

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians/Election Board Open Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2021

I. Call to order

Val McDonnell called the meeting to order at 5:15pm

II. Roll call

YES-Val McDonnell YES-Karen Love YES-Mike Ceplina
ABSENT-Kathy Gibson YES-Laura Echelbarger

Responses from attendee's: Sara Agosa, Chelsea Desmore, Susan Thull

III. Open Issues: emailed questions from members

- a) Questioning the status of purchasing equipment included in the streaming of the ballot count for the upcoming special election. Answer: we are using the equipment in the lodge and we also have a camera of our own that records also.
- b) Will there be in person voting? Answer: No, the voting will only be done for the special election via mail.
- c) When will you know when the voting can be streamed? Answer: We have asked the Speaker and will know shortly if we can use the lodge and the equipment.
- d) Can people still come in to view the voting? Answer: Yes
- e) Sara Agosa wanted to elaborate on the ballot sent from True Ballot. She is concerned on the thickness of the paper and the quality of the envelope. Will we consider using different paper? Answer: The paper and envelope quality is the decision of the vendor but going forward we will look more closely at what the vendor will use and see if we can use something better. Also, the paper must be used that the vendor can scan the ballot into their machine.
- f) The question came up of whether this is True Ballots 2nd contract with us or if it is considered the first, with the regular election and if we can use them again or not. We are checking into the status of that.
- g) Will a final report be issued? There is some confusion as to whether a final report should be issued when there were two partial reports that were given to Council to include on their agenda. Answer: Checking into that. It is the current thought from the election board that we have submitted the necessary paperwork.

- h) Can we ask an unbiased attorney question instead of using our Election Board attorney might possibly not be unbiased?
- i) Regarding the money that was found that the election board had originally asked council for but had found. How was this found? Where was the money?
Answer: The money was found as unallocated money when it was initially thought to be allocated funds.
- j) Is there a way for mailed ballots to be verified by the person who voted? Answer: Yes, once the scanned ballots are listed the names will show and we know who did vote. We can't know that ahead of time but it can only be viewed the day of or after the election.
- k) Will the election board look at ways that the members will be able to view that their ballot was received and counter? Answer: Yes, we will be looking at that going forward and will any other vendors we might use for an election.
- l) On the announcement for the election, it is noted the time of the ballots to be counted but what is the latest time the members have to get their ballots to the election board? Answer: We pick them up at the post office at noon.
- m) What are the policies you follow for financial managements and do you perform audits? Answer: An audit is done by the controller. One was just done last year and the speaker had one done recently also. We must follow our budget that has been approved.
- n) Is there a policy guide to train new members? Answer: No, its all verbal. There isn't anything set on paper.
- o) Question asking about using the same vendor twice, is that correct? Question on what is an election cycle? Answer: We need to look at this more closely to determine what is an election cycle so we can determine if we will use True Ballot for a second regular election.

IV. Adjournment

Val McDonnell adjourned at 6:18

YES-Val McDonnell YES-Karen Love YES-Mike Ceplina

ABSENT-Kathy Gibson YES-Laura Echelbarger