

VI.C.

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Elder Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 2, 2026

- A. Elder Committee in Attendance 12pm**
- B. Prayer was offered by Gary DiPiazza**
- C. Call to order:**

Johnny Pabami opened up meeting. Roll call for committee members present at 1:05pm

Roll Call:		
Charmaine Elliot – Present	John Pabami – Present	Mary Thomas – Present
Lee Ivinson – Present	Phillip Memberto -Present via Remote	

D. Minutes Approval:

- a) April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Charmaine made a motion to approve the April 2026 meeting minutes. Supported by Johnny.

Roll Call:		
Charmaine Elliot – Yes	John Pabami – Yes	Mary Thomas – Yes
Lee Ivinson – Yes	Phillip Memberto - Yes	

E. Reports: None

F. Old Business:

- a) Elder Committee Ordinance Status – No action reported. Requested Liaison Gary DiPiazza to follow up with Tribal Council
- b) Elder Meal Preparation – Discussion – Committee to determine quote for caterer. Due to low number participation the current arrangements are working.

G. New Business: None

H. Presentations

- a) Melissa Zelenak – Natural Health Care – Very informative presentation: All About Naturopathy. Attached is the presentation agenda. The elders enjoyed the presentation and look forward to having Melissa back for further education and assistance. Melissa would like to come back to the community to share what she has learned and intends to have a practice of her own.

.0.14

I. Elected Officials - Updates:

- a) Ogema was not present at meeting
- b) Tribal Council – Elder Committee Liaison Gary DiPiazza in attendance.
- c) Other - None

J. Elders In Attendance – Open Comment

- a) Elder Committee – Need a resolution for the MIEA delegation. Requested Elder Committee Liaison to draft one.
- b) Phile Memberto – Need Tribal Council to keep the membership/elders apprised of the developments.
- c) Matt Chandler – Concerns with official voting off reservation boundaries. How can votes be taken off tribal lands.
- d) Teresa Johnson – Burial funds concerns and increase in costs of funeral expenses. Would like to see it increased. Further feedback by Gary DiPiassa on how it is managed now. Charmaine Elliott noted the services offered by Mary Witkop for estate planning and Wills, noting in will the expense of funeral in Will to ensure family is taking care of their wishes.

K. Adjournment

Johnny made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:41pm. Supported by Charmaine

Roll Call:		
Charmaine Elliott – Yes	John Pabami – Yes	Phillip Memberto– Yes
Mary Thomas – Yes	Lee Iverson – Yes	

L. Next Meeting June 6, 2026