

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

Volume 20 Number 74  
Zoom Meeting

Held: July 21, 2020  
Approved: July 23, 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 9:04 a.m. Quorum established. **Fred Matt** will join the meeting late.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Chairwoman Fyant.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for July 16, 2020 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval. **Carole Lankford** mentioned that Tony Incashola, Sr. sent out a memo this morning regarding the closure of the Long House, and there was discussion about a family using the facilities a couple of weeks ago. This issue was added to the agenda.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Fred Matt** joined the meeting.

**Bob McCrea** and **Ron Swaney**, Division of Fire, gave a fire update. There is a fire in the Clear Creek area in Hot Springs. The fire is 300+ acres and remains under investigation. Crews did a burnout last night and took it to the highway towards Camas Prairie and tied into the rock quarry. They used the helicopter and engines. The Hot Springs Fire Department assisted the crews. There is also another fire in Hot Springs that is under investigation. There were also some

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small fires the crews worked on. The landscape is very dry, and the fire danger is high. The Clear Creek Road is closed, and the Division of Fire encourages the public to stay out of the area and adhere to all road closures.

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

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Jean Matt, Mark Clary, Chelsea Kleinmeyer, Rick Eneas, Rob McDonald, Lisa Shourds, and Dale Nelson**, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Jean Matt** commented that the situational awareness changes daily and masks are part of our lives now. **Mark Clary** reported there are 120 cases in Lake County. Hopefully the numbers will begin to decline after the July 4 events. **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** reported there are 2,261 total cases in Montana and 39 deaths across the state. The actual total number of cases in Lake County is 124, with 70 active cases. The mass testing events are still missing results. The state hired an FTE to track down those results. They are actively looking through different data bases for those results and hopefully they will be coming in the next couple of days. **Rick Eneas** reported that with the 25% cost share and the light number of expenses of \$90,000 to date that is mostly for communication side of things, he suggested that we do not engage with FEMA for reimbursement and just use the funding we have available with the CARES Act. **Rob McDonald** put something together for signage that businesses could post to encourage people to wear a mask with the language “Be A Superhero To Us Please Wear A Mask” on them. It will be reviewed by the UCC this afternoon. **Mark Clary** commented that the local schools are still up in the air right now and in a wait and see situation. **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** advised that there is a survey available on the schools’ website for parents to take. Mark reported that the Lake County Fair will proceed in a limited fashion with animals and market sale. **Dale Nelson** got a shipment of masks in and some masks were delivered to Division of Fire. He got a request from Tribal Transportation for masks and gloves. The Boys and Girls Club in Ronan and Polson received some masks and gloves. He will see if the Game Wardens are interested in some supplies. Dale contacted Rod and looked at sites in St. Ignatius for a testing site. **Martin Charlo** asked Dale to follow up with the Natural Resources Department for supplies at the Blue Bay check gate. **Mark Clary** commented that fire season is here on the reservation and the Division of Fire is working on a fire near Perma. It is only going to get worse; things have really dried out. **Jean Matt** commented that things continue to change. We are still dealing with July 4 infections, busy with contact tracing, and now we are into fire season. We continue to serve those who need help right now. We are putting limited resources on the Perma fire. We will modify how we can support them and address their needs.

**Rob McDonald**, Communications, requested approval of a contractor agreement with Six Pony Hitch, LLC to outreach a team of specialists in video, photography,

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design, and animation for the COVID-19 awareness project. The contract would extend through December 18, 2020. The company would be paid on a retainer basis and each project would be approved by council. The contract amount is for \$125,000 with an upper limit of \$150,000.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve a contractor agreement with Six Pony Hitch, LLC. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**Council met in executive session.**

Council reconvened into **regular session.**

**Jody Perez**, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority, requested approval for RT Hawk Housing Alliance, LLC to subcontract supportive housing consulting services to Beaux Simone Consulting. It was reviewed by the Legal Department and Contracts & Grants. **Janet Camel**, Economic Development Office, did not have it reviewed by Rick Eneas. Some of the tasks go beyond December because we are getting as much as we can with the COVID money. If SKHA gets the ICDBG grant, that will fund the remainder of the project and that does not have the same funding deadline as the COVID funds have.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve RT Hawk Housing Alliance, LLC to subcontract supportive housing consulting services to Beaux Simone Consulting. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

**Len TwoTeeth** requested that the area by the baseball park in Elmo be mowed. **Jody Perez** will follow up.

**Bing Matt** followed up on his request regarding elders not being required to pay for their water and sewer. Bing asked that question in January and never got an answer if SKHA could do that. He continues to be asked that question from elders. **Jody Perez** advised that it went to the board. The board analyzed the budget and it is not a possibility at this time. She can forward council the minutes of the board meeting. **Chairwoman Fyant** pointed out that it was Bing's request, it was not a Tribal Council request, and she wanted the board to know that. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that there are other people on the council inquiring about that. He has gotten calls on the status of this request. With the situation we are in with the pandemic, we should waive those costs for the elders. That is a lot for people on a fixed income. He wants to us help them out and waive those payments for sewer and water. He hopes we advocate to waive the payment. It will have an impact on the SKHA budget, but we should see if there is any additional CARES funding left over that can be used for that. **Chairwoman Fyant** will have council follow up with Rick on CARES funding. Jody advised that SKHA has a program to pay outside rent, mortgages, and

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utility bills. They have funding set aside from the CARES funding to do that if an individual's income has changed and SKHA can help them with that payment. She can send the Tribal Council a copy of the amount of revenue it would cost to waive those payments for elders. The COVID Assistance Program information and application is available on the SKHA website. Glenda Pierre works with the clients and her phone number is 675-4491, extension 1528. Len clarified that this was brought up before COVID happened. The elders live on limited income like Social Security. We have an opportunity to help the elders and we need to do it. **Ellie Bundy McLeod** commented we need to be cognizant of all our elders when we discuss water and sewer, and we need to include all of them rather than those who just qualify through SKHA. **Fred Matt** asked if there was a way people can pay their rent by credit card. Jody explained that they have it set up in the office and are trying to make it compatible with the website. The office is not open right now though. The SKHA IT manager is working to get it on the website. **Bing Matt** commented that all our elders are on a limited budget and need additional support from the Tribes so they don't need to worry about coming up with \$35 or \$40 a month that they can use elsewhere.

**Jody Perez** gave an update on the request from Martin Charlo to get a supplement well for gardening. People can have gardens in homesites, but there is not enough water so there are water restrictions in place. No watering is allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Rick Eneas tried to help Housing find CARES funding to drill 9 wells and could not find it, so SKHA will look at other options. Jody is still working on it for Martin.

**Vina Little Owl**, Internal Auditor, requested approval of the annual audit plan. **Council** took the request under advisement for further review and working session.

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

**Carole Lankford** left the meeting for the remainder of the day.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the letter to Ben Giles, Western Montana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, United States Fish & Wildlife Service regarding scoping notice for proposal to create Lost Trail Conservation Area. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

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

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Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Council **adjourned** at 12:40 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Ellie Bundy McLeod  
Tribal Secretary