

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

Volume 22 Number 34  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: February 17, 2022  
Approved: February 22, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom McDonald, Chairman; Len TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Jim Malatare; Jennifer Finley; Mike Dolson; and Anita Matt.

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

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:00 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Jim Malatare.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for February 15, 2022 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2022, with corrections. Seconded by Jennifer Finley. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

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

**Thomas “Sonny” Lozeau, Jr.**, Tribal Member, provided the history on the Post & Pole Yard and the Agency in Dixon. Before the demise of the blue building, he tried to save it and tried to get them to view the agency as a historical site and an integral part of our history. There is no development down there because there is too much to be done, meaning it is like a hidden secret that nobody wants to talk about and those houses were made in 1914 and contain asbestos. His mother’s house has asbestos. Sonny used to mow the yards, weedeated, trimmed the trees, and burned slash piles. It looks like river rock was stacked there. Where to dispose of the remnants of these old places is a question. It is hard to tell how much asbestos was in those houses. Disposal of asbestos is costly. Sonny tried to get a streetlamp installed and have Mission Valley Power

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trim the trees. The reason people have not been involved with it is because of the need to remove and dispose of the contaminated materials. The old main office and dispatch building could be rebuilt so there could be offices in Dixon. **Chairman McDonald** asked if there are any buildings that could be nominated as a historical site. Sonny tried to get the blueprints of the building there. He thinks they should all be classified as historical. **Carole Lankford** invited Sonny to a luncheon meeting today in the council chambers. Sonny commented that Dixon was named after Joseph Dixon. Sonny did some research on Mr. Dixon, and he does not like the name Dixon. Sonny suggested that Dixon be changed to Flathead Agency of the Flathead Reservation and there could be a skull of a buffalo to represent the spirituality. **Anita Matt** stated there are no plans to remove any of the buildings. They want to reface and paint the residents' homes. Anita contacted Mission Valley Power regarding the tree trimming needs. It can be a successful project if the community gets engaged. **Chairman McDonald** will follow up on the asbestos issue. Sonny thanked the council for saving part of our history.

**Chairman McDonald** received a request from Missoula County to schedule a fieldtrip on May 10 to review our conservation easement in the Swan. **Council** concurred with the date.

**Chairman McDonald** received a request for nominations for a tribal council representative to serve on the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee. The deadline to submit nominations is May 9, 2022. Carole Lankford and Anita Matt were interested in being nominated, and council concurred with the nominations. **Carole Lankford** informed council that she already submitted a notice of interest to be appointed to this committee.

**Tony Incashola, Jr.** and **Patrick Amborn**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to accept the high bid from Dupuis Logging for the BFS Tractor Logging Unit timber sale. The total value is \$842,753.60. **Len TwoTeeth** asked if we can purchase the pulp material for firewood rather than the contractor selling it as pulp. Patrick does not know if the contractor will be removing the pulp wood since the pulp wood removal is optional. Half of the sale is burned materials, which will not be used for pulp wood.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to accept the high bid from Dupuis Logging for the BFS Tractor Logging Unit timber sale. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**John Neiss**, Facilities Maintenance, requested approval of a contract with R&R Building Productions in the amount of \$437,750.00 to remodel the old complex building. The contract will expire on June 30, 2022. R&R Building Productions was the only bidder.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to approve a contract with R&R Building Productions in the amount of \$437,750.00 to remodel the old complex building. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

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

**Brenda Richey**, Extension Agent; **David Myers**, Site Director; **Ginger Pitts** and **Havilah Burton**, SNAP Educators; gave an overview of the Montana State University Extension Office and programs offered. The Extension Office is 100% funded by grants. The mental health crisis post-COVID is significant. The Extension Office did a food security agriculture project with chickens. Having agriculture in the classroom is very important. **Anita Matt** wants someone from CSKT recommended and get involved with the IAC Youth Council. Anita will text Brenda the contact information for Zane Not Afraid; he is the IAC Technical Assistant for Montana. Brenda requested approval of a memorandum of understanding to continue the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program to provide education on the Flathead Reservation. The memorandum of understanding will be in effect from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026, contingent upon funding. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, supported the request and is in the process of finishing the memorandum of understanding. The Tribal Lands Department also wants to submit a letter of support for the grant opportunities.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the memorandum of understanding to continue the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program to provide education on the Flathead Reservation. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

**Chelsea Colwyn**, Legal Department; **Tony Incashola, Sr.** and **Thompson Smith**, Salish Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee; **Vernon Finley**, Kootenai Culture Committee; **Mike Durglo**, Preservation Office; **Stacey Sherwin** and **Niki Graham**, Salish Kootenai College Internal Review Board; discussed the Research Review Board's proposal moving forward. CSKT has been engaged in the process of considering how and whether they would like to exercise Indigenous research and data sovereignty. The interim process is that the Salish Kootenai College Internal Review Board acts as the intake for proposed research projects and ensures it is in compliance with federal regulations. The proposed research projects are then sent to tribal departments for approval or denial. The work group recommended that the Tribes develop its own Research Review Board. A Research Review Board Coordinator position would need to be hired. Salish Kootenai College is not set up to review non-human subject research. **Thompson Smith** commented that a healthy and unique aspect about the ordinance is that it takes a proactive stance about research and is not just about being a receiving house of what people want to study. It establishes a process where the community can study things we need studied. **Vernon Finley** thought it was

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important to know what kind of research is happening on the reservation. A key benefit is they could contact the Research Office and find out some of the interesting research questions that the Tribes would have that would help us. Their research questions could be designed to finish their educational program and also give the Tribes valuable information. **Tony Incashola, Sr.** commented that research has been a concern of his, mainly because of the traditional elders he worked with were concerned about what was happening with their information and interviews. The elders want their stories told through Native people, not from someone else that has a tendency to change things to make themselves look good. This type of program is important to oversee our concerns. We have been studied ever since the Europeans came here and stories were told about our people without even talking to us. Our stories need to be handled and told correctly. Who we are as a people will never change. **Niki Graham** commented that having the ownership over the samples is a huge thing and something we need to make sure we take full responsibility for. Another situation is where researcher Dr. Gida Swaney passed away. She had gathered information and those interviews are still being used by the university and people are given access to the surveys and information. That information did not come back to us. The Review Board could put into place a requirement that the data comes back to us and we give permission for access. It will be a lot of work for one position. A repository would be needed to store the information and that would involve IT. **Chelsea Colwyn** stated the next step would be for someone to lead this effort. The working group does not have the capacity to do that. They would like authorization to move forward and work with Rick Eneas to figure out the next steps of what it would take to hire someone. **Chairman McDonald** talked about funding and asked if an administrative fee could be charged for the research proposals that are submitted and an additional fee if the researcher is awarded authority to continue with their study. Chelsea stated that the work group discussed that. Section 8 of the ordinance has language regarding permit fees. It was the **consensus** of council to continue working down this path.

**Council** met in **executive session** to discuss a departmental matter.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

**Greg Spahr**, Financial Management; and **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide a financial and ARPA update.

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

**Dan Decker**, **Chelsea Colwyn**, **Melissa Schlichting**, and **Brian Upton**, Legal Department; **Rick Eneas** and **Ryan Rusche**, Executive Team; **Rich Janssen**,

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**Casey Ryan**, and **Seth Makepeace**, Natural Resources Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session**. **Rob McDonald**, Natural Resources Department, was present for discussion.

**Ellie Bundy McLeod** left the meeting to attend another meeting.

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

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Council **adjourned** at 3:41 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Martin A. Charlo  
Tribal Council Secretary