

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

Volume 22 Number 80  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: September 1, 2022  
Approved: September 6, 2022

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dixon District (Vacant).

**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 9:02 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Jennifer Finley.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for August 30, 2022 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Jim Malatare to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for August 30, 2022, with corrections. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Mike Dolson to approve the agenda, with additions. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Martin Charlo** announced the Bear Tracks Bridge event on October 10. He is looking for people to participate. They will do a procession across the bridge. They want people to wear their regalia, ribbon shirt, etc. Martin reached out to Two Eagle River School and students will be participating. People can contact Martin for more information/details.

**Martin Charlo** discussed the property north of the Two Eagle River School that is leased to the school. It is a timbered area and there is a lot of undesirable activity occurring in that area. Martin is working with the Tribal Lands Department and Fire Control to get that area thinned out.

**Jim Malatare** talked about tribal members having issues regarding their septic systems since July and they are concerned about it. They were told they would probably have to find their own vendor. If we do not have a local vendor to take these projects, we need to look elsewhere. It is an unhealthy situation for the children where the systems are backing up in the yard. Jim wants an update from the program. **Chairman McDonald** will have Jody facilitate an update on water/sewer issues.

**Mike Kenmille** and **Bev Michel**, Standing Arrow Pow Wow Committee, gave a report on the Standing Arrow Pow Wow. Mike thought council was accommodating the tent, but he received a text from Lisa Shourds indicating the bill still needs to be paid. **Chairman McDonald** advised the Tribal Maintenance Department would take care of it. **Carole Lankford** requested the pow wow report be provided in writing and include the budget report. The report needs to include the personnel matters that occurred. Bev stated the staffing issues were taken care of. The written financial report was provided to CloAnn Westerman. Bev asked about the \$200,000 that the Tribes received from a Tourism grant. **Chairman McDonald** was not aware of such a large grant award and he suggested they speak to Velda Shelby about the Tourism grant. **Martin Charlo** thought there was some grant funding provided to replace the stick game pavilion next fiscal year. Bev wants to be able to use the money generated from leasing the pow wow grounds for firefighting or have the money added to their budget. **Chairman McDonald** explained any lease money that is generated goes into the general fund. There is an annual appropriation that goes toward funding the pow wow and helps fund improvements, such as fixing the pavilion. **Martin Charlo** commented part of the responsibility of the Pow Wow Committee is to do fundraising. Mike would like the maintenance work at the pow wow grounds to be done as soon as possible so they are not in this same situation next year. Mike was asked to write a list of maintenance needs. **Chairman McDonald** suggested having Maintenance do a walk-through so the maintenance needs can be addressed in a timely manner. **Mike Kenmille** informed council he was resigning as the committee chairman. **Council** thanked Mike for his hard work and dedication.

**Alvina Teigen**, Tribal Member; **Josh Teigen**; **Lauren Teigen**; **Charmel McClure-Sternick**, Real Estate Agent; **Mark Couture**, **Louise Mitchell** and **George Ducharme**, Tribal Lands Department; met with council in **executive session** to discuss a land issue.

**Mark Couture**, **Louise Mitchell** and **George Ducharme**, Tribal Lands Department, met with council in **executive session** to discuss a departmental matter.

**Chad Cottet**, S&K Technologies; and **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide an update.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

**Steve McDonald** and **Linden Plant**, Tribal Forestry, presented a request from Shannon Wager to modify the Selow Liberation Cut Logging Unit contract # F203C21031 to change the Contract Section A5, Contract Cut & Pay Date to August 31, 2023 and Contract Expiration Date to October 31, 2023, without penalty, due to having breakdowns and injuries. The department recommended approval of the modification.

**MOTION** by Mike Dolson to approve by resolution modification 1 to the Selow Liberation Cut Logging Unit contract # F203C21031 to change the Contract Section A5, Contract Cut & Pay Date to August 31, 2023 and Contract Expiration Date to October 31, 2023, without penalty, due to having breakdowns and injuries. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

#### **RESOLUTION 22-138**

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING MODIFICATION SELOW LIBERATION CUT LOGGING UNIT CONTRACT NO. F203C21031**

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

**WHEREAS**, The Superintendent, Flathead Agency, Pablo, Montana approved Timber Contract No. F203C21031, Selow Liberation Cut Logging Unit, between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Seller, and Shannon Wagner, the Purchaser; and

**WHEREAS**, Shannon Wagner, the Purchaser, has requested an extension of the cut and pay date and contract expiration date on August 8, 2022, from August 31, 2022 to August 31, 2023 and October 31, 2022 to October 31, 2023. As stated in his request due having breakdowns and injuries, he is requesting an extension; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superintendent and Seller agree with this request which will change Contract Section A5, Contract Cut & Pay Date to August 31, 2023 and Contract Expiration Date to October 31, 2023, without penalty; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED THAT:** Section A5 of the Selow Liberation Cut Timber Sale Contract be modified to change Section A5, Contract

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Cut and Pay Date to August 31, 2023 and Contract Expiration Date to October 31, 2023, without penalty.

**FURTHER**, it is mutually understood and agreed that except as herein expressly specified, the Timber Contract shall remain in full effect and force, binding upon the parties thereto, and this Modification of Contract shall become effective upon approval by the Approving Officer.

Council **recessed** the regular meeting at 11:30 a.m. to conduct an S&K Gaming shareholder meeting.

Council **reconvened** into the regular meeting at 11:40 a.m.

**Casey Lewis, Ryan Richardson, Emillie Henry, Mike Koopal, and Kate Wilson**, Flathead Basin Commission, gave an update on water quality projects and new onsite wastewater treatment system (septic system) risk map for the basin developed to support and assist planning efforts to protect water quality, recent synthetic DNA studies, and efforts to better assess and mitigate non-point source pollution sources such as underperforming septic systems, stormwater and agricultural runoff. There is a meeting set for October 5 that will focus on growth and development in the basin. Mr. Koopal gave an overview of the septic risk model and provided data. As of 2020, there were 21,415 septic systems in Flathead County. A large portion of those are at least 30 years old. They are forecasting that in 8 years half of the systems will be 30+ years putting them in the high-risk category. There is no data prior to 1978, so a survey was sent out. He gave an overview of the synthetic DNA tracer study, which has unique strands of DNA used to trace septic leachate from specific septic systems. The pilot study is being conducted on Whitefish Lake and Lake Mary Ronan. It would give us another tool in the toolbox to understand specific leachate pollution in the basin. They do not have the results back from Cornell yet. The National Science Foundation Grant will solidify emergency collaboration between researchers, basin stakeholders, government agencies, and communities committed to maintaining water quality in the Flathead River Basin by hosting a three-day Septic & Water Quality Workshop composed of Natural Resource scientists, social scientists, and the public to scope strategies and solutions to address the issue; evaluate the use of scientific and social data to motivate homeowners to adopt septic system best practices; complete a pilot shoreline microbial study to identify area receiving septic leachate in Flathead Lake; incorporate the results of a synthetic DNA study on Whitefish Lake and Lake Mary Ronan by community partner, the Flathead Basin Commission; and assess policies and governance frameworks that address the risks from failing septic systems to public health and surface water and groundwater contamination.

**Jennifer Finley** left the meeting for the remainder of the day.

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**Council** received an overview of the future work on septic leachate, which include making final edits to the septic risk map report; analyze results of synthetic DNA study; do an analysis of options (legislation, ordinances, outreach/education, financial incentives); develop and grow awareness and use of tools. They would like the CSKT to participate in the October 5 meeting and consider sharing data with the commission. There is an opportunity for a partnership with CSKT, such as building out a septic risk model for the entire basin; safeguard permits and records for safekeeping/future; easier to maintain and update records; growth and development panel; other information or technical needs regarding water quality; onsite wastewater treatment committee; and the Montana Waters Campaign. **Chauncey Means**, Natural Resources Department, discussed the request to share the records in the database. The Basin Commission will be asking the Salish Kootenai Housing Authority to share their data, as well. **Chairman McDonald** was in favor of sharing data to complete the mapping and he thought it would be a useful tool.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the collection permit for use of data we have on septic systems. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Chairman McDonald** informed council he will be on PTO next Tuesday.

Council **adjourned** at 12:32 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

/sgnd/

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Martin A. Charlo  
Tribal Council Secretary