

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

Volume 18 Number 25  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: January 11, 2018  
Approved: January 18, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ronald Trahan, Chairman; Troy Felsman, Secretary; Anita Matt, Treasurer; Shelly Fyant; Dennis Clairmont; Charmel Gillin; Carole Lankford; Leonard TwoTeeth; and James Steele, Jr.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Leonard Gray, Vice-Chairman.

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

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:05 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Charmel Gillin.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for January 4, 2018 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2018, with corrections. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 7 for; 2 abstentions (Charmel Gillin and James Steele, Jr.)

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for January 5, 2018 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2018, with corrections. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval. No conflicts of interest identified.

**MOTION** by Charmel Gillin to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by James Steele, Jr. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Mary Antiste** discussed what she learned from council and things not getting addressed. When she ran for tribal council so many things came out and it seems like when council gets elected their heart is not in the same place

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anymore and they don't do what they said they would do when they were running for tribal council. We have big problems that nobody is addressing. Housing has rules, but there are a lot of broken down cars everywhere. Some people are required to follow the rules when other people aren't. She was told that employees at the complex show up for work and then disappear for hours and nobody knows where they go, and there is no accountability. Instead of traveling, the tribal council needs to stay home and get things done. We have high paid employees that don't do anything and it starts from the top down. There are a lot of departments that are messed up and the department heads do nothing about it. There was a pay freeze put in place and that's not fair. The council needs to come up with a better pay plan. It is disheartening to be a tribal member here. Tribal council does not return phone calls. Services provided should be based on need, not based on who you are. Every time she used to get a pay raise Housing took it since she lived in tribal housing. Our programs should be government based. LIHEAP gave out \$800 this year. Some people needed that assistance and other people have a credit, so they have to wait to get winter LIHEAP assistance until they use their credit and that is not fair. Some people will not get a job because DHRD pays all their bills and Housing does not charge them rent. People should have to do something in order to get that free money. Some kids are lazy and do drugs because they are not doing anything constructive with their lives. We are not helping these kids by making it easy for them. Instead of council serving on boards and traveling they should address problems on the reservation. Council members are public servants and they should be knocking on doors and finding out the needs of the membership instead of holding meetings and traveling. **Carole Lankford** explained that there are rules and policies that need to be followed. Council returns phone calls. Housing has a policy for cars and abandoned vehicles. When homesites turn into homeownership, they can do whatever they want and have as many cars on their property that they want. Council works hard for the membership. Council has to travel sometimes or the Tribes will be left out of the process. Carole will follow up on the abandoned vehicles at the Maggie Ashley Trailer Court. **James Steele, Jr.** relies on folks to remind council of issues. He appreciated Mary's comments. Mary would like council to look at the management pay scale at S&K Technologies. There are issues going on at the resort that need to be addressed. There needs to be more security. The council should have one agenda to make things better instead of being self-serving. She wants council to review the enrollment records because she does not believe there are people that should be enrolled. The council needs to be transparent and let the membership know that they care. **Ron Trahan** commented that the council works together and strives to improve services to the membership. **Charmel Gillin** thanked Mary for her comments and for bringing these things to the forefront. She encouraged more dialogue at district meetings. We agree that the politics need to be taken out of the operations. If we keep that in the forefront we can be effective leaders. She encourages the staff to bring forward solutions, such as the budget freeze. We

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need to bring back appreciation and motivation. There is a Medicare/Medicaid thing that came out that wants to do a demonstration and test projects for able bodied people to work in the community. She is open to looking at how to improve the health and welfare of the membership. **James Steele, Jr.** commented on the great customer service provided by the staff at Mission Valley Power and thanked Mary for the good work she does.

**Len TwoTeeth** was contacted by Art Caye and Art's daughter plays on the Montana Avalanche Baseball Team. The Polson High School girls are participating in this. Art is requesting a donation for \$500 to go to an invitational tournament in Las Vegas next week. **Council** requested that Art fill out the donation request.

**Carole Lankford** asked if everyone saw the letter from Katie Harding for putting a satellite voting place in Elmo. **Jami Pluff** explained that the request was from two years ago. Jami will present a letter this afternoon. The election office negotiates for those satellite sites. Western Native Voice found the funding to have a satellite site. **Council** will discuss this afternoon.

**Cheryl Mathias** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Carolee Wenderoth**, Tribal Lands Department, requested approval of a resolution authorizing the purchase of Allotment 2883-E from Michael Durglo, containing five acres, at the appraised value. This is a carryover from fiscal year 2017 and there were sufficient funds for this purchase and the money was appropriated to the fiscal year 2018 budget to complete the purchase. The legal department recommended that the language in resolutions be changed to reflect a negotiated price, even if the purchase is the appraised value.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve by resolution the purchase of Allotment 2883-E, containing 5 acres, from Michael Durglo. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 2 abstentions (Charmel Gillin and James Steele, Jr.).

**RESOLUTION 18-053**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF FLATHEAD ALLOTMENT NO. 2883-E**

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

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**WHEREAS**, The Tribal Land Acquisition Program was approved by the Act of July 18, 1968 (PL 90-402); and

**WHEREAS**, Michael L. Durglo, Jr. has offered to sell his Surface Rights Only in Flathead Allotment No. 2883-E, described as follows: N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 4, Township 19 North, Range 19 West, P.M.M., Lake County, Montana, containing 5.00 acres, more or less;

**WHEREAS**, Michael L. Durglo, Jr. has offered his Flathead Allotment at the negotiated price; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael L. Durglo, Jr. and The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have accepted the negotiated price; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has agreed to purchase the above mentioned Flathead Allotment; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chairman of the Tribal Council or his delegated representative is authorized to execute the transactional documents necessary to complete the conveyance for real property situated in Lake County, Montana.

**Steve McDonald** and **Ron Swaney**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into a two-year consultant agreement with Tony Harwood for an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to assist with Fire and Forestry planning projects. The plan was submitted to the Regional Office on June 12, 2016 and has not been returned yet. **Shelly Fyant** requested that a presentation be made on the Forest Management Plan at the Arlee District Meeting. **Len TwoTeeth** wants a list of accomplishments for all of the consultants that have been approved; he wants to know what they have done.

**MOTION** by Shelly Fyant to approve a two-year consultant agreement with Tony Harwood for an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to assist with Fire and Forestry planning projects. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Bob McCrea**, Fire Control, commented that there is going to be a problem in the South Fork this spring and summer. It needs to be mitigated. The buffer zone needs mitigation or there will be a major fire.

**Steve McDonald** and **Ron Swaney**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into a two-year consultant agreement with Jim Durglo for an amount not to exceed \$18,000 to assist with Fire and Forestry planning projects. **Charmel Gillin** would like contracts to go through Indian Preference. Steve advised that they have specialized skills and knowledge.

**Vern Clairmont** reported that policy requires that they exhaust the Indian Preference Office contractors prior to seeking approval to hire a contractor who is not registered with the IPO. Council has to waive the policy if they take action to contract with an individual that is not on the Indian Preference list. **Ron Swaney** commented that Tony Harwood wrote the fire management plan so he has the institutional knowledge to write the operating plan. **No action taken.** **Council** requested that Jim Durglo provide a statement from his current employer approving this employment, and suggested that he also get on the Indian Preference list.

**Steve McDonald** and **Ron Swaney**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into a one-year contract with Ecosystem Research Group for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to provide NEPA services and Forest Management Plan Revision Facilitator. The program went through the Indian Preference Office and ERG was the only bidder.

**MOTION** by James Steele, Jr. to approve a one-year contract with Ecosystem Research Group for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to provide NEPA services and Forest Management Plan Revision Facilitator. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Steve McDonald**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into a sole source contract with the Ronan Hospital to conduct UA testing for Fire Management.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve a sole source contract with the Ronan Hospital to conduct UA testing for Fire Management. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Steve McDonald** and **Ron Swaney**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into a contract with Flathead Communications to provide radio services. **No action taken.** Council requested additional information.

**Steve McDonald** and **Ron Swaney**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to enter into an agreement for a restoration project called the Reserve Treaty Rights agreement with the Bureau of Land Management and Nature Conservancy.

**MOTION** by Troy Felsman to approve the agreement with BLM. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, met with council for orientation of the Financial Management Division. **Charmel Gillin** would like the audits and budgets available to the membership and reviewed at district meetings. Vern

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explained that he is not allowed to make copies of the audit, but the membership is welcome to review the reports in his office. **Carole Lankford** would like to move forward with a succession plan for when Vern retires. Charmel requested a copy of all the policies.

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

(Presentation and lunch provided by Sika)

**Arlene Templer**, Department of Human Resources Development; and **Renee Joachim**, Personnel Department; discussed a previous request to transfer Nicole Antoine through a directed reassignment to fill the Adult Protection Services Social Worker position at her current rate of pay. Nicole is currently employed in a grant-funded position in the Project Launch Program and is exempt from classification. In accordance with Ordinance 69C, employees that transfer through a directed reassignment retain their current rate of pay when they transfer to a position in the same classification level. In this instance, an exempt grant-funded employee is transferring into an Ordinance 69C classified position. Council took action on January 9 to advertise the position. **No action taken.** Past council action stands.

**Brad Pluff**, Tribal Court, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide an update on departmental matters. **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst; **Robert McDonald**, Communications; and **Patrick Yawakie**; discussed having a satellite polling site in Elmo. Evaro, Frenchtown and Hot Springs have satellite polling sites. The ACLU drafted a letter to the county commissioners. Lake County agreed to have a polling site in Elmo. The deadline to provide notification of a request for additional polling sites is January 31. The letter is requesting, pursuant to the October 15, 2015 Directive of the Secretary of State, in addition to a polling location in Elmo, we request an additional satellite office in Elmo and Pablo and a polling location in Pablo for the elections in 2018. We want the satellite office to be located at tribal building in Pablo and the polling location to be located at (). We can provide a space that complies with the requirements of Secretary McCulloch's October 15, 2015 Directive, including: (1) A space that is large enough to accommodate at least two county election staff, one voter, and the necessary election equipment; (2) A space equipped with adequate security features including a door that can be securely locked each evening and accessed only by the election administrator or designee; (3) A space will have telephone coverage and a secure wired internet connection that is consistent with the MT Votes Security and Access Plan, and (4) A space with disabled access. Under the Directive of the Secretary of State, a satellite office must provide at least the

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following services: in person registration beginning 25 days before the primary and general elections and continuing through 8:00 PM on election days; in person absentee voting beginning 25 days before the primary and general election days, and continuing until noon the day before the election days; and in person voting on election days. The letter proposes that the satellite office be open from 8:00 AM to 5 PM, for 25 days before the primary election in 2018 (from May 8th through June 4th) and normal election day hours on June 5th (from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM); 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM for 25 days before the general election in 2018 (October 10th through November 5th); and normal election day hours on November 6th (from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM). **No action taken.** Council requested legal review of the letter.

**Arlene Bigby** and **Martin Charlo**, Kicking Horse Job Corps Center; and **Vern Clairmont**, Financial Management; gave an update on the KHJCC. There was a regional visit yesterday. The meetings went well. Issues were addressed about the vouchers. The discussion continued in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Arlene Bigby** and **Martin Charlo**, Kicking Horse Job Corps Center, requested authorization to transfer Ken Bigby to the Group Life Supervisor position.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to authorize the transfer of Ken Bigby to the Group Life Supervisor position. Seconded by Troy Felsman. Carried, 6 for; 1 abstention (Charmel Gillin); 2 not voting (Dennis Clairmont and Anita Matt out of the room).

**Arlene Bigby** and **Martin Charlo**, Kicking Horse Job Corps Center, informed council that KHJCC will be revising the organization chart to move two positions from the Kitchen so the PDs and pay scale can be changed.

**James Steele, Jr.** discussed the Washington State University Native American Advisory Board. There will be a representative here to meet with tribal council on February 15 to discuss this issue. James participated on this board in the past. A determination will be made whether to add this to our council board/committees. We were a founding tribe of this organization and agreed to have a representative on the board.

**Anita Matt** discussed the delegates for the Rocky Mountain Leaders Council. She wanted to remain on that organization as a representative. **Council** added her as an alternate. **Shelly Fyant** reported that Len TwoTeeth is an alternate to the STED Commission.

**Carole Lankford** changed her mind about having the Boys and Girls Club part of the council boards/committees and she will continue to serve on that board

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as a community member. The director of the Boys and Girls Club wants to meet with the council to seek a letter of support to apply for a Shakopee grant.

**Carole Lankford** informed council that James Lapotka, district county attorney, requested to meet with council to see what council wants to see done about people going through the court system in Lake County; James feels he is getting no cooperation. **James Steele, Jr.** and **Anita Matt** requested that a meeting be scheduled with the Sanders County Commissioners. Jennifer reported that Janet Camel is working on that. **Charmel Gillin** discussed Gale Decker's term ending and the need to encourage a tribal member to run for that position. **Dennis Clairmont** was contacted about the Blackfeet having members run for office for the county commissioners and that resolved a lot of problems.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Council **adjourned** at 3:40 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Troy Felsman  
Tribal Secretary