

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

Volume 17 Number 60
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: July 6, 2017
Approved: July 13, 2017

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patty Stevens (Unity Conference – Denver, Colorado).

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

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:23 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Chairman Finley.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for June 15, 2017 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Leonard Gray to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2017, with corrections. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, 7 for; 2 abstentions (Ron Trahan and Dennis Clairmont).

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for June 22, 2017 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for June 22, 2017, with corrections. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, 8 for; 1 abstention (Leonard Gray).

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

MOTION by Leonard Gray to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Len TwoTeeth informed council that he was notified yesterday that Andy Woodcock was back in the hospital. **Jennifer Trahan** was directed to follow up on a request to provide assistance to Andy's wife.

John Neiss, Facilities Maintenance, informed council that the bleacher project came in under budget so there is enough funding left over to pave the Elmo Pow Wow Grounds. John requested acceptance of a bid from Smith Paving in the amount of \$18,300 to pave the Elmo Pow Wow Grounds.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to accept the bid from Smith Paving in the amount of \$18,300 to pave the Elmo Pow Wow Grounds. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

John Neiss, Facilities Maintenance, discussed cameras for the scenic lookouts at Ravalli Hill. The cameras were burned and need to be replaced.

Anita Matt thanked John Neiss and his staff for mowing in Dixon.

Daniel Tromp, Kicking Horse Job Corps Center; **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department; and **Martin Charlo**, Contracts & Grants; requested approval to hire Erik Anderson on a three-year contract to fill the Math Teacher position. The vacancy was advertised for the past three years and there were no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Anita Matt to authorize the hire of Erik Anderson on a three-year contract to fill the Math Teacher position at Kicking Horse Job Corps Center, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Melanie Piedalue, Personnel Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss personnel matters. **Renee Joachim**, Personnel Department; and **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management; joined the discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Kelly Parker and **Karen Rentz**, Department of Human Resources Development, requested authorization to have more than two employees' wages in the Child Protection Services and Foster Care program to be paid out of the 6416 budget to offset the program's funding shortfall. **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, explained that \$92,000 was allocated out of the Dedicated Trust Fund to fund two positions. A portion of that can be reimbursed by IV-E funds. Vern suggested that the other portion of the salary be funded from another account as long as it does not exceed the \$92,000 that was allocated.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to authorize more than two employees' wages in the Child Protection Services and Foster Care program to be paid out of the 6416 budget. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Kelly Parker, Karen Rentz and **Natalie Kenmille**, Department of Human Resources Development, discussed the Child Welfare and General Assistance funding and asked whether the program should only offer General Assistance for the employable clients for 4 months in fiscal year 2018 or eliminate the General Assistance program completely due to the potential funding shortfall. All General Assistance clients will be cut off the program for the remainder of fiscal year 2017 due to no funding. Providing General Assistance to the unemployable clients for August and September would cost \$18,000. **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, reported that this issue was discussed in council last week and he is in the process of looking for funding sources for the remainder of the fiscal year, and Vern will report back to council on options to pursue prior to the clients being cut off assistance in August. The program will bring back options as well.

Chairman Finley out of the room.

Gabe Johnson, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a resolution to request acceptance and processing of the completed and revised Tribal Transportation Program's 2017 National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory Update.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve the resolution to request acceptance and processing of the completed and revised Tribal Transportation Program's 2017 National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory Update. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Chairman Finley out of the room).

RESOLUTION 17-161

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESSING OF THE COMPLETED AND REVISED TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM'S 2017 NATIONAL TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITY INVENTORY (NTTFI) UPDATE

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 with the responsibility to assure that Tribal transportation needs are met; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes an integrated transportation system links Flathead Reservation residents with cultural, economic, health and recreational resources; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council working through the CSKT Roads Program worked closely with Red Plains Professional Inc. to perform a NTTFI Inventory Update from 2014 through 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council supports the findings of the NTTFI Inventory Update and approves that the roads recommended for addition to the NTTFI network be added and are eligible for inclusion into the NTTFI as Transportation Facilities defined in the Federal Register, 25 CFR, Part 170; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council ensures that there was tribal input before final consideration of the Flathead Nation's NTTFI Inventory Update and revisions; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council supports the inventory coding, attachments, revisions, deletions, and additions to the NTTFI network as prepared and entered in the Road Inventory Field Data System (RIFDS); and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council approves the following Recommended Inventory Table and supporting maps as the NTTFI roadway network and approves all necessary actions within RIFDS to revise the NTTFI to match the attached tables and maps which accurately detail our NTTFI transportation network; and

WHEREAS, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby approves the Flathead Nation's NTTFI 2017 Inventory Update, and directs the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region and Central Offices to accept and process the Inventory Submittal.

Gabe Johnson, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a resolution authorizing and supporting the North Valley Creek Bridge Replacement Project.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve the resolution authorizing and supporting the North Valley Creek Bridge Replacement Project. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Chairman Finley out of the room).

RESOLUTION 17-162

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING CONSTRUCTION OF THE NORTH VALLEY CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT CSKT ROADS

17-02

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 with the responsibility to assure that Tribal transportation needs are met; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes the need for an integrated transportation system to link Flathead Reservation residents with cultural, economic, health, educational, and recreational resources; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes receive Tribal Transportation Program (TPP) funds under the authority of the Fixing Americas Surface Transportation Act (FAST) and other transportation related funds. The Tribal Transportation Program uses these funds for transportation projects on the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory System on the Flathead Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes receive Transportation Facility Maintenance Funds under the authority of 25 CFR Part 170. Under 25 CFR Part 170.460(b), a Tribal resolution of or other authorized document supporting the project must be provided prior to construction.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council authorizes and supports the construction of the North Valley Creek Bridge Replacement Project CSKT ROADS 17-02.

Germaine White, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to transfer two contracts awarded by the NASA memorandum of agreement from the Salish Kootenai College to the CSKT for the purpose of developing a climate science education project.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to transfer two contracts awarded by the NASA memorandum of agreement from the Salish Kootenai College to the CSKT for the purpose of developing a climate science education project. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, 7 for; 1 abstention (Ron Trahan); 1 not voting (Chairman Finley out of the room).

Carole Lankford presented a blanket to Gabe Johnson to acknowledge the work he did at Two Eagle River School.

Jim O'Neill, Tribal Member, requested to meet with council in **executive**

session. Vern Clairmont, Financial Management, was present for discussion.

Chairman Finley returned to the meeting.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Joe Durglo, Tribal Health Department, requested authorization to hire Amanda Salway on a two-year contract to fill the Paid Care Patient Accounts Representative position. The vacancy was advertised and there were no qualified tribal member applicants.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to authorize the hire of Amanda Salway on a two-year contract to fill the Paid Care Patient Accounts Representative position, due to no qualified tribal member applicants. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, 7 for; 1 abstention (Anita Matt); 1 not voting (Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Joe Durglo and **Corrie McDonald**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a contract with Providence St. Patrick and Providence St. Joseph for MRI and digital MAMO services.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to approve a contract with Providence St. Patrick and Providence St. Joseph for MRI and digital MAMO services. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Ron Swaney and **Patti Clairmont**, Fire Control; and **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department; requested authorization to hire Joe Bates to fill the Air Attack Group Supervisor position on a temporary employment agreement for 90 days. The position was not advertised because Joe has worked in this position under the Bureau of Indian Affairs and detailed locally for the past 10 years.

MOTION by Troy Felsman to authorize the hire of Joe Bates to fill the Air Attack Group Supervisor position on a temporary employment agreement for 90 days. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

John Harrison, Legal Department; **Pablo “Chib” Espinoza**, **Dan McClure**, **Tom McDonald**, and **Germaine White**, Natural Resources Department; discussed bison issues and the draft agreement to manage Beatie Gulch. There is a bison meeting scheduled for August 10. The team is reviewing all the Tribes’ regulations to identify common principles in the guidelines that can be included in the memorandum of agreement. A community meeting will be scheduled with the other tribes to provide a presentation to the membership.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2017

The meeting was tentatively scheduled for October 9. **Leonard Gray** commented on bison issues.

Chairman Finley presented a request to change the name on the department credit card for the Tribal Education Department to remove William R. Swaney and replace it with Miranda Burland.

MOTION by Ron Trahan to change the name on the department credit card for the Tribal Education Department to remove William R. Swaney and replace it with Miranda Burland. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Chairman Finley and **Shelly Fyant** discussed a request regarding Father Drew who has served this area for the past 17 years. Vernon had a request to do a presentation for him at tomorrow's quarterly council meeting. **Council** agreed to give Father Drew a gift and do a presentation tomorrow.

Chairman Finley left the meeting for the remainder of the day.

Len TwoTeeth presented a request from LD for the Tribes to donate 3 hotel rooms at The Best Value Inn for the Two Eagle River School boys basketball team to participate in a tournament in Havre.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve a donation out of the donation fund for the Two Eagle River School Boys Basketball Team to participate in a tournament in Havre. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Carole Lankford presented a request for a donation for a feast for Kenny Phillips. **Council** will discuss this afternoon.

Rob McDonald, Communications, met with council to discuss an article regarding a proposed project. **Council** requested that Rob follow up on the concerns.

Rob McDonald, Communications, informed council that HDTV is coming here to film on the reservation. The network has a show called Shoreline Properties. Rob spoke to the producer and HDTV is focusing on privately owned land on the shoreline. Rob requested direction on how to proceed.

Council met in **executive session**. **Rob McDonald**, Communications, was present for discussion.

Vern Clairmont and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, met with council in **executive session** to discuss proposed write-offs for debts deemed

uncollectable.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the write-offs for debts deemed uncollectable for the Tribal Preservation Department. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Vern Clairmont and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, reported on the number of checks that were issued to the Tribes from closed accounts or NSF checks that are from 2013-2015 that are determined to be uncollectable.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to write off the balances from the closed accounts or NSF checks from 2013-2015 that are deemed uncollectable. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Vern Clairmont and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, discussed the fiscal year 2018 budget. Further discussion was scheduled for Monday at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Council **adjourned** at 1:14 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Friday, July 7, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., for the quarterly council meeting.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Troy Felsman
Tribal Secretary