



Approved 10/4/17

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on September 27, 2017. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

Recorder Lewis said to Speaker Riley that the recorder is on.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis. Riley said good morning everyone and it looks like they have a big crowd here today. Riley said welcome to their regularly scheduled meeting for September 27th. Riley said they are going to get started this morning with their Opening Prayer and it looks like Terri Tyler is going to be doing that for them.

I. Opening Prayer

Terri Tyler, Tribal Elder, offered the Opening Prayer in Anishinaabemowin.

Please walk with all of us.

Bless us as we hold our fall ceremonies, fires, teachings and our fall Membership Meeting.

Bless the Battice Family, Charles Battice, has walked on recently.

Be with his family and anyone else who has lost family members.

Miigwech, Gizhemanido, miigwech, miigwech, miigwech.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

B. Roll Call

J. Riley - Present	J. Friedel - Present	F. Medacco - Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza - Present	R. Pete - Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	D. Lonn - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Others Present: Frank Figgels, Terri Tyler, Jennifer Crampton, Bill Willis, Jason Cross.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, George Le Vasseur, Mary Thomas, Ogema Romanelli, Shayne Machen, Rebecca Liebing, Caitlin Rollins, Officer Patrick Gilles (out @10:17 a.m.), Robert Medacco.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES; II D. IS REMOVED, V A. IS REVISED, AND VII A. IS REMOVED; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Riley asked if there is any discussion on the agenda. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #1

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis noted the agenda has been accepted for September 27, 2017.

D. Tribal Council Minutes ☐ None Submitted

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

Speaker Riley noted they have nothing under Grants & Contracts.

B. Budget Modifications

- 1. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-2017 Family Violence Prevention Program and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$17,454**
The grant is awarded for the period beginning 10/1/16 to 9/30/18.

Speaker Riley said he thinks Bill Willis is going to be handling all six of these today.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said Jason Cross is here to support a number of the items. Willis said the first item being the acceptance of funds from the Department of Health and Human Services for the 2017 Family Violence Prevention Program. Willis said these funds run through September 30th of next year so they just need to accept the money and amend the Operating Budget.

Speaker Riley asked do they have any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

**MOVE FOR THE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #17-0927-323;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-2017
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM AND
APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET
MB-2017-63 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,454; by Lewis; supported by
Friedel.**

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and is there any discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #2

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-323 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis. Riley said onto Item 2.

- 2. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-2017 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$194**
The Tribe has received additional funding.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said Item 2 is additional funding they received from DHHS for the 2017 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Willis said it is only \$194 but every little bit helps.

Speaker Riley said if there is no further questions or a motion. Riley recognized Councilor Medacco.

Councilor Medacco said he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-324;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-2017
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
(LIHEAP) AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE
OPERATING BUDGET MB-2017-64 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$194;**
by Medacco; supported by Friedel.

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and any further discussion.
Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #3

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-324 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

3. **Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Indian Health Services and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$1,471**
The contract funds are awarded as part of the 2017 Self-Governance Compact.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said this item represents Modification #7 to the 2017 Indian Health Services Self-Governance Compact. Willis said year to date this brings them up to \$2,672,118 which is about \$150,000 more than they projected in the 2017 Budget.

Speaker Riley asked any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Councilor Medacco.

Councilor Medacco said he would like to make a motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-325;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-INDIAN
HEALTH SERVICES AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO
THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2017-65 IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$1,471; by Medacco; supported by Lonn.**

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and any further discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #4

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-325 has been approved.

- 4. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of the Interior-Government to Government (G2G) IRR Program and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$3,740**

The Tribe has received additional funding.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said these funds mentioned are additional funds under G2G BIA Indian Reservation Roads Program. Willis said the money is going into 5205, Account 5205, which is Professional Fees under the Construction Program.

Speaker Riley asked any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Councilor Medacco.

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

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-326;
ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR-GOVERNMENT TO
GOVERNMENT (G2G) IRR PROGRAM AND APPROVING A
MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2017-66 IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$3,740; by Medacco; supported by Lewis.**

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and any further discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #5

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-326 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

- 5. Acceptance of grant funds from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2017-__ in the amount of \$50,000**
The second year of funding has been awarded for the Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Program.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said these funds are specific to the Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Program. Willis said the funds are available through September 30th of 2018. Willis said Jason Cross is here in case Council has any specific questions.

Speaker Riley asked any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he has one question. Di Piazza asked how are things going over there. Di Piazza said just a quick synopsis.

Jason Cross said things are going good. Cross said they have 133 children enrolled about 35% are Tribal related one way or another.

Councilor Di Piazza said cool, cool, no that being said he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-327;
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET
MB-2017-67 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000; by Di Piazza; supported
by Pete.**

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and any further questions or discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #6

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-327 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

6. Approval of Budget Modification MB-2017-__; Authorizing the modification of the Child & Family Development Center Construction Budget in the amount of \$35,000

Tribal Council must approve any change in the scope of a program such as the elimination of program activities.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said yes this is a request that was made by Jason Cross on behalf of Family Services to move \$35,000 from Capital Outlay to Supplies & Small Equipment so they can basically get the remaining things that are needed for the center.

Speaker Riley asked any questions or a motion on this item. Riley recognized Councilor Medacco.

Councilor Medacco said if there is no discussion he will make the motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-328;
APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATION MB-2017-68;
AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF THE CHILD &
FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER CONSTRUCTION BUDGET
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000; by Medacco; supported by Pete.**

Speaker Riley asked if anybody was going to abstain and any further questions or discussion on this item. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #7

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-328 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis along with Bill Willis and Jason Cross.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

IV. Old Business

Reports that are due: August 2017

- A. Financial Report**
- B. Binojeeuk Commission**
- C. Enrollment Commission**
- D. Housing Commission**

Reports received:

- ☐ **None Submitted**
- ☐ **None Submitted**
- ☐ **None Submitted**
- ☐ **None Submitted**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| E. Natural Resource Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| F. Commerce Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |
| G. Elders Committee Minutes | <input type="checkbox"/> None Submitted |

Speaker Riley said it looks like they got under Old Business nothing. Riley said no reports were submitted at this time.

V. New Business

- A. Resolution to put on hold renting, leasing or offering any of the new Aki 10 Homes to any Tribal members until after a work session can be organized to determine how the Aki 10 Homes will be offered to Tribal members**

Tribal Council believes that it is in the best interest of the Tribal members to put on hold the renting, leasing or offering any of the Aki 10 Homes at this time.

Speaker Riley asked is there any discussion or a motion. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he brought it forward. Di Piazza said he knows from the get-go when they authorized to build the ten homes they were to be that the Low Income members that live at Aki would have a chance to transfer into these homes as their plateaued; paying more for Low Income Home. Di Piazza said it looked like they needed further discussion on this and he knows his interpretation when they were going to be ready to turn over to Housing October 1st two homes until they can sort this out. Di Piazza said with that said if there is no questions he will make a motion.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said it is more of a statement he guessed than a question. Pete said he has been through a couple of work sessions on this and he is glad hopefully they have one because he still does not totally get it. Pete said there is absolutely no excuse but he was not on Council when this was originally passed so he is glad there is another work session coming up hopefully that will be the final one they will need then they can move forward on it. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley thanked Councilor Pete.

Councilor Di Piazza said if there is no further questions he will make that motion.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-0927-329;
RESOLUTION TO PUT ON HOLD RENTING, LEASING OR
OFFERING ANY OF THE NEW AKI 10 HOMES TO ANY TRIBAL
MEMBERS UNTIL AFTER A WORK SESSION CAN BE
ORGANIZED TO DETERMINE HOW THE AKI 10 HOMES WILL**

BE OFFERED TO TRIBAL MEMBERS; by Di Piazza; supported by Wittenberg.

Speaker Riley clarified the resolution number with Councilor Di Piazza. Riley asked if any abstentions.

Councilor Crampton asked open for discussion.

Speaker Riley said yeah and if he had something.

Councilor Crampton said yeah he was just looking for a Legal Review and is there any way they could postpone this until second open so they can get a little bit of a Legal Review.

Councilor Di Piazza said it is just putting them on hold and they are not taking any action other than putting them on hold until they can have a work session on it.

Councilor Crampton asked that doesn't cross reference with any or conflict with any other laws or regulations.

Councilor Di Piazza said not that he is aware of and doesn't believe there is.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete asked is Councilor Crampton done. Pete said okay just to.....he is just going to tag onto that because he thinks he asked at the very beginning do they have a Legal Review on this and he knows that they didn't at this stage so they can postpone it but he is hoping once they postpone it that when they get into that session to determine this is that when they will get a Legal Review at some point. Pete said that would be great and he just wanted to put that on the record that he was hoping to have a Legal Review.

Councilor Crampton said he was just asking for second open.

Speaker Riley asked Councilor Di Piazza does he want to change his motion.

Councilor Di Piazza replied no he doesn't. Di Piazza said the Legal Review was actually on creating the list which this is just to put them on hold. Di Piazza said the original like he said was to create that list.

Speaker Riley said Councilor Friedel when Councilor Di Piazza is done.

Councilor Di Piazza said he guessed it is up to them guys but either vote it up or vote it down he doesn't believe it is changing anything other than putting them on hold. Di Piazza reiterated putting those two homes on hold until they can have a

work session on it which they have done numerous times with no Legal Review so.

Speaker Riley said okay and recognized Councilor Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said just a comment or question and concern. Friedel said they have been over this and over this and for some reason nobody can come to conclusions on what needs to be done or what needs to go on. Friedel said if these homes are going to be turned over them on October 1st which he just talked to Tom St. Dennis and he said it wouldn't be until like the 16th, 14th or 16th of October before they get those first set of keys. Friedel said he is just concerned it takes Housing 30 days to get somebody ready to go into that house if they are going to wait 30 more.....for another two weeks that is another 30 days that is almost two months of rent that they are losing out. Friedel said that is almost \$2,000 that they are losing out so he means the further they wait on this the more it is impacting what they are getting back. Friedel said that is just his comment or question and if they are going to have one more work session he thinks that it needs to be settled and they need to move forward with this. Friedel said there is no more work sessions it needs to be done and taken place because Frank Figgels has to get those people ____ for those homes and ready to go so.

Councilor Lonn said she disagrees because yesterday in the work session they had discussed who is going to handle the Aki 10 as well as some other ones and that was the reason they were putting these on hold so they could have another work session to determine who was going to handle these as well they have not yet got a list of who is on.....how it is set up so she thinks they need another work session.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said his comment again is that.....he guessed he doesn't apologize much for anything for his 68 year old brain but this is still hasn't been able to totally penetrate in there in the work sessions they had. Pete said if they could get all the players in the room that would be involved with this then he would like.....have one more.....because he would rather get it right up front and delay it by a couple of weeks if that was the case then to go.....because frankly right now if he had to vote on this if they could abstain because they don't understand or don't get it then that is what he would do or he would vote no. Pete said he doesn't understand it so sorry.

Speaker Riley said he guessed his opinion on the subject is the fact if they are not getting keys until October 16th he doesn't want a resolution hanging out there to keeps these from being filled completely because of the fact that they've got, they know, 17 on the Fair Market or 19 on the Fair Market List and probably another 20 on the Low Income List. Riley said he doesn't think it is the best thing to do to intentionally keep a home empty when they have so many people in need of

housing, they know, over a simple disagreement as to how the list is going to be administered. Riley said with that said does anybody have anything else. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said well, if everybody remembers why the homes, the ten were created so keep that in their minds "*Do I want to hold the homes up because people need them, no.*" but from the get-go if he is not mistaken everybody sitting around that table had said they wanted a list for just the Low Income people at Aki to transfer into these homes because this is why they were built. Di Piazza said a couple of months ago if he is not mistaken somebody brought that forward that this needed to be done. Di Piazza said every work session that he has been in the conversation has been the same thing. Di Piazza said there needs to be a list of the Low Income people at Aki so that the plateau if their percentage increases or not there are some that need to probably make sure they're on that list to transfer and also....he is not the Liaison on this, but he knows it was discussed in numerous and numerous times and it just didn't transpire so he doesn't know what to tell them.

Speaker Riley said he is not saying that Councilor Di Piazza doesn't want people in these homes. Riley said what he is saying is that by.....he guesses not doing this what they are doing is holding their feet to the fire so they have to force a decision within three weeks before those keys come is what he is saying but that is just his opinion on it.

Councilor Di Piazza said it mainly to get people's attention. Di Piazza asked did that succeed.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Friedel.

Councilor Friedel said he....he is going to....abstain from the vote because he doesn't want somebody to think that the.....because his mother is on the list.....was on the list.....he doesn't want people to think that he wants one of those houses. Friedel said that is why he is voting on this so he pretty much recused himself from all the housing things because he don't need people saying that the reason why he is voting for this or voting for that is because he lives there so he will be abstaining from that.

Speaker Riley said okay, if there nothing further. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call. Riley apologized and recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said Councilor Crampton.

Speaker Riley said okay.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to clarify.....there are a couple of things he wanted to clarify. Crampton said first of all he sees the Legal Review for the

list but he doesn't see a Legal Review for the other one so there is no Legal Review for the other one. Crampton said the abstention is something that he getting above while the other Tribal members.....he doesn't think it is appropriate to abstain because.....he is not changing his mind.....he just wants to clarify that there is other people who are enjoying this more than him so it is well within his purview.

Speaker Riley said well his name is no longer.....or his mother's name is no longer on the list as well so there is not.....

Councilor Crampton said he believed it was but it is for the other. Crampton said there is more people and there is no conflict.

Councilor Di Piazza said there was never a Legal Review on the original one either.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #8

J. Riley -	No	J. Friedel -	Abstain	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	No	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	No

Motion carried (5-3-1-0)

Recorder Lewis confirmed Resolution #17-0927-329 has been approved.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis.

VI. Concluding Business

A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, October 4, 2017

B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update

Speaker Riley said to Ogema Romanelli that he has the floor.

Ogema Romanelli thanked him and that he appreciated it. Romanelli said just a few things. Romanelli said they are continuing to mold their Membership Meeting Agenda to give the membership the best information they can. Romanelli said they are going to have an update from the Education Department because the Cultural Teachings and stuff that they mentioned last year.....at the last meeting will be brought up and they are going to try and figure out where they are going and what.....how they are moving ahead. Romanelli said they are also going to talk about the Pharmacy Update, Economic Development and that is including Aaya so that they can give updates to their membership. Romanelli said most recently he has been on a couple of travels. Romanelli said one was to the Republican Conference up north and Speaker Riley and Councilor Pete were there

as well. Romanelli said they met with a host of Representatives including the Lt. Governor and had a brief little talk with the Governor about some of their issues and projects so he thinks it went very well and was well received. Romanelli said then the day before yesterday and yesterday he attended a United Tribes Meeting and also a Summit with the Governor and some of this staff. Romanelli said again, Councilor Pete was there with him and he thinks it was very well attended. Romanelli said he thinks the Tribes are all in unison and they are all in agreement Line 5 needs to be shut-down ASAP. Romanelli said the Governor gave them his ideas or reasons why he hasn't immediately shut it down. Romanelli said he thinks that went over okay with the Tribes however they are still demanding that it be shut down ASAP. Romanelli said LIHEAP was a big issue and guessed there is a November 1st deadline for filing paperwork and it doesn't look like that is going to happen so the Tribes asked that they do a continuing resolution or go just as they did before to make sure that they are funded. Romanelli said that seemed to go over okay with the Governor. Romanelli said then there is also the issue of Tribal Census. Romanelli said some of the Tribes and he thinks they may be amongst them are cautious about giving information out about their Tribal members however the U.S. Census continually underrepresents Native American Tribes. Romanelli said they know that they have information that shows they have more members than what they attribute to them. Romanelli said that decreases their funding and any benefits that are due them are reduced by the number that the U.S. Census does according to their records as opposed to theirs. Romanelli said the suggestion was made that, and he guessed this has been done in other areas, that the Tribes come up with their Census and show some documentation to show their records without giving specific information. Romanelli said they have asked the State to consider accepting those numbers and going forward because that would give each Tribe in most cases more membership and again, that was looked at as something they could do. Romanelli said the final thing that was brought, that he can remember, is the use of the term "other" in referring to Native Americans. Romanelli said it seems to be coming more and more. Romanelli said it was just recently, a publication, that shows poverty levels and it listed every other minority group by name then left out Native Americans but put "other." Romanelli said with that they didn't even put their percentages whereas it said went up a percentage or down for each minority group and didn't even list that for Native Americans. Romanelli said recently they have been trying to get some Economic Development done other than the casino and they have to work with agencies that vet minorities to do business with the U.S. Government and also businesses and what they are finding is that there is a reluctance there to do business or it appears so. Romanelli said it appears that Native Americans are greatly underrepresented and have been. Romanelli said the one agency and he will bring their name up because they will be meeting with them this afternoon is the Michigan Minority Suppliers. Romanelli said the Michigan Minority Business Suppliers and it seems that there has been some problems trying to do business with them. Romanelli said if they look at the numbers from their own information on the National Level again, Native Americans are underrepresented. Romanelli said it said that U.S. Minority

numbers are about 30-35% of the total U.S. Population. Romanelli said if they would then take that 30% and they represent about 3% that is Native Americans if they take that 30% and make it a 100% total minorities that then increases them.....their numbers up and they are completely underrepresented by staffing it appears.....he can only say it appears.....and by being underrepresented in contracts, now, in his numbers maybe off but it looks like even in Michigan they are losing out on millions, multi-million dollar's worth of contracts for Native Americans and have been doing so for 50 years. Romanelli said his idea is if they can't get it right with Native Americans after 50 years by minority formed companies or agencies after 50 years what is wrong. Romanelli said he thinks part of the problems is that they are referred to as "*other*." Romanelli said they really don't seem to count much and he is going to raise the issue time and time again because if they're losing out and again, it appears to be 30-40% of their available contracts, etc. that is a lot of money and that is Economic Development. Romanelli said that is also not only for Tribes but for individual Tribal members to get started in business and stuff so he is going to be working on that as well. Romanelli said that is the end of his report he thinks.

Speaker Riley said to Ogema Romanelli that he actually has seen the same sort of thing. Riley said one of the things that happens is that when they have the.....what is it.....the Minority Suppliers Development Association or whatever.....what happens there is when an individual of a certain community or race gets in there they try to promote people within their own community and they tend to show favoritism towards people that are of the same race and of the same community as them. Riley said what the issue is they don't have representation in those organizations to make sure their voice is heard and he thinks that if they have any Tribal members out that have any interest in this they need to push and they need make sure that they get people on these Boards and in these organizations so that they can get the representation they deserve because right now they are being forgotten.

Ogema Romanelli said yes and to go along with that. Romanelli said when they look at what.....how they achieve power in certain ways, honestly, it is in numbers so for one of the most minoritized minorities they are not going to have the voice and they can't gather that number of people. Romanelli said if they are being denied financial options and they don't have them then they don't have the money nor the numbers and again, talking about minorities they are one of the most minoritized of all. Romanelli said their poverty levels are higher than anyone's in the other race that they know of, their unemployment, their suicide, are right up there. Romanelli said their numbers numerically they are the most minoritized by the sheer fact that they about 3% and others are at 10% so in every way that they look at it they are very minoritized. Romanelli said he thinks they need to move on. Romanelli said the other thing that sets them apart from other minorities is that it is not just the minority status they have a social political status that no one else has and sometimes that hurts them. Romanelli said the idea is that Indians now have casinos so they are all filthy rich and they don't need to be

represented and that is not the case obviously. Romanelli said so they are going to be pushing a little harder on that by far. Romanelli said by the way they did have the support, it did appear, of the Governor and his staff.

Speaker Riley thanked Ogema Romanelli. Riley asked does anybody have any questions or comments.....recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said he was going to say remind Tribal members that the City Council and all them even in the Manistee or any of the Counties outlying if the Tribal members put their name in for these City Council Seats. Di Piazza said he can almost guarantee them they are going to be elected by the number of people they have on the Reservation to vote them in. Di Piazza said he doesn't ever see anybody put their names in for the City Council or Treasurer or anything whether it is the Township in Flier or Manistee, any place, and there is their key component. Di Piazza said to get their Tribal members in on these City Commissions and Councils because if they want to take it over that is the way to do it but he can't seem to find people that want to do it.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley asked Councilor Pete if he had something.

Councilor Pete said no he will save it for Legislative.

Speaker Riley said okay if there is nothing else they will move onto Legislative Affairs Update.

C. Legislative Affairs Update

Speaker Riley asked does anybody have, at this point, anything to share for Legislative Affairs. Riley recognized Councilor Pete.

Councilor Pete said okay it is pretty much long gone but he just wanted to add to the Ogema's Report because he happen to be at those two separate meetings too that they had. Pete said when their Ogema brought that up to the Governor yesterday about the "other" part he could tell he was kind of offended by the fact that they are called "other." Pete said he wasn't kind of he was offended by it and he really wants to get that taken care of, that done, off of anything he said if they see any State Agencies or anything like that has "other" on there and he is going to check into it too to let them know because they don't get that recognition of being a minority. Pete said also tagging onto the Census part he believed if he is correct it was Aaron Payment that brought that up yesterday about using their rolls for the Census.

Ogema Romanelli said it may have been.

Councilor Pete repeated that it may have been. Pete said that to get the proper representation, because they are undercounted, to use their numbers on there for

that. Pete said one quick thing because he knows some of know him, it was announced yesterday, that Aaron Payment got his Doctorate so it was really good for him but they had great meetings and he will say it is really refreshing to see the great relationship that their Ogema has with the Governor. Pete reiterated that he thought it was great. Pete thanked them.

Speaker Riley said he had one thing actually the TLSA actually came out of committee the other day. Riley said there is a full write-up on it that is available basically it just says that the committee believes that needs to go forward because Native American Tribes don't have parity with other Units of Government right now when it comes to Labor Relations. Riley said what he will do is he will take that report and have it put up on the website under the Legislative Reports from Council so anybody will have access to that. Riley asked Councilor Crampton if he had something.

Councilor Crampton said just to mention that was the last ____ before it goes to vote now it is clear to go to vote.

Councilor Pete said great.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley asked anything else for Legislative Affairs.

Councilor Crampton said oh, he didn't even know they were in there yet.

Speaker Riley said yeah they are and recognized Councilor Medacco.

Councilor Medacco said just an FYI next week he will not be here because he will be in Scottsdale, Arizona giving testimony to the OVW Office.

Speaker Riley said oh, yeah speaking of that Councilor Friedel will also asked Councilor Friedel if he was also going to Scottsdale and Councilor Pete will be in Las Vegas at the Global Gaming Expo.

Councilor Pete said yes.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Crampton then Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to go back to the Line 5 issue. Crampton said a lot of the oil lines that have gone through the United States the excuse has been used to bring lower oil prices to America but then it has never reached fruition. Crampton said when they are asking these people and talking about Line 5 which should be stated and ask very pointedly is if they have all these protections what are the savings to the American citizens. Crampton said that will almost stop the conservation dead flat. Crampton said it does every time those savings will not come it is just a lot of fluff to use to get them to buy into it. Crampton said secondly he wanted to go back to what the Ogema was saying

about representation and that is why he has sitting here for a long time now with the money going down not only in Tribes but all across the United States people are getting serious. Crampton said they are getting serious about who they give money to and who they want to give support to and they want solid numbers so, yes, he thinks they should use their numbers to get more representation with more money being brought back to the Tribe. Crampton said not only that, it is not just members, they need to have more representation in Washington and the Tribes that are getting the biggest amount of the money right now are the Tribes who have the most people in Washington. Crampton said the most people are doing it, the same things that the Ogema and Councilor Pete did the other day, and their Speaker they have to go out and meet, they have to meet, and let them know they are there. Crampton said they have to stick in their ear and have to just poke them all the time.

Speaker Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said no he was just going to bring up about quorum but that is fine they can just see what happens.

Speaker Riley said okay. Riley recognized Recorder Lewis.

Recorder Lewis said another issue regarding the water is something they need to look at is the Back 40 Project over in Menominee Reservation. Lewis said with all the mining, all the chemicals are going to go through the river, run into Lake Michigan and it seems like the Wisconsin like Congress are not really concerned on that. Lewis said it was stated that is not their lake so she believes that is something they should keep an eye on and what is going on with it because they do not want that running into their lake.

Speaker Riley thanked Recorder Lewis. Riley asked anybody have anything else for Legislative Affairs. Riley said alright.

D. Public Comment Period

Speaker Riley said Public Comments. Riley recognized Councilor Di Piazza.

Councilor Di Piazza said just to remind everybody that about the Membership Meeting also the Fall Fire will be lit Thursday morning at sunrise. Di Piazza said don't ask him what time because it is sunrise. Di Piazza said he is looking for some members or such to come and help him split up some wood into smaller pieces and debark it for their ceremonies. Di Piazza said feel free to message him and hit him up. Di Piazza said that is about it. Di Piazza said feel free to come out and share, leave their animosity or whatever at the door, but feel free to come in and have a good time and learn. Di Piazza said that's it.

Speaker Riley said yeah, also one of the things that he has been discussing with the Recorder very recently is the possibility that they maybe clearing their calendar as much as possible so Council can go attend these teachings. Riley said it really means a lot to people when Council Members show up to these so he just wanted to say that. Riley recognized Councilor Wittenberg.

Councilor Wittenberg said this past Friday or Saturday they had their 5k Sobriety Run down at First Street Beach and he had the opportunity to turnaround and be able to start and finish the line. Wittenberg said although he wasn't first he did get to finish. Wittenberg said that was an awesome day and he would like to thank the Ogema and the Council for help in sponsoring that. Wittenberg said it was a good morning, miigwech.

Speaker Riley said okay and thanked Councilor Wittenberg. Riley asked anybody else for Public Comment. Riley said alright.

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.

Speaker Riley said he will entertain a motion to end first open at 10:42.

MOTION TO END FIRST OPEN AT 10:42; by Lewis; supported by Di Piazza.

Roll Call #9

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

VIII. Open Session

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis if the recorder was on.

Recorder Lewis responded yes.

Speaker Riley said he will entertain a motion to go into second open at 11:11.

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 11:11 a.m.

MOTION TO GO INTO SECOND OPEN AT 11:11; by Pete; supported by Lonn.

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #10

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	Yes	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	Yes	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Lewis noted they are in second open.

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis if there was anything to move.

Recorder Lewis replied nope, none.

There were no items to be moved from Closed to Open Session.

IX. Adjourn

Speaker Riley said he will entertain a motion to end the meeting at 11:12.

MOTION TO END THE MEETING AT 11:12; by Pete; supported by Crampton.

Speaker Riley asked Recorder Lewis to do a roll call.

Roll Call #11

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Friedel -	No	F. Medacco -	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza -	No	R. Pete -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	D. Lonn -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (7-2-0-0)

Recorder Lewis noted they are adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Sandra Lewis,
Tribal Council Recorder