

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

Volume 22 Number 64
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: June 21, 2022
Approved: June 23, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: 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.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom McDonald, Chairman (Personal Time Off).

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 9:03 a.m. Quorum established. **Bing Matt** will join the meeting later.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Len TwoTeeth.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for June 16, 2022 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2022, with corrections. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 7 for; 1 abstention (Martin Charlo).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Carole Lankford informed council of an incident that occurred at the Ronan Senior Center at a funeral and wake. At the end of the dinner the family noticed all the memorial cards were gone, which included about \$900. The cameras did not capture the area by the door. **Jennifer Trahan** advised that the Northern Cheyenne Tribe paid \$6,900 so the funeral expenses were covered by his tribe. **Len TwoTeeth** thought Leroy Black needed to get the security manual approved by council. We need to enhance our security cameras throughout all facilities. Carole mentioned there was an issue regarding who was going to do the security.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022

It needs to go through the IT process. **Len TwoTeeth** will discuss security issues with the executive team so it can be followed up on.

Martin Charlo reported there has been an increase in COVID cases. He reminded everyone to be safe and as an organization we need to do everything correctly. It was important to reinstate the mask mandate. The Tribal Council should set an example at events and enforce the mandate. **Len TwoTeeth** discussed the importance of people taking precautions for COVID. People became lax because there were no mask guidelines. COVID is here to stay and we should continue to wear a mask, wash our hands, and social distance. Len will ask the Tribal Health Nurse to provide a report on the number of COVID cases on Thursday.

Bing Matt joined the meeting.

Martin Charlo informed council there was an incident at the Gray Wolf Peak Casino over the weekend. Martin requested council follow up and request a report from Bryon Miller and the Gaming Board. **Len TwoTeeth** will follow up with S&K Gaming.

Calvin Bourdon met with council regarding a pamphlet of information he gave them a couple months ago and he requested feedback on the list of issues he brought up. Calvin read in the minutes that the Tribes are looking at having a slaughter house. **Len TwoTeeth** responded that the council asked the Economic Development Office to submit a proposal if the Tribes opted to go into that business, but they have not made a decision whether or not to move forward. Since the water rights went through, Calvin saw they go over to Billings. He has not spoken to the attorneys yet, but he wanted a definite answer on whether that area is aboriginal grounds where tribal members can hunt and fish. Calvin discussed the reservation boundary. He does not understand why the Indian people are controlled by a reservation boundary line. The line is a white man's line; not our line. Our line is our aboriginal grounds. A lot of tribal members residing off the reservation still live within our aboriginal grounds. We should say our land is our land, not the white man's reservation they put us on. Tribal members off the reservation need assistance and the Tribes could possibly help them with housing and medical expenses. Those tribal members should also be allowed to vote. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that we receive many requests from off-reservation tribal members, but they are not allowed access to the programs due to the guidelines. Our constitution Bill of Rights stated tribal members will have the same economic opportunities that are afforded to the Tribes. It does not say whether they live on or off the reservation to have a right to those programs. We use those populations to provide funding for services to the membership. It is an issue we need to look at changing because many tribal members reaching out are elders. The way today's economic times are everyone is struggling. Len would support changing policy to help tribal members residing

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022

off the reservation. Calvin stated high school kids are making \$20 an hour to make tacos. He asked if the Tribes have looked at raising the rates. Calvin would like to see a bathhouse in Hot Springs. **Len TwoTeeth** stated he would ask the Legal Department to put some information together about the aboriginal lands boundaries so the information can be accessible to the membership. Calvin would like there to be a hotel at the Gray Wolf Peak Casino. **Bing Matt** commented that some of the land was given up in the water settlement. **Len TwoTeeth** stated the Tribes relinquished some land parcels as part of the water settlement.

Wayne McCoy talked about an outstanding payment owed to him for the Ktunaxa Ksanka Language Class he taught to 4 or 5 people in March 2021. He is still owed for seven hours of classes and he has never been paid. **Len TwoTeeth** explained there was no contract in place to provide compensation, so the executive team was going to look at other options. He would like to make things right with Wayne. Len encouraged Wayne to continue working towards the Class 7 certification. **Martin Charlo** wanted to know if the Kootenai language is being taught at Two Eagle River School or any other reservation schools. **Council** will check with the Tribal Education Department.

Tony Incashola, Jr., Tribal Forestry; **Darrel Clairmont** and **Whitney Malatare**, Fire Control; requested approval of a contract and scope of work between CSKT, BLM and TNC for phase two of the Lower Blackfoot River Forest and Meadow Restoration project.

MOTION by Bing Matt to approve the contract and scope of work between CSKT, BLM and TNC for phase two of the Lower Blackfoot River Forest and Meadow Restoration project. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Bing Matt informed Tony that he and his son have been clearing Liberty Meadow and there are some big trees in the road. There is a mile that needs to be cleared and he asked if Forestry could provide assistance to finish the work. **Tony Incashola, Jr.** will follow up on possible assistance to clear it out. **Len TwoTeeth** attended the Bison Hunt meeting with FWP and other tribes regarding the hunt. There was discussion about putting fire on the landscape to try to control the migration of the buffalo. Len thinks it is a good idea and it would be a good opportunity for CSKT to be involved with that once the planning process and environmental assessment are completed. Len wants the tribal programs to be involved.

Seth Makepeace, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of an amendment to Contract No. 22-173 with DOWL to increase the not-to-exceed amount to \$938,811.00 and approval of Task Order #2 in the amount of

\$860,134.00 for the Charlo Irrigation Planning Area. Task Order #2 will lead to the development of an integrated water and irrigation operation master plan.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the amendment to Contract No. 22-173 with DOWL to increase the not-to-exceed amount to \$938,811.00 and approval of Task Order #2 in the amount of \$860,134.00. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Seth Makepeace reported that Post Creek water levels are high and the reservoir is spilling and causing localized flooding for houses in the floodplain.

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

Norrie Irvine and **Pam Askan**, Arlee Celebration Committee, requested approval of a change of duty for Arlee Celebration Committee members Norrie Irvine, Pam Askan, Quennel Matt, Milissa Grandchamp, Shawn Decker, Roberta Kay Decker, Joshua Decker, and Carlin Matt June 27 – July 1, 2022 to prepare for the Arlee Pow Wow. **Carole Lankford** asked if Mission Valley Power checked out things at the pow wow grounds. Norrie did not know, but she will follow up with John and Lisa. **Len TwoTeeth** wants to make sure everything is followed up on so there will not be any issues with the power during the celebration. Council took action for employees to work at the grounds and Len asked how that was going. Norrie was not sure the status of that. **Jim Malatare** reported that he did some welding on the ramp over the weekend. There were quite a few people there. The concession stands were torn down. There was an issue with the bathrooms during the Friday Night Hoops. Norrie told Lisa and Don about that issue and Don wrote down what needed to get done to repair the bathrooms. **Martin Charlo** wants to make sure our maintenance staff is on call during the pow wow and respond if needed. A minimum amount of work has been done to the grounds for the past couple of years, so there may be some issues come up.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve a change of duty, with supervisor approval, for Norrie Irvine, Pam Askan, Quennel Matt, Milissa Grandchamp, Shawn Decker, Roberta Kay Decker, Joshua Decker, and Carlin Matt June 27 – July 1, 2022 to prepare for the Arlee Pow Wow. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Bing Matt asked Norrie if she requested the funding yet. **Norrie Irvine** stated she was told she needed to send a cover letter with a budget and Pam was going to turn it into Greg. The money will be transferred to the pow wow account after the required paperwork is submitted. **Len TwoTeeth** will work with the executive team to ensure we have maintenance staff during the pow wow.

Michelle Mitchell, Tribal Education Department; and **Anna East**, Tutoring Coordinator; provided a summary report on the Tutoring for Tribal Students

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022

program for the period of November through May. Parents need to fill out a form in order to sign up their students for the tutoring program. The program had 13 certified teachers and 11 of those were elementary teachers. The program struggled with recruiting for tutors. 57 students signed up and 30 participated. Only two of the teachers were certified in specific areas. A total of 432.75 hours of tutoring was provided during the 2021-2022 school year. **Jennifer Finley** asked if they have explored a professional tutoring agency to tutor students. **Michelle Mitchell** has not explored that option. It is important we are good partners with the school districts and she likes to foster those relationships. Michelle has faith in the tutors that sign up for this project and feels we have the resources we need. Jennifer stated it may be beneficial to bring in professional tutors. Michelle commented there will be those kinds of situations in every school district. She likes to focus on the positive, build connections, and continue building relationships.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to accept the report. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Shelly Fyant gave an update on the Arlee Community Park and future plans. In 2016 she wrote a First Nations Institute grant for the Healing The Jocko Valley, which was about food sovereignty that focused on healthy local eating alternatives and included meat racks and a walking track. Shelly showed council some photographs of the park. Shelly requested permission to put in a concrete pad to put a structure on. **Carole Lankford** asked if Shelly considered doing black top since it is cheaper than concrete. Shelly stated the MSU Extension Office wrote a grant called Culture as Prevention, which has to do with positive mental health, and it includes funding for this project to pay for SKC Heaving Equipment to put gravel down. August 18 is the Arleesians Got Talent with DJ Foreshadow and MC Thomas McClure. There will be prizes in all categories. There will be a Back to School collaboration with the Arlee Schools. The Tribal Education Department is also a collaborator for this project. There is some debris and MaryRose Morigeau will be assisting with the removal of it. Shelly wants to bring the structure down and set it between the garden beds and meat racks to build an amphitheater. There will be bench seating made with logs. **Len TwoTeeth** suggested Tribal Forestry provide firewood for people to use at the site. He will follow up with Tony Incashola, Jr. It was the **consensus** of council to allow the structure to be placed on tribal property.

Lana Page, Brian Upton, John Harrison, and Melissa Schlichting, Legal Department; and **Ivy Rose Paz**, Fellowship Student; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to adjourn the meeting.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022

Council **adjourned** at 11:54 a.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary