

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

Volume 17 Number 50  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: May 23, 2017  
Approved: May 30, 2017

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vernon Finley, Chairman; Leonard TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman; Troy Felsman, Secretary; Anita Matt, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; Dennis Clairmont; Shelly Fyant; and Leonard Gray.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ronald Trahan (Personal Time Off); and Patty Stevens (ATNI – Portland, Oregon).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:04 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Stan Pretty Paint.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for May 16, 2017 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2017, with corrections. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Dennis Clairmont** told the joke of the day.

The **agenda** was presented for approval. No conflicts of interest were identified. Additions were made to the agenda.

**Brendan McDonald** and **Jason McDonald** informed council that Brendan was selected to participate on the Mountain Conference Boys Basketball Team for the Down Under Sports Tournament in Australia in the summer of 2017 and requested a \$500 donation. Brendan needs a total of \$6,100 to cover expenses and has raised \$1,917 in fundraising activities to date.

**MOTION** by Shelly Fyant to donate \$500 to Brendan McDonald to participate on the Mountain Conference Boys Basketball Team for the Down

Under Sports Tournament in Australia in the summer of 2017. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Stan Pretty Paint** discussed the idea of purchasing bison from his territory. There is bison available to purchase. **Chairman Finley** discussed the importance of bison and advised that we have several bison initiatives. There are CSKT members that have bison herds.

**Chairman Finley** out of the room.

**Bill Swaney** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter.

**Council** met in **executive session**. **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, joined the discussion.

**Chairman Finley** returned to the meeting.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Rich Janssen, Chauncey Means, Evan Smith, and Georgia Smies**, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a resolution to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency for a two-year tribal wetlands program development grant.

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to approve by resolution submission of the tribal wetlands program development grant. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

## **RESOLUTION 17-136**

### **RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE WETLANDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WETLAND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR FY 2018-2019**

**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 strongly support protecting water resources and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes consider the surface and ground waters of the Flathead Indian Reservation to be amongst its most valuable natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, have developed an effective framework for assessing wetlands functionality and protect, manage, and restore wetlands by developing the CSKT Wetlands Management program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribes have committed and continue to commit considerable financial resources to protecting, enhancing and restoring water quality on the Flathead Indian Reservation; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council supports the submittal of the proposed Wetlands Management Program WPDG grant; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the proposed work plan will be submitted to the EPA for review and possible funding.

**Rich Janssen, Chauncey Means, Evan Smith, and Georgia Smies**, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to submit a grant to the State of Montana Department of Natural Resources to secure funding for aquatic invasive species monitoring. Water samples will be collected to test invasive mussel DNA.

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to approve submission of a grant to the State of Montana Department of Natural Resources to secure funding for aquatic invasive species monitoring. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, requested approval of a contract with REDW to conduct the fiscal year 2017 audit.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve a contract with REDW to conduct the fiscal year 2017 audit. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Mandy Moran**, Tribal Education Department, requested a modification to the STEP facilitator contracts to increase their compensation for one half-day training.

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to amend the facilitator contract with Elaine Meeks to increase the compensation by \$375. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to amend the facilitator contract with Mollie Billedeaux to increase the compensation by \$250. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to amend the facilitator contract with Anna Baldwin to increase the compensation by \$250. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Jeanne Christopher** and **Jody Jones**, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to increase the contract with MPDG from \$40,000 to \$80,000 for additional compensation to increase the teaching time.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to amend the contract with MPDG to increase the amount to \$80,000. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Jeanne Christopher** and **Jody Jones**, Early Childhood Services, requested approval to enter into a facilitator agreement with Ann Garfinkle, University of Montana and Montana Autism Ambassador, to provide an autism training for ECS staff on June 9, 2017 for 6 hours at a rate of \$150 per hour. Ann will be donating to in-kind her travel and prep time.

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to approve a facilitator agreement with Ann Garfinkle to provide an autism training for ECS staff for 6 hours at a rate of \$150 per hour. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Jeanne Christopher** and **Jody Jones**, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a facilitator agreement with Pyramid Educational Consultants in the amount of \$4,500 to provide a two-day training to ECS staff on the Picture Exchange Communication System in August.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the facilitator agreement with Pyramid Educational Consultants in the amount of \$4,500 to provide a two-day training to ECS staff on the Picture Exchange Communication System in August. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Jeanne Christopher**, Early Childhood Services, informed council that on December 6, 2016, she came to council and got approval to enter into a facilitator contract with Doug Ruhman, but what she needs is a 10-month teacher training contract with him in the amount of \$74,000. It is a full-time position. Jeanne thinks it was advertised. **No action taken.** Council requested verification that the position was advertised.

**Janet Camel**, Economic Development; and **Dave DeGrandpre**; informed council that Dave was hired to update the Lake County Growth Policy which was last updated in 2003. Dave will begin holding public meetings in July to obtain public comments. He asked if the Tribes would be willing to have parallel rules with the County on such issues relating to billboard signs. **Troy**

**Felsman** expressed concerns about Lake County arbitrarily appealing the Tribes' fee-to-trust applications. **Shelly Fyant** would like the Tribes and Lake County to work together on common goals, such as the Drug Court, aquatic invasive species and the Lake House. The Tribes attempted to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Lake County on land use and enforcing the regulations in the Density Map but that did not occur. She recommended visiting with the Arlee CDC.

**Janet Camel**, Economic Development, requested approval of an amendment to the facilitator agreement with Virginia Tribe to increase compensation by \$4,000 and extend the term until the end of September.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to amend the facilitator agreement with Virginia Tribe to increase the compensation by \$4,000 and extend the expiration date to the end of September. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (7 present – Anita Matt out of the room).

**John Harrison**, Legal Department, reminded council of the bison hunt managers meeting scheduled for tomorrow at the Holiday Inn from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and the breakfast meeting on Thursday.

**John Harrison**, Legal Department, reported on the *U.S. vs. State of Washington* court case. The Ninth Circuit Court rejected the en banc petition. It is a case regarding salmon. The Ninth Circuit Court upheld the State of Washington's decision. Montana and Idaho joined Washington's en banc petition. The ruling was that Washington cannot block the culverts.

**Daniel J. Decker**, Legal Department, gave an update on the memorandum of understanding that the Tribes entered into with the VA on trust lands for properties on the reservation. The Denver Office came here to officially announce that the MOU was signed. Dan heard from the DC Office, and they want to do an official signing ceremony to let the public know about the MOU. **Council** agreed to have an official signing ceremony.

**Rhonda Swaney** and **Brian Upton**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Anita Matt** asked about the Tribal Health Department Head vacancy. She has heard comments from people saying that a master's or Ph.D. should be required for that position. **Chairman Finley** suggested that all comments and suggestions be submitted.

**Anita Matt** and **Troy Felsman** were not aware that all of the Ramah settlement funds were obligated to land acquisition and it was thought that dollars could be banked and moved. Anita discussed field trips that council committed to going on to view two properties. She also wants to know if there are any plans for the Mission Mart building. Tribal Council needs to have discussion on future use of acquired properties.

**Leonard Gray** wants to have a thorough discussion on the department head for the Tribal Health Department.

**Carole Lankford** received a request from Jeri Powell for a donation of coffee, cups and plates for Good Ole Days.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (7 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Council **adjourned** at 12:22 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

/sgnd/

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Troy Felsman  
Tribal Secretary