

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

Volume 21 Number 49
Zoom Meeting

Held: March 30, 2021
Approved: April 6, 2021

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; James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; 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 Bing Matt.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for March 23, 2021 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for March 23, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, 7 for; 3 abstentions (Carole Lankford, Martin Charlo and Ellie Bundy McLeod).

Martin Charlo, for the record, “I am abstaining because we don’t have the resolution.”

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for March 25, 2021 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for March 25, 2021. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Charmel Gillin discussed a request for a waiver of the Elder Home Health Services Policy requirement that requires a background check and a drug test for new hires. The circumstance is quite emergent in many regards. The family is requesting another family member to provide services through the program and the department stated within thirty days they can come into compliance with the policy. She suggested a thirty-day waiver for the Elders Home Health Care Policy in order that Zachary Mathias can provide health care to his mother Cheryl Mathias. **Carole Lankford** suggested allowing a policy change; a waiver could be an audit finding if we do not change the policy. Charmel would like the Policy Analyst to schedule time to review the Elders' Program policy. She was hoping the UA and background check could be done within the thirty-day waiver period so the program would come into compliance. Jennifer was directed to notify Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, about the policy review request.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve a thirty-day waiver of the Elders Home Health Care Policy pre-hire drug test and background adjudication in order that Zachary Mathias can provide health care to his mother Cheryl Mathias. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jean Matt, Chelsea Kleinmeyer, Dale Nelson, and Rob McDonald, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** reported that Lake County has had a total of 2,105 confirmed cases, 25 active cases, zero current hospitalizations, and 29 deaths to date. 10,832 people have received at least the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The State reported that 24,181 people are eligible for the vaccine in Lake County. 31% of the population has been fully vaccinated. As of April 1, the State is opening the vaccine eligibility for individuals aged 16 and older, so our county will open various vaccine clinics. On April 10 & 17, 2021, the Unified Command Center, along with the COVID Task Force, will host two large Pfizer vaccination opportunities at the Salish Kootenai College Joe McDonald Gymnasium. A link will be available for people to schedule their appointment. Seven people across the state got COVID-19 after being fully vaccinated. Chelsea did not know how severe their symptoms were, and she will work with Tammy to obtain that information. It is important to know that even though individuals are fully vaccinated they can still get COVID-19 and infect others with the virus, but their symptoms should not be as severe as if they were not vaccinated. **Dale Nelson** gave an update on the clinics and supplies. The vaccination clinic will be held at the Salish Kootenai College on April 10 & 17. Dale is updating the point of distribution at Salish Kootenai College, and that paperwork will be finalized and signed today. Dale still has some masks left. Some masks and gloves were delivered to the boat check station in Ravalli. Early Childhood Services received some cloth masks for the children. Transportation requested additional masks. Dale still has about 200 gallons of hand sanitizer available if any of the departments need any. **Rob McDonald** issued the UCC press release last Friday encouraging people to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Rob is pushing the clinics set for April 10 and April 17.

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There will be some radio ads and print ads to advertise the mass clinics. Rob will get some material for the Tribal Council members to share on their social media pages. **Martin Charlo** is scheduled for his second vaccine this week. People can go to the getvaccineanswers.org website for more information. We need to step up our game and get vaccinated. The Blackfeet Nation has 90% of their population vaccinated and we are nowhere near that. We need to make CSKT the best we can. **Jean Matt** reminded everyone to continue to social distance, wear a mask, and wash their hands. That is the best thing we can do right now while waiting to get vaccinated. **Chairwoman Fyant** reminded everyone to limit their interactions to their inner circle and avoid large gatherings.

Dale Nelson, Disaster Emergency Services, presented his monthly report. He continues his relationships with local, state, and national committees. Dale serves as the Logistics Officer for the Unified Command Center, delivers PPE to tribal entities, meets with Red Cross on a weekly basis, participates in the FEMA Region 8 Tribal Partners weekly call, attends zoom meetings for the Safety and Health Committee and co-chairs that meeting on a monthly basis, participates in zoom meetings with the Montana State Disaster Emergency Services Coordinators, is connected with the Climate Change Advisory Committee, attends zoom meetings with Fish, Wildlife & Parks as part of the Incident Action Team on aquatic invasive species, and participates in weekly conference calls with the Missoula National Weather Services. All four counties have a Local Emergency Planning Committee that he is part of. Those counties are also part of our Tribal Emergency Planning Committee. Dale provides a spill response training for the marinas at Big Arm, Polson, KwaTaqNuk Resort, and Blue Bay. He will be holding a training class provided by the Environmental Protection Agency. Dale works with Salish Kootenai College. The point of distribution was changed to the college campus and the paperwork, security plan, and facilities plan are getting updated and approved. Dale works closely with the emergency services curriculum at Salish Kootenai College. They are asking for contracts in case students need to do civic time. He suggested that the Emergency Operations Plan be updated. That would take them all year to update it. That would save the Tribes money if they can get the students to do it. Greg Gould, Salish Kootenai College, is informed on the FEMA approved plan so Dale feels good about SKC doing the updates. Tyler Bumgarner is the new Safety Officer at the dam is updating the emergency response training. Dales works with the Tribal Social Services Foster Care Department. He does a presentation twice yearly on the Parenting Guidebook for disaster planning. He covers the different possibilities regarding disasters and how to respond to an evacuation. There is a section they fill out with information on where they might go in case of an evacuation. Foster Care gives them a 72-hour go kit that contains food, tools, and different devices to use in case of an evacuation. Dale responds to traffic accidents. There have been more accidents than normal this year. There was a semitruck that got a big hole in the fuel tank and dumped fuel by Dayton. Most

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of the fuel went on the highway and dissipated off. They contained and absorbed what fuel was left in the tank and hauled it away. There was a submerged pickup truck south of S&S Sports on Highway 93 that landed in the pond. There was no spill in that accident, and it stayed contained. There was a truck in the pond south of Ninepipes Lodge on Highway 93. The truck landed in the pond, but there was no spill response needed. A delivery truck hit the ditch at the bottom of Post Creek. Dale is not sure if there was water in the ditch at that time. There is a stream flowing through there and there was no spill response needed. All the people in these accidents survived. Out at the KHJCC site where they are doing construction, they started to pull the fuel tanks from the fueling station. There is a well that connects the top valve and access, and they were full of fuel. The contractor pumped them dry and realized that the fuel was going to the ground. Dale looked at the site. The small amount of fuel that was on the ground dissipated. Dale provided some education to the people and gave them devices that can help if it happens again in the future. That problem was diverted quickly. Dale sent the council members his reports for January and February, and he will begin presenting his reports to the Tribal Council on a monthly basis. **Charmel Gillin** asked in reference to the training he provides if there has been enough communication for the chain of command for the barge that went into the lake, for example. She asked if that is something Dale plans to educate everybody on. Dale told her that he spoke to Mark about it. It was reported to 911. The barge owner phoned many different people that he thought should be notified. That 911 dispatch occurred, and Mark responded. Dale should be dispatched by our dispatch, as well, in the future and he hopes the county dispatch will work with tribal dispatch on those situations. Charmel encouraged CSKT to take the lead position. Our resources are extremely important and that is why we developed this position. She wants to make sure we are at the very front and our chairperson is adequately informed so we are all aware and can answer to what is happening. **Dale Nelson** responded that he does notify Chairwoman Fyant every time he is made aware of incidents since the barge incident. He hopes things will be done as a standard procedure in the future. **Tony Incashola, Jr.** spoke to Dale about trying to figure out the initial response report, who to report to, what resources to activate, get the Incident Action Plan, and coordination with other resources. Tony also spoke to Rich Janssen to get a better response guide together. Hopefully, that is in the operation plan updates. There are more materials and needs from Dale, so they are building up the capacity of materials needed for incidents such as what happened with the barge. Dale thinks having a new vehicle to haul that equipment would be good.

Dana Morales, Department of Human Resources Development, requested approval to hire Jesse Maize on a one-year contract to fill the Child Protection Services Trainee position. The vacancy was advertised, and Jesse was the only applicant.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the hire of Jesse Maize on a one-year contract to fill the Child Protection Services Trainee position. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Greg Spahr, Central Accounting, requested approval of a resolution updating the authorized signatures for the Tribal Accounts at Glacier Bank.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve by resolution the updated authorized signatures for the Tribal Accounts at Glacier Bank. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-049

RESOLUTION CHANGING AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES ON THE TRIBAL ACCOUNTS AT GLACIER BANK

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

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes designate Glacier Bank to conduct day to day business as the Tribe's designated depository, and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to authorize employee signatures for the Tribal Accounts in Glacier Banks, and

Account Name

Account Number

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| LOCAL REVENUE | 204265 |
| BIA S/G CHECKING | 206930 |
| FEDERAL GTS/CTS | 207976 |
| OAB FEDERAL CT'S/GT'S | 209082 |
| STATE PROGRAMS | 209090 |
| OTHER FEDERAL CT'S/GT'S | 209103 |
| CENTRAL DEPOSITORY | 700007 |
| KICKING HORSE JOB CORP | 708535 |
| MDFWP/ALS ONLINE | 729491 |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes that all checks drawn on said accounts from Glacier Banks from the approved date of this resolution will be signed by two of the following:

Rick Eneas
Lance Friedlander

Director of Financial Management
General Ledger Manager

Zachary Conko Camel Central Accounting Manager
Clayton Matt Director of Tribal Services

whose signatures shall be duly certified to said bank, and that no checks against said accounts shall be valid unless so signed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks whether such checks be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, or to the individual credit or any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue forth in the Certification of an authorized representative, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said bank or in any similar subsequent Certificate until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said bank.

Greg Spahr, Central Accounting, requested approval of a resolution approving the establishment of a new account and authorized signatures for managing the Water Compact Funds at Glacier Bank.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve by resolution the establishment of a new account and authorized signatures for managing the Water Compact Funds at Glacier Bank. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-050

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OPENING OF GLACIER BANK ACCOUNT FOR MANAGING WATER COMPACT FUNDS

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

WHEREAS, the organization must open new accounts to properly segregate and manage the funds associated with the implementation of the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project according to the provisions set forth in the Water Compact agreement;

WHEREAS, the following individuals are recognized by Tribal Council resolution to conduct business with Glacier Bank:

Rick Eneas Director of Financial Management
Lance Friedlander General Ledger Manager
Zachary Conko Camel Central Accounting Manager
Clayton Matt Director of Tribal Services

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes hereby approves that the individuals listed above are authorized to act according to the description above expanding our relationship with Glacier Bank, opening new accounts, and transacting Tribal business with Glacier Bank;

That all checks drawn on said accounts from Glacier Bank from the approved date of this resolution will be signed by two of the above Authorized Signers whose signatures shall be duly certified to said bank, and that no checks against said accounts shall be valid unless so signed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks whether such checks be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, or to the individual credit or any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue forth in the Certification of an authorized representative, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said bank or in any similar subsequent Certificate until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said bank.

Greg Spahr, Central Accounting, requested approval of a resolution approving the establishment of a new account and signature authority for the Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account at Eagle Bank.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve by resolution the establishment of a new account and signature authority for the Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account at Eagle Bank. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-051

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETUP AND SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE BANK ACCOUNT AT EAGLE BANK IN POLSON, MT CALLED CSKT CHAR-KOOSTA NEWSPAPER CHECKING ACCOUNT

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

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes designate Eagle Bank of Polson, MT to conduct day to day CSKT, Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account business as the Tribe's designated depository; and

WHEREAS, the purpose is for the receipt of subscription payments and offering electronic method of collecting subscription payments to readers in a more modern and efficient manner, and the partitioning of Char-Koosta Newspaper business within our account system for recordkeeping;

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to authorize employee signatures for CSKT Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account; and

| <u>Account Name</u> | <u>Account Number</u> |
|---|-----------------------|
| CSKT Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account | <i>(tbd)</i> |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes that all CSKT Char-Koosta Newspaper Checking Account activity on said accounts from Eagle Bank, in Polson, MT, from the approved date of this resolution will be signed by one of the following:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Clayton Matt | Director of Tribal Services |
| Rick Eneas | Director of Financial Management |
| Zachary Conko Camel | Accounting Manager |
| Lance Friedlander | General Ledger Manager |

whose signature shall be duly certified to said bank, and that no checks against said accounts shall be valid unless so signed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks whether such checks be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, or to the individual credit or any of the other officers or not. This resolution shall continue forth in the Certification of an authorized representative, accompanying a copy of this resolution when delivered to said bank or in any similar subsequent Certificate until written notice to the contrary is duly served on said bank.

Rick Eneas, Financial Management; and **John Neiss**, Facilities Maintenance; requested approval of a modification to Memorandum of Agreement Number 21-166 with Cahoon Wildland Fire & Timber to expand the contract for time and material costs based on receipts provided by the contractor for excess contaminated material that accumulated in the tanks. The modification adds “time and material with receipts will be included for hauling away contaminated material that was a requirement listed on the scope of work.” All other terms of the agreement will remain the same. The amount of the increase is undetermined at this time since they have not received any receipts yet. There was no way of knowing if there was anything in the tanks before they were pumped. **Carole Lankford** thought it should have been included in the original bid and contract when it was bid out.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the modification to Memorandum of Agreement Number 21-166 with Cahoon Wildland Fire & Timber to expand the contract for time and material costs based on receipts

provided by the contractor for excess contaminated material that accumulated in the tanks. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Carole Lankford).

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

Fred Noel, Salish Kootenai College, requested approval to apply for the Institute of Museum Native American Library Services Basic Grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 for library materials and supplies.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the submission of the grant application to the Institute of Museum Native American Library Services. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Virgil Dupuis, Salish Kootenai College; and **Dr. Alexandra Adams**, Montana State University; requested approval of a memorandum of understanding for data usage related to home-based testing for COVID. The data will be stored in an encrypted format. A final report will be submitted to the IRB and Tribal Council.

MOTION by Bing Matt to approve the memorandum of understanding between Salish Kootenai College and Montana State University. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Fred Matt left the meeting.

Dan Decker, Mary Price, Ryan Rusche, Brian Upton, John Harrison, Stu Levit, Chelsea Colwyn, and Michael Wheeler, Legal Department; and **Tom McDonald**, Natural Resources Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the letter, with corrections, to Charles Coleman, United States Environmental Protection Agency, regarding the Anaconda cultural resources mitigation agreement put forward by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes on June 16, 2020. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the revised Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Regulations for the Bison Range adding the language that Tom McDonald specified about drone use. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out the room).

Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Regulations

**For the Bison Range (Formerly the National Bison Range)
Amended March 30, 2021**

Any person entering or using any Bison Range (BR) properties will comply with the Special Emergency Regulations set forth here and the Annual Ordinance 44D Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Regulations for Tribal lands and waters.

The Flathead Reservation Conservation Permit does not allow access to the Bison Range. The BR is a pay to enter fee use area only. Visitors are to report to Visitors Building to pay for access.

- (1) The Flathead Reservation Conservation Permit does not allow access to the Bison Range. The BR is a pay to enter Fee use area only. Visitors are to report to Visitors Building to pay for access.
- (2) Carrying, possessing, or discharging firearms, fireworks, or explosives on the BR is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Tribal Council.
- (3) The use or possession of cross bows, bows and arrows, air guns, spears, gigs, or other weapons on the BR is prohibited except as may be authorized by the Tribal Council.
- (4) Disturbing, injuring, spearing, poisoning, destroying, collecting or attempting to disturb, destroy or collect any plant, animal (parts i.e. antlers) on the BR is prohibited except by special permitting by the Tribal Council.
- (5) Engaging in hunting activities on the BR is prohibited.
- (6) The BR is open during daylight hours only, weather and road conditions permitting. Closing times vary seasonally and are posted at the entrance gate and at the visitor center. It is unlawful to enter areas that are posted closed or gated closed unless authorized.
- (7) The use of motorized vehicles off designated open roads within the BR is prohibited.
- (8) Walking away from vehicles is allowable only along designated trails, picnic areas, sanitation stations and fishing areas. Please remain at your vehicle for your safety.
- (9) Large vehicles (over 30 feet long) and those towing trailers, along with motorcycles, ATVs and bicycles are not allowed on Red Sleep or Prairie Drive.
- (10) All passengers must be seated inside enclosed passenger vehicles while the vehicle is in motion. Passengers riding in the bed of a pickup vehicle is prohibited.
- (11) Parking is allowed while viewing wildlife along the auto tour drives, as long as traffic is not impeded.
- (12) It is prohibited to approach animals at all times. Persons must remain at least 100yards (91 m) away from bears, wolves and mountain

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- lions, and at least 25 yards (23m) away from all other animals including bison, deer and elk.
- (13) All pets must be on a leash and under control at all times within the Bison Range.
- (14) The use of drones is prohibited unless authorized by Tribal Council special permitting.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to sign onto the amicus. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

Jace Smith, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a contractor agreement with DJ&A in the amount of \$61,101.10 to do the work contained in the scope of work for the Flathead River Pumping Plant. The contract would expire on December 31, 2021.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve a contractor agreement with DJ&A in the amount of \$61,101.10 to do the work contained in the scope of work for the Flathead River Pumping Plant through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

Barry Hanson, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a contractor agreement with River Analyzer, Inc. to do shoreline restoration on Flathead Lake in the amount of \$35,000.00. The work would be completed in 2021. It was bid out and this was the only bid received. There were no Indian Preference bidders. It is specialized work.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve a contractor agreement with River Analyzer, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000.00 to do shoreline restoration on Flathead Lake. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

Renee Camel, Information Technologies, requested approval to purchase capital equipment consisting of two high availability firewalls. There are sufficient funds in the current capital equipment budget to cover the estimated cost.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the purchase of capital equipment consisting of two high availability firewalls. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

Renee Camel, Information Technologies, requested approval of a no-cost modification to the contract with Naviant for OnBase software to change the end date of the contract to October 31, 2021.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the no-cost modification to the contract with Naviant to extend the end date to October 31, 2021. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Fred Matt out of the room).

Brian Upton, Legal Department; and **Tom McDonald**, Natural Resources Department; discussed the Bison Range brochure and sign logo. They will return for further discussion next Tuesday.

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

Fred Matt returned to the meeting.

Council met in **executive session** to conduct interviews for the Shoreline Protection Board of Directors vacancies. **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department, was present for interviews.

Council met in **executive session** to conduct an interview for the Native Fish Keepers Board of Directors vacancy. **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department, was present for the interview.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Anita Matt to accept the results of the ballot and appoint Bradley Trosper to the Shoreline Protection Board of Directors for a three-year term ending in December 2024. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Bing Matt to accept the results of the ballot and appoint James Steele, Sr. to the Shoreline Protection Board of Directors for a three-year term ending in December 2024. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to appoint Shane Hendrickson to the Native Fish Keepers Board of Directors for a three-year term. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

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

John Carter, Legal Department; **Rick Eneas**, Financial Management; and **Renee Joachim**, Personnel Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss proposed changes to Ordinance 69D. **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, presented for approval written comments from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding the United States Department of Transportation Tribal Consultation Policy and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships; a letter addressed to Joann Chase, United States Environmental Protection Agency, regarding tribal comments on EPA consultation; and written comments from the CSKT regarding United States Department of Agriculture Tribal Consultation Policy recommendations. **Chairwoman Fyant** asked where the staff input was included in the letter. Jami advised that the staff input for USDA was from Shawn Cross, but it was specific to that program. The other response she received was from Patricia Courchane, which just said we need to have meaningful consultation and the federal government listening to the Tribes. The comments she received for all the letters was that same comment. **Chairwoman Fyant** wanted comments included on Rural Development due to our bad experience with Rural Development. The comments are due by March 31, 2021. **Len TwoTeeth** wanted to know if we would have an opportunity to meet with Deb Haaland. Shelly has not heard anything about that being a possibility. Len wants the CSKT to develop an agenda of topics, such as gaining ownership of Mission Valley Power. **Chairwoman Fyant** stated that she had given Jami and Jennifer specific direction to the comments by the departments on who the department heads were and the agency policy that was based on the spreadsheet. **Jami Pluff** responded that she is just going by the questions on the consultation topics and the comments she received from the departments. Shelly thought that the Policy Analyst could research that and have conversations with those departments specific to those topics. Her expectation in the future is that Jami sit in on the listening sessions so she can better understand our concerns and meet with the department heads to get input.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the written comments, with corrections, from the CSKT regarding United States Department of Agriculture Tribal Consultation Policy recommendations. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the written comments from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding U.S. Department of Transportation Tribal Consultation Policy and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Carole Lankford).

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the letter to Joann Chase, United States Environmental Protection Agency, regarding tribal comments on EPA consultation. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for, 1 abstention (Carole Lankford).

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Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, informed council that she is still working on the fourth comment letter on racial equality. She did not receive any comments from tribal departments, so she is working on it and it has not been sent to any of the tribal departments. It came through USDA, but the initial one she got just said USDA consultation, and then she noticed this one last week. **No action taken.**

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 4:19 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Friday, April 2, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., for the quarterly council meeting.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Council Secretary