



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
 Natural Resources Commission
 2608 Government Center Drive
 Manistee, Michigan 49660**

August 14, 2023
 Special Meeting Minutes
Zoom Info
 Meeting ID: 567 831 8925 PW: 1994

I. General Business

A. Call to Order: 5:02pm

B. Roll Call:

Virgil Johnson- Chair.....Present
 John GrocholskiPresent
 Martha Howell - Recorder.....Present
 Connie Eno.....Present
 Vacant

Others Present: Gary DiPiazza, Frank Beaver, and Julie Wolfe

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the August 14, 2023 agenda:

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

D. Approval of Open Session Minutes:

Motion to approve the July 10, 2023, July 26, 2023 and July 31, 2023 Open Session Minutes.

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0

I. Law Enforcement Update: None

II. Natural Resources Department Update:

Email was received from DDHS about unsafe PFAS levels in the Pere Marquette River and Lake. Some fish species are unsafe for consumption. This notice affects parcels of the tribe's property in the Custer Cemetery Area. From Riverside Park in Scottsville downstream is affected. Councilor Wolf wants a notice put out to the tribe notifying the membership that are affected. Frank says they will get handouts from the State to give out from District 10 Health Dept. Report states 8 parts per trillion for PFAS. A fish consumption advisory has been issued for the yellow perch.

Consumers Dam update. There are a number of dams coming up for renewal of licensing. Tippy Dam and Hyodenpyl Dam will not come up until next year. Consumers are looking to sell the dams in the Muskegon watershed, as well as the two dams here locally. The MHRC coalition is working on this issue and has historically opposed Tribes in the past. This issue is quickly changing with the State now wanting to sell the properties.

Virgil is concerned about the sale of the dam to private entities. Due to prior sales of public entities to private individuals. He would like the EDC to become involved with this to possibly purchase Tippy Dam property. Franks thinks it would not be profitable. Virgil would like Eugene Magnusson and Frank Lewis to be invited to the next meeting in order to talk about the Dam issue.

III. Legal Dept. Update for Consent Decree: None

IV. New Business:

Hunting Regulations 2023 – Councilor Wolfe would like harvest numbers from the department. The NRC should make a survey to get more data from the Tribal Members. Virgil would like to get a copy of the survey used by the NRD so we can get a new survey ready for the October Membership Meeting. Virgil will request prior surveys from the Department for the September Meeting; he will also invite Frank Lewis and Eugene to the next meeting.

Motion to approve the July 10, 2023, July 26, 2023 and July 31, 2023 Open Session Minutes.

Motion to approve:

made by: Eno

supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - no			

Motion approve 3-0-0-0

- V. **Continuing Business:** Cleanup of Tribal Lands – no update.
Discussion on appointments to NRC. Virgil says there is language in the Commission ordinance that can be used to hold over NRC seats until the situation can be resolved between the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch.
- VI. **Public Comment:**
- VII. **Next meeting Date: 09/11/23**
- VIII. **Next meeting items:**
Consumers Energy/Tippy Dam with invited guests Eugene Magnuson and Frank Lewis
Clean up of Tribal Lands
Membership Survey
Consent Decree with Elyse McGowan
Pere Marquette River PFAS Update
- E. **Adjourn Meeting**
Motion to adjourn the meeting: 6:02pm
made by: Eno
supported by: Grocholski

Johnson – yes	Eno - yes	vacant	Grocholski - yes
Howell - yes			

Motion approved 4-0-0-0