

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

Volume 21 Number 13  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: November 12, 2020  
Approved: November 17, 2020

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman (77th Annual National Congress of American Indians (virtual) Convention); and Carole Lankford (Personal Time Off).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary; and Donna Durglo, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:02 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Ellie Bundy McLeod.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for November 10, 2020 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

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

**Steve Woll** thanked the Tribal Council for all they have done for his family. The donation for the funeral expenses was unexpected and he appreciated it. The overwhelming support means a lot to him and his family.

**Regina Madplume**, People’s Food Sovereignty Program, gave an overview of her new organization. Its mission is to implement sustainable sovereignty and food security projects and programs that focus on the CSKT members and the diverse

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tribal community that resides on the reservation. The focus is to create projects to promote tribally owned food producers, processors, vendors, and restaurants. During the COVID-19, many tribal people do not have access to meat. We are able to go hunting deer in our mountains, but we do not have access to wild game and resources pertaining to cultural diets. The program wants to focus on projects and find funding and support to support ideals and understandings. The project is meat distribution of 8 elk being donated by the conservation effort of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. She arranged for a tribally owned processor to carry out this project and distribution at the tribally owned business in Polson. The other location will be in Dixon at the Dixon Mercantile. The program received a donation of \$150 to help with processing from the Flathead Reservation Human Rights Collation. Regina informed council that \$2,500 is needed to carry out this project for the processing fee for the elk. Indigenous Vision is her fiscal sponsor. **Len TwoTeeth** suggested using the CARES Act funding for this donation. **Anita Matt** suggested that Regina work with Jami Pluff and fill out an application for funding.

**Mark Couture** and **A.J. Bigby**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request for A.J. Bigby to apply to serve as the Conservation Representative to the Montana Weed Control Association Board. A.J. has been working with the MWCA for the past five years. The Lands Department supports the request for A.J. to apply for the board seat.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to approve a letter of recommendation for A.J. Bigby to sit on the Montana Weed Control Association Board. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Mark Couture** and **Holly Hitchcock**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Dan Bergstrom for a right-of-way seeking access to fee property located in the Dog Lake area that he would like to purchase. He would be building a new road to access the fee land. The request was reviewed by the Land Committee and the recommendation was to deny the request.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to deny the request. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

**Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, met with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Michelle Mitchell**, Tribal Education Department; and **Kayla Dix**; presented for approval an education learning pod with Kayla Dix. Kayla gave an overview of the education learning pod.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to approve the contract for an education learning pod with Kayla Dix. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, 7 for; 1 abstention (Charmel Gillin).

*Charmel Gillin, for the record, "The presentation indicates this education curriculum is strictly horse care and cultural teaching and I wasn't sure about ages and educational requirements for the two children in this pod, such as which school would they normally attend. The late-term start of this pod, given the deadline of the fund, added to my hesitation to approve a new pod. There is certainly value in the teaching, but it wasn't clear to me how it connected to Covid-19 concerns."*

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

**Jordan Thompson**, Legal Department; **Rick Eneas**, Financial Management; and **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss Food Security. **Zachary Camel**, Central Accounting; **Rhonda Swaney**, **Shane Morigeau**, **Chelsea Colwyn**, and **Michael Wheeler**, Legal Department, were present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**MOTION** by Charmel Gillin to authorize expenditure of unobligated CSKT CARES Act fund to be spent as emergency relief payment at the amount targeted in executive session for every tribal member deemed eligible for the December 2020 per capita distribution and who completes the formal procedures which will be forthcoming. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, 7 for; 1 opposed (Martin Charlo).

*Martin Charlo, for the record, "I'm not opposed to paying out funding. I'm opposed to mortgaging our future for short-term gains. I feel like we have an obligation to our children, our grandchildren, and everyone else that comes after us. And I feel like mortgaging our future on this and the appearance of it being done for political gain is something I can't stomach, and it's making me pretty sick."*

*Len TwoTeeth, for the record, "I want to thank the council for taking this action to help the membership."*

**Rhonda Swaney**, **Shane Morigeau**, **Chelsea Colwyn**, and **Michael Wheeler**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

**Len TwoTeeth** out of the room.

**Eldena Bear Don't Walk**, Appellate Court, requested approval of a judicial contract with Gregory Dupuis to serve as Lay Associate Justice for a three-year term.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve a judicial contract with Gregory Dupuis to serve as Lay Associate Justice for a three-year term. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (7 present - Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

**MOTION** by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the resolution to enter into a judicial services contract with Gregory Dupuis. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

### **RESOLUTION 21-008**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A JUDICIAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH GREGORY T. DUPUIS**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation wish to enter into a contract with Gregory T. Dupuis to provide judicial services needed for the administration of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Court of Appeals' authorized activities contained in Ordinance 103-A, as amended, the CSKT Laws Codified; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that beginning November 12, 2020, Gregory T. Dupuis shall act as Associate Justice of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Court of Appeals providing services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract attached hereto.

**Eldena Bear Don't Walk**, Appellate Court, requested approval of a judicial contract with Robert McDonald to serve as Lay Associate Justice for a three-year term.

**MOTION** by Charmel Gillin to approve by resolution a judicial contract with Robert McDonald to serve as Lay Associate Justice for a three-year term. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

**RESOLUTION 21-009**

**A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A JUDICIAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH ROBERT MCDONALD**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation wish to enter into a contract with Robert McDonald to provide judicial services needed for the administration of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Court of Appeals' authorized activities contained in Ordinance 103-A, as amended, the CSKT Laws Codified; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that beginning November 12, 2020, Robert McDonald shall act as Associate Justice of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' Court of Appeals providing services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract attached hereto.

**Anita Matt** conducted the swearing-in of Gregory Dupuis and Robert McDonald to serve as Lay Associate Justices for the Appellate Court.

**Jennifer Trahan** informed council that council needs to appoint a representative to the Washington State University Board that Myrna DuMontier used to serve on. **Anita Matt** took the request under advisement until Monday. Myrna had thought it would be better to have a staff member serve in this capacity rather than a council member. **Council** directed Jennifer to add this to the chairwoman's meeting agenda, in addition to adding the Mission Valley Power Utility Board.

**Martin Charlo** reminded everyone to wear a mask, wash their hands, and social distance. Martin thanked Corky Sias for delivering some wood to an elder who could not get any delivered.

**Charmel Gillin** commented on the concern of services being available through DHRD since some of the personnel are working from home. Her understanding is that services are still available. Charmel discussed an email regarding a request for a waiver of policy to assist an elder. The request is for \$1,600 for past due rent, and the Dire Need maximum allowance is \$500. A waiver would also be needed to provide assistance to a tribal member residing off the reservation.

**Jennifer Trahan** requested clarification whether the council wanted to add the SKC Board and the MVP Board to Monday's chairwoman's meeting agenda. **Anita Matt** instructed her to schedule them both for Monday.

**Len TwoTeeth** returned to the meeting.

**Charmel Gillin** continued the discussion on the request from Natalie Kenmille, DHRD, to waive policy to assist an elder with past due rent in the amount of \$1,600. The Dire Need limit is \$500, so a waiver would be needed by the council to approve the request for an off-reservation tribal member and the amount that exceeds the limitations. **Martin Charlo** asked if it could come out of the CARES Act funding. Charmel has not seen anything that indicates it relates directly to COVID-19, so she was not sure about that. Everything has been pointed to Dire Need at this time. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that there are other steps to go through, including Tribal Credit. He wants to help the elder, but he wants the process followed. Charmel commented it is unknown whether an eviction is pending. **Anita Matt** had Jennifer send out an email to find out what has been done thus far.

**Martin Charlo** put out a plea for tribal member woodcutters. The program is very low on woodcutters. Anyone interested in cutting wood needs to contact Patricia Courchane or Constance Morigeau in DHRD.

**Council** continued the discussion for request for assistance from an elder. Len TwoTeeth commented that we will be opening the door if we help an off-reservation tribal member. If we do that, then we need to do it for all members, and the Dire Need budget could not sustain it. The elder should apply for a loan through Tribal Credit.

**Charmel Gillin** informed council that an elder in Turtle Lake needed to be plowed out after the roads were plowed. The elder was stuck after they plowed the street, so she would appreciate anything they can do for that. **Anita Matt** will mention it to them.

**Council** continued the discussion for request for assistance from an elder. It was the **consensus** of council to authorize Anita Matt to follow up on the request for assistance from the elder.

**MOTION** by Len TwoTeeth to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 1:35 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Ellie Bundy McLeod  
Tribal Council Secretary