

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

Volume 22 Number 22  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: January 7, 2022  
Approved: January 11, 2022

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

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

**David Morigeau**, Tribal Court Judge, swore in the new council members.

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

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Stephen Smallsalmon.

The **Yamncut Drum Group** sang a flag song.

The floor was opened for nominations of the Tribal Council officer positions.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to appoint Tom McDonald by acclamation as the Tribal Chairman. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to appoint Len TwoTeeth by acclamation as the Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy McLeod to appoint Martin Charlo by acclamation as the Tribal Secretary. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to appoint Ellie Bundy McLeod by acclamation as the Tribal Treasurer. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **Yamncut Drum Group** sang an honor song.

**Chairman McDonald** thanked everyone for being here today and showing support for our council. It helps empower us knowing we have the people's business before us. We have had so many people be good employees for the Tribes. **Council** honored Rhonda Swaney for her many years of service to the Tribes. Rhonda was the department head when we started gathering data for our water rights and then she served as the Managing Attorney for the Legal Department and took the lead on water rights. **Dan Decker**, Legal Department, has learned a lot from Rhonda over the years. Rhonda retired December 31. She served in the role since 2014 and as an attorney since 2005. She supervised the staff and involved in tribal, federal, state litigation and many jurisdictional issues. She provided legal advice to council and all government agencies. Before becoming an attorney, she served as chairwoman of the Tribal Council, department head of NRD, and prior to tribal government she worked at the BIA Northwest Regional Office in Portland. One most important issue she worked on was water rights. She had long history of working on those issues. Was a guiding member of tribal water rights team. She worked many years on water rights. She put in endless hours to represent the Tribes. She got the CSKT settlement agreement approved by congress. She spent countless hours educating and advocating for the Tribes. The team paid off for our Tribes, because our settlement is the largest ever approved by congress. She's a beloved member of the Legal Department. Her leadership and devotion is one of a kind. He thanked Rhonda for her many years of devoted service to the Tribes and wished her the best in retirement. **Council** thanked Rhonda for all her years of service and wished her well in the future. **Rhonda Swaney** congratulated the newly elected council members. It is good to see we continue to strive and we repeat our rituals and ceremonies. We are a great family. Her career has been quite the ride. Rhonda had the opportunity to work on so many interesting and important things. She thanked council for the opportunity and all those that worked with her, including the teams she was on and all the talented employees, because we did this; we put the CSKT on the map again. Rhonda did not do it by herself. She appreciates the honoring but wanted to remind the council of the many other people that are valuable and contribute so much to the Tribes. Even though she is retired, Rhonda looks forward to working with the council in the future. Rhonda thanked the council for the blanket they gifted to her.

The **Yamncut Drum Group** sang an honor song.

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

The floor was opened for comments from the Tribal Elders.

**Stephen Smallsalmon** shared stories from the past. The things they used to do are gone now and all he has is stories now. He thinks of himself, his people, and the elders. Elders need help and should not have to sign a bunch of papers.

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Things should just be given to them. Stephen should have his road plowed. The news said people 45 and older should not plow snow. He is happy with the new council and is happy to see everyone at today's meeting. Stephen has been teaching the language at Nkwusm for 19 years. Our language is important and we need another Nkwusm in Ronan.

The floor was opened for council updates/comments.

**Carole Lankford** commented that these past few months have been a humbling experience. She thanked the membership for voting and making their voices heard. Carole thanked Shelly Fyant and Charmel Gillin for their contribution and service to CSKT. We have a lot of work ahead of us as a Tribe. Carole wanted to be the chairwoman but did not have the support of her colleagues, so she selected the best person for the job. This is about the membership and getting the job done. We need to know the people and what their needs are. She thanked Tom for taking on the position of chairman. Carole made a commitment to council that she would not cry and walk out of the room again. During the election she continued to hear from the membership to not change who she is, she works for the membership, and to continue to fight for them. She is grateful for the reorganization. Council has people to go to do make sure the job gets done underneath them. She feels good about the way the organization is set up. When issues are brought up, they address it and put it in writing. Carole continues to work hard for membership, listen to them, and not forget who she works for. **Chairman McDonald** commented that what he loves about our Tribes and the returning council representatives. That continuity is extremely valuable. Carole is about ready to set some records. Tom wished Carole well in this council session.

**Anita Matt** gave the following report. "I want to thank Stephen for the prayer and the drum. I wanted to start by acknowledging our losses of membership and community since October 2021. I want to tell each of the families how truly sorry I am for their loss of loved ones. We have participated in revision of Tribal Lands Ordinance and is almost ready for public review. Most of the committees we serve on are virtual but we continued to participate and represent CSKT. I continued to participate in the Homeless Committee, Budget Committee, Enrollment, Land Committee, Intertribal Agriculture Board, Akiptan Board, Economic Development, Shareholder Meetings, Department Head Meetings, Economic, ANA Workforce. I participated in the Intertribal Agriculture Council membership meeting December 5-9, virtually again this year. Friday, December 4, I chaired the Rocky Mountain IAC regional meeting with our 9 Tribes in Montana/Wyoming to gain issues for our Caucus Paper and create a Resolution for full membership. USDA is gearing up for the new Farm Bill. The Farm Bill Coalition is engaging with the Intertribal Agriculture Council to work with its organization from Washington DC. Coalition meetings will begin this year to engage in any changes. Again, I would like to thank the membership for their

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patience AND support, the staff for their continued work and dedication, Madam Chair for her Leadership and all my colleagues for their dedication and continued collaboration to keep our membership and families safe, programs and services available. Our Dixon Building is up and operational. We had several meetings one on November 24<sup>th</sup> and another December 29<sup>th</sup>. Residents are concerned with moving the entrance, the MRL railroad cars, lack of Economic Development opportunities and when new Roads are going to start. We had about 10 attendees with 5 virtual attend the meeting. We are pleased that the Never Alone Recovery are meeting at the building. DHRD has some programs for Community Activities which we are eager to get going. This is my report, Mr. Chair. Thank you.” **Chairman McDonald** thanked Anita for her service as vice-chairwoman.

**Martin Charlo** had a busy last quarter. There was a big issue to deal with since August, in addition to the election. It has been a very rough time for us. There were some ugly things that happened. It is a new year and we are moving on. He thanked our people that help us with COVID-19, including the Tribal Health Department, first responders, Law & Order, Maintenance workers, woodcutters, snowplowers, and the people that go unnoticed. Martin thanked the people that did the elders payment last week. There are an endless amount of people to thank. Martin works as an ex officio member of the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority to resurrect the rail system. He thanked those who protect our waters. There are people doing cultural activities, and he prays for them. That is a good way to start a new year and is something we need more of. We need to support our people that do these types of things and should not be questioning what they are doing culturally. He thanked the drum group and Stephen Smallsalmon for being here today. We need to continue to mask up, social distance, wash our hands, and get vaccinated. Mental health is an important issue and should not be a taboo subject. Finding our center is really important. A new start is always good. We need to look out for one another, be kind, and help each other. We need to check on the people that have lost loved ones. Council committed to doing better than the day before. He congratulated the council officers. **Chairman McDonald** thanked Martin for his efforts against COVID-19 and for making it possible to do virtual meetings. He looks forward to working with Martin in the future.

**Mike Dolson** congratulated the new council and thanked Shelly, Charmel, James, and Bing for the opportunity to serve with them. It is good to see an audience at these meetings. His entire tenure on council has been during COVID-19. He wants to get back to doing district meetings. The new variant is threatening and is in Lake County now. He asked everyone to be safe. The education of our kids disrupted by covid. We need to take care of our kids. Mike thanked the staff and Election Committee for putting together the election this year, including Rick Eneas, Greg Spahr and Jennifer Trahan. **Chairman McDonald** mentioned that Mike is a professor of history and government. Mike is an asset to the Tribes and Tom plans on using Mike to do more for us.

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**Bing Matt** welcomed everyone to today's meeting. It is good to see so many people attend for the inauguration of our new council members. He was gone ten weeks dealing with COVID-19, pneumonia, and shortness of breath, so he had to work from home. It is a lot when an individual gets 1,000 votes, and we had two people get that many. It was great to see that the people have taken an interest in our elections again. The election was well organized. The new council members did very well in the election. Bing acknowledged Stephen Smallsalmon for doing the prayers and teaching the language. We do not have the old timers we used to have, and it is sad to see that. We have a new breed of elders coming in and many of them do not know the language. It is good to see the ones that step up to learn the culture and language. It is tough to deal with all the losses we have had over the past couple of years. Bing thanked Martin for keeping council updated on COVID-19. The new virus is something to watch. It is something that is not good for this country. Bing was involved with Forestry and got the Timber Use Policy Statement updated and approved by council. He thanked Tony, Rich and the small loggers for their hard work on this. There is a lot of work going on with the Irrigation Project. He thanked Shelly Fyant, Charmel Gillin and James Steele, Jr. It is tough to see anyone go that has been serving on council. Bing thanked Shelly and Charmel for their great leadership and he thanked them for the job they did. **Chairman McDonald** was happy that Bing recovered from his illnesses. Tom thanked Bing for his work on buffalo issues and he looks forward to working with Bing.

**Jennifer Finley** thanked everyone who voted for her. By voting her, they hired her as an employee to work for them. Jennifer's cousin Mary Antiste called her and told her not to be nervous because she belongs here. Everyone who voted for her is her new boss. Being on council is a huge honor and responsibility. They are depending on her to do her best work for everyone. She understands the seriousness of the work we are doing. Our ancestors relied on each other's songs, dreams, and medicine to survive. She thanked Mary for her good words, her family members, and everyone who encouraged her. When we help each other, we encourage each other, and we can achieve great things that we cannot do alone. We need each other. We are a small tribe and there are not many of us left in the world. We come from beautiful and strong people that stood together. Standing together is the only way to survive. We have to use our strengths for the good of our Tribe or we will not continue to exist. All of us belong here. May we be fierce, kind and work together. **Chairman McDonald** mentioned that Jennifer always worked for education for our youth. He looks forward to great things for our youth to elevate ourselves and the ability for employment and improvement in education.

**Ellie Bundy McLeod** provided a report. "Thank you, Chairman McDonald and council peers. What a great turn out today! Thank you all for being here! I see Stephen has returned so I would like to thank him for his words and for the

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prayer this morning. I would like to begin by congratulating the incoming Councilmembers. Tom, Jimmy, and Jennifer...welcome! Len and Carole, it is nice to have you back! I would also like to congratulate the new officers. I look forward to working with all of you these next two years. It is my hope that we all commit to working through any adversities, realizing that disagreements are healthy. It is also my hope that we keep the focus on moving forward with the work we have been tasked to do and that we continue to learn how to work together and communicate in respectful, professional ways. I hope we commit to supporting one another through the difficult times and that we cheer each other on during the good times. We are a diverse group tasked with a monumental responsibility and those we serve deserve our best foot forward always! Council has identified some very significant priorities that will take a lot of work and dedication to see through. The staff who have been called in to help us accomplish those goals have done so in great ways. I hope they all know how much they are appreciated! You will be hearing about those priorities later this morning. This last quarter, I continued to provide presentations on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons and CSKT's Tribal Community Response Plan established to address the issue. I also continue to serve as the Presiding Officer of Montana's Missing Indigenous Persons Task Force. Additionally, I have committed to learning more about Human Trafficking in Montana. I attended Attorney General Knudsen's Human Trafficking Symposium as well as several other county task force meetings. I mention that as this month has been declared as the National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Additionally, on Tuesday, Governor Gianforte and AG Knudsen signed a proclamation declaring this month as Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. In 2015, the MT DOJ tracked 7 human trafficking cases, compared to 41 in 2021...a very significant increase. I would also like to mention that National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is this Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. I would like to publicly acknowledge our Flathead Tribal Police, including the detention staff, the dispatchers, and the officers. Their work is demanding and often unappreciated. Thank you all for your service and commitment to the job and to our communities. I was honored to be able to attend some pretty significant events this quarter including the grand opening of MSU's American Indian Hall which is now available to serve over 800 native students, the Rocky Boy Bison return which included the reintroduction of 11 animals, five of which were supplied by CSKT and the ground breaking event for the future Ronan Tribal Health Clinic which will provide comprehensive healthcare services for our people. All were great days that made me feel amazingly optimistic! These next few years, I will continue to work on the MMIP and Human Trafficking front, as mentioned earlier. I am also hoping to implement some youth engagement projects...perhaps a leadership camp or youth council. More to come on that as those plans develop. Before I close, I would like to acknowledge those families who have lost loved ones these last few months. So many wonderful people. Loss is so very hard! Please be there for one another. I pray for all of you who are struggling to find strength and peace in the memories of them. With that, I will end my report by saying THANK YOU for this

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opportunity to serve you!! Happy New Year! May 2022 bring you good health and happiness! LemLemch' Pesya! *(and six of which were provided by the American Prairie Reserve).*" **Chairman McDonald** stated MMIP is a critical issue and he appreciates Ellie's dedication and hard work on that.

**Jim Malatare** was thankful for the support he had during the election. It is great to see the people speak up and decide how they want or don't want things to go. He is glad the people voted and let their voices be heard. Jim thanked Tom, Jennifer and the other council members for doing this job. He put in 8 years and it's a tough job. He had the opportunity to work with Carole, and she was lots of help to him. He looks forward to working with everyone. Council needs to work together and support each other. He heard what Stephen said; he wants to see elder services made easier. An elder told him she had applied for services, it had been a while and she didn't get any, she tried again, and then they told her that her application expired. If we do what we should be doing, that application should never have time to expire and services need to be provided. People need services. A lady having to be helped down the stairs because she has no ramp and is in a wheelchair is unacceptable and he wants those things funded. There are restrictions on the drivers where they are not allowed to assist the clients, but the clients need help to get in the vehicle. Things need to change. Jim wants to work on improving services to the elders. There are lots of people that had to work during COVID-19. COVID-19 is here to stay and we need to learn how to deal with it and take care of ourselves. Jimmy thanked Allen Pierre and Gene Sorrell for smudging and praying in the council chambers. We need to do that annually. He thanked everyone for coming today. He wants to spend the next four years working for our people and the council needs to work together to get that done. **Chairman McDonald** thanked the previous council for creating the at-large position. Jimmy had a write-in campaign and it is the first time a write-in candidate won an election. Tom thanked Jimmy as a former council member for agreeing to come back and serve another term.

**Len TwoTeeth** is humbled by being able to represent the membership and Tribes for another term. Seeing the election numbers made him realize he is doing his job. Len knows who he works for. Every quarterly he brings it up to let them know he never loses focus of that. Len thanked his colleagues for entrusting him in the vice-chair position. He thanked his colleagues. We have lots of work and he is humbled to be here. Len thanked the outgoing council members Shelly Fyant, Charmel Gillin, Fred Matt, and James Steele, Jr. for serving. They were all part of this team when we passed our water compact, took over the dam, and took over the Bison Range. He appreciates the work they did. James was only here for the last month but he brought so much to the table and reminded us why we are really up here, especially when dealing with other governmental entities such as the state and federal government. Len appreciates his words of wisdom. He acknowledged Bernie Azure for being a Vietnam veteran and for working for the Char-Koosta News. He thanked Gene Sorrell for being part of

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the Honor Guard and stepping up when needed. He thanked all the other veterans for their service. Len acknowledged the group of kids he invited here from the Second Circle Lodge. He met those kids in the last two months and as he met with them, he realized they are some talented individuals that have innovative ideas. Len invited them here today because he wanted them to know they are part of this and council works for them too. Len was grateful for the staff bringing those kids here today. Len thanked the membership for being here. He challenged each of them to engage the council and question their decisions. If the council is doing something wrong, they need to know and that is the only way they will learn. Many in the audience have a lot to bring to us to make us a more successful government. Len thanked council for appointing him as vice chair. **Chairman McDonald** is proud to have Len serve as the vice-chairman. Len's expertise and knowledge will make Tom's job easier. Long ago, Tom was going up Ravalli Hill and a Kalispell kid was racing his Honda and caused a head-on collision. Tom's leg was crushed and he was in bad shape. One of the first people upon Tom after the wreck was Len. Len offered to assist him. Tom appreciates knowing there are people that care for him and will help him in those situations. Tom thanked Len for helping him.

**Chairman McDonald** welcomed everyone to the meeting. Tom left his position as the Fish & Wildlife Division Manager yesterday. Whisper Camel Means replaced him in that job; she is very talented and will do a good job. Tom is honored by being here and being selected as chairman. He will do the best he can. Tom hopes to broaden his knowledge and expertise in all issues facing us. We have lots of opportunity to collaborate together as a governing body so we can be the leader we are for our people. We have that obligation. He looks forward to working with our youth. We need to focus much attention on our elders and youth. Climate change is a huge issue and he challenged his colleagues and departments to be role models to help with climate change. We have epic management issues ahead of us due to the number of people moving in here.

**Michelle Mitchell**, Tribal Education Department; and **Shadow Devereaux**; showed a documentary on the *Calling Our Warriors* COVID-19 campaign.

**Stephen Smallsalmon** asked how old people have to be to be an elder. **Chairman McDonald** explained there are different programs with different age classifications for services. Council can look at it and do the definition of services in a better way. Stephen asked how to get wood. **Carole Lankford** stated the age requirement varies from program to program. Stephen talked about marijuana. He wanted to know how come it is against the law but we can use it. There are people that get pulled over while driving a vehicle for using marijuana. This is our land so he does not know why we cannot stop it. **Chairman McDonald** explained that operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of substances is illegal and police officers go to training on that. **Shane Morigeau**, Legal Department, told Stephen that the staff can do another



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presentation with the elders to provide an update. Council approved a resolution and the BIA has 90 days to respond to the resolution. Being under the influence of marijuana and driving is a crime, just the same as alcohol. The Tribes looked at misdemeanor offenses for certain amounts of marijuana and decided not to charge people with possession. They are not saying it is legal; just that we will no longer charge people for those crimes when it is legal all around us. Marijuana remains classified as a schedule one drug according to federal law. There is an expungement process that will be undertaken. The council chose not to pursue charges for petty marijuana charges and will promote the new priorities.

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

(Prayer offered by Carole Lankford)

**Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer, gave an overview of the seven priority initiatives that were passed in July 2021, which included the mission and vision statement to adopt traditional principles and values into all facets of tribal operations and services. The initiative resolutions fully integrate traditional cultural values and languages into the daily lives of reservation residents; eradicate homelessness; improve and promote mental health; eradicate addiction; facilitate the right earning opportunity or job for members; foster business ownership among the membership; and achieve food security and sovereignty and eradicate hunger. The path going forward includes the creation of multi-disciplinary teams; an inventory of current efforts in each area; short- and long-term planning; assignment of tasks to CSKT staff; ongoing monitoring and periodic reassessment; CSKT employee *Why We Work* campaign; strengthening communications with the membership; and strengthening relationships with external supporters. The Homelessness Initiative efforts include organizing and coordinating efforts across CSKT. A Homeless Coordinator position will be created. A study will be conducted to determine an accurate assessment of the current situation, and the housing needs survey and homelessness study is underway. A plan to create a local treatment facility will be developed; and current gaps in services will be determined and a plan to address it will be created. An RFP or RFQ will be put out to move that forward. The council allocated the resources through the American Rescue Plan Act funds. There is a tiny house project that EDO is looking into. That would be producing housing that is affordable and trying to use that same effort to create either jobs or other economic opportunities in our communities. The Food Sovereignty efforts included completing a community food assessment. The Community Centers were upgraded for food storage and preparation. A commercial kitchen and distribution facility was developed at Kicking Horse Job Corps Center. They will have distributed over 2,200 meal kits through this facility by mid-January 2022. A pilot program was launched in January 2022 to deliver fresh, local, and traditional foods to elders with a goal of expanding to more of the membership. There has been continued and ongoing planning efforts

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and coordination with Tribal Departments to integrate food sovereignty concepts into operations. Council can see in real time what those groups are working on and the progress. **Chairman McDonald** commented when Rick talks about engaging the employees, he would like to engage the workforce. Our staff is valuable and we are fully vetted with the staff to accomplish these tasks. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that the Tribal Elders have acknowledged they want the new organizational chart revised to place them directly under the Tribal Council. **Rick Eneas** informed the new council that Shane Morigeau and Jordan Thompson have joined the executive team. Jordan is travelling so he was unable to be here today. **Shane Morigeau**, Public Affairs and Communication, is excited to be part of this team. We are in a place where we can ensure those priorities do not get lost. He will be working on these priorities and communication. The team will be focusing on the goals, strategies, and priorities and they will be measuring those on a regular basis to improve the lives of our membership. This team will also be overseeing the Char-Koosta News.

The floor was opened for comments from the tribal membership.

**Sam Barnaby** feels very fortunate to be home and he gives thanks to his Creator and his parents. Sam had left the reservation because his mother told him to go make a life for his family. His parents raised 15 children. Nothing in life is a coincidence. There are things set in motion, even back to the days of our Chiefs who are a part of us today. He was thinking about his parents this morning. Today is January 7, and there are 7 incumbents. There are three new council members due to the chaos we have been going through. Sam talked about the last words his mother told him when he was leaving to a stellar position at Walmart. He is glad he listened to what she told him. We feel the positions we hold are an entitlement, we get the big figures to represent the membership, and then we forget about everything. Sam's mother told him she did not want him to go to those gatherings because people would put bad medicine on him and hurt him. Those are changes that our elders told us about years ago. It is real. When COVID-19 hit, it was in 2019. Sam and his family came back from a ten-day vacation to Hawaii and fought through their illnesses and found out they had COVID-19. By then he had been fired by Walmart, so he moved his family back home and was hired at the local Walmart. Almost a year ago COVID-19 hit a second time, even though Sam was fully vaccinated. Sam just recently got out of quarantine because he got COVID-19 for a third time. COVID-19 is real. Sam thinks of the people that are entitled and think they are untouchable. We are living in those times today where it is real. The council works for us. They do not work for an executive board. They work for the people and for their families. The people are suffering. His heart goes out to his cousins who were on council and his adopted sister who was on council. We are not going to go to Heaven with fancy things. We are simple people. Sam shared stories about the tribal members who worked hard to provide for their families. Council needs to help the tribal members who are homeless and need food. Sam appreciates the

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council members who work for him, take his calls, take the initiative to find out if staff gets back to him, and make sure there is food on his family's table. Jennifer Finley's words echoed what Len TwoTeeth says at every quarterly council meeting. The council does not work for themselves and just their families; they work for the tribal membership. People are suffering and their families are suffering. This pandemic is real. Sam prayed and smudged for good things to come from his heart. We need to remember we are not entitled because of the five or six figures we hold in our pocketbook. We need to remember where we came from. Sam is proud to be part of his family. He hopes he can serve the people if he ever gets on the Tribal Council. Sam hopes we can put this pandemic behind us. We must remember it is not fake news; these things are real and we are living them every day. Sam thanked the audience who remained in attendance this afternoon and he thanked those who are watching the meeting via Zoom. Sam fights for others and voices the concerns of those who do not have the capacity to come forward. Council needs to help everyone; not just their families. Sam thinks something can be done so the membership will receive the full \$2,000 payment this month. The dam should produce revenue and there should be other funding to help the membership when they have a hard time.

**Carolee Wenderoth** stated that she is here as a tribal member and clarified that she is not in attendance in a formal capacity since a formal invite would be needed. Carolee serves as the Tribal Engagement Coordinator at the Department of Commerce. She has a lot of good networks in Washington, DC and can push tribal initiatives forward.

**Anita Matt** thanked Carolee for the information she sends her. Anita forwards the information to the departments. **Jennifer Finley** thanked Sam and Carolee for speaking to the tribal government today. **Carole Lankford** thanked Sam for his words. She wants to work with Patricia Hibbeler to get some assistance to Sam's family so he is not left hanging. There are people who are struggling. **Chairman McDonald** stated orientation is required to participate in the bison hunt. It is a protocol council approved by recommendation of the staff. The goal was never to leave someone hanging if they did not go through orientation. There were times people could not attend so Tom would provide orientation on weekends. We are servants to the membership. Tom believes Sam is a motivational speaker. Tom is unfamiliar with the COVID payment and whether to do one or two payments. There would be a cost savings to do one payment. Tom is willing to revisit that matter.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mike Dolson.

Council **adjourned** at 1:39 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Martin Charlo  
Tribal Council Secretary