

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

Volume 21 Number 59
Zoom Meeting

Held: May 4, 2021
Approved: May 6, 2021

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Matt.

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 9:05 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Bing Matt.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for April 29, 2021 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for April 29, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Art Caye, Tribal Member, discussed a piece of land that the Tribes purchased five years ago that is located next to his property. The land has lake access. The dock is falling apart. It was supposed to be for a park and open to tribal member use. There have been people partying there in the middle of the night. He spoke to the Lands Department and the department head was not aware the Tribes owned that parcel and referred Art to the Wildland Recreation program. That program did not know anything about the land either. Art would like to get a lease for the land. **Anita Matt** commented that we bought some of the Joseph property and the land behind Art’s house. It was never advertised, but the purpose was for tribal members to have a place to enjoy it. We need to figure

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out how to secure it. Anita wants it on the inventory, and she wants to have the Wildland Recreation program take care of it, even if they pay Art to mow it, and get some kind of rules or something out there. People should not be showing up there at 3:00 in the morning. **Carole Lankford** thinks it needs to be managed and have signage. If there are lease lots available on the lake, they should be given to families so they can use them. We purchased it for people to use, and it should be managed by the Natural Resources Department. This issue has come in here before. We need to take action to place the property with the Wildland Recreation program to manage it. Art should be paid for mowing it, or the program should mow it. **Mark Couture** researched the property and found out that it was part of the Joseph purchase. He thought it was under the Wildland Recreation program. He did not know if they were the ones managing it. Art has been mowing it and taking care of the property. Art visited with Lester Bigcrane and the Natural Resources Department did not have it in their inventory and did not know it should have been under their program. **Bing Matt Gillin** thought there was a sweat house down there by the lake and the dock was part of that. Art said it is on the other side; they are two different lots. **Charmel Gillin** wants all the information and a record of the purchase, including the minutes surrounding that time. We have not seen it on the inventory anywhere. She wants the historical reference and wants to know more about what Art is proposing for a lease or a permit. **Art Caye** commented as it sits now, it is a park. He does not mind tribal members using it so long as they respect it. He does not want people partying down there. He wants to get a lease on it, so he has some say. People are partying in the middle of the night and he cannot do anything about that. The land was purchased from Jack Nolen. **Dan Depoe** looked at it and the land has been poorly managed. It is a management issue. Our lands are not being managed the way they should be. He watched last week's meeting and someone from the Big Draw came in three years in a row to get the property maintained, and nobody has done anything. He asked how can we fix this management problem. We do not want to deal with it, so we just give a tribal asset away to someone. We have a serious management issue with our properties. He wants council to get a unit for managing these properties or get these departments to start managing them. **Chairwoman Fyant** requested that Mark bring it back with a record of purchase, a map, and background information. **Mark Couture** will return this afternoon. **Charmel Gillin** also wants Mark to contact Shoreline Protection to see if there is a record from Mr. Nolen.

Art Caye, Tribal Member, informed council that policies have been set on firewood, so it has been tough on him, such as the 200 feet policy. Taking his truck in there has been tough. He got behind and it gets tougher every year for him since they took the use away for him to use his skidder. It pretty much broke him. Art asked council to let him use his skidder for the summer so he can get some wood piled. He tries to work with Forestry to get a unit marked out, but they told him no. All they tell him is no, he cannot do that. Art wants

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the policy waived so he can use his skidder. **Chairwoman Fyant** informed Art that we have a committee to work on those policies. The council members on that committee are Bing Matt and Mike Dolson. She asked them to bring up the policy issue with the Forestry Advisory Committee. There is a meeting tomorrow and then they can make a recommendation to the council. The committee was set up to gain input from the small loggers and woodcutters. **Carole Lankford** suggested that Art put his request in writing so the group knows what the request is.

Art Caye, Tribal Member, informed council that he has been thinking about the tribal members. He has been talking to a lot of people. They live day to day and are struggling. The world came to a shutdown due to COVID. We voted in the Tribal Council as our leaders. The Tribal Council gets a paycheck every two weeks and have nothing to worry about, but 99.9% of the tribal members are struggling from day to day. There is a rumor that the Tribes got \$165 million, and it would be nice to see a payout to the membership. **Chairwoman Fyant** responded that the Tribes have not received any money from the American Rescue Plan, so she has no idea where the \$165 million figure came from. The disbursement to the Tribes was supposed to happen before Monday, but so far Rick Eneas has not received any information about that. **Martin Charlo** commented that there was a report on Facebook that there is a council representative saying we decided we are not going to pay out the money because we have more time to spend it. If a council member is telling people that, he asked them to stop doing that. When people ask Martin about it, he is honest with them and tells them that we do not know yet; we have not even sat down to develop a plan for the money. Those rumors are completely inaccurate. **Art Caye** commented that is all we are asking for. If you know nothing, just let us know that, put it out there. Council should have a discussion in open session and let people know what is going on and maybe these rumors would not happen. Council should not sit there and say nothing; that is probably why people think the council is hiding the money. It would work out better for everyone if the council let people know what is going on. People continue to ask about the money, and the council just sits there and says nothing. **Charmel Gillin** thought she heard council say what was just said in these public meetings that are streamed live. It has been questioned and we tried to address the rumors not being accurate. It was reported on April 28 that Rick Eneas has not had the guidelines delivered to us yet. That means we do not know what the regulatory guidelines are on the money. The money has not been released yet. That same thing was reported again yesterday, so we still do not know when the money will be released and what the guidelines will be. We have nothing to hide. **Dan Depoe** thinks those discussions should be in open session so the membership feels more comfortable coming in here. Dan gets people in his store asking if they can come here. People are scared to come to the council meetings. The meetings used to be open for the public and there was food available. We need to get rid of executive sessions. The council needs to plan around executive

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sessions, so they are not in and out of executive session and the live streaming of the council meetings are being turned off and on. **Chairwoman Fyant** explained that policy is the council meets in executive session to discuss personnel or litigation issues. Most recently there are times they go into executive session to discuss an upcoming business proposal because the council does not want that information out to the general public until something is finalized. Some of those executive sessions are scheduled on the agenda, but sometimes issues come up. The Tribes have been open for business for quite some time and people can attend meetings; they just need to follow the COVID-19 protocols. That is why there is no food or common water places for people to gather and share anymore. The council could publish another notice in the Char-Koosta News to let people know that we are open for business.

Art Caye, Tribal Member, asked what's up with the Bison Range. There are many rumors that the entrance will be on the other side. He asked where we find the money to run that. He wanted to know what the plan is for the Bison Range. **Chairwoman Fyant** advised that the Tribes are in the process of transitioning with the tribal staff. They are hiring staff to work alongside the Fish & Wildlife staff. The goal is to assume full ownership by January 1, 2022. The legislation gave us two years to transition, but we want to accomplish that in one year. The Visitor Center is being remodeled right now. The Bison Range will open Mother's Day weekend, but the actual Visitor Center and Gift Shop will open a month later when the remodel is completed. There was talk about having a different Visitor Center entrance on Ravalli Hill, but that is just talk and we do not have money to do that. We are trying to get money to do deferred maintenance right now. Budget shortfalls prevented the Fish & Wildlife Service from doing those things. The council took action to increase the entrance fees, commercial fees, and special use permit fees. They are preparing to get the doors open on May 9. Shelly did not know the exact number of employees that will be hired, but positions are being advertised. The Fish & Wildlife Service had 8 employees running the Bison Range. **Art Caye** discussed thinning out the buffalo herd and asked if Dan can go in there and take buffalo once the Bison Range is ours. It would be nice to let tribal members go in there and bid on buffalo to thin out the herd. **Chairwoman Fyant** told him that the council took a fieldtrip to the Bison Range and talked about it, but no decision has been made yet. **Charmel Gillin** informed Art that Tom McDonald made a report at the Elmo District Meeting on April 28 and said he is expecting 8 new full-time positions and some additional furloughable positions. Some of the existing positions would use their existing program managers. There is no funding available for operations and maintenance, so they have to use some existing staff. There are 8 positions in addition to what is on the organizational chart already. **Martin Charlo** stated that as far as employment, Tom McDonald said we are taking it over and being open to ideas on everything, like concessions. We will need people with horse herd skills. He does not know whether we will have public comment, but Tom is the guy to talk to about it. We are not going to run it the same way

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in the future. We will for the first year, but then they will be open to all possibilities. **Art Caye** reported that there was a herd of buffalo that got away from the ranchers. There were several people who had buffalo and then they would lose one here and there. There were 30 cows that ran wild. Art does not know if Bud Brass still does buffalo anymore, but once in a while people would stop at Art's ranch and ask if they could shoot them. There are still about thirty or forty buffalo that run wild. Art said he could not approve or deny their request because they were not his buffalo.

Jean Matt, Dale Nelson, Rob McDonald, Mark Clary, and Chelsea Kleinmeyer, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** reported as of this morning there was a total of 2,162 confirmed cases in Lake County. There was an uptick in COVID cases this past week. Lake County has 21 active cases, no current hospitalizations, and a total of 37 deaths to date. The State of Montana updated their website yesterday. Lake County reported that 47.3% of the population is fully immunized. We are at 54.7% having received at least one dose of the vaccine. It was announced yesterday that the FDA will authorize the Pfizer vaccine for 16-year-olds next week. They are looking at doing evening/weekend clinics to get school kids in for their shots. They will contact the schools to find out if it would be better to immunize the children at the schools. She will have more information next week. The second shot clinic is scheduled at the gymnasium for this weekend from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If people want their first dose, they can walk in. They are still scheduling people for appointments. May 20 is the Johnson & Johnson clinic. This week they have their health outreach van out and about. Today it is in St. Ignatius. It will be going to Harvest Foods in Ronan tomorrow, and then to the vacant lot across from Super One Foods in Polson on Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are available. **Dale Nelson** was busy with an accident last Saturday so he could not help with the vaccine clinic. Dale has very few masks left, but he is not getting many requests for masks anymore. He still has hand sanitizer available. **Rob McDonald** reported that it has been business as usual. The bills are coming in for the radio and print ads to get folks to go to the past clinics. **Jean Matt** asked what the plans are for the Unified Command Team in the future. **Martin Charlo** told him that the council is in the middle of making decisions. In order to make a decision correctly, they want all the information. We have gotten to a point where we do not need the full team out there. CSKT and Tribal Health work well together. We could probably scale back now. Unless the team has other input, that is probably the direction we will take. **Chairwoman Fyant** stated that the council discussed this yesterday and what is our threshold or date for disbanding the Unified Command Center. There was a consensus that we are getting the information we need from the vaccine team who meets with council every Monday. We have our logistics under control with Dale Nelson's weekly reports. The consensus of council was to wait until after the last two vaccine clinics this weekend. The council will finish rescinding the emergency declaration today. **Jean Matt** commented that the

Unified Command Team feels confident with the relationship between the Tribes and Lake County, and they are available to meet anytime it is necessary.

Johnathan Owens and **Veronica Matt**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a contract with Lamar Advertising for two domestic violence billboards. The cost is \$12,700.00 for a year. This is the final year of the domestic violence grant. Veronica told council that she just found out there was an issue with this company. **Chairwoman Fyant** was not aware of any issues with this company. Lamar Advertising has been a friend to the Tribes, and they donated a billboard in Missoula for Jermain Charlo. **Carole Lankford** commented that we need to make sure the message on the billboard is large enough for passersby to be able to read it.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the contract with Lamar Advertising in the amount of \$12,700.00 for two domestic violence billboards. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jeanne Christopher, Early Childhood Services, requested approval of a resolution to submit a grant application in the amount of \$1,411,000.03 to the Department of Health and Human Services funding the Early Childhood Services Early Head Start Expansion Program, including an application for a cost-of-living adjustment.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve by resolution submission of the grant application in the amount of \$1,411,000.03 to the Department of Health and Human Services for funding the Early Childhood Services Early Head Start Expansion Program, including an application for a cost-of-living adjustment. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-064

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FUNDING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES EARLY HEAD START EXPANSION PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE APPLICATION FOR THE COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT

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

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are committed to improving the educational, training and employment opportunities of all children and families; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has declared that the children of the Salish, Kootenai and Pend d'Oreille Tribes are our most valuable resource of the Flathead Indian Nation;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Head Start has approved for grantees to receive funding for a 1.22% Cost-of-living adjustment for employees of Early Childhood Services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes support the application submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Head Start for continuing funds to support the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Early Childhood Services Early Head Start Expansion program for the children of the Flathead Indian Reservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes support the application submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services to increase the annual funding level with a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Early Childhood Services Early Head Start Expansion program for the children of the Flathead Indian Reservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council Chairwoman and/or her designated representative are authorized to negotiate and execute the grant documents and any amendments thereto.

Vernon Finley, Kootenai Culture Committee, requested approval of a contract with KeyaTech, LLC for upgrades to the Kootenai language app that was developed. **Carole Lankford** would like to see some deliverables of the prototype and other things. The contract was blurry and difficult to read so she would like a clean copy of the contract. It looks like this is a modification to the contract. Vernon stated that the contract was approved through the State grant and reviewed by Contracts & Grants. Carole noticed the period of performance was from April 2020 through December 2020. Her question is if this is something that Keya provided a long time ago and we are just getting to it or is that the actual performance date and this is an extension of that contract. Vernon explained that the first contract was for the development of the language app. This contract is to upgrade and improve the app. Carole would like to see the prototype. Vernon said this is part of the additional money from the Montana Indian Language Program. The council packet contained the original contract, not the new one. The new contract has the correct dates on it and states Keya will provide updates to the app. **Charmel Gillin** would like to have the proper backup. **Lissa Peel**, Contracts & Grants, advised that she has the new contract. The scope of work ends September 2021 and indicates it is for additional

upgrades to the language app. **Martin Charlo** commented that the council has the wrong scope for work in the council packet.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the contractor agreement with Keya Birdsbill, KeyaTech, LLC, in the amount of \$10,000.00 to do upgrades to the Kootenai Language App. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 6 for; 1 opposed (Carole Lankford - does not have the information); 1 abstention (Charmel Gillin); 1 not voting (Ellie Bundy McLeod out of the room).

Vernon Finley, Kootenai Culture Committee, had the new apprentices introduce themselves to the council. **Chairwoman Fyant** looks forward to them meeting with the council at the quarterly council meeting. She encouraged the apprentices and wished them well.

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

Mike Durglo and **Kathryn McDonald**, Preservation Office, requested approval of a programmatic agreement between the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding improvements to the East Pioneers Watershed Assessment for a ten-year period. There is no funding attached to the agreement.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the programmatic agreement between the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding improvements to the East Pioneers Watershed Assessment. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Mike Durglo and **Kathryn McDonald**, Preservation Office, requested approval of two programmatic agreements between the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding improvements to the Madison Watershed Assessment for a ten-year period. There is no funding attached to the agreement.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the programmatic agreement between the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes regarding improvements to the Madison Watershed Assessment. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Velda Shelby and **Janet Camel**, Economic Development, requested approval to accept the low bid in the amount of \$29,250.00 for a feasibility analysis and market study for the C-Store at the former Big Arm property.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to accept the low bid in the amount of \$29,250.00 for a feasibility analysis and market study for the C-Store at the former Big Arm property. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 8 for; 1 opposed (Mike Dolson).

Velda Shelby and **Janet Camel**, Economic Development Office, requested approval of a letter of commitment and a resolution approving the submission of a grant application to the United States Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$75,000.00 for value-added producers grant funding to complete a feasibility study and business plan for a mobile meat processing unit along with packaging and distribution of locally raised beef and bison. The Tribes must have a ten percent match if it is submitted today.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the letter of commitment and the resolution approving the submission of a grant application to the United States Department of Agriculture for value-added producers grant funding to complete a feasibility study and business plan for a mobile meat processing unit along with packaging and distribution of locally raised beef and bison. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-065

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) FOR VALUE-ADDED PRODUCERS GRANT FUNDING TO COMPLETE A FEASIBILITY STUDY AND BUSINESS PLAN FOR A MOBILE MEAT PROCESSING UNIT ALONG WITH PACKAGING AND DISTRIBUTION OF LOCALLY RAISED BEEF AND BISON

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

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is the duly recognized governing body of the Flathead Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are committed to the sound planning and management of Flathead Reservation resources; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT or Tribes) have directed the Office of Economic Development to fill the important need of

diversification of revenues and protection of resources as the Tribes strive for self-sufficiency and planned economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the CSKT desire to promote food sovereignty and food security for the people, as stated in CSKT's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the USDA provides funding for value-added producer grants for business plan development, market analysis and feasibility studies with the condition that the grant amount is matched with at least 10% Tribal or other non-federal funds;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation approves the application for a \$75,000 USDA Value-Added Producers Grant, to be managed by the Tribal Economic Development Office, to complete a detailed Feasibility Study and Business Plan with market analysis, as outlined in the grant proposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribes will provide \$7,500 in non-federal matching funds toward the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council Chairwoman and designated representative are hereby authorized to negotiate and execute the contract and any modification thereof.

Chairwoman Fyant left the meeting for a phone call with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Rhonda Swaney, John Harrison, Chelsea Colwyn, Stu Levit, Dan Decker, Michael Wheeler, and Ryan Rusche, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters. **Rick Eneas**, Financial Management, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the resolution to rescind Resolution 20-086 and Resolution 20-090 regarding the Emergency Declaration and Order. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Shelly Fyant out of the room).

RESOLUTION 21-066

A RESOLUTION RESCINDING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE FLATHEAD RESERVATION

OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES AND SETTING REOPENING GUIDANCE FOLLOWING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC OF 2019-2021

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CSKT THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, as the governing body of the Flathead Nation, is entrusted with the responsibility to operate the Tribes' governmental business and protect and preserve Tribal property, wildlife and natural resources, and to protect the health, security, and general welfare of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, protection of property, wildlife, natural resources, health, security, and general welfare of the Tribes is among the highest priorities of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, several milestones have occurred since the Declaration of Emergency made by Tribal Council on March 17, 2020, through Resolution No. 20-086;

WHEREAS, those milestones include the provision of Covid 19 vaccinations to the majority of Tribal members, employees and their families, and the Tribes' willingness to continue vaccinations until herd immunity is reached; and

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency no longer exists on the Flathead Reservation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CSKT Tribal Council hereby rescinds the Declaration of Emergency declared March 17, 2020, by Resolution No. 20-86, and the accompanying Order established by Resolution No. 20-090 on March 26, 2020 and adopts Center for Disease Control (CDC) published periodic guidance to guide reopening of the Reservation for the foreseeable future.

It was the **consensus** of council to enter the proposed voting rights litigation and approve the legal representation agreement with the Native American Rights Funds.

Ryan Rusche, Legal Department, requested approval of a travel request for the list of tribal officials and staff to go to Helena for a meeting on May 13, 2021: Shelly Fyant, Anita Matt, Ellie Bundy McLeod, Martin Charlo, Carole Lankford, Bing Matt, Fred Matt, Charmel Gillin, Mike Dolson, Len TwoTeeth, Ryan Rusche, Rhonda Swaney, Dan Lozar, Seth Makepeace, Craig Barfoot, Rick Eneas, Velda Shelby, Clayton Matt, Tony Incashola, Sr., and Vernon Finley. **Martin Charlo** thought rescinding the emergency declaration would allow staff to travel at the discretion of the department heads.

MOTION by Bing Matt to approve the travel request for the list of tribal officials and staff to go to a meeting in Helena on May 13, 2021. Seconded

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by Ellie Bundy Mcleod. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Shelly Fyant out of the room).

Carole Lankford presented a request from Wanda Adams for burial assistance in the amount of \$600.00 for her father, David Warren. David’s daughter Brandy is a tribal member. The money would go directly to Lake’s Funeral Home. **Council** advised that no action was necessary according to policy.

Carole Lankford informed council that she received a request from Tyrone Burke for an extension on a land issue. Carole told him she cannot grant the request. Mark Couture will bring it up this afternoon.

Len TwoTeeth informed council that One Heart had no trespassing signs posted on the Black Bear Ranch and the Tribal Lands Department made them remove the signs and said they need council approval. One Heart is having problems with people entering the property. They requested to post no trespassing signs so they can control people accessing the property.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve no trespassing signs at the Black Bear Ranch. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Shelly Fyant out of the room).

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

Chairwoman Fyant returned to the meeting.

Ellie Bundy McLeod left the meeting for the remainder of the day to go to Helena to speak at a MMIW Awareness Day event at the capitol building.

Helen Russette, University of Montana, discussed an executive summary and draft manuscript on Resilience Among Children With Prenatal Substance Exposure. The name of Helen’s paper is “Identify family-child activities among children with prenatal substance exposure in a Tribal Nation; Caregiver perspectives on barriers, facilitators and positive outcomes”. Helen graduated last weekend with her doctorate degree. She is preparing for her dissertation defense, and then she will be transferring to the John Hopkins University.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to accept the paper. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Helen Russette asked council if she could continue to highlight the CSKT in the paper or if they prefer to remain anonymous. **Chairwoman Fyant** thought it would be okay to highlight the CSKT. We are looking at potential treatment options to make something culturally relevant. It was the **consensus** of council to authorize Helen to highlight CSKT in her paper.

Helen Russette gave an overview of the study proposal she is recruiting for. Motivation for the study is well-established protective factors associated with child development applies in the context of prenatal substance exposure can serve to shed light on impactful interventions that promote healthy development among high-risk children. The objectives are to measure positive caregiver and family-child engagement, social support of the caregiver, and residential greenspace exposure. The results will be disseminated in July. The study tools are novel early child caregiver tools, and the age range is 0-3. It will be an online or paper survey and takes about twenty minutes to complete. The study proposal will be presented to both Culture Committees.

Filip Panusz, Julian Cossentini, and Myrna Adams, Arlee Rehabilitation Center, gave an update. It is an animal center/rehabilitation community of people that want to provide services to those animals and people who wish to work with those animals rather than euthanize and follow the familiar path of animal shelters around us. They will be launching their pilot project this year. They will be offering a day camp for children aged 8 through 13 the first week of August. They requested to use the Arlee Pow Wow Grounds for the critter camp. **Tara Irvine**, Tribal Lands Department, did not know when the maintenance work would be done at the pow wow grounds.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the use of the Arlee Pow Wow Grounds for the day camp, to be conditional on any rehab work scheduled by the committee. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Filip Panusz announced there will be a spay and neuter clinic in partnership with Spay Montana September 11-12, 2021. They hope to have trap and release for feral cats. They are working with Tara Irvine to identify a location for the clinic. If the clinic in Mission is not available, they are looking at other sites. It will be funded through their grant. They are working with S&K Gaming to get room accommodations for the veterinarian and assistant. Filip will contact Rob McDonald about spreading the word through the Char-Koosta News. **Tara Irvine**, Tribal Lands Department, is waiting for more information on what space needs they have before she can identify a location. Filip requested a letter from the Tribes that we are working together and support their vision to be submitted with the grant application to the Montana Healthcare Foundation. The deadline to submit the grant application is June 1, 2021.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve a letter of support for the Montana Healthcare Foundation grant. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Filip Panusz gave an update on where they stand and where they are headed and reaffirming the commitment to collaborate. They worked to build their

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capacity, worked on a lot of grants, planning, logistics, and protocols for the nonprofit to work effectively. They did Missoula Gives and they raised \$10,000. People responded positively and 11 organizations have offered sponsorships amounting to \$6,000. Filip encouraged the council to adopt a dog ordinance.

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

Mark Couture and **Holly Hitchcock**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Lori Lundeen for an easement in Big Arm for alternate, emergency access to the Wild Horse RV Resort Subdivision. The Land Committee reviewed the request and recommended denying the request.

MOTION by Anita Matt to deny the request from Lori Lundeen for an easement. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture and **Holly Hitchcock**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Mary Ann Rotundi and John Heus for a right of way to access their fee property in Finley Point. The Land Committee reviewed the request and recommended denying the request.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to deny the request for right of way from Mary Ann Rotundi and John Heus. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture and **Holly Hitchcock**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from the U.S. Forest Service for a temporary road use permit for one year to access USFS land that borders tribal property. It was recommended they be granted a one-year revocable permit with a \$375 refundable bond and a \$600 permit fee. The Land Committee reviewed the request and recommended approving it.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve a one-year revocable permit to the U.S. Forest Service with a \$375 refundable bond and a \$600 permit fee. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested approval to accept the best bid for the Big Draw house and a homesite lease. Three bids were received, and Josh Roberts was the high bidder. All bidders were tribal members.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to accept the high bid from Josh Roberts for the Big Draw house. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested approval to accept the best bid for the Niarada house and a homesite lease. Mark recused himself from the process. Brandon Couture was the high bidder.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to accept the high bid from Brandon Couture for the Niarada house and a homesite lease, as presented. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture and **Tara Irvine**, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Sareen Banna, The Beehive Permanent Cosmetics, for a revocable permit to operate a permanent cosmetics and tattoo parlor on Tribal Tract T4513 located in Polson. Options presented were: (1) approve a one-year revocable permit so long as all permitting requirements are met, including a rental payment of \$350.00 per month, required insurance, and required bond; (2) deny the request; and (3) hold further discussion. The Land Committee recommended going with option 1. There will be a 10x12 building on the site. There is no water on the site. She will put in an outhouse. The rest of the water will be brought in from a water tank and she will remove the water from the site.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to go with option 1 and approve a revocable permit for Sareen Banna, The Beehive Permanent Cosmetics, to operate a permanent cosmetics and tattoo parlor on Tribal Tract T4513 located in Polson. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 7 for; 1 opposed (Carole Lankford).

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, presented a request from Jason McDonald for a five-year extension on Ag Lease No. 2272 for 80 acres of the irrigated tract. Jason bid \$5,912.25 per year beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2024. He is proposing a five-year improvement lease to rebuild both pumps and motors for the irrigation; rebuild burnt control panel on Pump B; build cross fence to isolate the field under the wheel-line; and till and replant the section of lease that is under the wheel-line. The Land Committee recommended approval of the proposal. Options discussed were: (1) accept the Land Committee recommendation to approve the proposal for a five-year extension; (2) deny the request; and (3) hold further discussion. The total investment of improvements amounts to \$33,700.00. He would still pay the 5,912.25 per year in addition to the improvements.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the improvement lease with Jason McDonald. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 7 for; 1 abstention (Anita Matt).

Anita Matt, for the record, "It appears there's quite a bit of improvements that's gonna have to be made, but I still think in the outcome he'll come out ahead on a 400-acre parcel."

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Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, discussed Range Unit 40 located in the Irvine Flats area in Elmo, containing 4,351.11 acres. This range unit was advertised twice, and no bids were received. A negotiated bid was submitted from Doug Jackson and Shane Carr at \$23 AUM, for a total of \$18,630.00, for a period of five years. The Land Committee and the Lands Department recommended accepting the negotiated bid. Options presented were: (1) approve the Land Committee's recommendation to negotiate; (2) deny the recommendation; and (3) hold further discussion.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the negotiated lease with Doug Jackson and Shane Carr. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested acceptance of the 2021 Spring Bid. A total of 94 agriculture leases (25 allotments and 69 tribal tracts) were advertised. The Tribal Council reviewed the Spring Bid packet at the chair's meeting and recommended accepting the bids. Options presented were: (1) approve the recommendation to accept the Spring Bid; (2) deny the recommendation; and (3) hold further discussion.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to accept the 2021 Spring Bid. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Len TwoTeeth discussed a request from the Dayton School regarding a proposed land exchange. The school is located on tribal property. The School Board would like to seek funding to build a gymnasium and they need to show ownership of the property in order to get that funding. Len wants to start those discussions with the School Board. This would benefit the kids and he wants the Tribal Lands Department to engage with the School Board and come up with some options to get this completed so the School Board can seek funding to build a gymnasium. **Carole Lankford** thought this exchange had already been approved, but here we are revisiting it again. Len explained that we questioned whether or not they even owned the property they were trying to exchange so that is what stopped the process. **Mark Couture** stated that the title company said the Tribes owned the property that the Dayton School wanted to exchange. He can follow up with the Legal Department. It was the **consensus** of council to proceed with the land exchange.

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a land issue.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to grant the tenant at the former Houle property an extension until May 15, 2021. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 7 for; 1 opposed (Shelly Fyant).

Shelly Fyant, for the record, "The reason I am opposed to the extension is because there has been damage done to the trust asset and he has been given several extensions since he was offered the emergency housing and he hasn't taken personal responsibility for himself or his children."

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department; **Stu Levit** and **Michael Wheeler**, Legal Department; met with council to review the Tribal Lands Ordinance 45B. **Len TwoTeeth** wants the Lands Ordinance discussion scheduled for the morning session. **Carole Lankford** thinks we should have had a committee go over it and bring it to the council with proposed changes, like they did with the Credit Policy. It is a daunting process to go line by line of the ordinance. It would be better if we had the people on the ground make the changes and bring in for council consideration. **Charmel Gillin** suggested that if we think we want changes on the homesite leases, how could we change it to allow multifamily and extended family dwellings. We need to put those values back in our system. **Chairwoman Fyant** mentioned that it was brought up how current homesite leases are too small an area for people to do what they want to do. The largest homesite lease is 2.5 acres. An individual suggested that the Tribes go through another allotment act to where people would be given a larger acreage to own, but with the caveat that it could not go out of tribal ownership. **Carole Lankford** informed council there is a house with three campers in St. Ignatius and people live in those campers. It would be nice if we could get a tiny house for them. She thinks family would invite people to live around them as long as they had a place to live. **Chairwoman Fyant** thinks we may have that opportunity with the next round of COVID funds. To help be sustainable, we could do tiny homes on a sweat equity basis so people put an effort into it and respect it afterwards so we would not be having graffiti and meth situations like we have been dealing with recently. **Mark Couture** reviewed proposed changes to the ordinance. Regarding survivorship, the nontribal member spouse would be given a life estate if they want to continue living there until the lease expires. The discussion continued in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Mark Couture followed up on the dock issue from this morning. The property was put into trust status in 2014. The Elmo Maintenance Department has been mowing the property and the community does use the dock. It is a trust asset, but it was never put into a program. Mark can provide a full update on Thursday.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to adjourn the meeting.

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Council **adjourned** at 4:23 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Council Secretary