

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

Volume 20 Number 22
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: December 19, 2019
Approved: January 2, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ronald Trahan, Chairman; Leonard Gray, Vice-Chairman; Shelly Fyant, Secretary; Anita Matt, Treasurer; Dennis Clairmont; Carole Lankford; Leonard TwoTeeth; Charmel Gillin; Fred Matt; and Myrna DuMontier.

OTHERS PRESENT: James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; and Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager/Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:08 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Anita Matt.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for December 10, 2019 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for December 10, 2019, with corrections. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Anita Matt).

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

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Adriana Fehrs, Department of Human Resources Development, requested to pay John Hopkins University and the Family Spirit Program. She got approval of the contract with Family Spirit Program in October; the contract went to Contracts & Grants and because the start date was for last fiscal year, approval to spend these funds from fiscal year 2020 is needed. These are set aside funds. It runs on the state fiscal year. **Lissa Peel**, Contracts & Grants, commented that they began this in June prior to having a contract in place. Adriana explained there was no contract at that time. It was after the fact that John Hopkins said they wanted a contract. **Charmel Gillin** questioned whether the contract was reviewed by Financial Management regarding the back pay. Lissa told council

that it cannot be back dated and so the services from last fiscal year with no contract in place will be paid in fiscal year 2020, which will be an audit finding. **Dallas Fleming**, Administrative Services, clarified that if the council takes action to approve this, then there will be no audit finding.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the contract through Family Spirit Program to pay through John Hopkins University contracts. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

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

Randy Ashley, Natural Resources Department, requested contract approval for Bison Engineering Inc. for fiscal year 2020. The program has been doing these audit contracts for at least the last 21 years. This is the first time there was only one bidder. **Shelly Fyant** asked where the sites are located besides Ronan and Polson and asked if they thought about doing air quality monitoring on the south end of the reservation. When she attended the Smurfit Stone EPA meetings she brought up the fact that there is a lot of cancer in Arlee, and she wondered if it was due to Smurfit Stone. Those experts told her that the air does not come up the valley and remains in the Missoula valley. Randy replied that we have had this program since 1981 and was put monitoring stations in every town on the reservation, particularly for dust. We had a 103 grant for six years and monitored in St. Ignatius. That is as far south as they have monitored it. There was monitoring during the Liberty fire and that monitor was placed in Tom McClure's home. That is another program the Forest Service developed and it is a handy tool.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve a contract with Bison Engineering Inc. for fiscal year 2020. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a three-year contract with Arthur Mendoza to fill the Teacher in Training position. The vacancies were advertised and all qualified tribal member applicants were hired.

MOTION by Shelly Fyant to approve a three-year contract for Arthur Mendoza to fill the Teacher in Training position. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a three-year contract with Frannell Yazzie to fill the Substitute Cook position.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve a three-year contract with Frannell Yazzie to fill the Substitute Cook position. Seconded by Shelly Fyant. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a three-year contract with Alexander Pakootas to fill the Teacher Aide in Training position.

MOTION by Leonard Gray to approve a three-year contract for Alexander Pakootas to fill the Teacher Aide in Training position. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services; requested approval of a three-year contract with Heather Croff to fill the Teacher position.

MOTION by Fred Matt to approve a three-year contract for Heather Croff to fill the Teacher position. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a three-year contract with Kyara Fraga to fill the Special Services Aide position.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to approve a three-year contract for Kyara Fraga to fill the Special Services Aide position. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Council thanked ECS for the wonderful Christmas presentation. **Jeanne Christopher** told council that the students practiced a lot and sang their hearts out.

Dan Decker and **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department; and **Cory Clairmont**, Tribal Personnel Office; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personnel matter.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the request and accept the hire of John Hill for the Legal Department Water Rights Claims Examination Specialist position. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, 9 for; 1 opposed (Len TwoTeeth).

Len TwoTeeth, for the record, "The reason why I didn't support this is because we have tribal members that went through the process and they qualified for the position, and we need to start giving our tribal members preference when getting jobs."

Charmel Gillin, for the record "My understanding of the presentation is the best qualified and most appropriate for the circumstance at this time is who

they are requesting to hire. Others have minimum qualifications met, but this is the request of the department for the specific need at this time.”

Vern Clairmont, Dr. Leanna Muzquiz, Dr. Garry Pitts, Kevin Howlett, and Dr. Bernadette Corum, Tribal Health Advisory Committee; **Clayton Matt**, Tribal Services/Tribal Health Department; **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department; discussed the draft bylaws the committee developed for the establishment of a Tribal Health Committee Board of Directors and requested direction on how to proceed. The committee members were not aware of any action or resolution that was passed to establish this committee and they requested approval of such action to give the committee some legitimacy. **Charmel Gillin** wants to formalize that directive to the committee, and she appreciates the committee doing this work. She does not want the resolution to limit the needs of the committee. **Carole Lankford** commented that some of the Health Board members have been working on this for quite some time and came to a decision to establish this committee. She thinks the committee members should be compensated for their work. **Clayton Matt** had Yvonne working on a draft resolution. He will send that document to the tribal council. **Fred Matt** commented that we really need this Health Board and he thanked the committee for stepping up and helping the council through this process. There was discussion on compensation to the committee members. **Council** requested that the committee come up with a compensation proposal and present back for consideration.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to request the Tribal Legal Department to review the draft bylaws and provide a response back to the Tribal Health Advisory Committee and Tribal Council. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, 9 for; 1 not voting (Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Velda Shelby and **Janet Camel**, Economic Development, requested approval of a Memorandum of Agreement and Sub Award Agreement with S&K Business Services.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve a Memorandum of Agreement and Sub Award Agreement with S&K Business Services. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Velda Shelby and **Janet Camel**, Economic Development, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personnel matter.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to compensate Janet Camel at the negotiated rate that she brought in. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, 9 for; 1 opposed (Shelly Fyant).

Shelly Fyant, for the record, “The reason I am opposed is because of the arbitrary rate of pay.”

Rick Eneas, Office of Financial Management, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council met in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Dennis Clairmont to approve the request from Ted Sias to assist the tribal elders living across the canal with their bridge. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Shelly Fyant requested to approve the January 3, 2020 quarterly council meeting agenda for publication with Everyone Email, CKN, CSKT Website, and Facebook page.

MOTION by Fred Matt to approve the January 3, 2020 quarterly council meeting agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Leonard Gray to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 12:58 p.m., and scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, December 24, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Shelly R. Fyant
Tribal Secretary