

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

Volume 23 Number 37  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: March 23, 2023  
Approved: March 28, 2023

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom McDonald, Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; Ellie Bundy, Treasurer; Mike Dolson; Jennifer Finley; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; and Terry Pitts.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Len TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman (Tribal Leaders Summit – Helena, MT); and Jim Malatare (Tribal Leaders Summit – Helena, MT)

**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 9:01 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Mike Dolson.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for March 21, 2023 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Mike Dolson to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2023, with corrections. Seconded by Elly Bundy. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Chairman McDonald** informed council that Patricia is scheduling a site visit to tour the facility in Polson. There are residents in the facility so participation is limited to 4 council members. **Patricia Hibbeler**, Tribal Member Services, advised the facility has 13 residents and they do not want to be disruptive to the elders. The tour was tentatively scheduled for the first Monday in April.

**Patricia Hibbeler** asked if the chairman received the buy/sell agreement for the St. Ignatius property. **Chairman McDonald** could not confirm and Patti will follow up.

**Carole Lankford** discussed the Highway 93 construction project. There had been an agreement that we would have folks on the job, training provided for up to 1,200 hours, and two construction monitors (Ernie Moran and Carl Dupuis). She asked if that agreement still exists and, if so, is it being followed. The contractor needs to be held to that standard. **Chairman McDonald** will follow up with Natural Resources Department. It should be the Indian Preference hiring standard even if there was no agreement.

**Terry Pitts** was contacted about the action taken for the Black Bear Ranch and a request for modification to allow horses on the property. The Lands Department will be scheduled on the agenda.

**Bing Matt** mentioned Rehbein is hauling gravel in the Jocko for the canal project. **Council** will follow up with Seth Makepeace.

**Thomas “Sonny” Lozeau**, Tribal Member, did some research on Joseph Dixon and the actions he took against our people. He was part of the proponents of the Allotment Act. Jocko City is the original name of Dixon, so it would not really be changing its name; it would be reinstating Jocko City. SB 127 was postponed so Sonny will not be going to Helena tomorrow. Sonny is starting a petition regarding the assumption of criminal jurisdiction on the reservation according to 25 U.S. Code ss. 1326 – Special Election. Sonny believes portions of Ordinance 40-A and 40-A (Revised) were violated. A referendum was needed to support the April 11, 1968 action. In the interest of time and the agenda, Sonny was asked to continue his presentation after the agenda items concluded.

**Seth Makepeace**, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a construction management general contractor contract with Dick Anderson in the amount of \$391,225.00 to support the construction manager phase of the Jocko Headworks project. **Chairman McDonald** commented on the need to exhaust the potential for the Lands Department gravel or any other possible tribal gravel. Seth gave an overview of the procurement process for gravel. It may need to be something that is built in.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy to approve a construction management general contractor contract with Dick Anderson in the amount of \$391,225.00 to support the construction manager phase of the Jocko River Headworks project. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Louis “Mayuk” Caye, Karen Renz, and Rhea Gates**, Department of Human Resources Development, requested approval for the program to apply for grant funding for the Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the resolution for DHRD to submit the grant application for funding. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

**RESOLUTION 23-074**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IN RESPONSE TO THE FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT ENTITLED: ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, TRIBAL MATERNAL, INFANT, AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM: IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPANSION GRANTS, FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: HHS-2023-ACF-ECD-TH-0241, PRIMARY CFDA NUMBER: 93.872**

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

**WHEREAS**, The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are committed to seeking resources for children and families as they work toward healthy lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding opportunity, also referred to as Tribal MIECHV will provide funding to develop and implement activities to enhance services and provide resources to support families with young children, birth through kindergarten entry age, with a home visiting program. Home visiting programs are intended to promote outcomes including improved maternal and prenatal health, infant health, and child health and development; reduce child maltreatment; improve parenting practices related to child development outcomes; improve school readiness; improve family socio-economic status; improve coordination of referrals to community resources and supports; and reduce incidence of injuries, crime, and domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Human Resource Development has been operating its Early Foundations Home Visiting Program for over a decade and has an established history of implementation of a high-quality, culturally grounded, evidence-based home visiting program for AI/AN families and children and is currently providing these services, which meets the application threshold.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Department of Human Resource Development is authorized to submit a funding request in the amount of \$575,000 per year, for a five-year project to the Administration for Children and Families Office of Early Childhood Development, Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Implementation and Expansion Grants,

Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2023-ACF-ECD-TH-0241, Primary CFDA Number: 93.872, on behalf of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes supports the submission of the Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program proposal documents and authorizes the Tribal Chair and his designated representative to negotiate and sign all documents and execute this submission on behalf of the Tribes.

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

**Martin Charlo** left the meeting to participate in the Culturally-Derived Language Teaching Symposium in Spokane, Washington.

**Chelsea Kleinmeyer**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a resolution to approve the task order with Pathways to Recognition Program. **Carole Lankford** pointed out that the resolution format is incorrect. **Patricia Hibbeler** will assist staff to get it in the proper format.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to approve the corrected resolution to support CSKT Tribal Health Public Health Division's performance, strengthen the infrastructure, and facilitate accreditation readiness to improve health outcomes for the Flathead Nation. Seconded by Jennifer Finley. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

#### **RESOLUTION 23-075**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CSKT TRIBAL HEALTH PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION'S PERFORMANCE, STRENGTHEN THE INFRASTRUCTURE, AND FACILITATE ACCREDITATION READINESS TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR THE FLATHEAD NATION**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have organized and adopted an organization structure dedicated to health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 25, 2015, the Tribal Council declared the health and wellness of the people the number one priority; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Health Department operates under the authority provided by Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council and acts on behalf of the Tribal Council for health matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Health Public Health Division provides local protections and services unique to their community's needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Health Public Health Division provides health protections including preventing the spread of communicable disease, preventing disease through immunization services, supporting maternal child health, improving access to clinical care services, and preventing chronic disease and injury; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pathways Recognition Program will include tools and support systems to assess and monitor population health status, address health problems and hazards affecting the population, build and maintain a strong public health infrastructure, manage health communication, improve health outcomes through partnerships and coalitions; and

**WHEREAS**, upon completion of the Pathways to Recognition Program, Tribal Health Public Health Division will have a stronger public health infrastructure enabling the division to address the health needs of the community and set the foundation to apply for full public health accreditation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council approves the submission for the Tribal Health Department Public Health Program to enter into an agreement through Task Order 23-07-1-01-191-0 with the State of Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to join the Pathways to Recognition Program project funding for \$60,000.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tribal Council authorizes that Tribal Council Chairman the authority to execute any documents and agreements necessary as may be required to give effect to the transactions herein contemplated and to take such other actions as may be hereby necessary and appropriate to carry out the obligations there under; and that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Chelsea Kleinmeyer**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a resolution to support the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders grant with the Indian Health Service.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy to approve a resolution to support the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders grant with the Indian Health Service. Seconded by Jennifer Finley. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

## **RESOLUTION 23-076**

### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRIBAL LEADERS COUNCIL WITH A GRANT FROM INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES**

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

**WHEREAS**, the CSKT Tribal Council is the duly-elected governing body of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and is authorized to act on behalf of the CSKT Tribes; and the CSKT Tribal Council established the Tribal Health Department pursuant to Public Law 93-638 to administer and manage its healthcare programs and services per CSKT Tribal Ordinance 83; and

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes consider the safety of tribal people to be one of the most important responsibilities of tribal government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Health Department as part of its effort to provide tribal health care systems in response to the tribal communities needs addressing COVID-19 Data Collection in response to COVID; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Health Department's continued efforts through case investigation, contact tracing, education resource development and investigation against Covid-19;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the CSKT Tribal Council approves the submission for the RMTLC (U1B1IHS0012-18-00 (Epi Supplement)) COVID-19 Data Collection, Epidemiology or Surveillance project funding for \$128,000.00 grant to support the Tribal Health Department's continued efforts against COVID-19;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tribal Council authorizes that Tribal Council Chairman the authority to execute any documents and agreements necessary as may be required to give effect to the transactions herein contemplated and to take such other actions as may be hereby necessary and appropriate to carry out the obligations there under; and that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Chairman McDonald** informed council that Superintendent Hendrickson gifted the Lolo National Forest a tribal history book and the address for the website for the Salish Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee to look at the relevant information. One of their Forest Service Liaisons might have funding for some youth programs/engagement. Tom was grateful for Shane doing those things.

**Dan Decker**, Legal Department, requested approval of the 2023 Election Rules. **Council** will take action next Tuesday.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2023

**Greg Spahr**, Financial Management, discussed the correction to the retirement distributions. A reconciliation was done on the concerns Carole Lankford had to make sure any correction made would be accurate. The withholdings were accurate, but the amount that was transmitted to Empower was not accurate. CSKT should receive confirmation of the correction by close of business tomorrow. The cause of the error was due to a mismatch in the electronic payment method. There were 411 files that had an error.

**Greg Spahr**, Financial Management, informed council the onsite visit with the auditors went well. We noticed one issue with policies about how we close out the fiscal year in the first two weeks of October and some invoices came in for the prior fiscal year that were paid after October 15. It is an outstanding liability, and we need to be better at reporting any outstanding liability when closing out the books. There will be discussions with Ruth about the fiscal year 2024 budget process, and the anticipated revenues will be presented to council next week.

**Chairman McDonald** requested a report on the Salazar account balance, investments made with it, expected return, and how we can utilize those funds in the future. **Bing Matt** discussed that account. He had heard there was over \$8 million, and he wants to get a per capita out to the people. Bing thought the dividends we get back from our corporations were going to get money back into that account. He wanted more information about the dedicated trust fund. **Greg Spahr** will provide a complete analysis, history, and the ordinance next week.

**Ann Miller**, Tribal Defenders Office, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personnel matter. **Patricia Hibbeler**, Tribal Member Services; and **Joe Durglo**, Tribal Health Department; joined the discussion.

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

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, discussed modifying the lease for the Caretaker of the Standing Arrow Pow Wow grounds and the Black Bear Ranch lease be modified to allow horses.

**MOTION** by Terry Pitts to recommend modifying the lease for the Black Bear Ranch to allow horses, while noting any injuries or health concerns regarding the horses will not be the responsibility of the Tribes and is the sole responsibility of the owner of the horses. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Junior Caye** stated it is important for the council to meet with the elders and he requested those meetings start happening again. It gives the tribal elders the opportunity to bring up their issues to the council and they want to be included.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2023

Council **adjourned** at 11:31 a.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

/sgnd/

---

Martin A. Charlo  
Tribal Council Secretary