

**TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN NATION, MONTANA**

Volume 17 Number 32
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: March 2, 2017
Approved: March 16, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vernon Finley, Chairman; Leonard TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman; Troy Felsman, Secretary; Dennis Clairmont; Leonard Gray; Patty Stevens; Carole Lankford; Ronald Trahan; and Shelly Fyant.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anita Matt, Treasurer (Personal Time Off).

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; Bill Kehoe, Sergeant at Arms; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:12 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Art Caye.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for February 21, 2017 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for February 21, 2017, with corrections. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, 8 for; 1 abstention (Ron Trahan).

The **agenda** was presented for approval. No conflicts of interest were identified.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to approve the agenda, with additions. Seconded by Patty Stevens. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Dennis Clairmont told the joke of the day.

Art Caye discussed the excavator the burned up at Forestry. Forestry told Art that it was turned over to Property & Supply. Kermit was supposed to put it out for bid on the fast track but that never happened and the excavator is still sitting at Forestry. Art wants the Tribe to give the excavator to him or sell it to him for \$1. **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, joined the discussion and explained that it needs to be surveyed. The equipment needs to be traded or sold. If it is sold it would be put out for bid when Property & Supply does the next sale of excess equipment. There has been no request from Forestry to do

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anything with it. The Tribes need to attempt to get market value for the equipment and cannot just sell it to an individual according to the policy. **Kermit Clary**, Property & Supply, informed Art that the surplus sale will take place in April and it will be advertised for bid at that time. Bid packets will be available.

Shelly Fyant received information from Margaret Cook, State-Tribal Economic Development Commission, Department of Commerce Staffer, that there is \$50,000 available that tribes can match to use for Indian equity fund projects that they would administer. The Fort Belknap and Fort Peck Tribes showed interest in it. We would have to provide a cash match. Shelly was thinking that the Economic Development budget would have those funds available. It would be a self-administered Indian equity fund grant. Local entrepreneurs apply for funding, a committee reviews their business plan, and then entrepreneurs are awarded funds. So this is something we could administer locally. It is for individual entrepreneurs. March 31 is the deadline for tribes to submit their request. Vernon asked Shelly to refer this information to Janet Camel.

Ron Trahan has received numerous complaints regarding customer service at the Gray Wolf Peak Casino. **Troy Felsman** will follow up.

Troy Felsman discussed a missing child in the Child Protection Services system that was found in Helena. **Shelly Fyant** wants to address the number of placements that one foster care family can have.

Carole Lankford discussed the proposal from One Heart. Council needs to discuss how to move forward with it and she recommended further discussion on Monday. Vern needs to review the budget that was submitted.

Gail Grant requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Jami Hamel**, Policy Analyst, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

***** **Break** *****

Whisper Camel-Means, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a letter of support for her to apply to the National Conservation Leadership Institute.

MOTION by Patty Stevens to approve the letter of support for Whisper Camel Means's application to apply to the National Conservation Leadership Institute. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Willie Keenan, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to apply for a \$5,000 grant to assist with the purchase of aquatic invasive species awareness and prevention materials.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve submittal of the grant application in the amount of \$5,000 to assist with the purchase of aquatic invasive species awareness and prevention materials. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Renee Joachim, Personnel Department, presented a request for an incentive award in the amount of \$1,500. It would require an amendment to the Personnel Ordinance to allow the Personnel Director to process incentive awards without council approval.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve the incentive award in the amount of \$1,500. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Kevin Howlett and **Anna Whiting-Sorrell**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval to renew a two-year contract with the Pharmacy Tech/Admin Assistant and the WIC/CPA positions. Both positions are exempt. When the vacancies were advertised two years ago there were no qualified tribal member applicants. Chelle Gilham is a certified pharmacy technician.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to renew a two-year contract with Chelle Gilham to fill the pharmacy technician position. Seconded by Patty Stevens. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

MOTION by Troy Felsman to renew a two-year contract with Lindsey O'Neill to fill the WIC/CPA position. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, 8 for; 1 opposed (Leonard Gray – It seems like we could have had a tribal member prepared for this position after two years).

Kevin Howlett, Tribal Health Department, informed council that he received the chairman's memo regarding the THD legal position so it is on hold until he can get with the Legal Department to address the council's concerns.

Len TwoTeeth acknowledged the importance of town hall meetings and wanted one scheduled in Elmo. **Anna Whiting-Sorrell** announced that the Tribal Health Department is putting together a series of activities that will be scheduled in the communities that will include a meal and training people on basic questions.

Leroy Black, Jr., Two Eagle River School Board of Directors; **Rodney Bird**, Two Eagle River School Superintendent; **Rhonda Swaney** and **Ryan Rusche**,

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Legal Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session**. **Jami Hamel**, Policy Analyst, was present for discussion.

***** **Break** *****

Rhonda Swaney, **Ryan Rusche** and **Jordan Thompson**, Legal Department; and **Mike Durglo**, Natural Resources Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide a legislative update. **Paula Webster**, Natural Resources Department; **Jami Hamel**, Policy Analyst; **Brian Upton** and **John Carter**, Legal Department; and **Rob McDonald**, Communications; were present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

***** **Lunch** *****

Carolee Wenderoth and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; and **Renee Joachim**, Personnel Department; requested authorization to hire Zanen Pitts on a two year employment contract to fill the Lease Compliance Technician - GIS Emphasis position. A GIS certificate is required as part of the minimum qualifications. The vacancy was advertised and there were no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to authorize the hire of Zanen Pitts on a two-year employment contract to fill the Lease Compliance Technician – GIS Emphasis position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Carolee Wenderoth and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, requested approval to advertise the 2017 agricultural spring bid.

MOTION by Patty Stevens to approve advertisement of the 2017 agricultural spring bid. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Carolee Wenderoth and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, presented an offer from Lenae Peasley for the Tribes to purchase 3.8 acres with a single wide trailer in Arlee. The land committee recommended showing disinterest.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to show disinterest in purchasing the 3.8 acres and single wide trailer from Lenae Peasley. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Carolee Wenderoth and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Harry E. Burland for the Tribes to show disinterest in Allotments

2389 and 2390-A, containing a total of 80 acres. The land committee recommended further research. The request was pulled for now.

Carolee Wenderoth and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; and **Charmel Gillin**, Tribal Member; discussed a land issue from Bud Gillin. Charmel informed council that Bud wanted the property offered to the Tribe to purchase. The request to the land committee was to show disinterest in Tract 4352 so he could take it out of trust. **No action taken.** Lands will seek clarification from Mr. Gillin.

John Wheeler and **Daniel Tromp**, Kicking Horse Job Corps Center; and **Martin Charlo**, Contracts & Grants; requested \$600,000 to close out their previous contract and pay their creditors. The Department of Labor provided no operating funds to operate for the last two months of the contract. **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, joined the discussion. If the Tribe covers these outstanding bills and the Department of Labor does not provide the needed funding, then the Tribes will need to come up with the \$600,000 from tribal funds to cover it. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Senator Tester and the Region.

MOTION by Leonard Gray to authorize payment of \$600,000 for the outstanding invoices that are owed. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, 7 for; 1 opposed (Ron Trahan); 1 abstention (Patty Stevens).

Vern Clairmont, Financial Management; **Zach Camel** and **John Whitworth**, Central Accounting; requested approval of a resolution setting up the Deposit and Refunds Account at Eagle Bank.

MOTION by Patty Stevens to approve by resolution the setup and signatory authority for the bank account at Eagle Bank in Polson. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 17-085

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETUP AND SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE BANK ACCOUNT AT EAGLE BANK IN POLSON CALLED DEPOSIT & REFUND ACCOUNT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes designate Eagle Bank of Polson to conduct day to day CSKT Deposit & Refund Account business as the Tribe's designated depository, and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to authorize employee signatures for CSKT Deposit & Refund Account, and

Account Name

Account Number

CSKT Deposit & Refund Account

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes that all CSKT Deposit & Refund Account activity on said accounts from Eagle Bank, at Polson, MT, from the approved date of this resolution will be signed by two of the following:

Clayton Matt	Director of Tribal Services
Jane Clairmont	Director of Administrative Services
Vern L. Clairmont	Director of Financial Management
Zachary Conko Camel	Accounting Manager

whose signatures shall be duly certified to said bank, and that no checks against said accounts shall be valid unless so signed,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks whether such checks be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, or to the individual credit or any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue forth in the Certification of an authorized representative, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said bank or in any similar subsequent Certificate until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said bank.

John Whitworth and **Vern Clairmont** gave a report on where our money is invested. **Council** wanted to know what the options would be if we pulled our money from Wells Fargo, due to Wells Fargo being invested in the Dakota Access Pipeline.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to direct the Office of Financial Management to divest from Wells Fargo. Seconded by Patty Stevens. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Vern Clairmont and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, requested approval of modification 5 to the fiscal year 2017 Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance Compact Budget.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve by resolution modification 5 to the fiscal year 2017 Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance Compact Budget. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 17-086

RESOLUTION APPROVING MODIFICATION 5 TO THE FY 2017 BIA SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES:

WHEREAS, earmarked FY 2016 funding for 477 Program Office improvement has been awarded and needs to be allocated to the budget; and

WHEREAS, earmarked FY 2017 funding for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) has been awarded and needs to be allocated to the budget; and

WHEREAS, the budget will be allocated as follows:

Account Number	Description	Current Budget Authority	Increase/ (Decrease)	Revised Budget Authority
13-502-4770	477 Program	2,285,431.09	544,604	2,830,035.09
13-511-4710	477 Program Office Improvement	0	25,000	25,000.00
	TOTAL INCREASE/(DECREASE)		569,604	

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes to modify the FY 2017 BIA Self-Governance Compact Budget as reflected above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the FY 2017 BIA Self-Governance Compact Budget is increased from \$21,478,319.39 to \$22,047,923.39.

Vern Clairmont and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, has a \$40,000 budget as a special project for this year. \$32,000 is to purchase Pendleton blankets for the Gulf War veterans. The event will be held on July 7. Additional names will need to be added to the Eagle Circle. Ruth solicited estimates to add the additional names that need to be added to the Eagle Circle. The estimates received were: \$1,890 and \$7,800.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to approve the recommendations for the event. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jeff Tschida, Information Technologies, requested a promotion for Chuck Reese to an Infrastructure Administrator position. Chuck meets all the qualifications. There are no tribal members that have the required certifications

for the position.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the promotion of Chuck Reese to the Infrastructure Administrator position. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jeff Tschida, Information Technologies, requested approval to apply for a FCC Healthcare Connect Fund grant.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to authorize Information Technologies to apply for a FCC Healthcare Connect Fund grant. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jeff Tschida, Information Technologies, requested approval to purchase a vehicle for the IT staff from existing IT capital funds. The department solicited a bid from the Ford dealership. **No action taken.** Council directed that the procurement policy be followed.

Troy Felsman asked whether Information Technologies was holding mandatory financial literacy classes for its employees and he wondered whether it was within the scope of tribal employment. **Jeff Tschida** had submitted a lengthy rationale as to why he offered the classes. Jeff explained that the classes are not mandatory but he highly encourages his employees to attend. The genesis for it was due to individuals telling him their personal problems and those problems affecting the employees' work performance. The number one cause of stress and absenteeism is due to financial problems. He thought having the staff go through this training would improve work performance. Jeff is a trained facilitator and wants to offer this training to the entire workforce and membership. **Council** wanted to know if the department head was aware of the training and if she approved the training to be offered. Council referred the matter to Jane Clairmont to work through since she is the department head.

Shelly Fyant asked about the evaluation of the sound system at the Arlee Community Center. Abby was directed to contact Devin Jackson for a status report on the assessment of the centers in Arlee and Elmo and find out if anything could be done at the Arlee Center before the funeral service on Saturday.

***** **Break** *****

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and **Jody Jones**, Early Childhood Services, requested authorization to apply for expansion funding from American Indian Alaska Native Programs Branch.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to apply for expansion funding from American Indian Alaska Native Programs Branch. Seconded by Patty Stevens. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

RESOLUTION 17-087

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF HEAD START FOR AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE EHS EXPANSION FUNDING for a 60 MONTH EARLY HEAD START ENHANCEMENT AND EXPANSION INITIATIVE: “HOPE for the FUTURE”.

To strengthen the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes’ capacity to deliver services to infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families through partnerships with community hospitals and other tribal programs, and expanding on the current full-day, full year model of center based care for infants and toddlers for 28 additional children with a minimum of 48 weeks per year through strong relationship-based experiences and a trauma-informed approach preparing them for the transition into preschool, as aligned with rigorous Head Start performance standards and Tribal priorities.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT,

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is the duly recognized governing body of the Flathead Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are committed to the sound planning and implementation of effective early childhood supports on the Flathead Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have directed the Early Childhood Services to provide effective education, nutrition, health, and social services for children aged 0-3 and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have involved the tribal community (including tribal leaders, elders, and parents) in developing the application for financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the project will address the critical need to enhance existing programs, train educators and staff, and expand Head Start services so that we can more adequately meet the needs of our growing community; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Head Start provides grant funding to conduct the necessary planning, training, and expansion to support achievement of long-range early childhood education goals; and

WHEREAS, the project is an eligible Early Head Start expansion activity under the program's guidelines, there are no funds available from existing tribal resources to address the needs identified in the project description; and

WHEREAS, because of our status as a Self-Governance Tribe, all identified Tribal matching funds identified in the project budget meet the Federal matching requirements guidelines; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation approves the FY 2017 Office of Head Start AI/AN EHS Expansion application for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' Early Head Start Enhancement Initiative "Hope for the Future" to be administered during the 60 month period of June 2, 2017 through June 1, 2022 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are requesting five years of funding totaling \$5,000,000 from the Office of Head Start to strengthen the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes' capacity to deliver trauma informed supports for infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families through strong relationship-based experiences and preparing them for the transition into preschool; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes agrees to secure and provide the required 20 percent non-federal matching contributions for operations in the form of salaries, fringe benefits, and other costs identified in the application as necessary over the five-year period.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this project will be placed organizationally under and managed by the Early Childhood Services.

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a resolution for Part B and C monies from the BIA for services to infants, toddlers and preschoolers who have a disability or mental health issues.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve the resolution for Part B and C monies from the BIA for services to infants, toddlers and preschoolers who have a disability or mental health issues. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Carole Lankford out of the room).

RESOLUTION 17-088

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE EARLY

**CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN, INFANTS AND TODDLERS
WITH DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED
SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT,**

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes currently contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the support and enhancement of an Early Childhood Education Program serving children with disabilities ages 0 – 5; and

WHEREAS, the program is operated in conjunction with and administered by the Tribes' Early Childhood Services Program which promotes the positive social, emotional, cognitive, and motor growth of preschool children; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Tribal Council that the Early Childhood Services Program support meeting the needs of preschoolers, infants, and toddlers with disabilities and mental health services of children and families;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation approves the application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to award a P.L. 93-638 contract for the continuation of the Early Childhood Education Program to support the needs of infants, toddlers, and preschool children with disabilities and mental health services of children and families.

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to hire Shanyel StrangeOwl on a three-year employment contract to fill the Teacher in Training position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve the hire of Shanyel StrangeOwl on a three-year employment contract to fill the Teacher in Training position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to hire Stormie Cenicola on a three-year employment contract to fill the Teacher Aide position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to approve the hire of Stormie Cenicola on a three-year employment contract to fill the Teacher Aide position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to hire Chantelle Begay on a three year employment contract to fill the Teacher Aide position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve the hire of Chantelle Begay on a three year employment contract to fill the Teacher Aide position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Ron Trahan. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to hire Linda Ferris on a three year employment contract to fill the Cultural Specialist position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to approve the hire of Linda Ferris on a three year employment contract to fill the Cultural Specialist position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Patty Stevens. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Jeanne Christopher, Carrie Antoine and Jody Jones, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to hire Kale Gardner on a three year employment contract to fill the Cultural Specialist position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Patty Stevens to approve the hire of Kale Gardner on a three year employment contract to fill the Cultural Specialist position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Rob McDonald, Communications, wanted to know council's thoughts on Mary Price's opinion piece. Rob will send council version two so they can review it.

Rob McDonald, Communications, informed council that the Lake County Commissioners would like a meeting with the tribal council on the 22nd. **Council** is available for the 28th.

Ron Trahan discussed the ITBC letter.

Shelly Fyant discussed GOTV efforts to fill the seat vacated by Ryan Zinke. We could have a dinner and hold special events for people to bring their ballots.

Patty Stevens informed council that she was invited to do the welcoming and prayer at the 39th Annual Mansfield-Metcalf Dinner in Helena on March 18.

Len TwoTeeth followed up on a personnel matter. **Vernon Finley** will follow up with the department head.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Council **adjourned** at 3:39 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Troy Felsman
Tribal Secretary