



Bois Forte

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

Minutes of a Special meeting, Regular Session, of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held December 17, 2025, at Bois Forte RTG, Eagle Room, Nett Lake, Minnesota-Hybrid.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Invocation done by Vern Adams.

Members Present: Carlos Hernandez, Tara Geshick, Shane Drift, Jeneal Goggleye, Robert Moyer, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Melissa Wals, Angie Forsbert, Kim Greiner, Cody Swanson, Edward Chavers, Theresa Drift, Teri Morrison, Beverly Steel, David Morrison Jr., Doris Isham, Carol Burr, Vondalee Carr, Simona Benner, Chris Holm, Robbie Goggleye, Jaylen Strong, Miranda Lilya, Nikki Irving, Malita Spears.

Moved by Jeneal Goggleye; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion on Representative II office.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Jeneal Goggleye; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve RTC Meeting minutes, Regular session, special meeting held November 5, 2025.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to table RTC meeting minutes, regular session, special meetings held October 1, 2025 and November 17, 2025 due to not being ready.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the consent agenda as follows:

a)	Duluth Urban office food assistance program-amended guidelines	4-0-0
b)	Change order no 3 for Nett Lake Wastewater improvements	4-0-0
c)	End phase I of financial contingency plan effective 11/15/2025	4-0-0
d)	Request to move life & disability insurance to Symetra	4-0-0
e)	Resolution No 44-2026, request to approve task order with SRF and approve the submission of HSIP grant.	4-0-0
f)	Wild rice donations to ENPs and Urban offices	4-0-0
g)	Contract with Valint Construction for Big Woods phase 2	4-0-0
h)	Statement-financial contingency plan phase I end (11/15/2025)	4-0-0

Carried 4-0-0

Melissa Walls presents on the Together Overcoming Diabetes (TOD) Report. Presented outcomes of a multi-year diabetes and mental health intervention across 5 tribal communities. Boise Fort enrolled 11 families (22 individuals). COVID-19 heavily impacted enrollment and statistical power. Despite this, findings showed:

- High participant satisfaction (84% of adults)
- Evidence of improved mental health
- Continued use of stress-management and wellness teachings

Data sovereignty emphasized; tribe owns all project data. Requested permission to share program reports with internal tribal programs (granted).

Pam Parson gives a compliance update.

- Major Concerns:
 - Cybersecurity threats (ransomware, phishing, compromised credentials)
 - Increasing staff training to reduce email-based risks
- Current work items:
 - Completing 2025 policy & procedure reviews
 - 2025 Security Risk Assessment
 - Planning 2026 in-person HIPAA training
- Top monitored risks:
 - Cybersecurity
 - Billing & coding audit improvements (external audit in progress)
 - Revenue operations workflow and policy improvements.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 45-2026, approving the BIA Cooperative agreement.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Jeneal Goggleye; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 46-2026, approving the work order with SRF for the round about project (y-store).

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the update to the Bois Forte Safety Action Plan.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve Resolution No. 47-2025, approving KLJ work order to complete feasibility study for Nett Lake evacuation route.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve Resolution No. 48-2025, submission of grant application to EDA under FY 2025 Disaster Supplemental notice of funding opportunity to fund construction of Bois Forte Workforce and Economic Development Center at 100% federal rate.

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the letter of support for Jaylen Strong to serve on the Voyagers National Parks Indigenous guidance committee.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the payment for the Laser Fische contract.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the 2026 Employee Christmas club match program.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the new single health care premium at \$1,764.26.
Carried 4-0-0

Recess is taken at 11:08 a.m. - Reconvene at 11:14 a.m.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the FY 2023 Indirect Cost Proposal at 22.15% and authorizing chair to sign.
Carried 4-0-0

Discussion on IDC short fall.

Moved by Jeneal Goggleye; seconded by Tara Geshick; to table the policy on use of vehicles for BF Tribal Government Employees until further review by senior management.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the Head Start Transportation policy.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the partner agreement with the Food Group food bank.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the Title III Grant amendment with Red Lake.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve the statement of work no 3 to services agreement with BCBSM.
Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve Resolution No. 49-2026, the annual HUD mandated point in time and housing inventory counts data sharing with MN Tribal Collaborative and St. Louis County.
Carried 4-0-0

Recess taken at 12:01 p.m. - Reconvene at 12:11 p.m.

Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to approve Resolution No. 50-2026, approving the restated 125 plan, effective January 1, 2026.

Carried 4-0-0

Nominated by Carlos Hernandez; seconded by Tara Geshick; to appoint Jeneal Goggleye to the MCT TEC Natural Resources Environment subcommittee.

Carried 3-0-1 (Jeneal Goggleye is silent)

Moved by Jeneal Goggleye; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve the Amerind Insurance policy for 2026 (renewal).

Carried 4-0-0

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to table the Bois Forte Housing Essential Family and Law Enforcement family polices until further revisions are made.

Carried 4-0-0

Discussion on whether District 2 Representative should relocate office to newly built Vermilion Public Works building.

- Original planning unclear; building funded and designed specifically for Public Works, Maintenance, Food Shelf, and Head Start bus.
- Concerns about losing 105(l) reimbursement if non-IHS/BIA staff occupy space.
- Limited room: only 2 offices + 3 cubicles.
- Suggestion to instead prioritize renovating the Vermilion Social Center as the long-term RTC office space.
- Representative Moyer requested cost estimates for comparison.

Outcome: No vote; item to return at later meeting with cost analysis.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Jeneal Goggleye; to adjourn at 12:49 p.m.

Carried 4-0-0

Prepared by: Frances Irving 
Approved at Regular RTC Meeting: January 7, 2026