

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held January 10, 2008 at the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota.

Meeting called to order at 9:25 a.m.

Members Present: Kevin W. Leecy; David C. Morrison, Sr.; Ray Villebrun, Sr.; Mark Drift, Sr.; Ray Toutloff

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Barb Brodeen; Mark Anderson; Henry Goodsky; Vicki Holmes; Janelle Burton; Esther Connor; Rose Berens; Gary Donald; Joanne Donald; Isabelle Strong; Leo Vidal; Linda Tibbetts-Barto; Gene Boshey; Jose Vidal; Kelly Dunkley; Wendy Thompson; Adeline Wooster; Donovan Strong; Kim Greiner; Andy Datko; Dave Anderson; Carol Burr; Marcella Connor; Lester Drift, Sr.; Bill Tibbetts; Bianna Deegan; Jim Deegan; Mary Strong; Corinna Wettlin; Eddie Chavers; Marge Holmes; Kevin Koski; Corey Strong; Deanna Drift; Terri Hill; Brad Anderson; Peggy Connor; Norm Adams; Rocky King; Jason Sherman; Jeneal Goggleye; Helen Wilkie; Jerome Whiteman; Phyllis Boshey; Christie Goggleye; Billie Mason; Cathy Chavers; Kevin Strong; Tammy Strong; Toni Wakemup; Shaw Guelcher; Patti Wilkie; Miranda Lilya; Rosemary King; Pam Hughes; Marilyn Geshick; Don Chosa; Tracey Dagen; Dawn Benner; Shawn Villebrun; Harold Goodsky; Eric Grumdahl; other Vermilion residents and Greenwood Township supervisors

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve the agenda with the addition of fire coverage for Vermilion reservation; and moving Leo Vidal and Jose Vidal's agenda item until later in the meeting when Dawn Benner arrives. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held December 20, 2007 at the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Elders Committee: Marge Holmes said the elders do not have anything for the agenda.

Peggy Connor said the dishwasher at the Nett Lake Community Center needs to be fixed. Deanna Drift will take care of this.

Discussion on fire protection coverage. Some of the residents express concerns there would be no coverage if there was a fire. Also insurance would be cancelled or costs would go up because the fire rating would be changed. Mark Anderson gives a history of the payments for fire protection and other emergency services from 1991, when payments were first made, until the present. From 1991 until 1995 Fortune Bay paid \$38,338. In 1995 a ladder fire truck was needed to reach the upper story of the hotel. A seven-year agreement, \$25,000 a year, was made to cover the cost for the truck, fire coverage, and training. In 2002 Greenwood Township sent a proposal with two options with both based on market value. The Tribal Council in 2002 determined it was too much, also it was too much like a tax and the Council didn't agree with taxation by another governmental entity. In 2002 a five-year agreement was negotiated with Fortune Bay paying \$30,000 in 2003 and a higher percentage each year after. Last year the payment was \$41,000 for Fortune Bay and another \$7,000 for the government and residential structures. This year Greenwood Township proposed a ten-year agreement with a starting price of \$75,000 for the first year and an escalator of 5% each year after, which would amount to over one million for a 10 year time period. Greenwood Township did not provide any documentation why they needed so much. Bois Forte proposed a grant of \$30,000 for this year. Greenwood Township has not responded as of today. Chairman Leecy talked to other tribal leaders and they do not pay as much as Bois Forte pays. Fortune Bay looked through their logs and there were eight incidents in the past year. Greenwood Township had asked if their firefighters would be covered by their insurance if they were hurt on the reservation and their attorney said yes. A concern from one of the residents was Greenwood Township would put the fire out but if anyone was inside they would not go inside. Chairman Leecy said Rick Wouri asked Ellen Transheff if there was a fire on the reservation, would they respond. Her reply was maybe they will or maybe they won't. Chairman Leecy said according to the State Supreme Court and reaffirmed by the Court of Appeals in the decision of *Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community versus City of Prior Lake, Minnesota*, Greenwood Township is legally obligated to respond. The Greenwood Township supervisors present are asked if there was a fire would they respond. They reply they do not have the authorization to respond because it is in negotiation between the attorneys.

A copy of a letter dated November 25, 2002 from Jacoboson, Buffalo, Shoessler & Magnuson, Ltd. that was sent to Greenwood Township is given to the audience so they have assurance if there is a fire they will be protected.

Move by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve a feasibility study to study the issue of developing our own fire department. Carried 4-0-0.

The meeting is recessed at 11:02 a.m.
Meeting reconvenes at 11:17 a.m.

New tribal government employees: Brad Anderson introduces Peggy Connor who is the new Backgrounds Investigator.

Lester Drift, Sr., Janelle Burton, and Eric Grumdahl give a presentation/update on the homelessness program. Last year a survey was done in Northeastern Minnesota by the Wilder Research and which identified 72 homeless individuals (32 out of 50 surveys completed) on the Bois Forte Reservation. This is the first year of the project completed. Janelle Burton is the staff person for this program. She helps her clients find housing and provides support services to help them stay there. The program received half of the amount of the grant funding requested but next year should receive the full amount.

Leo Vidal (present for Rita Vidal who is in the hospital) and Jose Vidal said Rita and Jose put in a bid for the law enforcement building construction project. They said someone bid \$35,000 for the project and Rita and Jose bid \$32,000 for the project but the other person was allowed to bid two times and the second time had bid \$31,000 so Rita and Jose did not get the bid. Chairman Leecy said the Council has not taken official action on this. Wendy Thompson, Dawn Benner, Jose Vidal, and Leo Vidal are to meet to make sure the process is followed. Chairman Leecy said the Council has not taken official action yet and assures them that when action is taken the decision will be based on following the rules.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve the Bois Forte Culture Committee By-Laws with the following changes: 1) one member must be an elder and one from Vermilion, 2) designate someone to report to the elder committee on the culture committee meetings, 3) in regard to unexcused absences it is without prior notification for absences for three consecutive meetings, 4) add two year term limits, 5) strike #5 from Article II in regard to a checking account because any financial items are to go through the accounting department, 6) add alternate members, and 7) correct the typo under Article VI, #4 to say "Meeting notices will be sent and posted **seven** (7) days in advance.". Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to appoint Don Chosa, Adrienne Zapata, Vivian Proulx, Linda Tibbetts-Barto, and Karen Drift to the Bois Forte Culture Committee and to appoint Corinna Wettlin as Alternate Vermilion Representative and Dorothea Kletschka as Alternate Nett Lake Representative. Carried 4-0-0.

Mark Drift, Sr. and Ray Toutloff leave the meeting.

Moved by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Kristen Strong, David Morrison, Jr., and Chris Running Bear to attend the Native Fitness Training for Special Populations to be held January 30-February 1, 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona. Carried 2-0-0.

Mark Drift, Sr. enters the meeting.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Lance Hardwig to attend the American Academy of Physician Assistants 36th Annual Physician

Page 4
Regular Meeting
January 10, 2008

Assistant Conference to be held May 24-20, 2008 in San Antonio, Texas. Carried 3-0-0. Linda Tibbetts-Barto is to make sure Ray Hawk gets the information on this conference.

Moved by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m. Carried 3-0-0.