



Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 49 NUMBER 1

ELDER MEETING CIRCLE REMINDER!

The Bois Forte Elder Meeting Circle meets every second Tuesday @ 2 p.m. at the Vermilion Social Center and the Nett Lake ENP.

We hope to see you there!

Make plans to attend the 2025 State of the Band! Event will take place Saturday, January 18th at Fortune Bay

TOWER— In the hopes of increasing attendance at the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa’s State of the Band (SOTB), the 2025 event will take place on a weekend for the first time ever.

“We had heard that holding it on a weekday did not allow band members living out of the area to attend this important event, so we decided to try it on a Saturday instead,” said Bois

Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers. “Yes, they could tune in to the broadcast remotely, but it didn’t give them a chance to experience what this event is all about.”

While Chavers said the goal of the SOTB is to keep band members informed, there is also a secondary goal, which is to afford the opportunity for band members to get togeth-

er to rekindle friendships and make new connections.

“This is one of the biggest social events of the year, and we’re hopeful band members will take the time to come out and hear about all the exciting things going on for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa,” said Chavers.

The 2025 SOTB will take place on Saturday, January 18th,

A room block has been set up at Fortune Bay Resort Casino for the 2025 SOTB. If you would like to reserve a room, please call 800-555-1714 and ask for the State of the Band block.

at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. The Woodlands Ballroom will host the dinner and program, while the pre-function area, resort lobby, and executive boardroom will handle informational booths, registration, and an overview of Bois Forte’s financial picture, respectively.

Traditionally, all of Bois Forte’s programs have an informational booth set up to let band members know more about what services are available. However, other agencies have also set up booths to let band members know about their programs as well.

The day also offers a chance for Bois Forte band members to renew their Tribal IDs, 1854 Treaty Authority IDs as well as to get a flu shot and/or a Covid booster. They can also get an application for any job opening at Bois Forte Tribal Government, Fortune Bay, and other Bois Forte Development Corporation businesses like the Y Store, C Store, and The Wilderness at Fortune Bay.

It was a magical evening at Fortune Bay Resort Casino



SPECIAL MEMORIES— Five-year-old Branson Villebrun, center, is flanked by his father, Ryne Villebrun and Santa Claus at the recently held Kids Christmas party at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Please see page 4 for the story and additional photos.

See SOTB on page 8

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Chairwoman Cathy Chavers



Boozhoo

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!!!! I know from a tribal government side it is not known if it will be a good year or not for tribes with the new federal administration and new President coming into office. The uncertainty with any change in leadership is weighing on everyone's minds.

Currently we do not know if there will be funding cuts, removal of former Executive Orders, etc. that were in place is a possibility. The sky is the limit I guess you could say. All we can do is wait and see what transpires.

I do know that at our last Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) meeting held on December 12, 2024, in Hinckley, that the Leech Lake band presented a

resolution to the TEC to use Red Lake Chippewa Blood in their enrollment criteria.

In the MCT Constitution the term used is "Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood" and is not specific to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Indian blood. Therefore, due to that interpretation, Leech Lake, along with the White Earth Band, have passed their own tribal resolutions to accept Red Lake blood for the enrollment criteria. These resolutions cannot be acted upon until the entire TEC can talk with their tribal members about this change.

The next TEC meeting will be the end of January 2025 in Fond du Lac where there will be a vote taken to decide whether to include Red Lake Chippewa Blood and for the tribes to have an opt in and opt out clause so if some tribes choose to add it others can choose not to. We would like to get our band members' input so please watch for any updates regarding enrollment. Red Lake has made two changes to their enrollment by going back in their rolls and making everyone a full blood. For everybody's information, the blood quantum that was prior to them making everyone a full blood will be what is considered for enrollment with the other MCT blood if approved. Will that make a significant or minor change at Bois Forte? I do not know at this time.

We need Bois Forte band members to sit on the Constitution Reform

Committee for Bois Forte. Our current person had medical issues and cannot carry on with this committee. We have one newer member who has expressed interest as well, but we need more.

If any band members are interested, please write a letter to the RTC requesting to be on the MCT Constitution Reform committee and we will then let the other tribal Constitution reform members know you are on our committee. The Fond Du Lac band does have a Constitution Reform page that is updated to let people know what is being discussed, what they are doing and where they are at in the process. It

is a very important committee to have a voice, so please volunteer if you can.

Bois Forte is having the State of the Band on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. We hope that by having it on a Saturday that we can get more tribal members to attend as it is not during the regular work week. Hope to see you all there!

Now that we are experiencing a real winter this year, please check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors to be sure that they are working. Safety is key!

Chi Miigwech!

Bois Forte NEWS

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:

bkanderson@fortunebay.com

Contributions are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. BFN will attempt to include all mate-

rial 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.

Deadline for the February 2025 issue is January 20, 2025.

NETT LAKE MIDWINTER POWWOW

FEBRUARY 14, 15, & 16, 2025

Nett Lake Powwow
SEEKING COMMUNITY
MEMBERS TO DONATE READY
TO HEAT N SERVE SIDE
DISHERS FOR
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FEASTS

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Arrest made in hit and run that claimed life of Amanda Boshey

TOWER— A 50-year-old Virginia man has been arrested in the hit and run death of Amanda Boshey that occurred Tuesday, December 17th.

Boshey, 38, a Bois Forte band member, was walking along Reservation Road near Tibbetts Trail when she was struck and killed.

Tibbetts Trail is roughly a quarter of a mile before the turn into Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Boshey lived on Farm Road, which is roughly one mile east of Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

While details of the incident have been tightly sealed, law enforcement officials had enough cause to arrest Eric Peterson, who allegedly fled the scene after striking Boshey shortly after 9 p.m. Tuesday, December 17th.

Social media was buzzing as family and friends of Boshey demanded answers in the tragic accident. While his alleged involvement was not confirmed by authorities at the time of the Facebook posts, Peterson's Facebook profile being shared online urged authorities to investigate him.

Because the accident took place on the Vermilion Reservation, the FBI is heading up the case. While they did not release Peterson's name, they did issue a brief statement saying that tips from the public were no longer needed in the afternoon hours of Thursday, December 19th.

It was later reported that Peterson was booked into custody at 3:55 p.m. Friday, December 20th by U.S. Marshals Service. As of press time, he is currently in

Douglas County Jail in Superior as he fled to Wisconsin after the accident.

According to University of St. Thomas Law Professor Reid Lebeau, because Peterson is a non-native and the accident took place on an Indian Reservation, he would most likely be prosecuted in federal court in Duluth, Minnesota.

It is also too early to predict what charges Peterson would be facing as many variables, including any past offenses and if he was under the influence when the accident took place, have not yet been disclosed.

Lebeau added that although no punishment can replace what the Boshey family lost, Peterson could be looking at criminal vehicular homicide or criminal vehicular manslaughter, both of which carries a maximum prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum fine of \$20,000.

Boshey was working as a laborer for Whitebird Services out of Local 1091. Her hobbies included shopping, going out to do things with family, and being involved with her recovery community.

According to family members, Amanda was a Leo and always made it a point to let people know that. She always loved lions because of it. Boshey always had something goofy to say, no matter her situation.

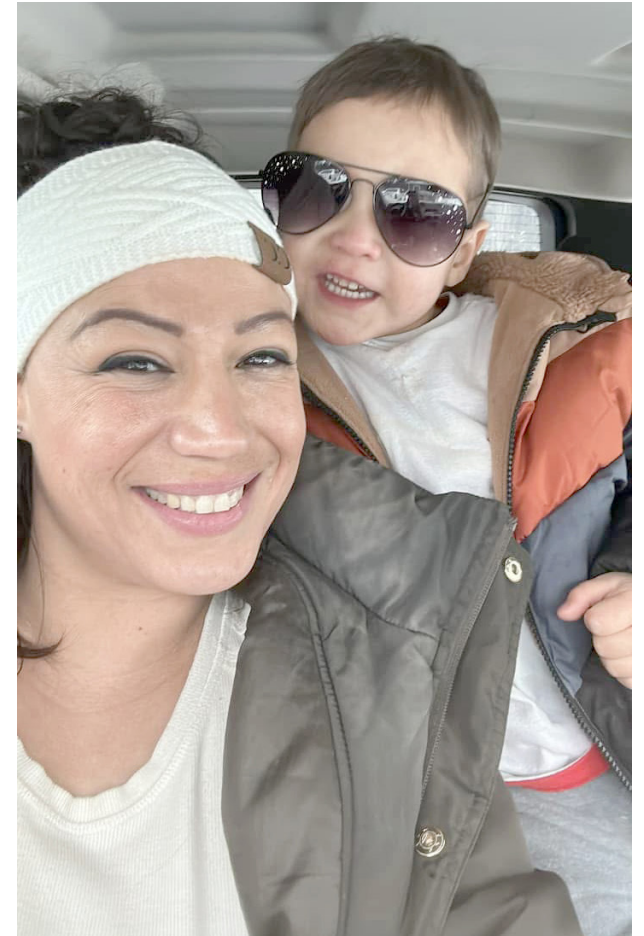
Her five kids were her pride and joy even when they weren't living with her. Her smile was contagious, and her laugh was as well. Shopping was her getaway—she always wanted to buy something for her family and friends even when they didn't ask for it. She was always

there for family and always had some way to help.

Boshey was recovering from her harsh addiction and was doing better for herself and her kids.

She would have been three years sober in January; it was something she had always cherished.

Family said that her five kids meant the world to her. Her oldest daughter was her best friend and was attached at the hip. They always did everything together. She was always active and ready to "Go, go, go," with boundless energy and a zest for life. Boshey hated just sitting around doing nothing. She always had a project in the works and still had

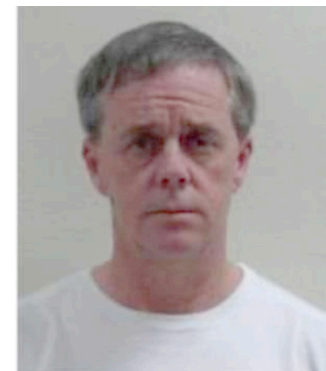


PRECIOUS PHOTO— Here is a submitted photo of Amanda and one of her five children, Kolton, enjoying a tender moment.

many more ideas she wanted to pursue.

Her friends, family and even strangers, posted heartfelt messages on social media as news spread of the awful tragedy that struck the Boshey family right before the holidays.

A fund has been set up at the Embarrass Vermilion Credit Union (www.evfcu.org) to help Boshey's five children with their financial needs.



IN CUSTODY— This is the mug shot of Eric Scott Peterson, 50, of Virginia, MN, who is in custody following a tragic hit and run accident that claimed the life of Amanda Boshey. As of press time, no official charges have been released against Peterson for his alleged involvement in the accident.



BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE— This is as makeshift memorial that has been set up near the tragic accident that claimed the life of 38 year-old Bois Forte band member Amanda Boshey late Tuesday evening Dec. 17. The pink paint around the memorial is where law enforcement officials marked the scene.

No shortage of holiday spirit at Fortune Bay Resort Casino!

TOWER— The Woodlands Ballroom was turned into a winter wonderland Wednesday as over 200 kids and their parents/guardians joyfully participated in the Kids' Christmas party at Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

Not only did kids get a chance to have their photo taken with Santa, but they also were able to take part in other games, like a Christmas tree ring toss, where they could win some neat prizes.

The party also featured a coloring station and other festive activities, such as making Gingerbread houses. With the chilly weather moving in, the hot cocoa bar, handled by Fortune Bay staff, eagerly greeted those wanting to warm up.

"The response has been overwhelm-

ing!" said Fortune Bay's Events & Promotions Manager Elise Grabowski before the doors opened. "The gifts that guests and employees donated will benefit many families on the Iron Range. This is a celebration of the Holiday season, and we are very fortunate to be able to host this event."

Grabowski said Fortune Bay collected over 400 toys, dolls, stuffed animals, games, and more. She said she received help from the local Boys and Girls Club with the games and added that left over toys would be distributed to both Boys and Girls Clubs in Vermilion and Nett Lake. Not only that, but three area day care facilities would also be receiving a box of toys to distribute as they see fit.

Once the kids visited with Santa, they headed over to the massive number of toys sorted by Fortune Bay staff.

"We are patient with the children to ensure that the toy they choose brings them joy," said Grabowski, who most recently headed up Fortune Bay's efforts to participate in the popular Christmas parade in downtown Virginia. "To be surrounded by toys is any child's dream. We wanted to make it as memorable as possible."

And memorable it was for many of the kids as they walked across the ballroom engaging themselves in the bevy of activities that Grabowski and her team planned.

One such kid who was amazed at

the festivities was five-year-old Branson Villebrun, who told Santa what he wanted for Christmas: a remote-control monster truck. When asked if he was good this year, Branson flashed a demure smile, and then his dad, Ryne, concurred that he had been a good kid.

Santa even weighed in and asked Branson if he made his bed in the morning, but after some hesitation, Branson said he still has a "wiggly" or loose tooth, so he didn't get around to making his bed. But that's OK; Santa could tell he had been a good boy and should deliver on Branson's request.

Meanwhile, 12-year-old LaNara Guentner was also getting into the

See Spirit on page 5



GREAT JOB TEAM!— Pictured here are members of the Fortune Bay Resort Casino team and some of their family members who put on the very successful Kids Christmas party in The Woodlands Ballroom Wednesday, December 18th. Great job everyone and special thanks to the local Boys & Girls Club for helping out as well!



GOOD TIMES!— This group definitely had a great time at Kids Christmas party, which took place in The Woodlands Ballroom on December 18th. Pictured standing, left to right, are: Kiera Villebrun, Shay Isham, Ashlee Isham, LaNara Isham, Adam St. George, and Earl Villebrun; front row, left to right, are: Kieran St. George, Kylaya Villebrun and Kia Isham.

Spirit from page 4

spirit of the season by making stops throughout The Woodlands Ballroom. She chose a plush Peanuts dog from the ageless Charlie Brown Christmas story for her gift.

As the kids zipped from one station to another, Grabowski enjoyed seeing all her staff's hard work pay off. She wasn't surprised by the outpouring of love shown to area kids by both Fortune Bay's guests and numerous employees, who also made generous donations to the party.

"Generosity can be contagious when the intention is to serve," said Grabowski. "It also lifts the spirits of those who walk by the huge, filled box. It is a reminder of the generous spirits of our neighbors. When times are challenging, there is no other option but to come together, and people sense that need to create unity and community."

Well said, Elise—and Merry Christmas to everyone who stopped out to make this such an uplifting and heart-warming event!



SPECIAL VISITOR— Kia Isham, center, ponders a question from Santa, while Ashlee Isham, left, looks on.



CHEERFUL VISIT—Bessie Chavez smiles as she tells Santa what she would like for Christmas this year.

Workshops at the Bois Forte Heritage Center & Cultural Museum have been a blast!

Submitted by Dani Pieratos

Workshops at the Bois Forte Heritage Center & Cultural Museum have been a blast!

On Tuesday, November 12th, the Center hosted a Dreamcatcher Workshop with Theresa Morrison as the main instructor.

Before the class, Jess Anderson, the museum's Language & Cultural Coordinator, had harvested red willow branches, which is what is commonly used to make the dreamcatcher frame. Theresa shared step by step instructions on how to wrap the red willow around itself to make a circle while taking off excess stems from the main branch. Excess pieces can later be used to make smaller

dreamcatchers.

Next, each participant was given sinew, a thread made of animal tissue, to make the web inside the red willow circle. Participants were told to tie the sinew right to the frame, then to move it over to another part of the frame with a lock stitch knot until the whole circle was completed. From there, they lock stitched the sinew around the first round that was made, all the way to the center.

On Thursday, November 21st, participants gathered for a Beadwork Workshop where persons could bring projects they were already working on or come in as beginning learners to start a new project with class instructor Theresa Morrison.



ENJOYING THE WORKSHOP!— Theresa Morrison shows off the hand drum she made, while Corey Strong and his wife, Megan, shares a laugh while working on their project.



We've been looking for someone like you.

We are hiring!

A part time position is available at our Nett Lake and Vermilion Branches. Apply in branch or online at www.evfcu.org.



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CIVIL LEGAL AID

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◆ **Housing Issues**

Repair Issues
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Notice to Vacate
Security Deposit

◆ **Planning Ahead**

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Termination
Denials

◆ **Family Law**

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Divorce
Custody

◆ **Debt Collection**

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Eviction and Criminal

◆ **And more...**

Thursday
1/16/25

Bois Forte Clinic - Vermillion
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday
2/20/25

Bois Forte Clinic - Nett Lake
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday
3/20/25

Bois Forte Clinic - Vermillion
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday
4/17/25

Bois Forte Clinic - Nett Lake
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Contact Us:



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William Isham



William M. Isham passed away peacefully on November 25, 2024 at St Mary's Medical Center in Duluth, Minnesota. He was born in Cloquet, MN to William G

Isham and Lillian Day.

He served in the Army honorably during Vietnam. William had a career in law enforcement from a prison guard, BIA officer, and a conservation officer. He loved shooting, reloading ammunition, hunting, fishing, and motorcycling.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Grace Elizabeth Isham.

William is survived by his son, William G Isham (Jannan Isham); his two

daughters, Louise Elizabeth Isham and Jennifer Lorraine Isham; his grandchildren: Tyler Isham (Crystal Isham), Nicolis Buchholz (Racheal Howe), Shullon Isham (Kevin Strong), Jake Isham, and Alexander Isham; his great grandchildren: Grace Isham, Alyssa Isham, Graham Isham, Jazmin Buchholz, Gabryl Buchholz, Neko Buchholz, Elius Strong, Hazel Strong, and William Isham.

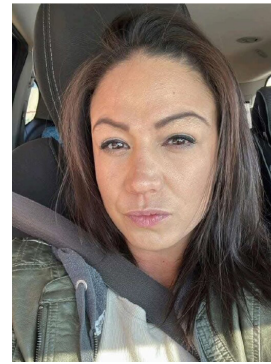
The pallbearers will be Tyler Isham, Nicolis Buchholz, Jake Isham, Alex Isham, Ernie Landgren, and Luke Landgren.

Honorary pallbearers: William G. Isham, Shullon Isham, Kevin Strong, Jim Prepodnik, John Prepodnik, Henry Thompson, Elius Strong, and Pablo Gonzales.

Visitation was held Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. at the Bois Forte Government Center in Nett Lake and continued until the service on Monday, December 2, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Amanda Boshey



Amanda Rae Boshey, age 38, of Tower, MN – an amazing daughter, sister, and friend died on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, as a result from a tragic

accident that took place in Tower, MN. She was born on August 13, 1986, to Kimberly (Bradley) Day and Dale Boshey Sr.

Amanda was a fierce Leo and always wanted people to know that - she loved lions because of it. She always had a joke to make and a contagious laugh to follow it. Amanda lit up every room she entered and put a smile on anyone's face. Her pride and joy was being a mother to her five children. Shopping and family outings were her get away when she was not working. Amanda worked as a laborer for Whitebird Services and truly loved her career.

Amanda was very involved with her recovery community as she was building a beautiful sober life for herself and her family, and we were all so proud of her.

Amanda had dreams of opening her own treatment center on the Reservation one day. Amanda's best friend in the world was her sister Amber. She will be missed by many.

Amanda is survived by her parents: Dale Boshey Sr and Kimberly (Bradley) Day; Children: Annaeiah Chavez, Anastashia Chavez, Nella Goodsky, Memphis Goodsky, Kolton Clark; Brothers: Aaron Boshey, Dale Boshey Jr., Elijah Chavez, Ablaza Chavez; Sisters: Amber Boshey, Megan Ruzic, Jackie Adams; Maternal Grandparents: Sandy (Doug) Antikainen and John (Jackie) Dahl.

She was preceded in death by her Paternal Grandparents: Raymond and Gloria Boshey, Uncles: Jeff and Terrance Boshey, Aunt: Joni Dahl, Nephew: Tra'von Boshey, and first Cousins: Jeff Boshey Jr & Raven Boshey.

The wake began at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 20, 2024, at the Vermilion Wellness Center. Tribal Rites began at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 21, 2024. Vernon Adams was the Spiritual Advisor. Burial followed in the Bois Forte Vermilion Cemetery.

Family Services were provided by Bauman-Vermilion, A Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower. To share condolences online, please visit: www.baumanfuneral.com.



Minnesota North College & Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Program Fair

Join Minnesota North College & Bois Forte Band of Chippewa for a program fair! Explore many hands-on activities and interact with faculty from all six Minnesota North Campuses! Lunch will be provided for attendees.

Transportation is provided by Big Woods Transit. Pick-up will be at the Vermilion Wellness Center in Tower, MN and at Zups in Cook, MN.

Transportation spots are limited. Reserve by calling 1-888-757-1540!

Friday, January 24, 2025
11-1:00PM
Bois Forte Government Building
5344 Lakeshore Dr, Nett Lake, MN 55772

NEW GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW FOR THE 2024 – 2025 FLU SEASON

FLU ~ COVID-19 ~ RSV

Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot

CORE STRATEGIES				
Immunizations 	Hygiene 	Steps for Cleaner Air 	Treatment 	Stay Home and Prevent Spread*
ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES				
Masks 	Distancing 	Tests 	*Stay home and away from others until, and Your symptoms are getting better and You are fever-free (without meds) for 24 hrs	
Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community ✓ You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness ✓ You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering 				
Then take added precaution for the next 5 days				



Bois Forte Medical Clinics
Nett Lake & Vermilion
(218) 757-3650 (218) 753-2182



SOTB from page 1

In its heyday, even when it was held on a weekday, the annual State of the Band swelled to over 700 attendees. In fact, the program had to be simulcast to the former Multi Purposes rooms on the casino side or the gymnasium at the Vermilion Center. Numbers have since declined to under 400, and it is the hope of Chavers, and the rest of the tribal council that holding the 2025 SOTB on a Saturday will reverse that trend and then continue to grow in the years ahead.

The itinerary for this year's event includes registration/informational booths in the resort lobby and pre-function area from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A special financial presentation begins at 1 p.m. in the Executive Boardroom. A Bois Forte Tribal ID is required to gain access to the presentation.

The formal program will begin at 2:30 p.m. in The Woodlands Ballroom,

followed by dinner. The event will wrap up by 5 p.m.

For those not familiar with the SOTB, the program typically includes video presentations from politicians talking about the work they are doing on behalf of the Bois Forte Tribe.

Members of the tribal council are also given a chance to address the attendees, while Chavers then gives the keynote speech that typically gives a comprehensive overview of what Bois Forte as a whole has accomplished during the past year and how things are shaping up for the future.

"We really hope band members show up in record numbers for the 2025 State of the Band," said Chavers. "It is more than just an event—it gives band members a chance to reconnect with their community and to keep them informed as to what is going on with the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa."



Elder Walking Club

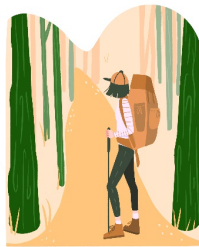
Let's Get Together Every Week

You can walk for an hour, or less, or not walk at all and just visit...very low key!

VERMILION

Every Thursday
Starting at 2 p.m.
to 3 p.m.

Remember to
bring your inside
shoes for gym
floor



NETT LAKE

Every
Wednesday
Starting at 2
p.m. to 3 p.m.

Remember to
bring your inside
shoes for
walking.

Bois Forte Tribal Council cordially invites you to the 2025 State of the Band

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Woodlands Ballroom

Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Tower, MN

11:00am-2:00pm

Registration and Informational Booths
Resort Lobby/Pre-function Area

1:00pm

Special Financial Presentation
Executive Board Room
(Bois Forte Tribal ID Required)


2:30pm-5:00pm

Formal Program and Dinner
The Woodlands Ballroom
Seating Begins at 2:00pm



MONTHLY MEETING

Bois Forte Elders Meeting Circle



IN Person
Second Tuesday of Every Month
2:00 PM
Vermilion Social Center & Nett Lake ENP

Here is the Elder Nutrition Program's (ENP) menu for the month of January. Services offered include nutritious meals served daily, Monday through Friday at the Nett Lake and Vermilion Community Centers from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with home-delivered meals available to Elders who are unable to get to the ENP sites.

January 1: Holiday

January 2: Beef Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 3: Beef Barley Vegetable Soup, Chef Salad, Whole Grain Dinner Roll, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 6: Goulash, Peas, Bread Stick, Fruit

January 7: Beef Taco Pie with Corn Chips, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad

January 8: Grilled Chicken Breast, Rice Pilaf, Chateau Vegetables, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 9: Breakfast Hotdish, Potato Wedges or Tots, Muffin, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 10: BBQ Pork Riblette, Au-Gratin Potatoes, Broccoli Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 13: Breaded Chicken Patty, Poultry Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Fruit, Dinner Roll

January 14: Roast Beef, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Root Vegetables, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 15: BBQ Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Fruit

January 16: Stir Fry Chicken/Egg Roll, Stir Fry Vegetables, Steamed Brown Rice, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 17: Beef/Bison Stew, 7-Grain Bun, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 20: Holiday

January 21: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes w/Cheese, Peas, Fruit

January 22: Wild Rice Meatballs, Rice Piloff, Sliced Zucchini, Fruit

January 23: Chicken Wild Rice Soup or Hotdish, Garden Salad/Cole Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 24: Bison/Beef Meatloaf, Baked Sweet Potato, Brussel Sprouts, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 26: Chicken Wild Rice Soup or Hotdish, Garden Salad/Cole Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 27: Potato Soup, Chicken Salad Croissant, Fruit

January 28: Meat Balls w/Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 28: Roast Pork, Baby Bakers Potatoes, Roasted Butternut Squash, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 30: Beef Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Chef's Choice of Fruit

January 31: Taco Salad/Chef Salad, Refried Beans w/Chips, Chef's Choice of Fruit



Minute with Millie

January. New beginnings. Leastways, for the majority of the world. English speaking world. Well, perhaps not even that is truly true anymore. We make distinctions depending on our view of the world.

Now, me, I imagine plenty of things sitting by my window looking out at my part of the world. 'Cept December 14. I sat down to the giant windows located there at the Mille Lacs Grand Casino hotel lobby. Bois Forte Elders had been invited down to Mille Lacs since the year Covid was announced to the world and started three years of imposed quarantine for most of us.

So, today, a few of us ventured out into the world and fulfilled the invitation so gracefully extended to us. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. And yes, a couple managed to get back the money we contributed to the wellbeing of the Mille Lacs Band.

For both of us, the Bois Forte Band and Mille Lacs Band of Elders, have embarked on a new journey of discovery in our part of this great big world.

Mille Lacs Band of Elders had traveled to our reservation a year or two before the Covid. I was privileged to be the tour guide for one of the buses cruising round the small village of Nett Lake.

Luckily, we had roundabout roads which made it easy to get



back to the RTG with no mishap. I surely was glad that we did not have to try to reverse the coach bus to turn around.

Yep, yep, yep. That was a mishap that was narrowly avoided as I did not direct them down to Big Point (mostly cause I was unsure of the state of the road down there) or down to the end of Ridge drive. Most certainly, I did not go down the road that goes down to the lagoon.

Yep that's not an image or memory I really want to consider happening. Imagining reversing that big bus all the way back to the main road, in any of those three points.

If you have a news item or announcement for the Bois Forte News, please send it to:
bkanderson@fortunebay.com

NETT LAKE
PHARMACY
 218-757-0230

VERMILION
PHARMACY
 218-753-2182

Minutes of a Regular meeting, regular session, of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held October 2, 2024, at Vermilion Social Center, Minnesota, Hybrid.

Meeting called to order at 9:06 a.m. Invocation done by Verm Adams. Members Present: Cathy Chavers, Tara Geshick, Shane Drift, Perry Drift

Members Absent: Robert Moyer, Jr-excused

Others Present: Luke Warnsholz, Regina Howe, Frances Irving, Bes-sie Medicine, Rhiannon Strong, Mar-issa Rose, Hannah Lehti, Paxton Goodsky, Brian Whiteman Sr., Brad Anderson, Bob Degross, Miranda Lilya, Kim Greiner, Randy Long, Amy Mason, Dan Rabideaux, Car-ol Burr, Drew Ebert, Kevin Strong, Doris Isham, Pam Parson, Pete Drift Sr., T Jon,

Moved by Tara Geshick; second-ed by Shane Drift; to approve the agenda with the following addi-tions: Randy Long-Master Services agreement with Integris for VM renewal, Pam Parson compliance update, and Kim Greiner with a MN State sales tax update.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve RTC meeting minutes from Special meeting held September 4, 2024.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the con-sent agenda as follows:

a) Approved letter to St. Louis County auditor requesting polling place within Nett Lake for 2024 General Election 3-0-0

b) Approved Resolution No. 25-2025, Authorization use of ARPA SLFRF funds for DSGW Service order no. 3 for DNR Building. 4-0-0

c) Approved letter support to Amer-ican Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, RE: Lawrence C. Weaver Transformative Community Service Award 4-0-0

d) Approved for chair to sign BIA Self governance agreement amend-ment 2 for 105L leases for the old dnr building and Tribal Government Center 4-0-0

e) Approved authorization for chair to sign BIA Self Governance amendment 5 for Tribal Electrifica-tion program 4-0-0

f) Approved change order for Valint Construction Services for Heritage Center renovations 4-0-0

g) Award Demo bid for HHS Virgini-a property to Max Gray Construc-

tion in the amount of \$66,300 and the abatement bid to ACCT in the amount of \$8,800 4-0-0

h) Approved contract with Archkey Solutions Town & Country for hous-ing project-Home rehabs on three homes 3-1-0

i) Approved authorization for Bois Forte to join Tribal Amicus Brief in North Metro Harness (Running Aces) v. Anderson 4-0-0

j) Approved permission for 477 pro-gram to participate as member of the Soroptimist International of Vir-ginia MN Group 4-0-0

k) Approved sole source request to Sundancer Solutions in the amount of \$10,000 4-0-0

l) Approved Service Line Agree-ment with LCP for electrical build-out for Dispensary 4-0-0

m) Approved permission to host dinner & Community Bingo Oct. 16, 2024 4-0-0

n) Approved Resolution No. 26-2025, Appointing Jessa Boyer to the position of Director of the Bois Forte Cannabis Regulatory Commission for term of four years 4-0-0

o) Approved subsistence hunters for 1854 4-0-0

Carried 3-0-0

Bob Degross, Superintendent, Voyageurs National Park. Pres-ents an example funding agree-ment, example of requests through agreements, and guidance policy for funding agreements with Grand Portage. Looking to seek informa-tion from Bois Forte and see if in-terested in entering into a similar agreement. Set up meeting to dis-cuss further.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve the partic-ipation in the MN Greenstop Tribal Nations program.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Reso-lution No. 28-2025, approving issu-ance of HUD 184 Residential Lease for William G. Isham Jr.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Perry Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the Ser-vice Line Agreement with Frontier communications for lot in Vermilion. Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve sole source request to Imprivata-EPCS for Healthcare.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve Master Ser-vices agreement with Integris for access point for Fortune Bay.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Master Services agreement with Integris for switches for Fortune Bay.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve Master Ser-vices agreement with Integris for VM Ware renewal.

Carried 3-0-0

Cathy leaves meeting, Shane takes over to chair meeting.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve the Pickup and Release Policy for Head Start.

Carried 2-0-0

Moved by Perry Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to table the Ear-ly Head Start Handbook Policy changes until legal review.

Carried 2-0-0

Moved by Perry Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to table the Head Start Handbook policy changes un-til legal review.

Carried 2-0-0

Cathy returns and takes over to chair meeting again.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to table the Head Start/Early Head Start Selection Point system for SY 2024-2025 until legal review.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the rec-ommendation for Donation Com-mittee for donation of \$500 to Cher-yl Debelak.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; second-ed by Shane Drift; to approve \$75 check amount for both the 2024 Veterans check and Elders holiday check.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve Resolution No. 29-2025, approving the BFTA (Bureau of Trust Funds Administra-tion) delegations to Cathy Chavers and Tara Geshick.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; second-ed by Shane Drift; to approve the recommendation to purchase from Blue Oasis for a Hydration Trailer.

Carried 3-0-0

Andrew Ebert gives an update on the Bois Forte Cannabis project. Decided on name "ISHKODE". Dis-pensary location near Fortune Bay next to RV Park. Also looking to have a small dispensary located in the Nett Lake C-Store.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve for pub-lic comment for thirty (30) days, Amendment to the Bois Forte Res-ervation Tribal Council Bylaws. Po-sitions are posted.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve for public comment for sixty (60) days, the VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) 2022 and Human Trafficking revisions to the Tribal Code.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by

Tara Geshick; to approve for public comment for sixty (60) days, the El-der Justice Revisions to the Tribal Code.

Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to deny Resolu-tion No. 30-2025, update to salary schedule for RTC members base rates.

Carried 3-0-0

Shane leaves the meeting. Pam Parson gives an update on compliance for HHS. Greatest con-cern is cyber security with staff edu-cation. Background study process is in process, hopeful done by the end of the year. Top 3 issues work-ing on-Risk assessment done for 2024, Ensuring employees are log-ging off their computers, encourag-ing employees to not be checking their personal emails on work com-puters. Oct 24th & 25th, Tim Peter-son will be here from North Ameri-can Health Care Group to complete audit.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to table the MN Sales tax update.

Carried 2-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to adjourn the meet-ing at 12:20 pm.

Carried 2-0-0

Prepared by: Frances Irving
Approved at Special RTC Meeting;
December 4, 2024

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Minutes of a Special meeting, regular session, of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held November 6, 2024, at Nett Lake, Eagle Room, Minnesota, Hybrid.

Meeting called to order at 9:07 a.m. Invocation done by Verm Adams. Members Present: Cathy Chavers, Tara Geshick, Shane Drift, Robert Moyer, Jr.; Perry Drift
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Luke Warnsholz, Regina Howe, Frances Irving, Holly Rosendahl, Joseph Bauerkemper, Lance Hill, Jennie Rowland, Christine Lundemo, Lawrence "T Jon" Connor, Randy Long, Jennalee Porter, Debra Lumbar Villebrun, Amber Harman, Carol Burr, Dan Rabideaux, Amy Mason, Kim Greiner, Chris Holm.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve the agenda with the following additions: Luke Warnsholz-Appointment for tribal representative for ARDC, Shane would like to add discussion on the public comment period for the Amendment to bylaws posting and would like to take out language in resolution 89-2005 that pertains to early increases to tribal council. Under Jennie Rowland, no resolution needed, just appointment. Assigning Resolution 42-2025, for authorizing additional payment through ARP.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to table RTC meeting minutes from Regular meeting held October 2, 2024.
Carried 3-0-0

Moved by Robert Moyer Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the consent agenda as follows:

a) Approved 2024 Bois Forte MN Election PAC Recommendations \$37,000 4-0-0

b) Approved LTR of Eventual Tenant Ownership option for Eligible Tenants 2-0-2

c) Approved Consulting agreement between BF & MN Housing Partnership for renters focus study group 4-0-0

d) Approved Resolution No. 33-2025, Designation of Authorizing official for the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Technical Assistance Program 4-0-0

e) Approved Docusign renewal agreement 4-0-0

f) Approved the Bois Forte Probate Code & SORNA Revisions public posting for 60 days 3-0-0

g) Approved the revised Public Comment notice regarding the Bois Forte Tribal Council Bylaws amendment. 4-0-0

Carried 3-0-0

Gary Donald comes on virtually and has some leasing issues.

UMD Tribal Sovereignty Institute, Holly Rosendahl & Joseph Bauerkemper,

Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the appointment of Jennie Rowland to the MN Indian Area Agency on Aging advisory council.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Perry Drift; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve Resolution No. 35-2025, authorizing Tribal Criminal data entry into the JWIN (Justice Web Interface to NCIC) NCIC (National Crime Information Center) systems.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve Resolution No. 36-2025, authorizing the band's NCAI Membership for 2024-2025.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the general services agreement with NCCYou for financial counseling, effective 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2026.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to table the MOU for Tribal Observers program at North-Met.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve the following: 1. EHS/HS Parent Handbook update, 2. Head Start Behavior Policy changes, and 3. Head Start pickup/release policy.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer; to approve the Asset disposal policy.

Carried 4-0-0

Perry Drift leaves the room.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer Jr.; to approve Resolution No. 37-2025, Transfer of unrestricted tribal funds to the Bois Forte Cannabis Corporation for startup expenses.

Carried 3-0-0

A 5-minute recess is taken.

Meeting reconvenes

Perry Drift returns.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve Resolution No. 38-2025, Establishing the Bois Forte Food Sovereignty program.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve Resolution No. 39-2025, Amending "Delegation of Authority" (Resolution No's. 77-2024/5-2025) to give HHS CEO authority to approve supply, service, and construction expenditures within the HHS Division up to \$50,000 and delegate that authority in a written policy to select HHS staff with appropriate limitations or requirements in the discretion of the HHS CEO.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 40-2025, approves the purchase agreement Virginia Community Foundations and authorizing the HHS CEO to execute.

Carried 4-0-0

Cathy excuses herself and Shane Drift takes over as Vice-Chair.

Moved by Robert Moyer Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the certificate of title to Edward D. Chavers.

Carried 3-0-0

Cathy resumes as Chair.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve Resolution No. 41-2025, issuance of a recreational lease to Nadya Ryan, Andrew Ryan & Colin Ryan.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the Services Line agreement with Lake Country Power for Lot 22, Block 2, Lake Vermilion.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Perry Drift; to approve the EPA Community Change grant-Solar Commons Project.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the 2025 Head Start Early Head Start continuation grant application.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Perry Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the 4th amendment to the Essentia System Access and Use agreement.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 pm.

Carried 4-0-0

Prepared by: Frances Irving

Approved at Special RTC Meeting: December 18, 2024

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
VERMILION WATER TOWER IMPROVEMENTS
BOIS FORTE BAND OF CHIPPEWA**

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Proposals for the work described below will be received online through QuestCDN.com until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 23, 2025, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read through Microsoft Teams. Please use the link below or call-in number/Conference ID to see and/or hear the bid opening results:

1. Microsoft Teams link: <https://bit.ly/BFBCVermilionWaterTower>

2. Call: 612-428-8778 / Conference ID: 430 867 002#

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The approximate work includes the following items on the 150,000 gallon elevated water storage tank:

1. Interior Wet Rehabilitation

(a) Complete removal and replacement of protective coating system

2. Exterior Rehabilitation

(a) Complete removal and replacement of protective coating system with full curtain containment and fitted bonnet

(b) New tower lettering/logos

3. Interior Dry Rehabilitation

(a) Complete removal and replacement of protective coating system

4. Miscellaneous grinding, welding, and caulking

5. New pressure relief "frost-free" roof vent

6. New 24" pressure access manway

7. New tank mixer with control panel

8. New drain "mud" valve

9. Provide two "pressure relief" valves in water system

10. New aviation obstruction light with pivoting post

11. Welding modifications

(a) Overflow pipe

(b) Modify and seal upper landing

(c) Repair damaged ladder

(d) Remove existing cathodic protection system

12. Repair concrete and grout under base ring

13. New pressure manway gaskets

14. New recirculation pump, piping, temperature sensor, flow indicator, and all new inlet/outlet pipe valves, sample tap

15. New safety climb equipment/systems

16. New valve room heaters

17. Install pipe insulation and heat tape to misc. piping together with numerous related items of work, all in accordance with Plans and Specifications. This project is subject to Prevailing Wage Rates, Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance Policy, Buy American Iron and Steel Provisions, and Responsible Contractor Certification.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete by June 30, 2025.

PLAN HOLDERS LIST, ADDENDUMS, AND BID TABULATION: The plan holders list, addendums, and bid tabulations will be available for download online at www.questcdn.com or www.bolton-menk.com.

TO OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com or www.bolton-menk.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project #9460687 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$50.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, viewing, downloading, and working with this digital project information.

BID SUBMITTAL: A bid shall be submitted online no later than the date and time prescribed. For this project, the Owner will only be accepting online electronic bids through QuestCDN. To access the electronic bid form, download the project document and click the online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through QuestCDN for bids to be accepted.

BID SECURITY: A Proposal Bond in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, drawn in favor of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa shall accompany each bid.

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the Owner would be best served thereby.

DATED: December 14, 2024 /S/ Cathy Chavers, Chairwoman

Published:

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QuestCDN: January 2, 2025



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