

Minutes of a special meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held September 10, 2015 at Nett Lake, Minnesota.

Meeting called to order at 10:06 a.m.

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Corey Strong; Mark Anderson; Vicki Villebrun; Marybelle Isham; Tracey Dagen; Donald Chosa Jr.; Myra Thompson; Janet Thompson; Stan Day; Kim Greiner; Julia Wilde; Karen Drift; Carrie Strong; Dawn Benner; Shane Drift; Lance Hill; Elaine Tibbetts; Derrick Strong; Lauri Purley; Joe Leoni; Simona Benner; Lela Goodsky; Carol Burr; Miranda Lilya; Pam Hughes; Carlos Hernandez; Peggy Connor; Lorna Landgren; Teresa Morrison; Travis Morrison; Joel Astleford; Trudy King; Heart Warrior Chosa; Doris Isham; Esther Connor; Wendy Thompson; Erynn Morrison; Randy Long; Marilyn Geshick; Dorothy Kletschka; Billie Mason; Leanne Hoffman; Mavis Drift; Jeneal Goggeley; Curt Goodsky; Leon Goodsky; Tom Drift; Hank Mesabe

Chairman Leecy said this meeting is regarding the Code of Ethics violation complaint hearing against District I Representative Chosa. Chairman Leecy said he will be turning this over to the Executive Director Corey Strong, but said there will be ground rules which are, the council will not be answering any questions from the audience nor will comments will be taken from the audience.

Corey Strong reads the letter from David Morrison Sr. dated June 10, 2015 re: Violation of Bois Forte Code of Ethics. The letter said accounting staff said Karlene Chosa has used a Band credit card for purposes not authorized by Band policies. David reviewed the transactions for the past 13 months and believed a full investigation was warranted. The letter also said under the credit card user agreement the card issued to Karlene Chosa was suspended. The credit card user agreement is attached.

Corey Strong has a packet of information prepared by the Chief Financial Officer, Kim Greiner on the unauthorized charges. Kim also provided a two page list of the charges.

Corey Strong informs the council David Morrison Sr. asked that all credit cards be looked into and so they were looked at and all the others were within the guidelines.

Corey Strong asks if the council wants him to go through each charge. Chairman Leecy said yes, so she can answer, that she has a right to respond to each of them.

Joe Leoni, from Trenti Law Firm, is Karlene's legal representation. Joe makes an opening statement. He would like to point out that the credit card user agreement is very vague, ambiguous, arbitrary, and the language is set up for broad interpretations. He thinks the council should reexamine and redraft it. For example, it is solely for travel and business related expenses only. He said if the hearing continues, the council will hear from Ms. Chosa an explanation of each of the 35 allegations. The credit card agreement states the only thing that needs to be attached is a receipt. Every charge she made is accompanied by a receipt. It specifically includes meals on the agreement. She purchased meals but they are all for business related, tribal related activities. Joe Leoni said his first suggestion is to reexamine the agreement because the council may or may not have problems in the future. Joe Leoni said he thinks it is right that Karlene has a right to review each credit card of the other council members to see if the allegations against her are similar charges made by other council members. Joe Leoni said his second point is that the format that is set up doesn't allow correct due process. He said it is his understanding that Ms. Greiner went through the receipts and made a two page commentary where she thinks are violations. Joe Leoni said as Mr. Strong pointed out in the by-laws and constitution there should be a full investigation. He said to call Ms. Chosa out here in an open meeting of allegations of some type of fraud or ethical complaint isn't due process. It's wrong and incorrect. The council should reexamine the whole procedure. If the council wanted a full investigation they should have allowed her some type of independent counsel board of review to allow her to give a full explanation of the allegations. And let that investigator/panel cross-examine Ms. Greiner and let that board/panel come back with a recommendation. It would save this council a lot of time. It would save council members with a legitimate charge that someone may question, embarrassment. Joe Leoni said he would make a recommendation to the council today on behalf of Ms. Chosa to table this meeting, to set up an independent panel, whether the council's accountants, a lawyer, or whomever, to give her an opportunity to explain herself, to what the constitution says, to have a full investigation to allow her to cross-examine, to question Ms. Greiner on what she believes is in there are not in there, rather than have a public forum where she just does an explanation. This council won't have an opportunity to, if she tells the council something, investigate it if it is true or not.

Chairman Leecy said the public forum is at her request, and this process has been used since 1976. Chairman Leecy turns it over to Mark Anderson to respond.

Mark Anderson said the Code of Ethics says the council may have an investigation of alleged violations of the Code of Ethics, it doesn't require an investigation. It provides for due process in the sense that the person who is alleged to have violated the Code of Ethics, gets notice of what another council member believes are the violations and an opportunity to respond. That notice was given to Councilmember

Chosa in June. And subsequently more detail was provided to her after accounting staff and the executive director had an opportunity to go through the entirety of the credit card charges that Secretary-Treasurer Morrison was concerned about. Mark said he thinks that is due process, its notice of the charges and an opportunity to respond to those charges.

Joe Leoni said with that explanation, with the allegations that are made, and the explanation that Ms. Chosa is going to give, this council has to accept what she says as what is truth. And the council cannot question her and dispute what she says because that would be arbitrary and that wouldn't be due process because this council, unless if they've done an investigation on their own, doesn't have the right background to deny the allegation, or deny what she is going to say.

Mark Anderson said he disagrees with that. The Code of Ethics say is that you can't use a credit card for any purpose that is not authorized by the council. The council knows what they've authorized. The council knows what they've not authorized. And if Ms. Chosa responds by saying that a particular charge was made for an authorized purpose, the council is in the best position of anybody in this room to know whether or not that was indeed authorized. The council meets, for example, if there was a donation made, using a credit card, the council approves donations. They know what they approved. If was a donation that a credit card paid for and it was not authorized by the council, it's not authorized.

Joe Leoni said one last request. He ask Chairman Leecy if he would allow a vote upon their request that a full independent investigation be done and to continue this year.

Chairman Leecy said there is a process that has been followed, and certainly any council member can interject, there is a process that has been followed over the years and by taking a new path so to speak, a different precedent would be set. This process has worked with the charges Representative Chosa brought against just about every single member on this council and this is that process that was followed for that. Chairman Leecy said he believes the process should be continued the same way. Chairman Leecy said so he personally would not allow that vote, and to continue to do the things that have been done, unless Joe can prove what the council has been doing is wrong. Chairman Leecy said he doesn't think it's been wrong so he isn't going to ask for that vote.

Brandon Benner wants to go on record, that he loves these in an open forum. He believes that is the way all of them should be. You have people that want to see it one way and people that want to see it another way. There are some here that just want to see what is really up. Brandon said with a decision this huge and people's right to dispute anything, he is open to do it anyway that is right for both sides. Brandon asks who would be the independent and who would pay for it? He said he would be open to everyone having copies to see. He would like everyone to have that information.

Chairman Leecy said with those comments he is not going to stop an independent investigation, that his only point was there was a process in place and the process has worked for years. Chairman Leecy said to look at it down the line when reviewing the Code of Ethics. Chairman Leecy asks the council if they want to do an independent investigation.

David Morrison Sr. said this is how it's been done since day one. An independent investigation would take longer. David said put this behind us move forward.

Ray Toutloff said this is the third open hearing he has heard. Ironically they are the same kind of charges – misuse of the Band's resources. It worked satisfactorily. The accused had the chance to address every charge. The council listened and weighed what was said. Recently there were hearings on other council members and they elected to have those closed. Karlene elected to have hers open. Ray said he thinks the council should proceed with the hearing as is. The precedent has been set.

Chairman Leecy said it also says the government staff does a good job, they collected the information and brought it forward to the council, not in a malicious way.

Corey Strong reads the charges from the summary.

**Charge #1.** On Saturday, April 12, 2014, \$82.78 was spent at Famous Dave's for a Band Member Dinner with Alden Connor, Carla Connor, Alden Connor III. The issue was there is no policy for Band Member Dinners, and it was not on the council schedule, and the note is that it was for relatives.

Karlene Chosa said she met regarding a Band enrollment. Carla got dis-enrolled after. Karlene said she always represents the Band with integrity and honesty. She takes her leadership seriously. She did not use her card to shop for tailgates, parties, etc. Karlene said everything was reconciled and receipted to accounting. Karlene said she first got on the council she was told by the former executive director that each council member gets a credit card. Karlene said she did not get one until Victoria told her there was a credit card in Kim's office and that she would need to go and sign for it. Karlene went to sign and Kim signed as a witness. The only thing Kim said she could not charge was gas. Karlene said she did not get a letter or anything until David handed her the letter. On June 4, 2015 Karlene wrote an email to the council requesting disciplinary action against Kim. When David handed her the letter he did not give her the list. She followed him and demanded the list. She asked Kim to print it off. Karlene said she will answer each charge. Her card was frozen. Karlene said she met with a Band member to discuss an enrollment issue. It is in her culture to offer food.

Corey Strong asks if the use of the credit card on Saturday, April 12, 2014 violated the Code of Ethics? "Yes" means it was violated. "No" means there was no violation of the Code of Ethics.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No violation.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

**Charge #2.** On Sunday, April 13, 2014, \$59.99 was spent at the Old Country Buffet for a Regalia Readiness Shopping Lunch with Louise Isham and Jennifer Isham. The issue was if it was council business, and it was not on the council schedule.

Karlene Chosa said it was on a Sunday. She purchased lunch for two Band members. It was a Bois Forte sponsored activity.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #3.** On Thursday, May 1, 2014, \$10.43 was spent at the Tamarack Dining for a Band member meal for Perry Drift. The issue was there is no policy for Band member meals. The council was at Fortune Bay that day. The note is that it was for relatives.

Karlene Chosa said he explained he forgot his wallet. He was invited to an elder meeting by an elder to do invocation. It was on the council schedules.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #4.** On Sunday, May 3, 2014, \$6.37 was spent at the Walmart Supercenter for a PowWow for Hope Donation Request. The issue was it was a violation of the donation policy, and it was not on the council schedule. The note is that it was for relatives.

Karlene Chosa said she is on the Bois Forte team for the PowWow for Hope. He attended as a representative. The team was doing a fund raising booth. It was a facepainting booth. Karlene picked up some more face paint.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: No.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

**Charge #5.** On Friday, May 2, 2014, \$169.93 was spent at the Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. The issue was there was nothing on the council's schedule for that day. Checked in 5/2/14 out 5/3/14.

Karlene Chosa said she fund raised. She advocates for the PowWow for Hope. She said she talked to Wick-o and asked if she could use her credit card. That is how she got direction.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

Ray Toutloff: No.

**Charge #6.** On Sunday, May 4, 2014, \$96.86 was spent at Greenmill-Roseville for a PowWow for Hope Lunch with Daanis Chosa, Alan Crift, and Cody Blue. The issue was there was nothing on the council's schedule for that day. The note is that it was for relatives.

Karlene Chosa said they were meeting to plan activities with the event coordinator.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.; Yes.

Kevin Leecy: No.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

**Charge #7.** On Saturday, May 3, 2014, \$151.98 was spent at the Embassy Suites Airport. The issue was there was nothing on the council's schedule for that day. Checked in 5/3/14 out 5/4/14.

Karlene Chosa said the PowWow for Hope shuts down late.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

Ray Toutloff: No.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #8.** On Wednesday, May 21, 2014, \$278.94 was spent at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. The council schedule said a Roundtable at Mille

Lacs. Donald wrote-Karlene Bois Forte Credit Card needs to be reimbursed from this item number (signed by Donald Chosa). The note said it was for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said it was on the council schedule. It was an Anishinaabe Roundtable. It was for two hand drums for a planned Bois Forte cultural activity. Karlene said she called Kim Greiner to ask her about the moccasin game. Kim gave the okay. Karlene said she tried to look for hand drums at the Heritage Center, there were none. Donald said they were on speakerphone with Kim and she said yes.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #9.** On Friday, May 30, 2014, \$14.98 was spent at Tim Horton's for the Elder Saa Gi Ba Gaa Activity June 8-14. The issue was it was a violation of the donation policy. There was not a council meeting. The note said it was for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said there was a meeting with ARI (non-Indian) and the Bois Forte Culture planning meeting for the Johnson Lake property. Karlene said they have bingo for the elders and she got doughnuts for the elders for the bingo.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

**Charge #10.** On Monday, June 9, 2014, \$215.58 was spent at the Coates Plaza Hotel for Terri Goodsky-PowWow MC. Checked in 6/6/14 check out 6/8/14. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy and there was not a council meeting. The note said it was for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said they run out of rooms at the Bay for the powwow. This was reconciled by the powwow committee. Accounting is not available.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

**Charge #11.** On Thursday, June 12, 2014, \$50.79 was spent at the Resort at Fortune Bay, no receipt. The issue was there was no receipt and nothing on the council schedule. The note said Unknown.

Karlene Chosa said she did turn in a receipt later. It was for an out of town Band member (Cody Goggleye) whose car broke down. He had a child with him and needed a place to stay. This is not an unusual request.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

**Charge #12.** On Friday, June 13, 2014, \$25.49 was spent at the Tamarack Dining for Ruby Boshey Language in Vermilion with Karlene and Donald Chosa. The issue was if it was council business. There was nothing on the council schedule. The note said relatives.

Karlene Chosa said Ruby is the instructor for Vermilion. Ruby is certified. She is one of the last holder of fluent elder language. Karlene said they were setting up a program. Karlene said she does anything she can to help our language.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #13.** On Friday, June 20, 2014, \$43.58 was spent at the Nett Lake Store for a Bois Forte Community Lacrosse Event. The issue was it was a violation of the donation policy. There was not a council meeting. The note said it was for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said 20 Gatorade drinks were bought for the youth. The store receipt was reconciled for it.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #14.** On Sunday, August 3, 2014, \$176.19 was spent at the Best Western to attend the MSB & BIA Conference, check in 8/2/14 check out 8/3/14. The issue was if it was council business or MSB. There was nothing out of town for Monday. The note said School Board.

Karlene Chosa said most of these are months and months ago. They should be reviewed monthly. Karlene said she is appointed to the MCT Education & Human Services Subcommittee by the council. She attended that and the BIA conference. Karlene said she went to the Urban Office. Karlene said she came back and went back. Karlene said lately she has been notifying Wick-o to put stuff on the schedule. Karlene said it was so long ago she forgot what she went for. She said if she can't remember then she will take responsibility, and it is accounting responsibility.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes, he wants it noted it was over a year ago.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

**Charge #15.** On Wednesday, August 6, 2014, \$177.42 was spent at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. No receipts. The issue was there was not receipt. On the council schedule was a Partners In Action Meeting. The note said Unknown.

Karlene Chosa said she turned in a receipt on July 1, 2015. She attended the BIA conference. She is appointed to the MCT Education/Human Services Committee.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

Ray Toutloff: No.

**Charge #16.** On Tuesday, August 19, 2014, \$239.97 was spent at the Ramada Mall of America, chaperoned Nett Lake Eagles, check in 8/18/14, check out 8/19/14. The issue was if it was council business. There was not a council meeting. The note said relatives.

Karlene Chosa said Kim's notes said relatives. Karlene said she attended a Bois Forte sponsored event. The Bois Forte council supports the peewee teams. Karlene said she went to chaperone.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.

Ray Toutloff: No.

Brandon Benner: No.

**Charge #17.** On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, \$42.74 was spent at L&M Supply. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. It was not on the council schedule. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said Kim's note said it was for a relatives program. This was reimbursed by the culture program. They needed supplies –duct tape and batteries for the radios for security. A hub kit for their trailer they use to haul supplies. The hub cap broke. Karlene said they have to use their personal vehicles to shop for the powwow and get food from Fortune Bay. It is a necessity to use the trailer.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #18.** On Monday, September 8, 2014, \$31.51 was spent at the Nett Lake Store to provide lunch for the elder committees. The issue was if it was council business. It was not on the council schedule. The note said it was for a relative.

Karlene Chosa said Kim's note said relatives. Karlene said she communicates with the elders committee. She was invited by the elder officers.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #19.** On September 25, 2014, \$100.46 was spent at the Resort at Fortune Bay for Elmer Boshey a Bois Forte Band member. Check in 9/27/14 check out 9/28/14. The issue was there was no policy for. The council was at Fortune Bay.

Karlene Chosa said she was approached by Elmer. He was seeking native drum songs for his drum. This is an area that needs improvement. Karlene said she supports that and looked at it as providing a service to the community.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

**Charge #20.** On Sunday, October 12, 2014, \$58.78 was spent at the Black Bear Hotel at a craft fair to help Band member set up and help with booth. Check in 10/11/14, check out 10/12/14. The issue was there was no policy for. It was not on the council schedule.

Karlene Chosa said she attended a craft fair to help a Band member – Sharon Day and her sister. Karlene said she was invited down there. Karlene said none of these show a pattern of frivolous spending. Karlene said she doesn't claim to be a rich person.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

**Charge #21.** On Friday, November 14, 2014, \$114.43 was spent at Sups Food Market of Cook for supplies for WR Symposium. Did not follow purchasing policy. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. It was not on the council schedule.

Karlene Chosa said she has been trying to advocate wild rice. This is the third year. It did get on the council schedule. It was for supplies for the popped wild rice. She said she used her own wild rice and didn't charge for the wild rice.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

**Charge #22.** On Sunday, November 23, 2014, \$64.82 was spent at the Millennium Minneapolis. For breakfast with Tracy Dagen – VL Conference. The issue was if it was council business. It was on council's schedule. The note said see print out.

Karlene Chosa said Kim's note said print out. Karlene said Tracy is a Bois Forte Band member.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #23.** On Tuesday, January 13, 2015, \$1.02 was spent at Zups Food Market of Cook. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. It was not on the council schedule. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said there was a powwow committee meeting. It was for supplies for the powwow committee officers breakfast. It is a powwow meeting for people to get interested. This was reimbursed.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: No, but changes vote to yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #24.** On Wednesday, January 28, 2015, \$22.80 was spent for a snack with AI CF Regional Health Equity Conversation Session. The issue was it was a violation of the travel policy. It was not on the council schedule. The note said she received per diem.

Karlene Chosa said she attend the American Indian Cancer Foundation meeting with two representatives on that committee. One was Kris Rhodes. Karlene said she attends when called to attend their forums, meetings. She is introduced as an RTC council member.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: No.

**Charge #25.** On Saturday, February 7, 2015, \$100.43 was spent at the Buffet at the Bear for Band Member Dinner for Karlene, Paul Connor, Esther Connor, Charlene Connor, Krista Connor, Mark Connor, Don Chosa and 2 Connor children. The issue was there is no policy for Band Member Dinner. There was nothing on the council schedule.

Karlene Chosa said she supplied names of who she provided the meals for. It was at the time the MCT was going to bring forth the blood quantum issue. They wanted to hear more information on what was going to happen.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

**Charge #26.** On Friday, February 20, 2015, \$18.17 was spent at Fortune Bay for Band Member lunches, no names listed. The issue is no policy for Band member Dinner. There was nothing on the council schedule.

Karlene Chosa said they were Band member lunches for persons who helped load the food at Fortune Bay for the Mid-Winter Powwow. Karlene said she drove down there.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

**Charge #27.** On Friday, February 20, 2015, \$209.46 was spent at True Value. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. There is nothing on the council schedule. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said it was for two coffeepots for the powwow committee for the Mid-Winter Powwow. Accounting was not around. This was reimbursed by the powwow committee.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #28.** On Monday, March 30, 2015, \$55.00 was spent at Indigenous Language. For Donald did not follow the purchasing policy. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy. Karlene was at Mystic Lake. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said she attended the Language Symposium and brought back educational resources for the culture program. They were books on traditional language games. Karlene said she thought Kim, that it was an understanding that things for sale at conferences, resources for the culture. Karlene said if she had known she would have got approval from the council. Karlene said Kim should have come to her and said things like this were what she needed to bring to the council.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

**Charge #29.** On Wednesday, April 8, 2015, \$68.87 was spent at the Black Bear Café for 5 Band Member Lunches, Tracy Dagen, Tom Spears, Dorothea Kletschka, Donald. The issue was is there is no policy for Band Member Dinners. Karlene was at Mystic Lake. The note said for relatives.

Karlene Chosa said she was requested by employees at the time who had problems. The wanted to meet with her. It wasn't the Black Bear Casino, it was the Black Bear on 169. There were worried about termination.

Roll Call Vote:

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

**Charge #30.** On Tuesday, April 14, 2015, \$15.26 was spent at Walmart for a fund raiser for PowWow for Hope. The issue was it was a violation of the donation policy. There was nothing on the council schedule. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said this was a whole year later. The team had a fund raiser. It was for strawberries and balloons.

Roll Call Vote:

Brandon Benner: No.

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

**Charge #31.** On Sunday, April 19, 2015, \$53.27 was spent at Zups. The issue was this was a violation of the procurement policy. There was nothing on the council schedule. The note said for a relatives program.

Karlene Chosa said this was for breakfast for those attending the powwow committee planning meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Karlene Chosa: No.

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: No.

**Charge #32.** On Sunday, April 26, 2015, \$180.52 was spent at the Vermilion Club, on card, Band Member Dinners x9. The issue was there is no policy for Band Member Dinner.

Karlene Chosa said there were things going on during fishing and netting season. She went and bought pizza for the kids who were netting.

Roll Call Vote:

David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.

Brandon Benner: Yes.

Karlene Chosa: No.

**Charge #33.** On Friday, December 12, 2014, \$40.07 was spent at McDonalds to provide meals for NL/NW students re: Bois Forte Quiz Bowl at Fortune Bay, MN. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy.

Karlene Chosa said she wasn't aware her card was frozen until she got ethical violations from Kim. This was a Bois Forte sponsored event for the students. She got them breakfast.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Leecy: Yes.

Ray Toutloff: Yes.  
Brandon Benner: No.  
Karlene Chosa: No.  
David Morrison Sr.: No.

**Charge #34.** On Tuesday, April 28, 2015, \$12.35 was spent at the Bay Street Grill for a lunch meeting with Bev Miller – Commissioner of Heritage, I pod w.my personal. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy.

Karlene Chosa said she serves on the Heritage Center Board. She attended a meeting as a member, she volunteered to help her coordinate a craft fair.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ray Toutloff: Yes.  
Brandon Benner: Yes.  
Karlene Chosa: No.  
David Morrison Sr.: Yes.  
Kevin Leecy: Yes.

**Charge #35.** On Monday, April 27, 2015, \$80.72 was spent at the Crescent Bar & Grill. Reimbursement for 4 meals Head Start meeting I pd for w/personal. The issue was it was a violation of the procurement policy.

Karlene Chosa said she paid with her personal credit card. She got reimbursed for this. Karlene said she is appointed to the Head Start Policy Committee.

Roll Call Vote:  
Brandon Benner: No.  
Karlene Chosa: No.  
David Morrison Sr.: Yes.  
Kevin Leecy: No.  
Ray Toutloff: Yes.

**Charge #36.** On Wednesday, May 6, 2015, \$48.10 was spent at the Montana Café for 3 Band Member meals, no names. The issue is there is no policy for Band Member meals.

Karlene Chosa said Band Members wanted to sit down and talk. She got reimbursed for her personal card.

Roll Call Vote:  
Karlene Chosa: No.  
David Morrison Sr.: No.

Kevin Leecy: No.  
Ray Toutloff: Yes.  
Brandon Benner: Yes.

**Charge #37.** Travel for National Go Run Conference. \$287.28 for mileage. \$248.50 for per diem. \$357.27 for hotel. \$18.00 for parking. The issue is, is it RTC Business.

Karlene Chosa said this was a training for women. It helps her to better service her position as a woman on the council. Karlene reads the agenda for the council.

Roll Call Vote:  
David Morrison Sr.: Yes.  
Kevin Leecy: No.  
Ray Toutloff: No.  
Brandon Benner: No.  
Karlene Chosa: No.

Mark Anderson said the Code of Ethics has final determinations if the Code of Ethics has been violated. Mark said the council can 1) Censure, 2) take action to invoke the process for removing, this means inviting Band members to start the petition process for removal or recall under Article X, or 3) if the Code of Ethics violation involves Band funds, the council order the violator to repay the funds spent in violation of the Code of Ethics.

Chairman Leecy tells Karlene she has been found guilty of a number of violations of the Code of Ethics. Chairman Leecy asks for a motion to censure or Article X.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to invoke the process to remove Representative Chosa from the Tribal Council.

Joe Leoni said this should have been brought to the council a long time ago. It is conflicting. Joe said this motion should be withdrawn, the censure be voted.

Mark Anderson said whatever the council decides, Article X doesn't automatically take her out of office. It needs 20% of the voters to present a petition.

A roll call vote is taken to invoke the process.  
Karlene Chosa: No.  
Brandon Benner: No.  
Kevin Leecy: Yes.  
Ray Toutloff: Yes.  
David Morrison Sr.: Yes.

David Morrison Sr. said about April the accounting staff noticed and Kim came to him. He told her to go back a year and told her to go back a year on all the council, Corey and her. That is why it took so long. Karlene wanted to have an open meeting, so that is why he voted to leave it up to the Band membership. David said if the council allows this, other Band members will come and ask the council to buy meals.

Moved by Brandon Benner; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to adjourn the meeting at 3:24 p.m. Carried 4-0-0.