

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

Volume 23 Number 8
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: November 3, 2022
Approved: November 8, 2022

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jennifer Finley (National Congress of American Indians Conference – California).

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 9:06 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Terry Pitts.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for October 27, 2022 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for October 27, 2022, with corrections. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 8 for; 1 abstention (Martin Charlo).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Michelle Mitchell, Tribal Education Department; **Don Wetzel, Jr.**, Office of Public Instruction Tribal Relations Coordinator; **Crystal Hickman**, School Mental Health Support Services Coordinator; **Alicia Doney**, Tribal Youth Leadership Coordinator; **Matthew Bell**, Language & Cultural Specialist; and **Anna Marsicano**, AmeriCorps Grant Coordinator; gave an overview of the Tribal Relations Unity & Resiliency Unit. Mr. Wetzel gave an overview of the Indigenizing School Climate Grant. There was discussion on the evolution of a cultural coexistent model of education and the culturally holistic school framework. The plan is to build a bridge within reservation school districts by having consultation with tribes and giving a tribal voice in schools to benefit our

students. The curriculum needs more information in schools about tribes being a sovereign nation. Mr. Wetzel gave an overview of the requirements of ESSA Section 8538. The Knowledge Keepers of Indigenous Nations was developed in October 2021 to guide the efforts for the youth. **Michelle Mitchell** requested approval of a resolution to engage in tribal consultation. There is a planning meeting today and tomorrow to create a pathway for information sharing and continue to do this work into the future.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the resolution to engage in tribal consultation. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-011

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE TRIBAL RELATIONS AND RESILIENCY UNIT (TRRU) IN AUTHENTIC INDIGENOUS INCLUSION OF LAND-BASED TEACHINGS IN SELF-IDENTITY, LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND HEALING THROUGH CONSULTATION OF ELDERS AND OUR TRIBAL NATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR YOUTH, CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OUTLINED IN THIS RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Relations and Resiliency (TRRU) believes that Native students should have an opportunity for an inclusive understanding of self through their tribal identity, language, traditional teaching, cultural practices, and healing; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes support an inclusive educational approach that reaffirms our traditional ways of living centered in our oral traditions and values. Our elders have a level of education comparable to doctoral levels in a westernized system. We support the TRRU in facilitating connections with our elders to support land-based tribal knowledge and traditions to improve educational outcomes for students in our communities.

WHEREAS, TRRU maintains consistent efforts in consultation with the Knowledge Keepers of Indigenous Nations (KKIN) in our Tribal Communities while seeking guidance on issues regarding student identity, mental health through culture, and value teachings through traditional methods of knowledge transfers maintained since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, TRRU seeks guidance to support a foundational approach to incorporate the teachings of land-based understandings and holistic intrinsic skill building of our Native students to teach self-efficacy and inherent

understandings, and create an environment of inclusive self-actualization for our students; and

WHEREAS, TRRU shall work directly with the resources provided by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the KKIN as directed. The approval will be sought from these entities as guidance toward youth impact and preparation as we seek additional opportunities to equip the child to make decisions with their own best interest; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, desires to support the efforts of TRRU while providing direction through consistent consultation; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, hereby supports the efforts of the Tribal Relations and Resiliency Unit (TRRU) of the Montana Office of Public Instruction to better support our youth and students, consistent with the purposes outlined in this Resolution.

Carole Lankford wanted to know the status of the Salish Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee Director position. **Chairman McDonald** advised Clayton Matt was going to meet with the Tribal Elders. The discussion continued in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Janette Rossman requested approval to post political campaign signs for Paul Guenzler on tribal properties located at the Ravalli Hill scenic turnout, St. Ignatius Tribal Health Department, and the Marvin Camel building in Ronan. **Louie McDonald**, Tribal Lands Department, informed Janette he has a map of the designated locations to post campaign signs. There is some tribal land at Ravalli Hill. The signs at the Ravalli Hill scenic turnout location needs to be 100 feet away from the turnout area. Janette will meet with Louie to obtain a map of the designated areas.

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

Lana Page, Brian Upton, John Harrison, Katie Jones, and Stu Levit, Legal Department; and **Shane Morigeau**, Tribal Executive Office; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters. **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer, joined the discussion.

Chairman McDonald and **Martin Charlo** left the meeting to attend a Ronan Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Council **recessed** the regular meeting at 12:07 p.m. to conduct an Energy Keepers, Inc. shareholder representative meeting.

Council **reconvened** into the regular meeting at 12:50 p.m.

***** **Lunch** *****

Chairman McDonald and **Martin Charlo** returned to the meeting.

Laurence Kenmille and **Chasity Haynes**, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a resolution approving the DNA results for #990762 to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy to approve the resolution approving the DNA results for #990762 to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-012

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE APPROVAL OF DNA RESULTS FOR #990762 TO INCREASE BLOOD QUANTUM USING THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S BLOOD QUANTUM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has the sole authority in determining eligibility for enrollment in the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and

WHEREAS, in cases where the natural parent at the time of birth of applicant and the natural father's name is not on the Certificate of Live Birth or deceased. A DNA test is accepted to determine paternity; and

WHEREAS, that the original birth certificate submitted for application at the time of birth did not include or list a biological father; and

WHEREAS, DNA results prove that 203-UO5565 is the biological father of #990762;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council accepts the DNA results and approved the blood degree correction for #990762 from 11/128 to 19/64 and to correct the blood degrees of his/her descendants;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DNA testing results for the sole purpose of enrollment eligibility are reimbursed 1/2 the cost of which the individual has paid, providing documentation if not already enrolled.

Laurence Kenmille and **Chasity Haynes**, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a resolution approving the DNA results for #890507 to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the resolution approving the DNA results for #890507 to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-013

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE APPROVAL OF DNA RESULTS FOR #890507 TO INCREASE BLOOD QUANTUM USING THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S BLOOD QUANTUM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has the sole authority in determining eligibility for enrollment in the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and

WHEREAS, in cases where the natural parent at the time of birth of applicant and the natural father's name is not on the Certificate of Live Birth, or deceased. A DNA test is accepted to determine paternity; and

WHEREAS, that the original birth certificate submitted for application at the time of birth was amended to include or list a father; and

WHEREAS, DNA results prove that 203-UO11626 is the biological father of #890507;

BE IT RESOLVED, The Tribal Council accepts the DNA results and approved the blood degree correction for #890507 from 39/256 to 71/256 and to correct the blood degrees of his/her descendants;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DNA testing results, for the sole purpose of enrollment eligibility are reimbursed 1/2 the cost of which the individual has paid, providing documentation if not already enrolled.

Laurence Kenmille and **Chasity Haynes**, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a resolution establishing the approval of DNA results for S.G.G. to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the resolution establishing the approval of DNA results for S.G.G. to increase blood quantum using the biological father's blood quantum. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-014

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE APPROVAL OF DNA RESULTS FOR S.G.G. TO INCREASE BLOOD QUANTUM USING THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S BLOOD QUANTUM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has the sole authority in determining eligibility for enrollment in the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and

WHEREAS, in cases where the natural parent at the time of birth of applicant and the natural father's name is not on the Certificate of Live Birth, or deceased. A DNA (Sibling) test is accepted to determine paternity; and

WHEREAS, that the original birth certificate submitted for application at the time of birth did not include or list a biological father; and

WHEREAS, DNA results prove that 203-UO11174 is the biological father of S.G.G.;

BE IT RESOLVED, The Tribal Council accepts the DNA results and approved the blood degree correction for S.G.G. from 0 to 43/128 and to correct the blood degrees of his/her descendants;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DNA testing results, for the sole purpose of enrollment eligibility are reimbursed 1/2 the cost of which the individual has paid, providing documentation if not already enrolled.

Laurence Kenmille and **Chasity Haynes**, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a resolution authorizing the relinquishment of Felix George Aripa (203-UO011718).

MOTION by Ellie Bundy to approve by resolution the relinquishment of Felix George Aripa (203-UO011718). Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-015

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF FELIX GEORGE ARIPA (203-UO11718)

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, Felix George Aripa has requested in writing relinquishment of membership from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, MT.; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 (1) of the Tribes' Constitution provides that membership in the Tribe may be lost by resignation in writing to the Tribal Council; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Felix George Aripa has relinquished the following:

Membership in the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
All future Tribal Benefits
All Hunting and Fishing now held by members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Any and all privileges now extended to members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the request for relinquishment of Felix George Aripa is hereby approved;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any individual who has relinquished their rights or membership voluntarily in the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes shall not be entitled to reinstatement or re-adoption,

BE IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the Office of Records Management and Enrollment of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes must be in receipt of documentation that Felix George Aripa has become an official member of the Coeur D'Alene Tribe before he will be relinquished from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Carole Lankford stated for the record that these issues were previously reviewed by the council before taking action. **Laurence Kenmille** commented that these items were well scrutinized by the council to make sure all requirements were

met and it was determined they were met, so that is why the discussion is a short presentation in the council chambers.

Mike Durglo, Preservation Office, requested approval of a letter and a resolution proclaiming climate change as a risk to the health, security, and general welfare of the Tribes and directing necessary resources for climate change planning, mitigation, and adaptation, and to integrate resource sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation measures throughout Tribal government operations. **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; advised all departments were directed to put their efforts towards the applicable 8 priorities in their budgets and work plans and determine reporting mechanisms for short-term and long-term goals. **Chairman McDonald** wants to reduce our carbon footprint and increase local produce to become more self-sustaining.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the resolution proclaiming climate change as a risk to the health, security, and general welfare of the Tribes and directing necessary resources for climate change planning, mitigation, and adaptation, and to integrate resource sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation measures throughout Tribal government operations. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-016

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING CLIMATE CHANGE AS A RISK TO THE HEALTH, SECURITY, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE TRIBES AND DIRECTING NECESSARY RESOURCES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING, MITIGATION, AND ADAPTATION, AND TO INTEGRATE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES THROUGHOUT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VI, Section 1(a), the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is empowered “[t]o regulate the uses and disposition of tribal property, to protect and preserve the tribal property, wildlife and natural resources of the Confederated Tribes, to cultivate Indian arts, crafts, and culture, to administer charity; to protect the health, security, and general welfare of the Confederated Tribes”; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council adopted the Vision that “the traditional values that served our people in the past are imbedded in the many ways we serve and invest in our people and communities, in the way we have regained and restored our homelands and natural resources, in the ways we have built a self-sufficient society and economy, in the ways we govern our Reservation and represent

ourselves to the rest of the world and in the ways we continue to preserve our right to determine our own destiny”; and

WHEREAS, the Tribes’ Mission “is to adopt traditional principles and values into all facets of Tribal operations and services. We will invest in our people in a manner that ensures our ability to become a completely self-sufficient society and economy. And we will provide sound environmental stewardship to preserve, perpetuate, protect and enhance natural resources and ecosystems”; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined that impacts from climate change are occurring on the Flathead Reservation; that climate change presents immediate and long-term risks to the health, security and general welfare of the Tribes and its members and to our lands and non-human relatives; and that the effects of climate change have the potential to negatively impact our people, our lands, our relatives, the environment, and the economic, cultural, and social welfare of the Tribal community and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Tribes, on July 26, 2016, officially adopted the strategic priorities of Cultural Perpetuation, Economic Development, and Health and Wellness to drive future decision-making, and this resolution aligns with those previously established priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined that, consistent with the Tribes’ Mission and Vision, it is in the best interests of the Tribes to combat climate change and ensure that climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resource sustainability measures are integrated into all Tribal government operations and into the daily lives of Reservation residents, and in a manner that recognizes that all things are connected and is guided by our tribal lifeways and traditional principles, values, and knowledge;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined that it is necessary to authorize and direct the Executive Officer to direct staff and resources to develop climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resource sustainability measures for use throughout Tribal government operations, build capacity, and communicate with Tribal government departments and the local community about issues and concerns regarding the local impacts of climate change, and measures individuals and groups can take to mitigate, adapt, and integrate regenerative processes into the daily lives of all Reservation residents; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes hereby authorizes and directs the Executive Officer to direct staff and resources, build capacity, and take such other actions permitted by the laws and policies of the Tribes, to accomplish these objectives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Officer or his designee shall report to the Council on the progress of the directives established by this resolution on a regular basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council may designate a Councilmember or Councilmembers to act as the Council's liaison for any such meetings and other engagements that may require representation of the Tribal Council to give effect to this Resolution.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to rename the Dixon Agency Community Center to the Anita Matt Building. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jennifer Trahan presented a request for a change of duty for Get Out The Vote volunteers Mariah Camel, Finance Department; Veronica LaForge, Early Childhood Services; TJ Crockett, Early Childhood Services; and Ernie Cutfinger, Early Childhood Services to help with the election on Tuesday.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy to approve a change of duty, with supervisor approval, for Mariah Camel, Finance Department; Veronica LaForge, Early Childhood Services; TJ Crockett, Early Childhood Services; and Ernie Cutfinger, Early Childhood Services to help with the election on Tuesday. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Chauncey Means, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a resolution appointing him as the At-Large Member and Liaison for the CSKT and EPA Region 8 for the National Tribal Water Council for a three-year term. The NTWC was established in 2005 by the National Tribal Operations Committee and the United States Environmental Protection Agency to provide technical and scientific information relating to water issues to tribes within the United States. It is funded through the EPA.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the letter and resolution recommending Chauncey Means to be appointed as the At-Large Member and Liaison for the CSKT and EPA Region 8 Representative to the National Tribal Water Council for a three-year term. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-017

RESOLUTION BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAUNCEY MEANS, WATER QUALITY ADMINISTRATOR, AS THE CSKT AND EPA REGION 8 REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL TRIBAL WATER COUNCIL (NTWC)

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have established a Natural Resource Department, which is held with the responsibility of protection of the environment and people residing on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Water Quality Program have been working with U.S. EPA to advocate for the protection, restoration, effective management and health of the air, land, water and biological resources of the Reservation's environment through education, planning, conservation, cooperation and regulation. While perpetuating cultural values and the quality of life of the people of the Flathead Indian Reservation. The NTWC is a Tribal resource and program and policy dialogue and development group, focused on natural resource and water quality issues and concerns.

WHEREAS, NTWC is composed of authorized representative from federally recognized Tribes and Indian nations or Tribally authorized organizations. The NTWC is governed by a 15-member elected council, and an elected Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The NTWC will assist any Tribe or Indian Nation in assessing their needs for Water Quality programs and/or education. **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes supports the appointment of Chauncey Means, CSKT Water Quality Administrator, as a CSKT and Region 8 representative to the National Tribal Water Council. The NTWC holds monthly conference calls and meets in person twice a year. The NTWC provides all necessary funding for travel for council members and Executive Committee Members to NTWC meetings. Chauncey Means, Water Quality Administrator, will be authorized as a Tribal and EPA Region 8 Representative to attend NTWC meetings.

Cindy Benson, Richard Erb, and Dan Depoe, Mission Valley Power Utility Board; **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; **Lana Page, Michael Wheeler and Stu Levit**, Legal Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide an update.

Lana Page, Michael Wheeler and Stu Levit, Legal Department; and **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Mark Couture and **Jackson Adams**, Tribal Lands Department; **Brenda Richey**, Montana State University Extension Office; **Fred Peck**, University of Montana; **Noah Atwin**, **Esther Montoya**, and **Clifford Jackson**, Program Participants; gave a presentation on the Youth in Ag/Drone Afterschool Program for the 2021-2022 school year and summer camp. The program was funded through the STEM grant, and it was a partnership between the University of Montana, Montana State University, and the Tribal Lands Department. The participants made drone maps to locate and identify invasive weeds. **Mark Couture** commented the drones help in expediting surveys. Drones can be used to treat weeds. The Lands Department would like to get infrared mapping done in the future to identify heat indicators of the plants. Mark hopes more students will get involved in this program. There are many technical advances used in farming. Brenda Richey informed council that the grant has ended and the program will continue into the future and will be funded through FRTEP. The students that participated in the program were in the 5th grade.

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested approval to rescind Resolution 23-008 that authorized the purchase of fee property from Pablo Plum Creek Holdings, LLC. A corrected resolution will be presented next week.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to rescind Resolution No. 23-008. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Bing Matt out of the room).

Chairman McDonald asked about the Big Draw lease. **Zanen Pitts**, Tribal Lands Department, advised Sheila Matt is interested in the lease and she just needs to sign the paperwork.

Martin Charlo asked about the Friday after Thanksgiving and if the employees that work 5/8s need to work that day. **Council** advised the holiday is on Thursday, so the 5/8 employees either need to go to work or take PTO.

Council **adjourned** at 3:54 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary