

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held October 5, 2011 at Nett Lake, Minnesota.

Meeting called to order at 9:33 a.m.

Members Present: Kevin W. Leecy; David C. Morrison, Sr.; Cathy Chavers;  
Brandon Benner; Ray Toutloff

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Barb Brodeen; Mark Anderson; Vicki Villebrun; Peggy Connor; Kay Davis; Andy Datko; Harvey Thompson; Gene Goodsky; Marcella Connor; Marty Connor; Pete Drift Sr.; Corey Strong; Carol Burr; Nikki Pieratos; Edith Villebrun; Mary Strong; Rose Berens; Kim Greiner; Justin Boness; Jerome Whiteman; Marilyn Geshick; Theresa Drift; Eddie Chavers; Pam Hughes; Axel Holmes Sr.; Axel Holmes Jr.; Billie Mason; Jeneal Goggleye; Doris Isham; Beverly Steel; Vanessa Little; Jane Villebrun; Miranda Lilya; Janella Whiteman; Wendy Thompson; Shelley Strong; Donald Chosa; Karlene Chosa; Michelle Fisher; Wendi Hildebrand; Lindsey Moon; Christine Bloom; Bill Whiteman; Myra Thompson; Virgil Sohm; Norm Adams; Gary Gotchnik; Sidra Starkovich; Alexander Hayes; Josh Munson; Kenda Benner; Charmaine Jourdain; Jacob Heggen; Jake Isham; Alexa Goodsky; Darian Morrison

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the agenda. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held August 26, 2011 at the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Brandon Benner; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held September 21, 2011 at Nett Lake, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held September 27, 2011 at Nett Lake, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Brandon Benner; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held September 30, 2011 at Nett Lake, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

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Elders Committee: Jerome Whiteman said the elders did not have a meeting last month due to financial reasons.

Mary Strong said they met about the elders' trip. Jim Morrison and Mike Connor went on the last elders' trip and the elders' want them to go again because Jim and Mike were hard working and the elders' were comfortable with them.

Theresa Drift said the helpers on the elders' trip are Mike Connor, Pam Hughes, Muriel Deegan, Wendy Drift. Jacque Wilson was going to go but is not able to so there is a vacancy. Theresa said the helpers need to be RTG employees.

The Council said Jim Morrison can go as long as there is a vacancy. All he needs to do is work out his schedule at Fortune Bay to find a replacement while he is gone from work.

Mary Strong asks about the nurse that is going. The elders are requesting that Karen Connor go on the trip again. The elders are informed there will not be a nurse going, that Mike Connor is going and he is an EMT.

Mary Strong said the elders' want to have the elders' trip every two years or three years, not every year. She said it has to be a treat. Chairman Leecy said when the recession hit, the elders wanted to do the trips every two years instead of every year, so the trips were planned for and are continued to be planned for every two years because of the manpower and energy involved in planning the trips. But it is up to the elders.

Kay Davis said at the last elders' meeting the elders' asked about enrollment policies. She asks if the Band traces lineally or collaterally. Mark Anderson said the Band does lineal tracing. He said he can't think of a circumstance where collaterally was done. The ordinance says you have to be ¼ Minnesota Chippewa blood and born to a member. The first thing you do is look lineally to make sure one or more of the parents of the applicant is a member of the Band. Kay asks if there are any ordinances in this tribe to define that. Mark Anderson said the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe enrollment ordinance sets it out but it doesn't set it out in terms of whether or not it will be lineal or collaterally tracing. It just requires you be born to a member. It defines born to a member. Kay asks if being born to a member means anytime they were born or when they were born, does the parent have to be a member at the time of the birth. Mark Anderson said no, may be subsequently enrolled as well. Kay asks if there is an ordinance to that effect. Mark Anderson said yes. Kay asks if they just have to be eligible for membership. Mark Anderson said at the time of the application a parent has to be a member, but a parent does not have to be a member at the time of the child's birth. Kay said someone at MCT checks ancestry. She went and asked and they do not. She said if you enroll someone they accept it, they do not do any further research on it.

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New tribal government staff: Billie Mason introduces Wendy Isham Strong who is the Family Services/Transportation Manager, and Lindsey Moon who is the Head Start Teacher Aide. Edith Villebrun introduces Janella Whiteman who is the Receiving Delivery/Clerk. Corey Strong introduces Missy Fisher who is the Leasing Coordinator, and Shelley Strong who is the Energy Assistance Programs Coordinator/Registrar.

Theresa Drift and Pam Hughes give an update on the elders' trip. There were 134 elders' signed up for the trip but a few had to drop out for medical reasons. There were a few additions so it will be close to 134 people. There are a few that have never been on an airplane. There will be one final mailing going out – what to bring, what to expect, what you can and can't bring on a plane, and the schedule. They will leave Fortune Bay on the 18th at 7:30 a.m. They will return on the 26th at 2 p.m. They are working on arrangements for dinner with the Kanob Peyote tribe in southern Utah. And also a dinner at Lake Powell where members from the Navajo and Hope tribes will come.

David Morrison Sr. asks when they go to the Navajo reservation if there is anything that can be set up for the Navajo codetalkers to meet our veterans. Pam said there is a museum for the codetalkers not far from Kanob. David asks Theresa to get some pictures of the codetalkers with our veterans.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #20-2012, Research Subaward agreement with the University of Minnesota Duluth for Bois Forte's participation in the collaborative effort to learn how mental health and related issues impact adults management of diabetes. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Brandon Benner; to approve the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Limited Interoperability Participation Plan for use of ARMER radios by Bois Forte public safety officials. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the agreement with Kris Hallberg to provide Yoga classes at Vermilion and Nett Lake. Carried 4-0-0.

A letter was received from Edie Carr, Director of the Northern St. Louis County Family Service Collaborative. She is requesting a representative and an alternate from Bois Forte to sit on their collaborative board. They are suggesting the Tribal Government and the Nett Lake School positions be combined to a single representative. Jeneal Goggeye said the Nett Lake School Board appointed Rae Villebrun. Jeneal said she would be willing to be the alternate.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Brandon Benner; to appoint Jeneal Goggeye as the alternate representative to the St. Louis County Family Service Collaborative Board. Carried 4-0-0.

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Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Brandon Benner; to approve the consulting agreement with Christopher Grant to provide three gang awareness education training presentations to the Band. One for law enforcement and one for the Vermilion community members and one for the Nett Lake community members. Carried 4-0-0.

Discussion on the issue of gangs and drugs. Pete Drift said there were two gangs in the area already. It is felt there is a need to make the community and staff aware of these issues. Vicki Villebrun is to look for a date for law enforcement, health & human services, commissioners, anyone who would be involved, in a meeting to address the drug and gang issue.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Cathy Chavers; to table the selection of the official name for the credit union. The Council will meet with Nicole Pieratos on Monday, October 10 on this. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Brandon Benner; to approve the agreement with Melissa Grzybowski for dietitian services to the Bois Forte Health Services Programs, and community members and clients of the Nett Lake and Vermilion Clinics. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to approve leasing the wood chipper and trailer to Goggeye Logging and to authorize the Chairman to execute the lease agreement upon final review by Mark Anderson. Carried 3-1-0. Brandon Benner against.

Billie Mason said she would like to see one of the culture committee members appointed to the Language Revitalization Committee. She said she still has the language CD's and was waiting until the culture committee was formed in order to give the CD's to them. There is also a second grant phase coming up which has to do with video recordings. Chairman Leecy tells Billie she should still sit on that committee and bring the information back to the culture committee.

Cathy Chavers would like to discuss this at the Monday morning meeting.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Cathy Chavers; to appoint Donald Chosa, Daanis Chosa, Joe Hoagland, Jacque Wilson, Geraldine Hanks, Jane Villebrun, Mavis Drift, Harvey Thompson, Linda Tibbetts-Barto, Virgil Sohm, Mary Strong, Ruth Porter, Martha Anderson, Tracy Dagen, and Karen Drift to the Bois Forte Culture Committee. There will also be four (4) youth appointed as non-voting youth advisors (two from Nett Lake and two from Vermilion). Carried 4-0-0.

Rose Berens said the steering committee members did not want to get a stipend or mileage for attending the meetings.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to adopt resolution #27-2012, to approve the Bois Forte Culture Committee Bylaws with the insertion of the following language: “Expenses for travel at the direction of the committee or RTC shall be reimbursed.” And the individual that will handle the finances for the committee will need to be bonded. That amount is set at \$10,000. Carried 4-0-0.

Kim Greiner gives an overview of the HUD site visit. She said two weeks ago the HUD grants evaluator office came to review the financial aspect of the HUD funds. The review went well. There were some minor non-compliances that had to do with purchasing – micropurchases. The evaluator said most tribes can’t produce what is requested. He said Bois Forte is progressive in collecting rent.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Brandon Benner; to approve a waiver of the procurement policy to use to same vendor to upgrade the video surveillance system. Carried 4-0-0.

Brandon Benner leaves the meeting.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to adopt resolution #21-2012, easement to Great River Energy to construct a single-pole electric transmission line on Bois Forte land which will result in upgraded electrical service to the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Reservation. Carried 3-0-1. Brandon Benner silent.

Brandon Benner returns to the meeting.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to approve the agreement with the Minneapolis American Indian Center Workforce Investment Act Program to place Kay M. Connor at the Bois Forte Urban Office as an Office Assistant Trainee. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Cathy Chavers; to adopt resolution #22-2012, lease cancellation – Billie B. and Anthony P. Mason. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #23-2012, new residential lease – Ernest C. Steel, Sr. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to authorize the Chairman to execute a Certificate of Title confirming that the home described in the Affidavit of Kim Greiner is the property of Billie B. Mason and Anthony Mason, it being the home at 5215 St. John’s Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Cathy Chavers; to table the Leasing Policies 2011 for the Vermilion Lakeside Lots, Block 2A in order for the Council to review them. Carried 4-0-0.

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Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to approve the Condemnation by Declaration of Taking policy. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Cathy Chavers; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the CSBG/MEOG contracts. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Cathy Chavers; to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m. Carried 4-0-0.