



Gaa Ching Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resource Commission**

Held at: via ZOOM
Manistee, MI 49660

**Regular Meeting
January 11, 2021**

I. Opening Prayer

II. General Business

A. Call to Order & Time of Call

Chairman Johnson called the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Gary DiPiazza provided the prayer.

B. Roll Call

Roll Call #1

V. Johnson– Present	R. Koon– Present
M. Howell– Present	C. Eno – Present
B. Battice - Absent	

Quorum Established.

Others Present: Elise McGowan-Cuellar, Bob Sanders, Councilor Gary DiPiazza

C. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA AS IS; by Koon; seconded by Eno.

Roll Call #2

V. Johnson– Yes	R. Koon– Yes
M. Howell– Yes	C. Eno – Yes
B. Battice - Absent	

(4-0-0-1)

D. Approval of Available Open Session Minutes

It was noted there were no minutes to approve.

III. Natural Resources Department Update

- A. CWD Elk Head Testing**
- B. Updating 2021 Hunting Regulations**
- C. 2020 Elk and Bear Hunt Recap**

Bob Sanders wanted to discuss updating the 2021 hunting regulations and how we proceed with that. Sanders also wanted to speak of testing elk heads and how during the pandemic hunters were not allowed to have their elk heads tested. Sanders noted we have two people who want to keep their heads. The State is not mandating that the heads be tested. This year there was 1 bull and 4 cow permits. There were only 4 bears that Tribal members brought in but were expecting a lot higher.

Elise McGowan-Cuellar suggested that the NRD and ULD start putting down ideas regarding regulations so they can possibly have additional meetings with the NRC to discuss and hopefully have in place for the next hunting season.

There was a discussion about having an informational video done regarding what all goes into an elk hunt, including the costs. There was also a discussion regarding a community elk hunt that the Tribe would sponsor. This will be discussed in the future, which will require more discussion.

IV. Legal Department Update

Elise McGowan-Cuellar gave a brief legal update.

V. Natural Resource Commission Business

- A. Hearing (none-scheduled)

VI. Public Comment

to come back

Martha Howell asked about the last time we have heard from Boo and should we do something about that if he is not going ~~to home~~. Can somebody touch base with him or find out what is happening and if we need to replace him because we really do need the other voice on the Commission. It his time to find out what is going through Battice's mind. Did he resign and didn't tell anybody or is he having trouble with technology or what is going on with him. Either he needs to come or we need to replace him

DiPiazza said he had suggested Chairperson Johnson send Battice a letter asking his intent.

Howell noted the by-laws say three no show meetings then you are replaced. Howell asked if Rich had it in the minutes anywhere the last meeting that Battice was at.

Koon said Battice hasn't been back since we started doing this after the COVID.

Howell suggested giving Battice an opportunity to see what's up but it has been quite a while.

Johnson said he will draft a letter and send it out to Battice regarding his intentions on the Commission and ask why he is not attending the meetings and does he plan on continuing to serve on the Commission, according to the by-laws. Johnson requested a motion from the Commission authorizing him to do that.

MOTION TO SEND BOO A LETTER TO ASK HIM ABOUT HIS INTENTIONS OF WHAT HE IS DOING ABOUT THE COMMISSION; by Howell; seconded by Eno.

Elise McGowan-Cuellar said she has a draft letter she can provide Gary DiPiazza and Kathleen Bowers to expedite this issue.

Johnson said he will sign the letter.

Roll Call #3

V. Johnson– Yes	R. Koon– Yes
M. Howell– Yes	C. Eno – Yes
B. Battice - Absent	

(4-0-0-1)

Koon asked if the letter can be sent certified so there is acknowledgement.

Johnson stated we can request return receipt.

VIII. Return to Open Session

A. Next Agenda Items

B. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 6:30; by Koon; seconded by Howell.

Roll Call #4

V. Johnson– Yes	R. Koon– Yes
M. Howell– Yes	C. Eno – Yes
B. Battice - Absent	

(4-0-0-1)

Submitted by,

Kathleen Bowers
Tribal Council Executive Assistant