crampton	- Yes	DiPiazza	- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

2. Reduction of Contract Funds from the Indian Health Service – Governance – Amendment Number 4 and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-65 in the Amount of \$2.00

Kathleen Bowers represented the item.

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-220 Reduction of Contract Funds from the Indian Health Service – Governance – Amendment Number 4 and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-65 in the Amount of \$2.00.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #4

Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes
Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

3. Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency EPA – CERCLA 128(a) Grant and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-66 in the Amount of \$100,000

Frank Beaver represented the item.

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-221 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency EPA – CERCLA 128(a) Grant and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-66 in the Amount of \$100,000.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #5

Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes
Burmeister- Yes	Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes
DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes	Waitner- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

4. 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 MB2025-67 In the Amount of \$170

Kathleen Bowers represented the item.

Councilor Burmeister: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-222 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 MB2025-67 In the Amount of \$170.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #6

Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes
Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza- Yes
Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

5. **Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Office of Self Governance and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-68 in the Amount of \$564,710**

Kathleen Bowers represented the item.

Councilor Burmeister: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-223 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Office of Self Governance and Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-68 in the Amount of \$564,710.** Supported by Councilor Metzger.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #7

Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes
Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

6. **Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Office of Self Governance for At-Risk Turtle Conservation in Western Michigan Watersheds and Approving a Modification to the operating Budget MB2025-69 in the Amount of \$227,400**

Kathleen Bowers and Sean Hollowell represented the item.

Councilor Burmeister: Motion for Resolution 25-1015-224 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs -- Office of Self Governance for At-Risk Turtle Conservation in Western Michigan Watersheds and Approving a Modification to the operating Budget MB2025-69 in the Amount of \$227,400. Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Metzger: Yes miigwetch, I'd just like to make a comment that miskinaak (mshike') is a very integrated part of our culture. He actually was the one that we put the dirt on the back so we could reconstruct Mother Earth. I also at this time want to say chi miigwetch to that muskrat that gave up his life to place that piece of earth upon that turtles back. Miigwetch

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #8

Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes
DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes	Waitner- Yes
Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

7. **Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service And Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-70 in the Amount of \$12,151.02**

Frank Beaver represented the item.

Councilor Burmeister: I Would like to Entertain a Motion for Resolution 25-1015-225 Acceptance of Contract Funds from the US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service And Approving a Modification to the Operating Budget MB2025-70 in the Amount of \$12,151.02. Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #9

Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes	DiPiazza -Yes
Wolfe- Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis- Yes
Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

- C. **Approval of Budgeted Expenditure**

IV. Acceptance of Reports

- A. **Report of the Tribal Ogema**

1. **Operations Report** ☐ None Submitted
2. **Financial Report** ☐ None Submitted

V. Acceptance of Commission Reports

- A. Binojeeuk Commission** ☐ None Submitted
B. Enrollment Commission ☐ None Submitted
C. Gaming Commission ☐ September 2025

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to Accept Gaming Commission Report for September 2025.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #10

Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes
Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

- D. Health Commission** ☐ None Submitted
E. Housing Commission ☐ None Submitted
F. Natural Resource Commission ☐ September 2025

Councilor Burmeister: **Motion for Natural Resource Commission Minutes for September 2025.** Supported by Councilor Metzger.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #11

Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes
DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - Yes
Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

- G. Biskaabiiyaang Commission** ☐ September 2025

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to Accept Biskaabiiyaang Commission September 2025 Report;** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wolfe: Just one comment, they have established their monthly meetings for the second Thursday of the month at 4:00 PM and there are 2 open seats on that Commission if anyone is interested. Thank you.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #12

Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes	DiPiazza- Yes
Wolfe- Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis- Yes

Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister- Yes
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Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

VI. Acceptance of Committee Minutes and Other Entities

A. Little River Casino Resort Preference Report ☐ September 2025

Councilor Burmeister **Motion to accept Little River Casino Resort Preference Report for September 2025, I will read those totals. The total is 702, native is 22, non preference 559, Tribe members 79, spouse 13, descendant 29.** Supported by Councilor Thull.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #13

Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

C. Elders Committee

☐ None Submitted

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

1. Approving Amendments to the Hunting, Trapping and Gathering Regulations for the 1836 Ceded Territory

Virgil Johnson represented the item.

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-226 Approving Amendments to the Hunting, Trapping and Gathering Regulations for the 1836 Ceded Territory.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #14

Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

2. Motion to approve Acceptance of the Annual Tribal Elk Regulation Booklets for 2025.

Virgil Johnson represented the item.

Councilor DiPiazza: **Motion to accept Acceptance of the Annual Tribal Elk Regulation Booklets for 2025.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #15

Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes
Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza- Yes
Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

3. Removed
4. **Notice to Post Net Gaming Tax Ordinance #09-100-05**

Bradley Pringle represented the item.

Councilor Wittenberg: **Motion to Notice to Post Net Gaming Tax Ordinance #09-100-05.** Supported by Councilor Thull.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #16

Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - No	Silvis - No
Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister - No
Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - No

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

5. **Approval to Submit to United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an Addendum to the FY2025 Indian Housing Plan for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as developed by the Housing Department.**

Tara McCollum represented the item.

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to approve Resolution 25-1015-227 Approval to Submit to United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an Addendum to the FY2025 Indian Housing Plan for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as developed by the Housing Department.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #17

Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes
Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

6. **Approval to Submit to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the FY2026 Indian Housing Plan as Developed by the Housing Department**

Tara McCollum represented the item.

Councilor Silvis **Motion to accept Resolution 25-1015-228 Approval to Submit to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the FY2026 Indian Housing Plan for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as Developed by the Housing Department. With the following correction under the certificate of adoption the date needs to be changed from 10-8-25 to 10-15-25.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #18

Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes
Burmeister- Yes	Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes
DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes	Waitner- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

7. **Appointment of Steve Parson's to the LRBOI Gaming Commission**

Steve Parson represented himself.

Councilor Burmeister: **Motion to Appointment of Steve Parson's to the LRBOI Gaming Commission.** Supported by Councilor Waitner.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #19

Metzger - No	Thull - No	Burmeister - Yes
Wittenberg - No	Crampton - No	DiPiazza- Yes
Wolfe - No	Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes

Motion failed (4-5-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

8. Appointment of Mark Jesperson to the LRBOI Gaming Commission

Mark Jesperson was not in attendance. Mr. Jesperson had been interviewed earlier.

Councilor Burmeister: **Motion to appoint Appointment of Mark Jesperson to the LRBOI Gaming Commission.** Supported by Councilor Waitner.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #20

Thull - No	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - No
Crampton - No	DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - No
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - No

Motion failed (4-5-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

9. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Tribal Council 1020-100 Department Budget

Bradley Pringle represented the item.

Recorder Thull: **Motion to accept Resolution 25-1015-229 Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Tribal Council 1020-100 Department Budget.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #21

Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes	DiPiazza- No
Wolfe- Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis- Yes
Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister- Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

10. Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Tribal Court 1015-150 Department Budget

Bradley Pringle represented the item.

Councilor Wittenberg: **Motion to Resolution 25-1015-230 Acceptance of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Internal Audit Summary for the Tribal Court 1015-150 Department Budget.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #22

Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - No	Wolfe - Yes
Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

- 11. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2025-6-4th QTR to Fund Montana & Associates LLC in the Amount of \$701,750.**

Bradley Pringle represented the item.

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to Resolution 25-1015-231 Approval of Supplemental Appropriation 2025-06 -4th QTR to Fund Montana & Associates LLC in the Amount of \$701,750.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #23

DiPiazza - No	Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - No
Silvis - No	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes
Burmeister - No	Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes

Motion carried (5-4-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

IX. Concluding Business

- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, October 22, 2025**
- B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**
- C. Legislative Affairs Update**
- D. Public Comment Period**

Councilor Metzger: **MOTION TO END FIRST OPEN.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #24

DiPiazza - Yes	Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - Yes
Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes
Burmeister- Yes	Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51a.m.

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

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to end closed on October 15 at 1:48.** Supported by Councilor Wittenberg.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #25

Wolfe - Yes	Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes
Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes
Wittenberg - Yes	Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Shannon Crampton:

XI. Open Session

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session – Minutes and Materials Remain in Closed

1. Gaming Commission Closed Session Report September 2025

Councilor Metzger: **Motion to accept Gaming Commission Closed Session Report September 2025.** Supported by Councilor Burmeister.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #26

Waitner - Yes	Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes
Thull - Yes	Burmeister - Yes	Wittenberg - Yes
Crampton - Yes	DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Speaker Crampton:

XII. Adjourn

Councilor Wittenberg: **Motion to end 2nd open at 1:50 PM.** Supported by Councilor Metzger.

Recorder Thull:

Roll Call #27

Silvis - Yes	Metzger - Yes	Thull - Yes
Burmeister- Yes	Wittenberg- Yes	Crampton- Yes
DiPiazza- Yes	Wolfe- Yes	Waitner- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Thull". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Thull
Tribal Council Recorder