

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

Volume 20 Number 79  
Zoom Meeting

Held: August 6, 2020  
Approved: August 11, 2020

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman; Anita Matt, Vice-Chairwoman; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Secretary; Martin Charlo, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Fred Matt; Charmel Gillin; Mike Dolson; and Len TwoTeeth.

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

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:02 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Carole Lankford.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for August 4, 2020 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for August 4, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Martin Charlo).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**MaryRose Morigeau**, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a letter to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality providing comments on the environmental assessment to expand the Tire Depot. The letter was reviewed by the Legal Department.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the letter to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality providing comments on the environmental assessment to expand the Tire Depot. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**Sherry Clairmont**, Tribal Member, requested to meet with council in **executive**

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**session** to discuss a personal matter. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; and **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst; were present for discussion.

**Louis Fiddler**, Law & Order, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide an update. **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst, was present for discussion.

**Dan McClure**, Fish & Game, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide an update. **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

\*\*\*\*\* **Break** \*\*\*\*\*

**Renee Camel**, **Chuck Sanger** and **Chuck Reese**, Information Technologies, requested approval to enter into a contract with Naviant to conduct the OnBase discovery audit for the Finance Office, Personnel Department, Enrollment Office, and Tribal Council. The implementation phase for OnBase will come after the planning phase is complete.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve a contract with Naviant to conduct the OnBase discovery audit for the Finance Office, Personnel Department, Enrollment Office, and Tribal Council. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**Renee Camel**, **Chuck Sanger** and **Chuck Reese**, Information Technologies, requested to meet with council in **executive session**. **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve a contractor agreement with Access Montana. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve a memorandum of agreement between CSKT and Mission Valley Power. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**Lisa Pavlock**, Montana House of Representatives (HD-93) Candidate, introduced herself to council. Lisa's top priorities of interest are healthcare and investing in public education.

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**Rhonda Swaney** and **Brian Upton**, Legal Department; and **Amy Coffman**, National Bison Range; gave an update on the National Bison Range. The Bison Range has been closed since April 9 and will reopen on August 10, 2020. There will be an auto tour route only and the Visitor Center will remain closed. The Bison Range has been following Glacier Park as a model. The bison herd has been doing well and is adequate to get through the winter, so they are looking at not doing a capture this year. Will Meeks started his new position in North Carolina and a new Assistant Regional Director begins employment in October. The old maintenance building was not designed very well and had collapsed, and they will be breaking ground on building a new maintenance building this month. They continue to upgrade equipment, clean up some old equipment, and operate the best they can in this situation. **Anita Matt** heard rumors about why the Bison Range was closed and heard that there was some vandalism. She is glad it is reopening so people have somewhere to go. She heard of 2,000 visitors per weekend.

**Kevin Howlett**, **Dr. LeeAnna Muzquiz**, **Vern Clairmont**, **Dr. Garry Pitts**, **Dr. Bernadette Corum**, Tribal Health Committee; and **Yolanda Page**, Legal Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personnel matter. **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department; and **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst; were present for discussion.

**Council** met in **executive session**.

**Rhonda Swaney**, **John Carter** and **Stu Levit**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

\*\*\*\*\* **Lunch** \*\*\*\*\*

**Rhonda Swaney** and **John Harrison**, Legal Department; **Mary Erickson**, **Kathy Minor**, **Mike Thom**, **Virginia Kelly**, **Corey Lewellyn**, and **Halcyon Lapoint**, Custer Gallatin National Forest; **Tom McDonald**, Natural Resources Department; **Vernon Finley**, Kootenai Culture Committee; **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; **Mike Durglo** and **Kyle Felsman**, Preservation Office; and **Tony Incashola, Sr.**, Salish Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee; met with council for consultation and gave a PowerPoint presentation. The final environmental impact statement was completed. There was discussion on the revisions to the Forest Management Plan and an overview of the draft decision, including addressing tribal concerns, overview of next steps, the objections process, and the timelines. A final decision will occur in the spring of 2021. On July 9 the documents were released to the public, including the 2020 Plan and Appendices, a summary of the final EIS, final EIS and Appendices, including biological assessment and response to comments; and a draft record of decision.

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The preferred alternative is alternative F. Many revisions were made to the plan components. The areas of tribal importance were added for specific guidance for Crazy Mountains, Pryor Mountains, Tongue River Break, Chalk Buttes, and North Cave Hills. The definition and direction of sacred sites were broadened. Westslope cutthroat trout was added for specifies conservation concern; 50-foot outer RMZ for category two waters; added direction for restoration for Whitebark Pine; revised guidance for developed sites in PCA; and added specific plan components for each recreation emphasis areas. There are 13 backcountry areas of 209,000 acres. Mountain biking is suitable only on approved system mountain biking routes, and not suitable in the Bad Canyon Backcountry Area. They called out 10 recreation emphasis areas of 225,000 acres and Stillwater Complex for minerals of 102,000 acres. The 60-day objection period from publication ends on September 8.

**Carole Lankford** left the meeting for the remainder of the day to participate in Drug Court.

**Chairwoman Fyant** advised that the Tribal Council needs to take action to vacate the shelter in place order (Resolution 20-090), effective August 10, 2020.

**MOTION** by Fred Matt to vacate the shelter in place order (Resolution 20-090), effective August 10, 2020. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Chairwoman Fyant** informed council that a representative needs to be appointed to serve on the Upper Columbia Conservation Committee. Martin Charlo volunteered to serve on the committee.

**MOTION** by Fred Matt to appoint Martin Charlo to serve on the Upper Columbia Conservation Committee. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 3:04 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Ellie Bundy McLeod  
Tribal Secretary