

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COURT**

LARRY B. ROMANELLI,
Tribal Ogema,
Plaintiff
v.

Case No. 25-253-GC

Honorable Angela Sherigan

LRBOI TRIBAL COUNCIL,
Defendant

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ORDER AFTER SHOW CAUSE MOTION HEARING

On May 13, 2026, the Court entered an order in this matter which ordered the Tribal Council to appropriate funds according to the 2026 budget, which is the budget presented by the Ogema on September 30, 2025.

On June 1, the Plaintiff filed a Motion to Show Cause against the Defendant for failure to follow the Court's May 13, 2026 Order.

A hearing was held on the Show Cause Motion in which all parties and/or their attorneys appeared.

Defendant admitted to not following the order in its pleadings and at the hearing. In Defendant's Answer, at paragraph 6, Defendant "ADMITS that it has publicly and proactively refused to follow the Order of the Tribal Court" and then stated at the hearing that a motion for continuing resolution was on the agenda for the next Tribal Council meeting. The following Tribal Council members voted for a continuing resolution of the 2025 budget rather than following the Court order: Speaker Shannon Crampton, Secretary Al Metzger, and Councilors Julie Wolfe, Ron Wittenberg, and Susan Thull.

Defendant then continued to argue that the Order is “unconstitutional” and lists and reiterates arguments made prior to the entry of the Order, thus in effect attempting to have the Court rehear the matter so to speak.

There has not been a Stay of Execution issued either by this Court or the Court of Appeals in this matter. Thus, the only issue is whether or not the Defendant Tribal Council should be held in contempt of court for failure to follow the Court’s May 13, 2026 Order.

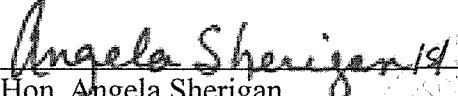
The Defendant has not stated any good cause for failure to follow the Court's order. Merely disagreeing with the Court’s decision is not, in and of itself, good cause. Therefore, the Court finds the following Tribal Council Members to be in Contempt of Court for failure to follow the Court’s May 13, 2026 Order: Speaker Shannon Crampton, Secretary Al Metzger, and Councilors Julie Wolfe, Ron Wittenberg, and Susan Thull.

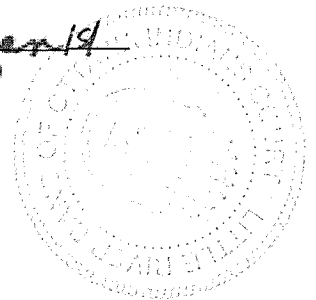
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Tribal Council Members Speaker Shannon Crampton, Secretary Al Metzger, and Councilors Julie Wolfe, Ron Wittenberg and Susan Thull are in Contempt of Court for failure to follow the Court’s May 13, 2026 Order.
2. Each Council Member found in contempt shall pay a fine of \$300.00 no later than Friday, September 11, 2026 by 3:00 p.m. to the Tribal Court.
3. Each Council member shall pay a fine of \$300.00 each week that the violation continues. Payment of the fine shall be Friday of each week by 3:00 p.m. to the Tribal Court.

Failure to comply may result in a bench warrant being issued for your arrest.

Date: September 8, 2026


Hon. Angela Sherigan



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document was served upon the parties pursuant to Tribal Court Rule 4.100.

9-8-26
Date

Spring Medacco
Court Clerk/Administrator