

**GAMING ORDINANCE**  
Ordinance #10-400-01

**Article 1. Purpose; Findings**

- 1.01. *Purpose.* The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, acting through its Tribal Council in the exercise of its inherent sovereign power to enact ordinances, regulate the commercial enterprises of the Tribe, and otherwise safeguard and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the members of the Tribe, hereby establishes this Ordinance for the purpose of authorizing and comprehensively and preemptively regulating the terms and conditions under which Class II and Class III gaming may be conducted on the lands of the Tribe.
- 1.02. *Findings.* The Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians finds that:
- a. The Constitution of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians delegates to the Tribal Council the responsibility to “...exercise the inherent powers of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians by establishing laws through the enactment of ordinances and adoption of resolutions not inconsistent with this Constitution:
    - 1. To govern the conduct of members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and other persons within its jurisdiction.
    - 2. To promote, protect and provide for public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and its members[.]” Article IV, Section 7 (a).
  - b. The Constitution delegates to the Tribal Council the power and responsibility to manage all Tribal funds and direct how those funds may be used; Article IV, Section 7 (i) (2).
  - c. Article V, Section 4 (a) (8), authorizes the Tribal Ogema to manage the economic affairs, enterprises, property, and other interests of the Tribe, consistent with ordinances and resolutions enacted by the Tribal Council.

**Article 2. Adoption; Amendment; Repeal; Severability**

- 2.01. *Adoption.* This Ordinance is adopted by the Tribal Council through:
- a. Resolution #97-0115-01 which adopted the original Ordinance.
  - b. Resolution #99-0325-01 which re-codified and amended the Ordinance.

- c. Resolution #00-1218-01 which further amended the Ordinance.
- d. Resolution #02-0508-08 which repealed Ordinance #97-400-01 and replaced it with Ordinance # 02-400-01.
- e. Resolution #05-0323-121 which deleted references to management contracts and made numbering clarifications among other amendments.
- f. Resolution #07-0912-494 which repealed Gaming Ordinance #02-400-01 and adopted Gaming Ordinance #07-400-01, amending the Ordinance to clarify and define gaming and non-gaming activities arising out of the growth of the gaming enterprise effective upon receipt of approval by the National Indian Gaming Commission.
- g. Resolution #10-1006-330, correcting technical deficiencies identified by the National Indian Gaming Commission among other amendments, renumbering the Ordinance, and authorizing resubmission to the National Indian Gaming Commission.
- h. Resolution #11-0119-017, acknowledging receipt of approval of the National Indian Gaming Commission, repealing Ordinance #07-400-01 and replacing it with Ordinance #10-400-01, and providing that the Ordinance is effective as of January 20, 2011.
- i. Resolution #12-0919-249, amending the Ordinance on an emergency basis to clarify and define the background investigation process of Gaming and Non-Gaming Employee Licenses.
- j. Resolution #12-1031-289, permanently adopting emergency amendments enacted on September 19, 2012.
- l. Resolution #14-0917-289, adopting amendments to lower the legal age for gaming patrons and Gaming Employees from twenty-one (21) to eighteen (18), bringing the Ordinance into compliance with NIGC Regulations and authorizing submission to the NIGC for approval.
- m. Resolution #15-0211-030, permanently adopting amendments approved by the NIGC.
- n. Resolution #17-1104-376, approving the submission to NIGC of the amended Ordinance to remove non-gaming activities, remove unnecessary definitions, correct definitions for uniformity, and remove sections better addressed in Tribal

Regulation.

- o. Resolution #18-0214-057, approving the submission to NIGC of amendments to the Ordinance after technical edits suggested by the NIGC.
  - p. Resolution #24-0424-077, approving the submission to the NIGC of amendments to the Ordinance to bring into compliance with new rules.
- 2.02. *Amendment.* This Ordinance may be amended from time to time in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act – Ordinance.
- 2.03. *Repeal.* This Ordinance may be repealed in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act – Ordinance.
- 2.04. *Severability.* If any provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

### **Article 3. Definitions**

- 3.01. *General.* In this Ordinance, except where otherwise specifically provided or the context otherwise requires, the following terms and expressions shall have the following meanings. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely advisory.
- 3.02. *Class I Gaming* means social games solely for prizes of minimal value or traditional forms of Indian gaming engaged in by individuals as a part of, or in connection with, Tribal ceremonies or celebrations.
- 3.03. *Class II Gaming* means Class II gaming as defined in IGRA, 25 USC § 2703 (7).
- 3.04. *Class III Gaming* means all forms of gaming that are not Class I gaming or Class II gaming.
- 3.05. *Employee* means any individual employed by a gaming enterprise or gaming operation in any capacity, whether by general operational terms of employment, contract, or agreement.
- 3.06. *Executive Director* means the Executive Director of the Gaming Commission or any successor position with responsibility for managing all aspects of the day-to-day operations of the regulatory agency.
- 3.07. *Gaming* means Class II and Class III gaming authorized by this Ordinance, the Compact, and as may be further authorized under IGRA.

- 3.08. *Gaming device* means a microprocessor-controlled electronic device which allows a player to play games of chance, some of which are affected by skill, which is activated by the insertion of a coin, currency, tokens, tickets, or by the use of credit, and which awards game credits, cash tokens, replays or a receipt that can be redeemed by the player.
- 3.09. *Gaming enterprise* means the entities through which the tribe conducts, regulates, and secures gaming on Indian lands within such tribe's jurisdiction pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
- 3.10. *Gaming operation* means each economic entity that is licensed by a tribe, operates the games, receives the revenues, issues the prizes, and pays the expenses.
- 3.11. *Gaming equipment or supplies* shall mean any equipment, or mechanical, electromechanical, or electronic contrivance, component or machine used in connection with gaming.
- 3.12. *Gaming facility* means the building, buildings, or structures, wherein gaming is permitted, performed, conducted, or operated, and associated or adjacent real property owned by the Tribe. Each gaming facility shall be constructed, maintained, and operated in a manner that adequately protects the environment, health, and safety of the public.
- 3.13. *Gaming rules* means the tribal, federal, and state laws and regulations regarding gaming activities, including by way of example the Gaming Ordinance, Gaming Commission regulations, the Compact, and the IGRA.
- 3.14. *Gaming service* means any goods or services which directly relate to the conduct of gaming, security, or surveillance at a gaming enterprise.
- 3.15. *Gaming Vendors* means any vendor providing gaming services or concessions, gaming equipment, gaming devices, or supplies to the gaming enterprise.
- 3.16. *General Manager* means the highest-level employee of the gaming operation.
- 3.17. *IGRA* means the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, 25 U.S.C. § 2701 *et seq.*, as amended from time to time.
- 3.18. *Key Employee* means:
- a. A person who performs one or more of the following functions:
    1. Bingo Caller
    2. Count Room Supervisor

3. Chief of Security
  4. Floor Manager
  5. Pit Boss
  6. Dealer
  7. Croupier
  8. Approver of credit
  9. Custodian of gaming systems as defined in 25 CFR 547.2 and similar Class III systems, gaming cash or gaming cash equivalents, gaming supplies, or gaming system records
  10. Custodian of surveillance systems or surveillance system records
  11. Any gaming operation employee authorized by the gaming operations for unescorted access to secured gaming areas designated as secured gaming areas by the Gaming Commission
- b. If not otherwise licensed as a Key Employee or Primary Management Official, the four most highly compensated by the gaming operation.
  - c. Any other person employed by the gaming enterprise as documented by the Tribe as a Key Employee.
- 3.19. *License* means any official and revocable authorization granted for a designated period issued by the Gaming Commission to this Ordinance to an applicant to conduct business or gain employment in any gaming enterprise. There are three categories of licenses: Gaming Facility Licenses, Gaming Vendor Licenses, and Employee Licenses (Key Employee and Primary Management Official).
- 3.20. *National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC)* means the Commission established pursuant to IGRA.
- 3.21. *Net revenues* mean the gross gaming revenues of an Indian gaming operation less:
- a. Amounts paid out as, or paid for, prizes
  - b. Total gaming-related operating expenses, including all those expenses of the gaming operation commonly known as operating expenses and non-operating expenses consistent with professional accounting pronouncements, excluding management fees
- 3.22. *Primary Management Official* means an employee who meets the following qualifications:
- a. Any person having management responsibility for a management contract.

- b. Any person who has authority:
    - 1. To hire and fire employees of the gaming operation
    - 2. To establish policy for the gaming operation; or
  - c. The Chief Financial Officer or a position with duties similar to a Chief Financial Officer.
  - d. The General Manager or a position with duties similar to a General Manager.
  - e. Any other person employed by the gaming enterprise as documented by the Tribe as a Primary Management Official.
- 3.23. *Regulatory agency* means the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Gaming Commission, created by Gaming Commission Ordinance #04-400-04, or such other regulatory body created by Ordinance.
- 3.24. *Indian lands* mean all lands now or in the future held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe acquired by or for the Tribe, or such other lands upon which gaming may lawfully be conducted pursuant to IGRA.
- 3.25. *Secretary* means the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior or his/her designee.
- 3.26. *State* means the State of Michigan.
- 3.27. *Tribal Court* means the Tribal Court and Tribal Court of Appeals of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and all other Tribal judicial forums now or hereinafter established by the Tribe.
- 3.28. *Tribal-State Compact (Compact)* means an agreement between the State of Michigan and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians concerning Class III gaming approved or deemed approved by the Secretary of the Interior and published in the Federal Register pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 2710 (d).
- 3.29. *Tribe* means the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- 3.30. *Tribal Member* means an individual enrolled as a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

**Article 4. Classes of Gaming Authorized, Minimum Gaming Age**

- 4.01. *Class II Gaming Authorized.* Class II gaming is hereby authorized.
- 4.02. *Class III Gaming Authorized.* Class III gaming is also authorized.
- 4.03. *Class II and/or Class III Facility License Required.* Class II and Class III gaming authorized by this Ordinance shall be conducted only by persons or entities which have obtained a valid Gaming Facility License issued by the regulatory agency pursuant to criteria set forth in this Ordinance and regulations adopted pursuant to and consistent with this Ordinance.
- 4.04. *Minimum Gaming Age.* No person under the age of eighteen (18) may gamble in a gaming facility authorized under this Ordinance.

#### **Article 5. Tribal Ownership Required**

- 5.01. *Sole Proprietary Interest Required.* The Tribe shall have the sole proprietary interest in, and responsibility for, the conduct of any gaming authorized by this Ordinance.
- 5.02. *Private/Individual Ownership Prohibited.* No individual, partnership, corporation, or entity of any kind shall own in whole or in part any Class II or Class III gaming facility authorized or regulated by this Ordinance.
- 5.03. *Management Contracts Authorized.* Nothing in this Ordinance shall preclude the Tribe from entering into a management contract as authorized under IGRA.
- 5.04. *Registered Agents.* The Tribe designates the Tribal Ogema and the Tribal Council Speaker as the agents for service of process, notice or other official correspondence from the NIGC.

#### **Article 6. Use of Gaming Revenue**

- 6.01. *Permitted Uses.* Net revenues from Class II and Class III gaming shall be used only for the following purposes:
- a. To fund tribal government operations and programs
  - b. To provide for the general welfare of the Tribe and its members
  - c. To promote Tribal economic development
  - d. To donate to charitable organizations
  - e. To help fund operations of local governmental agencies

The Tribe may only make per capita payments to Tribal members from net revenues pursuant to the requirements of Tribal law, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and the Revenue Allocation Plan approved by the Tribal Council and by the Secretary of the Interior.

## **Article 7. Audit and Recordkeeping Requirements**

- 7.01. *Annual Audit.* The regulatory agency shall cause to be conducted an independent audit of all gaming operations on an annual basis and shall submit the resulting audit reports to the Tribal Council and the NIGC.
- 7.02. *Audit to Include Contracts for Gaming Services, Concessions, Equipment, Devices, or Supplies.* All gaming-related contracts that result in the purchase of services, concessions, equipment, devices, or supplies for more than \$25,000 in any year (except contracts for professional legal and accounting services) shall be specifically included within the scope of the audit conducted under Section 7.01 of this Ordinance.
- 7.03. *Record-keeping Requirements.* Each gaming operation conducting Class II or Class III gaming shall keep accounting records on a double entry system of accounting, maintaining detailed, supporting, and subsidiary records which can be identified to each gaming facility. Gaming operations subject to this provision shall maintain the following records for not less than five (5) years:
- a. Revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and equity for the location at which Class II or Class III gaming is conducted.
  - b. Daily cash transactions for each Class II or Class III game at the location at which gaming is conducted, including but not limited to transactions relating to each gaming table bank, game drop box and gaming room bank.
  - c. All markers, IOUs, returned checks, hold checks or other similar credit instruments.
  - d. Individual and statistical game records (except card games) to reflect statistical drop and statistical win; for electronic, computer, or other technologically assisted games, analytic reports which show the total amount of cash wagered and the total amount of prizes won.
  - e. Contracts, correspondence, and other transaction documents relating to all vendors.
  - e. Records of all gaming enforcement activities.
  - g. Audits prepared by or on behalf of the Tribe.



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  - g. Audits prepared by or on behalf of the Tribe.

- h. Personnel information on all employees, including rotation sheets, hours worked, employee profiles and background checks.

## **Article 8. Licensing**

- 8.01. *Licenses Required.* The regulatory agency, consistent with IGRA, the Compact, and this Ordinance, shall ensure that the following minimum groups are licensed. Provided that the regulatory agency may develop additional licensing requirements or background information requirements within regulations that meet or exceed the requirements set forth in IGRA, the Compact, or this Ordinance.
  - a. Gaming facility (ies)
  - b. Employees of a gaming operation (Key Employees and Primary Management Officials)
  - c. Gaming vendors
- 8.02. *Gaming Facility.* No person shall conduct Class II or Class III gaming within the jurisdiction of the Tribe unless such gaming is conducted at a facility licensed by the regulatory agency as set forth in Article 9.
- 8.03. *Key Employees and Primary Management Officials of a Gaming Operation.* No person shall be employed in any gaming operation as a Key Employee or Primary Management Official, including but not limited to consultants, independent contractors, and contracted employees, within the jurisdiction of the Tribe unless licensed by the regulatory agency as set forth in Article 10.
- 8.04. *Gaming Vendor.* No gaming vendor shall contract with any gaming enterprise within the jurisdiction of the Tribe unless licensed by the regulatory agency in accordance with Article 11.
- 8.05. *Temporary Licenses.* The regulatory agency shall issue regulations that authorize the use of temporary licenses. Temporary licenses shall only be issued to an applicant after the completion of an application for a license and following a preliminary review period, during which time the regulatory agency shall perform a credit check and a background check. Temporary licenses shall be valid for no longer than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of issuance. A temporary license may be rescinded prior to the conclusion of the thirty (30) calendar day period if the applicant has been determined unsuitable for licensure under applicable gaming rules. Notice of rescission of a temporary license shall be presented to the applicant and the gaming operation.

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## Article 9. Gaming Facility Licenses

- 9.01. *License Required.* As set forth in Section 8.02, no person shall conduct Class II or Class III gaming activities within the jurisdiction of the Tribe unless such gaming activity is conducted at a gaming facility licensed by the regulatory agency. No license may be issued for any gaming facility that is owned or operated by any person other than the Tribe. If a gaming activity is proposed in more than one building at the site of any gaming operation, a separate Gaming Facility License shall be required for each building or location where Class II or Class III gaming is conducted.
- 9.02. *Types of Licenses.* The Tribe may issue each of the following types of Gaming Facility Licenses:
- a. *Class II Operations in a Gaming Facility.* This license shall be required of all gaming operations operating one or more Class II gaming activities in each gaming facility.
  - b. *Class III Operations in a Gaming Facility.* This license shall be required for all gaming operations operating any gaming other than Class I or Class II gaming in each gaming facility. A Class III Gaming Facility License includes the operation of Class I or Class II gaming when so noted on the license application and on the issued license.
- 9.03. *Gaming Facility Application Procedures.* To obtain a Gaming Facility License, the gaming operation requesting such license shall apply by completing the application approved by the regulatory agency. The applicant shall include all the following information:
- a. A description of the gaming activity proposed, including, but not limited to:
    1. The type of gaming proposed, along with all instructions, procedures, internal controls, and other documents related to the proposed gaming
    2. The maximum number and types of table games, card games, and gaming devices expected to be in the gaming facility at any one time
    3. The number and types of table games, card games, and gaming devices expected to be in use when the gaming facility first opens
    4. The proposed days and hours of operation
  - b. A description of the gaming facility proposed, including the layout of all table games, card games, gaming devices, and the surveillance systems within the

## Article 9. Gaming Facility Licenses

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  - b. A description of the gaming facility proposed, including the layout of all table games, card games, gaming devices, and the surveillance systems within the

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- c. The location proposed for such gaming facility.
- d. A description of the security, police, fire protection, environmental, health, safety, and other public safety services to be available in the proposed gaming facility and to the patrons of such gaming facility.
- e. A description of the accounting procedures as required in Section 7.03 in each gaming facility.
- f. The name, address, title, and a job description (including duties and responsibilities) of each employee who will be employed at the proposed gaming facility.

9.04. *Threshold Criteria Which a Gaming Facility Must Meet.* In addition to the information required in the Gaming Facility License Application, an applicant for a Class II or Class III Gaming Facility License must provide documentation that the gaming operation and proposed gaming facility will meet the following threshold criteria:

- a. The proposed gaming facility is to be located on Indian lands, and if the lands are acquired after October 17, 1988, they must be eligible for gaming under a specific provision of 25 U.S.C. § 2719.
- b. The proposed gaming activity is to be played as Class II or Class III gaming as defined by this Ordinance and IGRA.
- c. The gaming operation and proposed gaming facility is authorized by a Tribal Council resolution.
- d. The Tribe or one of its subdivisions will have the sole proprietary interest and the Tribe will have the exclusive responsibility for the conduct of any gaming activity.
- e. The Tribal Council resolution authorizing the gaming operation and proposed gaming facility provides that:
  - 1. The revenues of the gaming operation shall be audited annually, and copies of those audits will be provided to the regulatory agency, Tribal Council, and the NIGC.
  - 2. The gaming operation shall comply with all Internal Revenue Service reporting and filing requirements.

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- c. The location proposed for such gaming facility.
- d. A description of the security, police, fire protection, environmental, health, safety, and other public safety services to be available in the proposed gaming facility and to the patrons of such gaming facility.
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- f. The name, address, title, and a job description (including duties and responsibilities) of each employee who will be employed at the proposed gaming facility.

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  - 1. The revenues of the gaming operation shall be audited annually, and copies of those audits will be provided to the regulatory agency, Tribal Council, and the NIGC.
  - 2. The gaming operation shall comply with all Internal Revenue Service reporting and filing requirements.

3. All of the net revenues of the gaming operation shall be used for the purposes stated in Article 6.
4. All gaming vendor contracts shall be subject to the annual audit.
5. The construction or maintenance of the gaming facility and the operation of the proposed gaming facility shall be conducted in a manner that adequately protects the environmental, health, and safety of the public or employees.
6. Any management contract between the Tribe and a principal has been approved by the Tribal Council and the NIGC.
7. The gaming operation shall pay to the NIGC such fees as Federal law may require.
8. In the event that Class III gaming is proposed, such gaming meets all other criteria established by the Compact, federal, and Tribal laws and regulations.
9. The gaming operation shall comply with Tribal, federal, and state revenue laws relating to gaming and non-gaming activities and shall collect, report, and remit all taxes required under such laws.
10. The gaming operation shall comply with the duties imposed upon casinos by Title 31 of the United States Code.

9.05. *Gaming Facility License Application Procedures*

- a. Upon receipt of a complete application for a Gaming Facility License for any Class II or Class III gaming facility, the regulatory agency shall:
  1. Review the proposed Gaming Facility License Application to ensure that all threshold criteria required by this Ordinance are met.
  2. Ensure that all Key Employees and Primary Management Officials of the gaming operation possess a valid and current license.
  3. Ensure that the gaming operation has provided the regulatory agency with a list of all individuals employed by the gaming operation.
  4. Review and approve the accounting procedures to be used in the gaming operation, or as may be necessary if more than one gaming facility is



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8. In the event that Class III gaming is proposed, such gaming meets all other criteria established by the Compact, federal, and Tribal laws and regulations.
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  2. Ensure that all Key Employees and Primary Management Officials of the gaming operation possess a valid and current license.
  3. Ensure that the gaming operation has provided the regulatory agency with a list of all individuals employed by the gaming operation.
  4. Review and approve the accounting procedures to be used in the gaming operation, or as may be necessary if more than one gaming facility is

licensed by the regulatory agency.

5. Review and approve the layout of all table games, card games, gaming devices, and surveillance systems for the gaming facility, including any instructions, procedures, internal controls, or other documents related to the layout of games and any instructions, policies, procedures, internal controls, or other documents related to surveillance systems.
  6. Review and approve the plan for the protection of public safety and the physical security of patrons of the gaming facility.
  7. Review all aspects of the proposed gaming facility to ensure that it will be compliant with the provisions of the Compact, federal, and Tribal laws and regulations.
- b. The regulatory agency shall approve the Gaming Facility License within forty-five (45) calendar days following the receipt of a complete application unless the regulatory agency believes, based upon reasonable evidence, that gaming will be operated at the proposed gaming facility in violation of Tribal, federal, or other applicable law or the terms and conditions of the Compact.
  - c. If the regulatory agency denies a Gaming Facility License, the regulatory agency shall, within seven (7) calendar days, notify the applicant of the specific reasons for such denial and a description of any corrective actions which the regulatory agency determines will cure the deficiencies which resulted in denial of the license.
- 9.06. *License Application Fees.* The license application and renewal fee shall be as set forth in a Gaming Commission regulation.
- 9.07. *Terms of License.* A Class II and Class III Gaming Facility License shall be valid for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the date of issuance.
- 9.08. *Posting of Licenses.* The Gaming Facility License must be always posted in a conspicuous location on the premises of each gaming facility. If the gaming operation conducts gaming at more than one location, the gaming operation must obtain and post a separate license for each gaming facility.
- 9.09. *Gaming Facility License Renewals*
- a. Each Gaming Facility License must be renewed biennially. A renewal fee shall be required for each Class II or Class III Gaming Facility License in accordance with Section 9.06.

- b. In order to renew a Gaming Facility License, the gaming operation shall submit a completed renewal application to the regulatory agency. No renewal application shall be approved until the Annual Report required by Section 9.10 has been filed.
  - c. The regulatory agency shall approve the renewal Gaming Facility License within forty-five (45) calendar days unless the regulatory agency believes, based upon reasonable evidence, that the gaming operation has been or will be operated in violation of Tribal, federal, or other applicable law or the terms and conditions of the Compact.
  - d. If the regulatory agency denies the renewal Gaming Facility License, the regulatory agency shall, within seven (7) calendar days, notify the applicant of the specific reasons for such denial and a description of any corrective actions which the regulatory agency determines will cure the deficiencies which resulted in denial of the license.
- 9.10. *Annual Reports.* Each gaming operation which possesses a Class II or Class III Gaming Facility License must file an Annual Report with the regulatory agency and the Tribal Council by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
- a. The name, address, and telephone number of the gaming operation and at each gaming facility.
  - b. The names, addresses, and titles of the current General Manager of the gaming operation and each gaming facility.
  - c. A description of the gaming activities conducted at each gaming facility, including, but not limited to:
    - 1. The number and type of table games, card games, and gaming devices operated which shall include all Class II gaming activities
    - 2. The number of days and hours of operation
    - 3. The total gross sales during the reporting period(s)
  - d. A written executive summary of any material changes anticipated or proposed in the gaming activities for each gaming facility, including any changes in its instructions, procedures, policies, internal controls, rules, health, environmental, public safety/security plan, layout of the games, surveillance systems, or other documents related to activities in the gaming facility.

- e. Capital budget plan identifying what was expended during the prior twelve (12) months and what is planned for the next twelve (12) months.
- f. The name and addresses of the person who will be designated as a contact person for service of process, notice, and other official correspondence from the regulatory agency over the next year for each gaming operation.
- g. A sworn statement that the gaming operation has complied with all federal, state and Tribal laws relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the public and employees along with copies of any controlling policies.
- h. Written proof that the gaming operation has paid to the NIGC such fees as federal law may require it to pay and will continue to do so.
- i. A sworn statement that the gaming operation has complied with the Internal Revenue Codes and regulations, including written notice of customer winnings, and a statement that the gaming operation shall continue to obey all Tribal and federal laws and shall hold the regulatory agency and the Tribe harmless for failure to do so.
- j. A verified copy of the last annual audited financial report following the end of the gaming operation's last fiscal year as well as an executive summary comparing the financial results to the prior year.
- k. The number of full-time equivalent people, on an annualized basis, employed by the gaming operation at each gaming facility during the past twelve (12) months, together with a projection of the number of full-time equivalent people who are expected to be employed during the next license period.
- l. A sworn statement that the gaming operation and all its employees continue to consent to Tribal Court jurisdiction and service of process in all matters arising from the conduct of gaming. The required sworn statement shall be provided based on the consent given by applicants as per Section 10.03 (q).
- m. A sworn statement that the gaming operation has complied with the Bank Secrecy Act of the United States Code.

#### **Article 10. Employee Licensing.**

10.01. *General - Category of Employees and License Requirements.* There are two categories of employees under purview of this Ordinance – Key Employees or Primary Management Officials.

10.02. *Key Employees and Primary Management Officials.* Employees of the gaming operation who perform gaming activities as part of their defined job descriptions are considered Key Employees or Primary Management Officials.

- a. *General.* The gaming operation shall be required to maintain a list of all employees, their positions, and a copy of all job descriptions (including duties and responsibilities) on file with the regulatory agency. Voluntary relinquishment of a license will not preclude the regulatory agency from addressing license issues that occurred during the time the licensee held a license.
- b. *Specific Disqualifying Circumstances.* The regulatory agency shall not grant a license to any applicant for a Key Employee or Primary Management Official who:
  1. Is a member of the Tribal Council, the Ogema, a Judge or Appellate Judge on the Tribal Court, the prosecutor, or a law enforcement officer of the Tribe. This subsection shall not apply to members of the Tribal Council or the Tribal Ogema sitting on an oversight body established by Tribal law to provide oversight to a gaming operation.
  2. Is under the age of eighteen (18).
  3. Has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a gambling-related offense, fraud, or misrepresentation. The terms “fraud or misrepresentation” shall mean a criminal offense committed in Michigan or any other jurisdiction, involving theft, fraud, or misrepresentation, which is a felony or would be a felony if committed in Michigan, and which was committed as an adult or prosecuted as an adult offense, and which has not been effectively removed from the applicant’s/licensee’s criminal record by executive pardon, state court order, or operation of law.
  4. Has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to any offense not specified in paragraph (3) within the immediately preceding five years; this provision shall not apply if that person has been pardoned by the Governor of the State where the conviction occurred or, if a Tribal member, has been determined by the regulatory agency to be a person who is not likely again to engage in any offensive or criminal course of conduct and the public good does not require that the applicant be denied a gaming employee license. The term “any offense” shall mean any criminal offense not described in paragraph (3), whether committed in Michigan or any other jurisdiction, that is, or would be, a crime under the provisions of the Michigan Penal Code, Act 328 of the Public Acts of 1931, as amended being MCL 750.1 to 750.568, or the controlled substances provisions of the Public

Health Code, Act # 68 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended, being MCL 333.7101 to 333.7545, or any other criminal offense not included within the scope of paragraph (3) involving theft, dishonesty, fraud or misrepresentation arising under the law of Michigan or another state or jurisdiction, that was committed as an adult or prosecuted as an adult offense, and which has not been effectively removed from the employee's criminal record by executive pardon, state court order, or operation of law.

5. Is determined by the regulatory agency to have participated in organized crime or unlawful gambling or whose prior activities, criminal records, reputation, habits, and/or associations pose a threat to the public interest or to the effective regulation and control of gaming, or create or enhance the dangers of unsuitable, unfair, or illegal practices, methods and activities in the conduct of gaming or to the carrying on of the business and financial arrangements incidental to the conduct of gaming.
6. Has knowingly and willfully provided materially false and misleading statements or information to the regulatory agency or refused to respond to questions and/or requests for information asked by the regulatory agency specifically related to the person's eligibility to obtain or retain a license.
7. Has been convicted of any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed, and/or is registered in any jurisdiction's list of sexual offenders.

10.03. *Application for a Key Employee Gaming License or Primary Management Official Gaming License.* The regulatory agency shall require each applicant to complete an application in the manner required by the regulatory agency. The application shall clearly identify whether the applicant is applying for a Key Employee Gaming License or a Primary Management Official Gaming License. The application shall include the following information:

- a. Full name, other names used (oral or written), Social Security Number(s), date of birth, place of birth, citizenship, gender, and all languages (spoken or written)
- b. Currently and for the previous five (5) years:
  1. Business and employment positions held
  2. Ownership interests in those businesses

3. Business and residence addresses
  4. Driver's License Numbers
- c. The names and current addresses of at least three (3) personal references, including one personal reference who was acquainted with the applicant during each period of residence listed under Section 10.03 (b).
  - d. Current business, residence telephone numbers, and all cell phone numbers.
  - e. A description of any existing and previous gaming or other business relationships with any Indian tribe, including any ownership interests in the business.
  - f. A description of any existing and previous business relationships with the gaming industry generally, including ownership interests in those businesses.
  - g. The name and address of any licensing or regulatory agency with which the person has filed an application for a license, permit, or certification related to gaming, the status of the application; and whether such license, permit, or certification was granted.
  - h. For each felony for which there is an ongoing prosecution or a conviction, the charge, the name and address of the court involved, and the date of disposition, if any.
  - i. For each misdemeanor conviction or ongoing misdemeanor prosecution (excluding minor traffic violations) within ten (10) years of the date of the application, the name and address of the court involved and the date of disposition, if any.
  - j. For each criminal charge (excluding minor traffic charges), whether there is a conviction, if such criminal charge is within ten (10) years of the date of the application and is not otherwise listed pursuant to paragraph (h) or (i) of this Section, the criminal charge, the name and address of the court involved, and the date and disposition, if any.
  - k. The name and address of any licensing or regulatory agency with which the person has filed an application for a business or occupational license or permit, and whether such license or permit was granted.
  - l. A list of any previous or existing business relationships with/in the gaming industry, including with any Tribes with gaming operations to include the name and address of the entity along with contact information.

- m. One (1) piece of valid identification that includes a photograph and one (1) other form of identification (Social Security Card, birth certificate or passport) that allows the regulatory agency to verify the applicant's identity.
- n. A list of all professional or business licenses the applicant has applied for, whether those licenses were granted, status of said licenses, and the name, address and phone number of the regulatory agency involved.
- o. A sworn statement that to the best of his/her knowledge the applicant or any member of his immediate family does not have a past or current financial interest, other than a salary interest, in any gaming operation. If the applicant has an immediate family member or member of his/her household who has such a relationship, the applicant shall fully disclose his/her name and the nature of the relationship.
- p. Written permission giving the regulatory agency the right to investigate the applicant's background, including criminal records, civil and criminal judgments, and credit history.
- q. Each application shall be accompanied by a sworn statement that the applicant will submit to the jurisdiction of the Tribe and the Tribal Court, if licensed.
- r. For all applications for a license, fingerprints shall be taken by the regulatory agency and shall be forwarded to the NIGC for processing through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the National Criminal Information Center to determine the applicant's criminal history, if any.
- s. Any other information required by the regulatory agency.
- t. For all applications for licenses for Primary Management Officials, a complete financial statement and/or income tax records showing all sources of income for the previous three (3) years, and assets, liabilities, and net worth as of the date of the application.

10.04. *Application - Notice.*

- a. *Privacy Act Notice.* The following notice shall be placed on the application for a license so that it can be read by the applicant before the application is completed:

"In compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, the following information is provided: Solicitation of the information on this form is authorized by 25 U.S.C. § 2701 *et seq.* The purpose of the requested information is to determine the eligibility of individuals to be



granted a license. The information will be used by the Tribe's regulatory agency and the National Indian Gaming Commission members and staff who have need for the information in the performance of their official duties. The information may be disclosed by the Tribe or the NIGC to appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign law enforcement and regulatory agencies when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions or when pursuant to a requirement by a Tribe or the National Indian Gaming Commission in connection with the issuance, denial or revocation of a gaming license, or investigations of activities while associated with a Tribe or a gaming operation. Failure to consent to the disclosures indicated in this notice will result in a tribe's being unable to license you as a Primary Management Official or Key Employee. The disclosure of your Social Security Number (SSN) is voluntary. However, failure to supply a SSN may result in errors in processing your application."

- b. *False Statement Notice.* The following additional notice shall be placed on the application for a Key Employee Gaming License or a Primary Management Official Gaming License so that it can be read by the applicant before the application is completed:

"A false statement on any part of your license application may be grounds for denying a license, the suspension of a license, or revocation of a license. Also, you may be punished by fine or imprisonment (U.S. Code, Title 18, §1001)."

10.05. *Burden of Proof.* It is the determination of the Tribe that the public interest in the integrity of gaming is such that the burden of proof to establish fitness or eligibility to obtain or maintain a license shall be upon the applicant or licensee as the case may be.

10.06. *Background Investigation.* The regulatory agency shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, an investigation sufficient to make a determination under this Article of all applicants. In conducting a background investigation, the regulatory agency shall keep confidential the identity of each person interviewed during the investigation and shall maintain in a confidential manner the information obtained. Such information may be released to the Tribal Court in the event of an appeal of a licensing decision. The background investigation must be sufficient to allow the regulatory agency to make an eligibility determination under Section 10.07 of this Ordinance and shall consist of at least the following:

- a. The regulatory agency shall attempt to contact each personal and business reference provided in the application to verify the accuracy of the other information presented.
- b. The criminal background of each applicant for a Key Employee Gaming License or a Primary Management Official Gaming License shall be investigated by obtaining information concerning the applicant from law enforcement where the

applicant has resided and submitting impressions of the applicant's fingerprints, taken under Section 10.03 (r), to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Information Center, and any other law enforcement agency that the regulatory agency deems appropriate, requesting a criminal history report. The vital information which may be provided to identify the applicant may include: the applicant's full name, any other names used by the applicant, date and place of birth, citizenship, Driver's License Number(s), Social Security Number, and a physical description.

- c. With respect to applicants for a Primary Management Official Gaming License, the regulatory agency shall also investigate and verify the accuracy of financial information provided by the applicant by contacting banks, other financial institutions, or other sources as deemed necessary. The regulatory agency shall also obtain a Credit Bureau Report on the applicant which shall be updated annually.
- d. The regulatory agency shall attempt to complete the background investigation described in this Section within thirty (30) calendar days following receipt of a complete application.
- e. The regulatory agency may contract with private, municipal, state, and/or federal investigation agencies to perform the required background and/or criminal history investigations.

10.07. *Eligibility Determination*

- a. Before a license is issued to a Key Employee or Primary Management Official, the regulatory agency shall make a finding concerning the eligibility of that person in receiving a license by reviewing the applicant's prior activities, criminal record, if any, and reputation, habits, and associations.
- b. If the regulatory agency, in applying the standards in this Ordinance, determines that licensing the person poses a threat to the public interest or to the effective regulation of gaming, or creates or enhances the dangers of unsuitable, unfair, or illegal practices, methods and / or activities in the conduct of gaming, it shall not license that person in a Key Employee or Primary Management Official position.
- c. Copies of the Eligibility Determination shall be included with the Notice of Results that must be submitted to the NIGC before the licensing of Key Employee or a Primary Management Official.

10.08. *Action on Applications for a License*

- a. Within fifteen (15) calendar days following the completion of the background investigation(s) described in this Ordinance, the regulatory agency shall review the application, the results of background investigation, the criminal history reports, and financial report, if required, to determine if the applicant qualifies for the license applied for.
- b. If the regulatory agency determines that an applicant qualifies on a preliminary basis pursuant to Section 8.05 for the issuance of a license, then the regulatory agency may issue a temporary license to the applicant. A temporary license shall not be valid for more than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of issuance.
- c. The regulatory agency shall create and maintain an Investigative Report for each background investigation of a Key Employee or Primary Management Official which shall include the following information:
  1. Steps taken in conducting the investigation
  2. Results obtained
  3. Conclusion reached
  4. The basis for conclusion

10.09. *Notice of Results.* Before issuing a license to a Key Employee or Primary Management Official, the regulatory agency shall prepare a Notice of Results on the applicant's background investigation to submit to the NIGC. The Notice of Results must be submitted to the NIGC no later than sixty (60) calendar days after the applicant begins working for the Tribe. The Notice of Results shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- a. The applicant's name, date of birth and Social Security Number
- b. The date on which the applicant began, or will begin, working as a Key Employee or Primary Management Official
- c. A summary of information presented in the investigative report, including:
  1. Licenses that have been previously denied
  2. Licenses that have been revoked, even if subsequently reinstated
  3. Every known criminal charge brought against the applicant within the last ten (10) years of the date of the application

4. Every felony offense of which the applicant has been convicted and any ongoing prosecution
  - d. A copy of the Eligibility Determination in accordance with Section 10.07.
- 10.10. *Granting Licenses.* All Key Employees and Primary Management Officials must have a license issued by the regulatory agency. The regulatory agency may license a Key Employee or Primary Management Official according to the following:
- a. The regulatory agency submitted a Notice of Results of the applicant's background investigation to the NIGC, according to Section 10.09.
  - b. The regulatory agency notifies the NIGC of the issuance of the license within thirty (30) calendar days of issuance.
  - c. A Key Employee or Primary Management Official who does not have a permanent license after ninety (90) days shall not be permitted to perform the duties, functions, and/or responsibilities of a Key Employee or Primary Management Official until so licensed.
- 10.11. *Reconsideration after NIGC Objections.* The regulatory agency must reconsider a license application for a Key Employee or Primary Management Official if it receives a statement of itemized objections to issuing such a license from the NIGC and those objections are received within thirty (30) calendar days of the NIGC receiving a Notice of Results of the applicant's background information.
- a. The regulatory agency shall take the NIGC's objections into account when reconsidering a license.
  - b. The regulatory agency shall make a final determination whether to issue a license to an applicant for a Key Employee Gaming License or Primary Management Official Gaming License.
  - c. If the regulatory agency revokes a license after reconsideration under this Section, it shall notify the NIGC and the gaming operation and forward copies of its Eligibility Determination and Notice of Results to the NIGC for inclusion in the Indian Gaming Individuals Record System.
- 10.12. *Denying Licenses*
- a. If the regulatory agency does not issue a license to an applicant for a Key Employee Gaming License or Primary Management Official Gaming License, it shall notify

the NIGC and forward copies of its Eligibility Determination and Notice of Results to the NIGC for inclusion in the Indian Gaming Individual's Record System.

10.13 *Notice from NIGC Impacting Eligibility and Licensee's Right to Hearing*

- a. If, after the issuance of a license, the NIGC receives reliable information indicating that a Key Employee or Primary Management Official is not eligible for a license, the NIGC shall notify the Tribe.
- b. Upon receipt of such notification, the Tribe's regulatory agency shall immediately suspend the license and shall provide the licensee with written notice of suspension and proposed revocation. The notice of revocation shall include the following:
  1. Shall notify the licensee of the time and the place for a hearing on the proposed revocation of the license.
  2. The right to a revocation hearing shall vest upon receipt of a license or at such an earlier time as is determined the Tribal law and/or regulation.
- c. After the revocation hearing, the Gaming Commission shall decide to revoke or to reinstate the license. The Gaming Commission shall notify the NIGC of its decision within forty-five (45) days of receiving notification from the NIGC.

10.14. *Licensing Period.* Any license issued pursuant to this Ordinance, other than a temporary license, shall be effective for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance and shall contain the licensee's photograph and shall state on its face the name of the employee, the gaming operation at which the employee is licensed to work, the type of license, the date that the license became effective, and the date the license expires. A license does not automatically renew and becomes invalid on the date of expiration.

10.15. *Renewals.* It is the responsibility of holders of a license to file his/her renewal application in accordance with the regulatory agency's notifications and regulations. A holder of a license shall apply to the regulatory agency for a renewal sixty (60) calendar days prior to the expiration of their current license and is required to update all information contained in the original application and any subsequent renewal application. Under all circumstances, an employee is required to obtain a valid license prior to the expiration of any current license.

10.16. *Requirement to Produce License upon Request.* Any person receiving a license pursuant to this Ordinance must have that license on property during all working hours and must be able to produce that license upon request.

#### 10.17. *Records Retention*

- a. When a Key Employee or Primary Management Official is licensed by the regulatory agency, a complete file, containing at a minimum the information listed in Section 10.03 (a) – (t) shall be maintained.
- b. The regulatory agency shall retain, for no less than three (3) years from the date a Key Employee or Primary Management Official is terminated from employment, the following documentation:
  1. The complete file in accordance with 10.17 (a)
  2. Investigative Report
  3. Eligibility Determination
  4. Privacy Act Notice
  5. False Statement Notice

#### **Article 11. Gaming Vendor License**

11.01. *General.* All gaming vendors contracting with any gaming enterprise are required to be licensed.

11.02. *Gaming Vendors License.* Vendors contemplating any business with any gaming enterprise that contains any element, which includes gaming services or concessions, devices, equipment, or supplies regardless of value or proportion of the contract, are required to obtain a Gaming Vendor License. The regulatory agency shall identify appropriate levels of information and releases necessary to assure the integrity of the vendor in supplying gaming services or concessions, devices, equipment, or supplies.

#### **Article 12. License Denials, Suspensions, and Revocations; Right to Appeal**

12.01. *Applicability.* This Article shall apply to the denial, suspension, and/or revocation of any license issued by the regulatory agency under Article 10 or 11 of this Ordinance.

12.02. *Hearing upon Denial of License.* Any applicant who is denied a license applied for under this Ordinance may request a hearing before the regulatory agency by written request submitted within fourteen (14) calendar days following receipt of notice of the action by the regulatory agency.

- a. Within twenty-one (21) calendar days following receipt of a notice requesting a hearing, the regulatory agency shall afford the applicant an opportunity to appear and be heard before the regulatory agency, in person or with a representative or legal counsel, and to submit such evidence as the applicant deems relevant in the matter. The regulatory agency may receive evidence from the applicant or licensee, the Tribe, any gaming regulatory agency, or any person or entity that the regulatory agency deems relevant to the matter.
- b. The regulatory agency shall either affirm or reconsider its decision to deny the license within seven (7) calendar days following a hearing.

12.03. *Suspension and/or Revocation of License*

- a. If, after issuance of a license, the regulatory agency receives information that a person licensed under this Ordinance has violated or been charged with a violation of any criminal law that disqualifies the licensee from holding a license, any provision of this Ordinance, or any regulation promulgated under this Ordinance, or is otherwise not eligible for a license, the regulatory agency shall conduct an investigation to determine whether revocation proceedings should be initiated.
- b. A license may be suspended for not more than thirty (30) calendar days pending completion of an investigation to determine whether any of the following have occurred:
  - 1. The licensee has violated any gaming rule as defined in this Ordinance or any regulation promulgated under this Ordinance.
  - 2. The licensee has engaged in conduct that poses a threat to the integrity of the gaming activities, the health or safety of the public, employees at the gaming facility, or the assets of the Tribe.
  - 3. The licensee knowingly and substantially made a materially false and misleading statement related to his/her license application.
  - 4. The licensee has participated in unauthorized gaming activity whether or not regulated by this Ordinance.
  - 5. The licensee has knowingly and substantially refused to comply with any lawful order of the regulatory agency or the Tribal Court.

- c. The person's license shall be immediately suspended, and revocation proceedings shall be initiated by serving the licensee with a written Notice of the Suspension and proposed revocation, including notice of the time and place of the hearing, if:
  - 1. The licensee has been convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to any criminal offense that disqualifies the licensee from holding a license under applicable law or the Compact.
  - 2. The regulatory agency received a written notification from the NIGC.
  - 3. The licensee has been charged with any criminal offense related to gambling, fraud, theft, or other activities arising during employment.

12.04. *Right to Hearing before the Regulatory Agency.* In any case governed by Section 12.03 (a) above, and in all cases where the regulatory agency determines that a revocation is warranted under Section 12.03 (b), the regulatory agency shall notify the licensee of the proposed revocation of the license. The notification shall be served upon the licensee and shall state the legal basis for the revocation and any evidence the regulatory agency relied upon in making its determination. The licensee shall be informed of the date and time set for the hearing, and of the licensee's right to offer sworn oral and documentary evidence to rebut the regulatory agency's determination. Any hearing scheduled in accordance with this Section shall be held within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the letter. After the hearing, the regulatory agency shall either (a) revoke the license; (b) reinstate the license; or (c) reinstate the license with conditions or limitations. The regulatory agency shall notify the NIGC of any decision to revoke or reinstate a license. If the suspension or revocation was based on an objection to licensure notice from the NIGC, this notice shall be provided to the NIGC within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date the regulatory agency received the notification. The right to a revocation hearing under this Ordinance shall vest upon receipt of a license or at such earlier times as identified in Tribal law or regulation.

12.05. *Appeal to the Tribal Court.* Any decision of the regulatory agency to revoke a license pursuant to this Ordinance may be appealed to the Tribal Court by the licensee within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of receipt of the regulatory agency's decision.

- a. In all appeals before the Tribal Court, there shall be a deference given by the Tribal Court to the determination of the regulatory agency as the agency charged with responsibility for interpreting laws and regulations. The Tribal Court does not have authority to grant injunctive relief authorizing a return to work pending any appeal. The Tribal Court review of regulatory agency hearing determinations is limited to interpretation and application of law or regulation. The decision of the Tribal Court shall be final.



**Article 13. Patron Dispute Resolution**

13.01. The regulatory agency shall develop a Patron Complaint Regulation that details the requirements to resolve all patron complaints against the gaming operation.

- a. Patrons who have complaints against the gaming operation shall have as their sole remedy the right to file a petition for relief with the regulatory agency. All complaints shall be submitted in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of the incident occurrence.
- b. All claims by patrons shall be limited to a maximum recovery of proven damages, except disputes relating to a patron's entitlement to a game prize, which shall be limited to the amount of such prize.
- c. The regulatory agency's decision shall constitute the complaint's final remedy.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Pam Johnson, Tribal Council Recorder, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Gaming Ordinance #10-400-01 approved by the National Indian Gaming Commission on May 29, 2024.

[Seal]

  
Pam Johnson, Tribal Council Recorder