

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

Volume 21 Number 20
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: December 15, 2020
Approved: December 17, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman; Anita Matt, Vice-Chairwoman; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Secretary; Martin Charlo, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Fred Matt; Charmel Gillin; Mike Dolson; and Len TwoTeeth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:00 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Martin Charlo.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for December 8, 2020 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for December 8, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Anita Matt).

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for December 1, 2020 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for December 1, 2020, as written. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 8 for; 1 opposed (Martin Charlo); 1 abstention (Bing Matt).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Council discussed the Two Eagle River School Board.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to remove the TERS Board member due to a BIE audit finding. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, 8 for; 1 opposed (Len

TwoTeeth); 1 abstention (Martin Charlo – serves on the School Board).

Len TwoTeeth asked if the council meetings would be on Facebook Live. He has many tribal members ask him that and we have loyal viewers.

Carole Lankford informed council that she followed up on a matter regarding a tribal member that needed car repairs, due to having medical issues and needing transportation to get to work. **Charmel Gillin** thanked Carole for following up. One Heart was hoping to provide some assistance to this individual. **Martin Charlo** was glad it was taken care without One Heart helping that person with CARES Act funding since that money cannot be used for car repairs.

Len TwoTeeth informed council that he has been contacted by tribal members who have Ferry Basin tags that have been unable to hunt due to the pandemic, and they would like the hunt deadline to be extended to January 31, 2021. **Council** took the request under advisement and directed Jennifer to get Tom McDonald scheduled on today's agenda to discuss further. It will require a waiver or change in our regulations.

Jean Matt, Chelsea Kleinmeyer, Rob McDonald, Dr. Bernadette Corum, Rick Eneas, Mark Clary, Ed Meece, and Dale Nelson, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Jean Matt** reported that it is 10 days until Christmas. We are looking at more gatherings, shopping, and bigger crowds. Those need to be avoided as much as possible. **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** reported that Lake County has a total of 1,499 confirmed cases, 144 active cases, 12 current hospitalizations, and 16 deaths to date. The CDC updated their guidelines and the COVID Task Force agreed to adopt those recommendations. The task force still recommends quarantining for 14 days because that is the safest option, but they understand the need for employers to get their employees back to work and the need for students to get back to school. The new guidelines allow close contacts to return after 10 days if they remain asymptomatic. They are asked to monitor their symptoms for all 14 days. Close contacts can be released at day 7 with a negative test result. The new guidelines went into effect yesterday. They are still giving flu vaccines. Pfizer received its emergency use authorization last week for the COVID vaccine and began immunizing people across the nation this week. Montana is still waiting for delivery of their vaccine allocation. The initial supply will go to the large health care systems. Moderna will get its emergency use authorization this week and we will have those doses coming to Montana. Our healthcare partners are planning how to roll out the vaccine. We are all going to follow the best recommendations of doing a phased approach to target frontline healthcare workers first, essential workers, and those in higher risk categories. It will be dependent upon dose availability. The County and Tribal Health teams are not sure when we will receive our doses, but it should be in the coming week. **Dr. Bernadette Corum** commented that it is important to get vaccinated because the flu can lead to hospitalizations for the elderly. We don't

want that to be the case if there are already limited rooms available in the hospitals so they are still offering flu vaccines. They will put out FAQ information about the vaccine. The first phase is for the healthcare workers. Some of those workers will not get the vaccine. Having a place for people to ask those questions is the best way to move forward so people know there is a place to answer those questions. **Dale Nelson** reported on isolation quarantine. Council asked about getting in contact with the Salvation Army and he was put in contact with Helping Hands. They said they will follow suit with the Red Cross if we have to build a big shelter and they will help with that, but as far as money for people to sit in a hotel for isolation, they will not help with that. **Rob McDonald** reported that he is geared up to get the information distributed when the vaccine is coming and how it will work. He is seeing some care taken to encourage people to listen to the science rather than political rhetoric. We are going to have people we trust on Facebook to become supporters of the vaccine and to carry the torch for people to get a vaccine. **Ed Meece** reported that the city of Polson is trying to remain vigilant and get the message out. The city is preparing for the second CARES funding proposal. He thanked Rob McDonald for the campaign posters that were developed by the Tribes. It is posted in the city hall and other locations and it shows the cooperative spirit within our group. The city remains ready to help when needed. **Mark Clary** echoed what was said. Public Health is on top of stuff and everyone is waiting word for when the vaccine will get here. **Martin Charlo** has a sunlamp he uses daily. He extended his condolences to the Lake County residents we lost and sends prayers to the families and everyone who is struggling right now. We need to acknowledge the people we have lost in this fight. **Jean Matt** informed council that the UCC will not convene next week because they are having the staff take the week off for Christmas, and they will reconvene on the 28th. **Len TwoTeeth** asked the status of the white house. Chelsea Kleinmeyer advised that there is a family in there. Once they vacate, John Neiss will be notified to clean it up, and then it will be made available to another family. **Chairwoman Fyant** reported that the CSKT has 26 employees that are COVID positive and 105 in quarantine isolation. We saw a spike after the Thanksgiving holiday. People need to protect themselves during the holiday season.

Johnathan Owens, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a contractor agreement with Morrison/Maierle in the amount of \$36,000.00 to construct three isolation rooms in Polson and St. Ignatius.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the contractor agreement with Morrison/Maierle in the amount of \$36,000.00 to construct, design and engineer three isolation rooms in Polson and St. Ignatius. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Johnathan Owens, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of an addendum to add to contracts for moving expenses. If the employee leaves

before completing 12 months of employment the amount will be pro-rated to be paid back. **No action taken.** Council directed legal review it first.

Johnathan Owens and **Barbara Schott**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a MOA with Never Alone Support Services to hold group meetings.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the MOA with Never Alone Support Services. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Johnathan Owens and **Barbara Schott**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a contract with Open Aid Alliance in the amount of \$45,000.00 to participate in Syringe Services to prevent blood borne infections. The term of the contract would be until September 29, 2021.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve a contract with Open Aid Alliance in the amount of \$45,000.00 to participate in Syringe Services. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Charmel Gillin – due to not having seen the actual contract).

Johnathan Owens, Joe Durglo and **Dr. Garry Pitts**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval to pay outstanding invoices from Morrison/Maierle for some engineering work they did on the air handling and exchange system. One invoice is for \$3,218.00 and the other invoice is for \$14,640.00. **Dr. Pitts** gave an overview of the changes that will be made to the dental clinic to have isolation rooms for patients. Joe informed council that no contract was in place when the work was performed. We were in a shelter in place and the clinic had an assessment done on the air change capacities in the dental and medical clinics in preparation of reopening the clinics. **Chairwoman Fyant** directed that Tribal Health make sure contracts are in place prior to any work being performed in the future. This may end up being an audit finding.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to pay the outstanding invoices. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

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

Joe Vanderburg, Tribal Forestry; **Michael Munson** and **Tim Ryan**, Salish Kootenai College; requested authorization for Tribal Forestry to extract and deliver wind blowdown pine log from Tribal lands to SKC to make a traditional dugout canoe for educational purposes.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to authorize Tribal Forestry to extract and deliver wind blowdown pine log from Tribal lands to SKC to make a traditional dugout canoe for educational purposes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy

McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

John Neiss, Facilities Maintenance; and **Rick Eneas**, Financial Management; requested approval to move emergency hire and contract employees to FTE status without advertising: Lorelie Couture, Isaac Alexander, Donald Stanger, Gwynn Hewankorn, Rope Ardis, Joe Couture, Levi Burland, and Jeanne Curley.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to move emergency hire and contract employees to FTE status without advertising: Lorelie Couture, Isaac Alexander, Donald Stanger, Gwynn Hewankorn, Rope Ardis, Joe Couture, Levi Burland, and Jeanne Curley. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Renee Joachim, Personnel Department; **Rich Janssen**, **Dan Lozar**, and **Chauncey Means**, Natural Resources Department; and **Rick Eneas**, Financial Management; requested approval of incentive awards.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to go with the recommendation of the department head and approve an incentive award for Greg Wilson in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve an incentive award for Loretta Hoots in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve an incentive award for the 24/7 crew Rebecca Phillips, Samantha Friedlander, Bryanna Steele, Molly Auld, Dylan Ivins, Kyle Schock, and Nygel Matt in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Carole Lankford would like an article published on the duties of the 24/7 crew. **Rich Janssen** will work with Char-Koosta News to formulate an article.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve an incentive award for the Water Quality staff Evan Smith, Tabitha Espinoza, Alisha McDanal, and Gabriel Caye in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve an incentive award for Lissa Peel in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Gene Sorrell, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, requested increased compensation for the Board of Commissioners for board members to be paid \$100 for half-day meetings and \$150 for full-day meetings.

Travel could be reduced if they go over budget.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to increase compensation for the Board of Commissioners for board members to be paid \$100 for half-day meetings and \$150 for full-day meetings. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Carole Lankford – due to serving in unpaid position on the board).

Rhonda Swaney, Brian Upton and **John Harrison**, Legal Department, informed council that we received an invite from NCAI asking to take part in a meeting with the Biden transition team on Forest Service and USDA issues this Thursday at 2:00 p.m. for tribal leaders to hear about priority Forest Service issues. **Chairwoman Fyant** and **Fred Matt** were willing to participate. Shelly would like to discuss cultural resource issues, fire issues on reserved treaty lands (RTRL), additional cooperative agreement opportunities, fire payments owed to our tribal member contractors, and the CFR changes on the \$25,000 limit.

Rhonda Swaney and **Jordan Thompson**, Legal Department, gave an update on holiday kits. 50 kits will be distributed at each senior center and 100 kits per community. The kits will contain canned goods, fresh produce, and a \$25 local grocery store gift card. The Pablo community would get a gift card for IGA, Ronan would get a gift card for Harvest Foods, St. Ignatius would get a gift card from Rod's, and all the other communities would receive a gift card from Safeway/Albertson's.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the grocery store gift cards. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Rhonda Swaney, Jordan Thompson, Shane Morigeau, Michael Wheeler, John Harrison, Brian Upton, Stu Levit, Ryan Rusche, and **Dan Decker**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the letter of recommendation for Kathleen Williams. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

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

Chasity Haynes, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a resolution to relinquish Dante McDougall.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve by resolution the

relinquishment of Dante McDougall. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-019

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF DANTE ROBERT McDOUGALL (203-U0-12288)

WHEREAS, Dante Robert McDougall (203-U012288), 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 Dante Robert McDougall, 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 Dante Robert McDougall 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. A minor who is relinquished is eligible for reinstatement into the Tribes when he/she reaches the age of majority;

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 Dante Robert McDougall has become an official member of the Puyallup Tribe before he is relinquished from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Chasity Haynes, Enrollment Office, requested approval of a blood quantum correction for Annabeth Matt Felsman. This action will dis-enroll 4 individuals.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve by resolution a blood quantum correction for Annabeth Matt Felsman. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-020

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES TO APPROVE THE BLOOD QUANTUM CORRECTION OF ANNABETH MATT FELSMAN

WHEREAS, Annabeth Matt Felsman was determined eligible for enrollment at birth under Tribal Ordinance 35 A, (b), with a blood quantum of 11/16; and

WHEREAS, supporting documents show that an error in the blood quantum of Annabeth Matt Felsman had been recorded; and

WHEREAS, the parents listed on the Adoptive Birth Certificate of Annabeth Matt Felsman signed a Certificate of Adoption on September 13, 1985 requesting the blood correction; and

WHEREAS, the placement documents from Probate, dated 09/19/1985 has Annabeth Matt Felsman filed under the name heading Annabeth Felsman Savik; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes hereby authorizes the correction of the parental error and the blood quantum of Annabeth Matt Felsman, and to reflect that change on her descendants' blood quantum;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that the official rolls shall show Annabeth Matt Felsman's blood quantum as 0/0 degree Salish and/or Kootenai blood; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Annabeth Matt Felsman or her descendants shall be granted 30 days in which to appeal the council's decision. The appeal must be submitted in writing.

Laurence Kenmille, Enrollment Office, discussed a letter that was sent out regarding the blood quantum correction for the Alexander family that has been complete. The use of other blood was done. He sent a letter to Rick explaining that they were born after 1953 and were not eligible for enrollment. The research was done by Laurence five years ago prior to Marilyn being hired, so he had her do the blood quantum changes based on the research he did.

Len TwoTeeth commented that Robert Woodcock had an application in for

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2020

research for a while now and he wants Enrollment to give him an update on its status and what needs to happen to get it moving forward. **Chasity Haynes** advised that she has been in contact with him and his wife and they know we need a DNA test done.

Velda Shelby, Economic Development Office, requested approval of business relief grants.

MOTION by Bing Matt to award a business relief grant to Lauraine Johnson, owned by Lauraine Johnson, in the amount of \$22,500.00. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Carole Lankford to award a business relief grant to Native Spirit, owned by Arlene Templer, in the amount of \$15,501.00. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to award a business relief grant to Nancy Schall, owned by Nancy Schall, in the amount of \$30,000.00. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to grant a business relief grant to Daniel Jackson, owned by Daniel Jackson, in the amount of \$23,062.00, pending the findings. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to award a business relief grant to Qene's Catering, owned by Trina Felsman in the amount of \$5,413.00. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to award a business relief grant to Caye Wildfire Services, LLC, owned by Louis Caye, in the amount of \$26,794.00. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Mike Dolson to award a business relief grant to Jay Skellenger, owned by Jay Skellenger, in the amount of \$20,000.00. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Charmel Gillin out of the room).

MOTION by Bing Matt to award a business relief grant to Zim Lytle, owned by Zim Lytle, in the amount of \$29,500.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to award a business relief grant to Patrick Big Sam, owned by Patrick Big Sam, in the amount of \$14,684.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to award a business relief grant to Blixt-Pefley Hairstyles, owned by Carla Tracy, in the amount of \$30,000.00. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Bing Matt to award a business relief grant to Sherry Clairmont, owned by Sherry Clairmont, in the amount of \$21,500.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Martin Charlo to award a business relief grant to Arrow Construction, owned by Oliva Rose Maestas, in the amount of \$24,000.00. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Mike Dolson to award a business relief grant to Sheila Matt, owned by Sheila Matt, in the amount of \$17,581.00. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to award a business relief grant to Arrow Pest & Weed Control, owned by David Clairmont, in the amount of \$19,398.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to award a business relief grant to Vicki Whitworth, owned by Viki Whitworth, in the amount of \$20,000.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Carole Lankford to award a business relief grant to Wanda Salomon, owned by Wanda Salomon, in the amount of \$20,000.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Carole Lankford to award a business relief grant to High5, owned by Darlene Finley, in the amount of \$9,096.00. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Bing Matt to award a business relief grant to Leon Weider, owned by Leon Weider, in the amount of \$21,665.00. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to award a business relief grant to Shayla Chef, owned by Shayla Chef, in the amount of \$20,000.00. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Bing Matt to award a business relief grant to Alex Moran, owned by Alex Moran, in the amount of \$7,883.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Martin Charlo to award a business relief grant to Montana's Promontory Properties, owned by Crystal Green, in the amount of \$5,000.00. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Carole Lankford to award a business relief grant to Green Team Fire Services, LLC, owned by Gary Green, in the amount of \$10,800.00. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Anita Matt to award a business relief grant to Mark Jackson, owned by Mark Jackson, in the amount of \$26,550.00. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Velda Shelby, Economic Development Office, requested approval of a contract extension with Tina Begay and Steve Clairmont.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to modify the contract with Steve Clairmont to add compensation. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Martin Charlo to modify the contract with Tina Begay to add compensation. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Velda Shelby and **Janet Camel**, Economic Development Office, informed council that Janet served on the Lake County Planning Board for many years and she wants to mentor someone to take it over next year. This position needs a land use background and Janet talked to the Lands department head to identify someone to be appointed.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to appoint Janet Camel to serve as the tribal representative on the Lake County Planning Board for this next year. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jody Perez, Zoe LeBeaux, Marilyn, Daryl Olson, Ann Miller, Katie Miller, Susette Bildeaux, and Traci Couture, talked about the supportive housing facility in Minnesota that has been operating for the past six years and how it has changed people's lives. Native Americans make up only 3 percent of the population but make up 30% of the homeless population. They raised \$8.2 million to remodel the facility. The youth helps the staff prepare meals and they learn about nutrition and culture as part of that process. They purchased a market in the community and will make it an indigenous food market. The youth

help at the food market and earn money from that.

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

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department; **Stu Levit** and **Michael Wheeler**, Legal Department; and **Clayton Matt**, Tribal Services; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss land issues.

Len TwoTeeth left the meeting.

Council met in **executive session**. **Tom McDonald**, Natural Resources Department; and **Clayton Matt**, Tribal Services; were present for discussion.

Len TwoTeeth returned to the meeting.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 3:50 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Council Secretary