

Bois Forte NEWS

OL 46 NUMBER 4

Tune in for the State of the Band!

Even though the light is at the end of the tunnel for the pandemic, the State of the Band will once again be done virtually.

The date for the 2022 State of the Band is Thursday, April 21. It will be available for viewing on YouTube (simply type in Bois Forte Tribal Government) or via the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa website (www.boisforte.com).

The video will be available after 12 p.m. on the 21st.

Please tune in to see messages from the Bois Forte Tribal Council and Bois Forte Tribal Government Directors. Miigwech!

Four Tribal Council candidates weigh in on local economy, government

On April 5th, the 2022 Primary Election for the Bois Forte Tribal Council will commence, with candidates running for the positions of Secretary/Treasurer, District I Representative, and District II Representative. The Bois Forte News reached out to the candidates to learn more about the ideas and goals of the individuals running for office. Unfortunately, not all of the candidates responded, but here are the responses we received.

What made you decide to run in this election?

"We have infinite needs that have been overlooked for four years," wrote Tim "Woody" O'Leary, who is running for District II Representative seat.

Shane Drift, who is seeking re-election for District I Representative, wrote "Some band members urged me to seek re-election because I speak up for them, I am not scared to stand alone on issues, I listen to the band members. I have a lot more to do, a lot more to accomplish on the band member's behalf."

Hannah Chosa, who is running for the District II Representative position, replied: "I have observed and recognized the need for open-minded, honest, and fair leadership. We need to hire and invest in our own people for jobs rather than looking for candidates outside of the state. I believe we need to focus on building a strong business plan to secure our future. I am confident if elected I can make a positive change for the people of Bois Forte."

"For the past few years, I have spent time reflecting on the needs in Vermilion and talking to trusted individuals in our community about serving Bois Forte as the District II Representative.

"Vermilion is my home, where I work and raise my daughter. I want to ensure that the next generation has access to all the services they deserve," wrote Robert H Moyer, Jr.

Help us understand the type of leader you will be, by describing your two highest priorities for change or growth for the Band in the short term. What about in the long

term?

"One priority is housing," wrote O'Leary. "We need to get our houses opened up for rental instead of sitting empty. I will try to fill them with employees if they fall under our codes. We have a lot of employees that need roofs over their head. Their paycheck will guarantee our money goes back to our Band. Secondly, we need a new up-to-date elderly home. Instead of polishing a turd, we can find funds to house our elders properly."

"Band members know that I am here to serve them," Drift responded. "I speak up, I am not scared to stand alone on issues. When the band members elected me back in 2018 they placed their trust in me to do the right thing in everything that I do while on council. I take (these responsibilities) very seriously. I have kept the line of communication open to the band members to bring their concerns, ideas, or thoughts to my attention."

"As for change," he continued, "the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Trib-



al Executive Committee (TEC) needs to pass the resolutions regarding blood quantum." Drift believes that changes are necessary to the blood quantum requirement. "I would be in favor of removing the blood quantum all together. I would also be in favor of including other native blood such as Canadian blood, Lakota Blood and so on. I would also like to include descendants," Drift wrote.

"As for growth in the long term, I will continue to push for the tribe to buy new businesses. The tribe will need new businesses to generate revenue for the tribe. The extra revenue could be used to build a financial reserve, increase funding for programs and services. I will push for a marijuana dispensary business and payments to the band members from the profits." Drift emphasized the importance of Band member input and transparency in government.

"My top two short term priorities would be to focus on our current businesses and unity within the community,"

continued on page 3

Chairwoman Cathy Chavers



Boozhoo, Ahneen!

Spring is on the way, and the past two years under the Covid 19 pandemic have been extremely hard on everyone. Hopefully, we are now on our way to a different normal with this behind us, but we still need to take the necessary precautions with this virus as it also could turn on us all again.

We are now in election season for the tribal government, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the candidates good luck. Band members, your vote is essential and counts, so please remember to vote!

Another vote that will be coming soon is the vote from MCT members (all enrolled members of the six bands under the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Bois Forte, Leech Lake, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Mille Lacs, and White Earth) on the issue of enrollment. This enrollment issue has been discussed for 30 years plus, and it is time that the membership has its say with what they would like to see regarding enrollment.

There will be a mailing with the questions coming soon. It is cru-

cial that you return your vote in as it will guide the MCT Tribal Executive Committee and Constitution Reform

Committee on moving this issue forward.

The other votes that are in are the votes from the band members who voted on the Eveleth C Store business. The votes were mailed back, and the tally was as follows: Yes – 331 No – 74 Returned – 196

So with this vote, we are moving forward with the C Store in Eveleth. We are meeting to get this off and running. We appreciate all the comments, both negative and positive. We will keep you informed as we progress on this project.

The Bois Forte Tribal Council has also decided to combine the General Manager position at Fortune Bay Resort Casino with the CEO position to assist us with expanding economic development for the tribe. Mayan Beltran will now be our GM/CEO. We know that he will be a great asset to us with his work experiences with his tribe (Winnebago) and various contacts across the country.

Land acquisition has been on Bois Forte's radar for many years. We are now in the process of obtaining our land within the reservation boundaries that were previously owned by Potlatch-Deltic. We are currently working on the purchase agreement with the Conservation Fund to purchase over 28,000 acres of land on the Bois Forte Reservation! Our goal is to accomplish this by May of this year.

Last but not least, the State of the Band will be held virtually this year and is scheduled for April 21, 2022. We hope that this will be the last virtual State of the Band address and that we can all get together in person next year.

Miigwech!!!



EYE CATCHER!— Fortune Bay's ramped up efforts to find new employees will include the use of this image that is on the Laurentian billboard, which is located on Highway 53. The image, featuring Bois Forte band member Taneesha Dupree, is a mockup of the billboard that will stay up for a couple of months as Fortune Bay's Human Resources Department looks to fill many full-time jobs and seasonal jobs as well. If you know of a family member or friend who is looking for a new job, please have them contact our HR Department, thank you!

Fortune Bay management ramps up creativity to fill jobs

Finding employees in an ultra-competitive market won't be an easy goal to achieve, but thanks to some fantastic teamwork, Fortune Bay Resort Casino management is confident it can fill many job openings in the coming months.

The teamwork has entailed Director of Marketing Jake Aune working closely with some members of the Human Resources Department to develop new ways to turn prospective employees into employees.

Those new ideas include using billboards in high traffic areas touting higher starting wages than what has been offered before, plus an aggressive social media plan and a \$500 sign-on bonus for anyone hired during April.

"We're talking about the fun, fast-

paced work environment that our employees get to experience as an employee here," said Director of Human Resources Beth Adams. "We are also touting our great benefits packages, which includes free basic health insurance, paid time off, holidays, and employee discounts."

Recruitment and Onboarding Specialist Taneesha Dupree has also been very active at job fairs at high schools and colleges to help fill positions.

The current job openings at Fortune Bay are plenty, but once our company needs to gear up for the busy summer season, those job openings will grow even more. Executive Chef Kirstie Kern says she currently has 10 openings split amongst the North Star

continued from page 5

Four Tribal Council candidates weigh in on local economy, government

continued from page one

wrote Chosa. "When I say I would like to focus on unity, I mean focusing on our elders, our children, and every other community member and encouraging a traditional way of life. I believe this can be accomplished over time if our tribal leaders foster a stronger sense of community. In focusing on our current businesses, I would urge the leaders within all our establishments to focus on strategic planning. This will be beneficial for the future of our reservation as many of our programs depend on the financial health of our businesses."

"My top two long term priorities would be to expand our business portfolio by making educated investments and to have an elder assisted living center/nursing home build on our reservation to ensure our elders can stay close to their families and community members," Chosa finished.

"In the short term," Moyer wrote, "prioritize existing Bois Forte Enterprises by working with management and staff to find ways to improve our services to increase profitability."

"In the long term with the populations equaling out between the two districts, I would advocate to have three at large council positions. This would allow all of Bois Forte voters to have a bigger voice on our council. Having a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer being the at large council along with a District I and District II being voted in by their district."

What are the steps you would take towards supporting local economic health?

"Utilize our existing businesses first and use local businesses in our area when it is needed," Moyer replied.

"Well," O'Leary wrote, "so far we are already doing a great job with that, Fortune Bay supplies many jobs as well as the Y store, with competitive pay. Bois Forte keeps a lot of money rolling through our economy."

"I would like to offer education through trainings and workshops to community members and employees

with the importance of supporting a local economy and business," Chosa wrote. "We all know if you want to support your local economy, you buy local. The same should go for us within the Bois Forte community. I believe we should be supporting our community members who are entrepreneurs or who want to be entrepreneurs. I have seen a need to hire band members in supervisory and managerial roles within our own government and tribally owned businesses. Along with hiring band members for these positions, we need to support band members who have a desire to further their education and training."

What is your perspective on the best ways to collaborate with other levels of government to ensure a sustainable and prosperous future for our area?

Moyer wrote, "Work with the other levels of government by keeping lines of communication open. Seek out individuals that are representing our area and work along side them as the voice for our Reservation."

"I have attended various tribal consultations over the last four years. When the tribes met with Government Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan, I advocated for mandatory funding for Native Languages in the schools like the French and Spanish languages," wrote Drift.

"I attended meetings with the Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, U.S Forest Service, Minnesota Department of Health and Human Services, Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Minnesota Department of Commerce. Almost every Thursday there is a tribal leader's call where a Commissioner from one of Minnesota Department's talks with tribal leaders," Drift continued. "I have asked questions, brought up issues, or shared knowledge during these calls. I attend the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Subcommittee meetings and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) meetings, consultations with District 2142, and the 1854 Treaty Authority meetings."

Chosa stated, "Since we have a unique position as a reservation, it is important that we develop cohesive relationships with other local, tribal, federal, and state governments. I believe the best way to collaborate with these levels of government is to continue to promote healthy communication to allow us to find the best

strategies and solutions to problems. In addition to collaborating with other levels of government, tribal leaders should also communicate with band members, both on and off reservation, to establish services needed."

Miigwech to O'Leary, Chosa, Drift, and Moyer for taking some time to respond to these questions. The election will take place on April 5th. Don't forget to place your votes!



Shane Drift



Boozho, Bois Forte Band Members! It has been my honor and my privilege to serve you as the District I Representative for the last four years. I am humbly asking you for your support and vote on Tuesday, April 5th, 2022. I would like to share a little bit about me; I have two wonderful children, I am in a serious relationship, I have been alcohol and drug free for over 28 years, I have a college degree and I serve on our Ambulance Service and Fire Department.

What I have accomplished over the last four years is as follows: Re-

quested CARES Act and American Rescue Plan (ARPA) payments for Band Members, requested CARES Act and ARPA financial information be made public, required that the Health & Human Services build a financial reserve, pushed to increase monies put into the tribal government and casino financial reserves, requested that all Bois Forte Tribal elections ballot count be on Youtube, pushed to eliminate financial strain placed on our casino, requested a resolution to protect the Fortune Bay Employee medical fund, voted to increase casino employees salaries, requested a resolution for any new business venture to be brought before the Band Members for approval, advocated to purchase a new ambulance, made sure all band members received their 1854 per capita payments the last two years, I voted against renewing the Kemper Sports contract at the Wilderness Golf course.

Some of my goals for the next four years: for the band to move forward with a medical marijuana, recreational marijuana, and hemp business, build a section 8 housing complex in the Twin Cities and Duluth for our Band Members, language & culture programs, build a traditional round-house, financial education class for our young Band Members, an urban office in Bemidji, push to increase the 1854 per capita payments, protect our 1854 treaty area and treaty rights, increase funding for our Elder programs, put ARPA payments into the children's trust accounts; payments to Band Members from marijuana business.

It would be a good idea to teach our youth about planning for retirement. It would be good for our young band members who turn eighteen and receive their eighteen monies to start a retirement account. Some things that need to be considered; how much money do I need to have in my retirement account, will I have enough money to retire, and how much to put into a retirement account.

When I was first elected into office I donated \$200 from my first paycheck and to date I have donated over \$16,000 to various tribal government programs. The various programs that I have donated to are as follows: The Elder's Activities, Nett Lake Pow Wow Committee, Nett Lake LIEC Committee, Bois Forte Burial/Funeral Fund, Bois Forte Heritage Museum, KBFT 89.9 FM Radio, Bois Forte Medical Clinic, and Bois Forte Ambulance Service. Please keep in mind that I am not bragging or boasting. I made a promise to myself that if I was elected that I would donate back to the tribe.

If you, the Bois Forte Band Members, elect me to serve you for another four years I will continue to stand up and speak up for our elders, band bembers, and employees, look out for the best interest of our tribal government, programs and services, tribal businesses, I will continue to ask questions, and I will do business the same way that I have been doing.

In closing, if you have any ideas, concerns, or issues please feel free to call me at 218-750-2552. You can also message me on Facebook. Remember to vote for Shane Drift District I Representative on Tuesday, April 5th, 2022! Miigwech!

Sincerely, Shane Drift District I Representative

Robert Moyer Jr.



Greetings Bois Forte Band Member,

I am writing to humbly ask for your vote on Tuesday April 5th, 2022 for Lake Vermilion District II Rep.

My parents were Caroline Boshey & Robert H. Moyer Sr. My grandparents were Edwin & Bessie (Mesabe) Boshey and Ralph & Florabelle (Brown) Moyer.

I have made my home in Vermilion for the past 15 years. I am the proud father of four children and three grandchildren. My siblings, Bessie, Roberta, and Brian all live on the Vermilion Reservation.

With the populations equaling out between the two districts, I would ad-

vocate to have three at large council positions. This would allow all of Bois Forte voters to have a bigger voice on our council. Having a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer being the at large council seats along with a District 1 and District 2 being voted in by their district. I will strive to seek equality and fairness to all band members, by ensuring that your voice is heard.

As we have learned from our former generations, sovereignty is something that we cannot take lightly. We need to provide opportunities that will support programs to train our band members to fill positions within our government and tribal owned entities. My promise is to work hard to preserve our culture and way of life.

I sincerely care about our reservation and will work to be the voice for the people of Lake Vermilion District II. Please feel free to contact me.

> For absentee ballots contact: GENERAL ELECTION BOARD P.O. BOX 23 NETT LAKE, MN 55772 Ph: 218-757-0276 Fax: 218-757-0116 electionboard@boisforte-nsn.gov Robert H. Moyer Jr. 218-410-4008 jrmoyer72@gmail.com

Fortune Bay management ramps up creativity to fill jobs

(continued from page 3

Bar, Sunset Steakhouse, and Golden Mine Grill.

"But that number will be 20 or more come summertime," said Kern, who added some positions are also needed in banquets with the wedding season fast approaching and corporate business coming back after being shut down by the pandemic.

Meanwhile, Director of Facilities Charlie Riihiluoma, who oversees maintenance and janitorial, is down a whopping 30 employees.

Being short-staffed has been a familiar refrain for The Wilderness at Fortune Bay as well. In previous years, landing a job at the award-winning golf course wasn't a given. However, staffing was a big issue last year, and if things don't improve, The Wilderness could be looking at continuing with its reduced hours of operations and the days the restaurant is open.

"We need staff across the board," said The Wilderness at Fortune Bay General Manager Ryan Peterson at a recent Bois Forte Development Corporation meeting, "It's going to be a challenge."

Aside from the new game plan, Fortune Bay will also host a spring job fair where booths are set up for departments with openings manned by managers or directors who can answer questions about the specific openings they have.

That job fair will take place in The Woodlands Ballroom on April 2 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Staff will be on hand to help candidates fill out job applications, give tours of the property if requested, and then candidates can do on the spot interviews.

"We want to make it as easy as possible," said Adams. "We realize it's a tough market out there, given businesses across the Iron Range, specifically the Quad Cities area, are offering competitive wages and other perks as well." The HR Department will also conduct Walk In Interviews every Thursday in April from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. to hopefully bring in more employees.

One thing that can hurt Fortune Bay's plan to bring on new employees is skyrocketing gas prices. Gas prices are already at the \$4 a gallon price point, and those could increase to \$5 per gallon, which has never been experienced here on the Iron Range.

"It's going to be hard to compete with job openings that are closer to home for people who live in the Quad Cities area," said Adams of prospects who live in Virginia, Eveleth, Gilbert, or Mt. Iron. "But that has always been an issue for us; we just need to do our part to sell Fortune Bay as a great place to work. Word of mouth can go a long way in helping us out, but I also think these new ideas will be instrumental for us as well."

Peter "Chief" Boney

Boozhoo Bois Forte Band members!

My name is Peter "Chief" Boney. I come to you once again to ask for your vote in the upcoming tribal elections.

I am honored to have served as your District II Representative for the past three years.

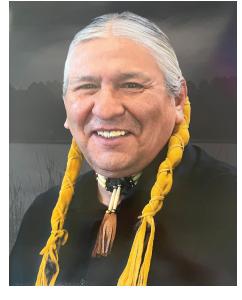
I am married to Rachel Anne Boney and have three sons: Peter, Benjamin and Vernon.

As mentioned in my campaign letter sent out last week, we have made great improvements in the last few years, but I know that we have a way to go.

Education, expansion of our health center, a financial reserve, and working together to enhance our businesses are just a few issues that need attention.

I would like to wish all the other candidates that are running for office good luck.

Please feel free to call or email anytime regarding your concerns, ideas or the issues. I can be reached by phone



at (763) 245-3325 (after office hours which are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) or by email at: eatmac@yahoo.com

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, April 5th!

Miigwech for your support and consideration!

Pete "Chief" Boney

David C. Morrison, Sr.

Boozhoo fellow Bois Forte Band Members,

I have been honored that the Bois Forte Band membership has elected me to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer in previous elections. As your tribal leader, I have a proven record of honesty, integrity, ethics, experience and fair representation for all Band Members

My campaign will represent the principals of fairness, honesty, and respect. My campaign literature will include only fair, relevant and truthful information to voters in their consideration of voting for me.

If re-elected, I assure you that I will continue the fight towards counting all Ojibwe blood in tribal enrollments no matter where you live. I will work to see that Minnesota Chippewa Tribal and Potlatch lands within the boundaries of the Bois Forte Reservation be returned to Bois Forte Band ownership for the benefit of our future generations.

With the economic issues faced by all U.S. citizens as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, economic de-



velopment is one of my priorities. It is more important now than ever to diversify and create more jobs for our people. As your Tribal Leader, I will work with the Tribal Council and our team to implement a workforce development and training program that will reduce our unemployment rate.

The Primary Elections are scheduled for April 5, 2022. Please take the time to vote and make your voice count

Miigwech, David C. Morrison Sr.

Tara Geshick



Boozhoo Bois Forte Band Members:

My name is Tara Geshick and I'm running for the Secretary/Treasurer for the Bois Forte Reservation. I am the daughter of Ronald "Moots" Geshick and the late Marilyn Geshick. I am a mother to four children: Jordan, Marissa, Alexa (Goodsky) and one at home, Bryleigh (Drift). I have learned my strong work ethic from my mother, and also while working in the Twin Cities workforce. My work experiences is with the University of Minnesota, Northern States Power (now Xcel Energy), and First Bank of downtown Minneapolis. Each job taught me invaluable experience in community, business and the trades' field. Since moving back home 21 years ago, I have volunteered on the Nett Lake School Board, Local Indian Education Committee, Pow Wow Committee, Domestic Violence Advocates, and worked for the Bois Forte Tribal Government in the Natural Resources Department for 20 years. Initially, I began as an Environmental Technician, and then worked my way up to Director; Minnesota's first female Tribal Band Natural Resources Director.

Platform

• Marijuana and Hemp Program:

If the band membership wishes by referendum vote to pursue this, I am in complete favor of a Bois Forte Marijuana and Hemp Program. Taking into consideration that the community desires this, the voters approved this, and the tribal program is regulated and secure. Research needed: feasibility study, legal guidance, land/ ideal location, security, hire & train staff, partnership, dispensary, continued band member input. The program would need to be very comprehensive, a highly researched business plan and a business continuity plan for the next 15-20 years after implementation. It will need an aggressive marketing competition plan for when MN state may legalize marijuana, so we can compete with other dispensaries and distributions popping up. Removal of marijuana from the drug panel test for pre-employment will need to be considered or implemented.

• Require Tribal Council members to learn their language: Pass a resolution to declaring Anishinaabemowen language and culture a level one emergency response need, it is endangered. Our tribal council must lead by example and learn the language, with emphasis on our dialect, report or demonstrate their progress, provide funding toward, advocate for, and promote language and culture revitalization. Anishinaabemowen can and will become a major factor in our lives and our new normal as Bois Forte people.

• Evaluate business and make room for more: Evaluate all business, categorize them for efficiency and profit/loss so that we can clearly strategize comprehensively to promote and improve or cease operations. For example, if the Y-Store South business is a go, it becomes priority with resources and funding tied to it. It will need to be evaluated and monitored closely so it isn't our one shot at business. A goal should be that it quickly becomes sustainable so we can move forward with other business ventures.

• Increased communication from financials: Biannual review and finan-

cial reporting of tribal government, Fortune Bay and Enterprises. We need more timely communication rather than one time per year. Track and monitor our organization's progress, with up-to-date technology and catch simmering issues before they become a full-blown crisis. Giving our business more potential and predictability to plan appropriately and proactively proceed in business.

• Improve band member employment percentage: Implement not only more general training, but a band member in-house management program for advancement. My goal would be to support and retain current employees, provide a succession plan for vacant positions, promote post-secondary education, with an ultimate goal of reaching 70% of band member employment in senior management by 2026.

• Re-establish our Elder Committee: Revise By-Laws to promote the committee for language and culture focus, advisement to RTC, identify elderly needs, especially in housing, medical needs, and overall health. By including our elders we can better prepare for the future.

• Climate Change initiatives: Prepare the band membership and community for climate change, climate adaptation, and its effects on manoomin, wildlife, forests, berries and medicines, etc. Learn seed saving, canning wild game, vegetables, berries and how to store medicines.

Together, our goals to better prepare Bois Forte Band in every sector will arrive! I am motivated, a researcher inherently, a doer by practice and I will forever be a lifelong learner! No one does this work alone, so you in the polls will make the difference.

Please vote for Tara Geshick in the Primary Election on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at Nett Lake, Vermilion, Duluth or Minneapolis locations. You will see true progress!



Thursday, April 21 10am – 3pm Iron Trail Motors Event Center Virginia, MN

For more information, www.ironrangejobfair.com or call 218-741-2717



"Connecting Businesses and Job Seekers Since 1998"







Over 28,000 acres of forest restored to Bois Forte

Previously owned by lumber company, the forest will now be conserved sustainably

The Bois Forte Band is recovering over 28,000 acres of forest land previously owned by the Potlatch-Deltic Corporation, a lumber company. This is an unparalleled transaction, and represents the largest single restoration of the land to the Band in its history.

The current owner of the land, The Conservation Fund, made a formal offer to sell 28,089 acres of land located on the Nett Lake and Deer Creek reservations to the Bois Forte Band.

The Band had previously made efforts to negotiate the reacquisition directly with lumber giant PotlatchDeltic, which ultimately failed due to PotlatchDeltic's significantly higher asking price.

The Conservation Fund, who has now made an official offer to transfer the ownership of the forestland to the Band, is a national nonprofit dedicated to protecting and preserving land, water, and wildlife. According to The Conservation Fund's website, "Our land conservation efforts make it possible for conservationists, community leaders, land trusts and government to swiftly and efficiently safeguard these properties for wildlife, recreation, historic significance or to help balance our built environment."

The Conservation Fund acquired 70,000 acres of Minnesota land from PotlatchDeltic in 2020. Part of their goal in acquiring the land from PotlatchDeltic was to be able to eventually return some

of it to the tribes. According to a 2020 press release, The Conservation Fund claims they "will work with county, state, tribal, and local governments to determine the best conservation and sustainable management outcomes for the forestland, with the goal of transferring ownership to public and tribal entities over the next decade."

The Band will finance the purchase with the Indian Land Capital Company (ILCC), a certified Native Community Development Financial Institution. ILCC will finance the full purchase price through a \$8,500,000 loan, which the band will repay with revenue provided by the land itself. The land is enrolled in the Sustainable Forests Initiative Act (SFIA) under a 50year covenant. The SFIA program pays annual incentives to owners of forested land (in this case, the Band) who agree to conserve the land and follow a forest management plan. Under the program, the forestland qualifies for annual incentive payments of around \$587,000 in annual income from the land. The Band will dedicate the SFIA incentive payments to pay the purchase debt.

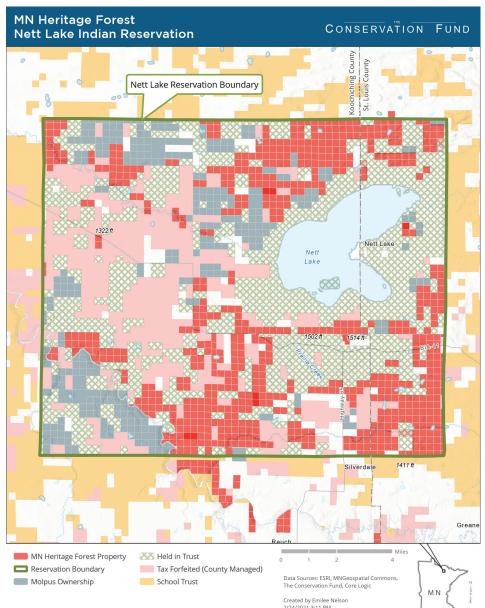
Forestland is an important carbon sink. What that means is that carbon dioxide, a heat-trapping greenhouse gas which contributes to climate change, is naturally absorbed by forested areas and safely released into the soil when the plants die. Preserving forests are essential to combatting climate

change and preventing excess carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.

Because of this, the Bois Forte Band has engaged with the National Indian Carbon Coalition (NICC) to conduct a feasibility study and, if warranted by that study, to enter the Lands in a carbon sequestration and credit program. If the feasibility study demonstrates that the Lands are suitable for participation in the carbon credit market, NICC will assist the Band in generating additional revenue from the lands through carbon credit sales.

After this transaction, acres of forestland will finally return to the stewardship of the Anishinaabe people. This is a historic victory for the Bois Forte Band.

Exhibit A-2



If you have a news item or announcement for the Bois Forte News, please send it to: news@boisforte-nsn.gov

Our deadline for the May 2022 edition is April 20, 2022

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 707 Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772-8122

REGULAR MEETING January 10, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:
ALSO PRESENT:
Janice Connor, Treasurer
Peter Hardy, Supt./Prin.
Malita Spears, Clerk
Christine Hampson, Bus Mgr
Ed Villebrun, Director
Corinne Whiteman, School Secretary
Davelle Jones, Director
Chris Gruber-VIA ZOOM

ABSENT: Beverly Steel, Chairman Laura Ferwalt, Vice Chairman

Janice Connor called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 707 to order at 8:14 a.m.

22-056 Motion was made by Spears and seconded by Villebrun to approve the reorganizational agenda. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-057 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to the December 13, 2021 regular meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-058 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to approve the bills in the

amount of \$61,487.25 (list attached). MO-TION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-059 Motion was made by Jones and seconded by Villebrun to approve the December 31, 2021 Financial Report. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

Malita Spears nominated Beverly Steel as Chairperson, Janice Connor relayed a message that if Beverly Steel gets nominated as Chairperson, she wanted to decline nomination. Janice Connor nominated Laura Ferwalt as Chairperson. Nomination closed. Laura Ferwalt declared Chairperson.

Ed Villebrun nominated Beverly Steel as Vice-Chairperson. Beverly Steel declared Vice Chairperson.

Janice Connor nominates Malita Spears as Clerk. Malita Spears accepts nomination. Nomination closed. Malita Spears declared as Clerk.

Davelle Jones nominated Janice Connnor as Treasurer. Janice Connor accepts nomination. Nomination closed. Janice Connor declared as Treasurer.

22-060 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Jones to approve the revised Signature Plate. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-061 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to keep the Board Salaries the same as last year. Which are the following:

\$250.00 per member per regular meeting \$40.00 per negotiations meeting

\$130.00 per year additional for Chairman \$100.00 per year additional for Vice Chair, Clerk and Treasure

\$40.00 per year one issue, meeting lasting less than one half hour

\$65.00 per one issue meeting lasting over one half hour. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-062 Motion was made by Spears and seconded by Jones to approve Park State Bank and MSBA Liquid Asset Fund the District Depository. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-063 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Jones to approve the Cook News Herald and Timberjay as the Official District Newspaper. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-064 The agenda item for setting the Dates, Time and Location of the Board Meeting's will be put on next month's agenda. There was no motion made for this item.

22-065 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to adopt Robert Rules of Order 11th Edition for the Nett Lake School. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-066 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to approve the School Board and Staff expense allowance \$65.00/ day with receipts for one full day. (with receipts) MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

21-067 Motion was made Spears seconded by Jones to use the Federal Mileage rate for 2022 which is at \$0.58.5. MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0

The following people were approved to be Representatives on the following committees:

Community Education – Beverly Steel Early Childhood Family Education Advisory Board – Laura Ferwalt, and Malita Spears Local Indian Education Committee (LIEC) and Indian Education Committee –

Beverly Steel for both Committees.

The following were approve Committee nembers:

Certified Negotiations/Grievance – Janice Connor, Laura Ferwalt, Ed Villebrun

Policy Committee – Laura Ferwalt, Beverly Steel, Davelle Jones

Meet and Confer – All School Board Members

Building and Grounds – Beverly Steel and Ed Villebrun

Legislative – Beverly Steel

Personnel Committee – Janice Connor, Laura Ferwalt, Davelle Jones

22-068 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to keep the board representatives and committee members the same as FY 2021-2022. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-069 Motion was made by Spears and seconded by Villebrun to approve the Superintendent as the Individual with Official Authority (IwOA) MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

The Board Meeting went into the regular meeting at 8:42 a.m.

Chris Gruber with Miller McDonald Inc. presented the FY 2021 audit.

Discussion occurred.

Superintendent /Principal report was giv-

A new heater was installed in the storage room, to help keep the Sprinkler System heated. Over winter break the gym floor was flooded and damaged. I will be meeting today with the adjuster, to see how much it will cost to be repaired. We do have insurance.

No Consent Agenda

 $22\mbox{-}070$ Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to approve the 2021

Audit Report prepared by Miller McDonald Inc. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-071 Motion was made by Spears and seconded by Villebrun to approve the rate of pay for substitute teachers at \$21.43 per hour effective January 10, 2022. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-072 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Jones to approve the rate of pay for substitute Paraprofessionals at \$18.57 per an hour effective January 10, 2022. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-073 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Jones to accept the letter of Resignation from Peter Hardy effective June 30, 2022. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-074 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Spears to approve the posting of the superintendent/principal for the FY 2022-2023. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0

22-075 Motion was made by Villebrun and seconded by Jones to adjourn the meeting 9:29 a.m. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0



VIRTUAL

Tribal Colleges and Universities Event
Roadmap to a Career at the Department of the Interior

APRIL 6-7, 2022

12PM - 4:30PM EST / 11AM - 3:30PM CST REGISTER AT: https://careers.doi.gov/resources

At DOI There is a Space and Place for You

SUGAR MAPLE

This month's spotlight is on none other than ininaatig, or the sugar maple! Iskigamizigan, or sugarbush, has always been a crucial practice for the Anishinaabe, and this is the time of year when the sap is running and people are collecting it to boil into sugar and syrup.

Here are some more fun facts about maple trees:

According to fossil records, maple trees are ancient, dating back to at least 100 mil-

lion years ago. These trees were growing when dinosaurs roamed the Earth!

Maple syrup contains many healthy compounds and minerals, such as zinc, calcium, magnesium, potassium, inulin, polyphenols, manganese, and antioxidants. White cane sugar doesn't offer the same benefits.

Minnesota boasts a rainbow of maple species! Black maple, red maple, silver maple, mountain maple, box elder maple, and sugar maple trees all turn the forest vibrant colors in autumn.

In Osaka, Japan, a popular seasonal food is deep-fried maple leaves! The leaves are harvested, preserved in salt barrels for a year, and then deep-fried in batter.

Maple trees are an important source of pollen early in the spring for honey bees waking up from their hibernation.

When grown in the right conditions, maple trees can be quite hardy and may live for 300 or more years!

Band Enters Phase II Recovery Allocation Planning Process for ARPA projects

The Bois Forte Band is now going into Phase II Recovery Allocation Planning Process with Blue Stone Strategy Partners. The Council is preparing the projects they applied for with grant money.

In a Planning Budget Memo, the purpose of this process was explained as follows:

"Due to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the influx of funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), there is a need to implement a facilitated planning process for both the ARPA and non-ARPA projects. It is recommended that the band allocate 30% of total ARPA funds for planning activities. Planning activities include those outlined in this budget memo, pre-construction cost (i.e. engineering, architectural, design), grant writing support, and other planning needs that may arise..."

The projects listed are:

• 40 Departmental Implementation Planning Projects & Budget Development

- Communications Plan & Community Engagement
- Update Comprehensive Five-Year Strategic Plan
- Governmental Organizational Structural Assessment
 - Compensation Study
 - Succession Planning
 - Economic Diversification Plan Blue Stone Strategy partners

Blue Stone Strategy Partners are the leading Native American-owned advisory firm for tribal leaders and decision makers. According to their website, they are dedicated to "culturally sensitive, seasoned guidance in the areas of economic development, diversification, sustainability, leadership development, and tribal governance. Our executive team possesses firsthand political and managerial experience in Indian Country, and the proven capability to generate lasting results."



Fiddlehead Primavera

Waagagin, or fiddleheads, should just be peeking out of the snow this April (if the weather is right). They are the tightly curled shoots of ferns, which look very much like the heads of fiddles! These early springtime greens are a reminder of the new life that grows as the weather gets milder, and have

been enjoyed by the Anishinaabe for centuries. Make sure you don't harvest more than half the plant so that it can replenish next year!

You may also incorporate other wild spring foods that come up when the snow starts to melt, such as ramps or even morels if you can find them! And if you can't find any fiddleheads, asparagus is a perfect substitution.

INGREDIENTS:

1 box bowtie pasta
8 oz fiddleheads or asparagus
1 yellow bell pepper
1 cup frozen peas
1 1/2 cups halved cherry tomatoes, or
diced tomatoes
4 garlic cloves, minced
1/3 cup mixed fresh herbs of your choice
(ramps, basil, parsley, and oregano are
all great options)
3 tbsp lemon juice
Zest of 1 lemon
1/2 cup parmesan cheese
3 tbsp olive oil
Salt & pepper to taste

Boil thoroughly washed fiddleheads on

high for 10-15 minutes. Skip this step if using asparagus instead of fiddleheads.

Boil the pasta according to box instructions, rinse, and set aside in a large serving bowl.

Heat the olive oil over medium high heat. Add the garlic and sauté for 2–3 minutes until beginning to soften. Add the bell pepper and boiled fiddleheads and sauté for an additional 4-5 minutes, until vegetables are tender but still crisp. Stir in the lemon zest. Season with salt and pepper.

Add the peas, tomatoes, and lemon juice, and remove from heat. Cover and let steam until the peas are warm.

Pour the vegetables over the pasta. Add all of the herbs and the cheese and gently mix. Add more salt and pepper if you like. Serve warm!

Obituaries



MATTHEW W. KLUG, 70, Two Harbors, died peacefully at home on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

Matthew was born June 26, 1951 to John and Laverne (Landgren) Klug in Two Harbors, where he was a lifelong resident. After graduating from high school in 1970, he attended vocational school in Willmar to learn the sign painting trade. Matt was employed as a laborer in the Bridge and Building Department of the DM& IR Railroad for 30 years, and enjoyed sign painting.

Matt was an enrolled member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa

and enjoyed their powwows. He also enjoyed his sign painting, and classic cars, especially his '50 Oldsmobile.

Matt is survived by his son, Luke and Luke's mother, Carol; brothers, John Paul (Cynthia) Klug, and Mark Klug (Amy Church); sisters, Alice Aho and Martha (Tom) Hanson; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Matt's life was held at on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Two Harbors. To share your memories or condolences online please visit www. cayallinfuneralhome.com.



PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE

The regular Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Election of the Bois Forte Reservation will be held on April 5, 2022, to fill the following positions

Secretary/Treasurer - 4 Year Term

David C. Morrison, Sr. *Incumbent Tara Geshick Tracey Strong Dagen

Candidates for Dist, I Committeperson - 4 Year Term

Mildred R. Holmes David H. Villebrun Jr. Simona Benner Shane G. Drift *Incumbent Candidates for Dist. II Committeeperson - 4 Year Term

Robert H. Moyer Jr.
Hannah Chosa
Peter F. Boney *Incumbent
Timothy D. O'Leary
Robin Geshick

ELECTION DATE: APRIL 5, 2022

POLLING PLACES:

District I: Government and Community Service Building 5344 Lake Shore Drive • Nett Lake, MN 55772

<u>District II: Vermilion Social Center</u>

1610 Farm Road South • Tower, MN 55790

Bois Forte Duluth Urban Office:

Damiano Building 206 West 4th Street • Duluth, MN 55806

Bois Forte Minneapolis Urban Office:

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Office 1308 E. Franklin Ave Ste. 112 • Minneapolis, MN 55404

District I is the designated polling place for absentee ballot voting

Polls open 8:00 a.m. Close 8:00 p.m.

Duluth Art Institute Executive Director named to U.S. Senate Advisory Board

Bois Forte member Christina Woods, the executive director of the Duluth Art Institute (DAI), has been appointed to the Curatorial Advisory Board of the United States Senate. Composed of only 13 members selected nationwide, the board is responsible for the acquisition, care, and disposition of items within the Senate Collection. Board members also provide advice and guidance on policies, plans, and the conservatorship of items in the Senate wing of the United States Capitol and Senate office buildings.

"Throughout her tenure leading the Duluth Art Institute, Christina has been a tireless advocate for the arts, championing innovative exhibits and promoting community participation," said Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, who nominated Woods for the position. "I am confident that she will bring her passion and experience to this important role."

Woods added, "I am honored to serve among the distinguished colleagues named to the board, especially given our serious charge of re-examining the artwork and items in the Capitol to better reflect the full story of our nation."

An enrolled member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Woods has led the DAI for four years. During that time, the DAI has become a leader among arts institutions, especially in Minnesota, in decolonizing its exhibits, programs, and operations, and has worked tirelessly to foster the inclusion of widely diverse artists, patrons, learners and community members as a whole.

In addition to her role at the DAI, Woods is intensely involved in the regional and statewide arts community as chairwoman of the State of Minnesota Capitol Arts Committee, president of the Duluth Public Arts Commission, committee member of



Christina Woods

the state of Minnesota Task Force on Monuments and Statues, and as a Steering Committee member of the Minnesota Arts and Culture Coalition.

The Senate appointment took effect February 23, 2022 with Woods tentatively scheduled to meet at the U.S. Capitol this spring.

About the Duluth Art Institute

For 115 years, the Duluth Art Institute has worked to enrich the daily life of the greater Twin Ports with dynamic, innovative visual arts programming that upholds excellence and displays uncompromising talent from our region and beyond. As one of the only arts institutions nationwide that is BI-POC-led in both its executive leadership and board, the DAI advocates for artists, arts learners, and arts viewers in ways that amplify narratives erased or overwritten by the dominant society and that celebrate all. The DAI accomplishes its mission through its exhibit space at The Depot in Downtown Duluth, and its Lincoln Park Building that brings educational programming and creative space to families and residents in a vibrant but historically underserved area of Duluth.



Ameera Jenkins-White is a Bois Forte tribal member who represented the Bois Forte and Leech Lake reservation in Washington, D.C. She traveled to Washington D.C. with the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig High School this past February. She learned how the Federal government operates and how legislation works. Ameera had the opportunity to meet with Senator Tina Smith and discuss issues that youth face on the reservation.

Ameera is a Senior at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school and will be graduating in May 2022. She is planning on attending the Leech Lake Tribal College during the fall of 2022 to continue her education. The family of Ameera Jenkins-White would like send a big thank you (chi-miigwech) to the Bois Forte Tribal Council and Leech Lake JOM program for their generous donation to help with Ameera's travel expenses.

Visit Bois Forte Band of Chippewa on these social media outlets.



Bois Forte NEWS



Deadline for the May 2022 issue is April 20, 2022.

The Bois Forte News (BFN) is published monthly by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. The BFN encourages submission of articles, community announcements, recipes, and photos.

> Send to: news@boisforte-nsn.gov

Contributions are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. BFN will attempt to include all material submitted by Band members and guests. Multiple contributions from the same source may be excluded or rotated to future issues to ensure equal access to all. For information on paid ads, please contact us.

From the archives... A look back at the April 1996 edition of the Bois Forte News



News from the PLANNERS. Doris with R.T.C. news..



PEGGY CONNOR RETIRES





Nett Lake Sector 5344 Lakeshore Drive Nett Lake, MN 55772 Phone: 218-757-3261 Toll Free: 800-221-8129 Fax: 218-757-3312

Vermilion Sector 1610 Farm Road South

Tower, MN 55790 Phone: 218-753-4542 Fax: 218-753-4055

Bois Forte Tribal Government Offices

Urban Office - Duluth

206 West 4th Street Suite 204 Duluth, MN 55806 Phone: 218-336-1048 Cell: *218-206-5629 Fax: 218-336-1049

*wdrift@boisforte-nsn.gov

Urban Office - Minneapolis

1308 East Franklin Avenue Suite 112 Minneapolis, MN 55404 Phone: 612-871-6618 Cell: *612-747-5247 *urbanoffice@boisforte-nsn.gov



Bois Forte Tribal Council

Shane Drift - District I Representative Peter Boney - District II Representative Cathy Chavers - Chairwoman David C. Morrison Sr. - Secretary/Treasurer Travis Morrison - District I Representative