



Bois Forte

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

Minutes of a special meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held March 4, 2020 at Nett Lake, Minnesota.

Invocation by Gene Goodsky.

Meeting called to order at 9:23 a.m.

Members Present: Cathy Chavers; David C. Morrison, Sr.; Travis Morrison; Shane Drift

Members Absent: Peter Boney (excused)

Others Present: Randy Long; Gene Goodsky; Steve Hertig; Vicki Villebrun; Jaime Burdick; Evertt Huismann; Whitney Humphrey; Darren Landgren; Darnell Goggleye; Barb Brodeen; Sidra Starkovich; Dan Milbridge; Corey Strong; Brandon Benner; Joel Astleford; Tara Geshick; Simona Benner; Alanna Drift; Davelle Jones; Doris Isham; Toni Wakemup; Jaylen Strong; Nikki Irving; Heartwarrior Chosa

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve the addenda with the addition of Brandon Benner with a request for cultural leave for employees. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held February 5, 2020 at the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota. Carried 3-0-0.

During approval of the minutes of February 5, 2020, Shane Drift, in regard to a code of conduct for candidates, asks if the Nett Lake School Board was approached about posting political items at the school. Chairwoman Chavers said she is not sure. She informs the audience that Jenna Lehti, the Executive Director, was appointed to serve as the General Manager at Fortune Bay. The RTG directors are filling in as Acting Executive Director in two week intervals. Chairwoman Chavers said she will check with Jenna on that. Shane Drift asks, in regard to the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement, if it would be possible to reimburse the Nett Lake School for the bus that they are purchasing. He is told no. Shane Drift, in regard to the section on prosecutors being mandated to prosecute individuals who commit a crime against the Band, he said it wasn't a dictatorship and he reads a section from the MCT "Who We are".

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New tribal government employees: Corey Strong introduces Davelle Jones who is the new Recruitment and Onboarding Specialist.

Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve to strike Resolution No. 69-2020 from the consent agenda and to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- 1) Appointed Ray Toutloff and Linda Tibbetts-Barto to the Health & Human Services Board
- 2) Approved the request from Jill Schuchard to sole source a tub replacement for an elder from BRB Services LLC in the amount of \$4,500
- 3) Adopted Resolution No. 70-2020, appointing Tadd M. Johnson to serve as the Band's Election Contest Judge and Sara Van Norman to serve as the Band's Alternate Election Contest Judge for the 2020 Regular Election
- 4) Approved the use of the Bois Forte Logo by the American Indian Cancer Foundation to be used on their letter of support for state legislation in regard to Medicaid Assistance for Breast & Cervical Cancer Treatment
- 5) Adopted Resolution No. 71-2020, endorsing letter of support by the American Indian Cancer Foundation urging Minnesota lawmakers to adopt two bills, S.F. 3121 and H.F. 3322 regarding Medicaid Assistance for Breast & Cervical Cancer Treatment
- 6) Appointed individuals to the General and District 1 Election Boards:
 - Gloria Love as Chair of the General Election Board
 - Tammy Strong as Chair of the General 1 Election Board
 - Davelle Jones as Clerk of the District 1 Election Board
 - Linda Shykes as Teller of the District 1 Election Board
 - Ray Villebrun Jr. as Alternate of the District 1 Election Board

Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by David Morrison Sr.; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve the 2020 Bois Forte Code for Non-Commercial Netting of Game Fish in the Waters Adjacent to the Vermilion Reservation effective from January 1 to December 31, 2020. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to adopt resolution #72-2020, authorizing and approving the Band's participation in the third funding cycle of Indian Tribe Mitigation Trust and the submission of the documentation necessary to obtain beneficiary status. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve the agreement with the University of Minnesota-Extension for Bois Forte SHIP. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to approve the Bois Forte Tribal Government Employee Access Badge Policy, effective today. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to approve the changes to the General Election Board to move Stanley Day from Alternate to Chair; and to move Gloria Love from Chair to Alternate, effective today. Carried 3-0-0.

Shane Drift would like to restrict out of state travel to states that have known coronavirus cases. Chairwoman Chavers said there are eight states now, probably more now because it is not known what is causing it. Shane Drift said if an employee is sent out to one of the states that have it and they contract it. This way it would have been prevented. Chairwoman Chavers it is not known how it is being transmitted. They say wash your hands, now there is going to be shortage of antibacterial soap. There will be a shortage of masks, some people are selling them on Amazon for \$200. There is a price gouging going on out there. There are employee concerns but right now it is not known how it is contracted. It is up to the council what they want to do, if they want to limit out of state travel or not. David Morrison Sr. said some of the staff may have to go out of state because it is a requirement of their grant. David said Nikki Irving and Teri Morrison have been emailing the staff about the coronavirus but the community should be informed too. Nikki Irving said as far as letting the community know, not everyone is on Everbridge. Chairwoman Chavers said the council will be meeting with RTG Senior Management and Fortune Bay Management on Thursday and this will be brought up at that meeting. Also there should be a community presentation in Nett Lake and Vermilion. The health department could do some presentations.

Brandon Benner asks if the council can reconsider excusing the staff for cultural leave. There are three drums and about 10-12 singers. It is hard some days when people ask them to go to an event. People get stipends but that shouldn't be an issue. If events were posted a couple months in advance it would be easier to get excused. Chairwoman Chavers asks if cultural leave is in the personnel policy. Randy Long said yes. Randy said it states that employees may apply for cultural activity leave. Randy said he assumes the requests go to the executive director. Randy recommends the requests go to the program director. Randy also recommends it be changed to RTCE leave. Randy also said the policy says cultural activity leave can be for a maximum of four hours per week. Randy recommends that be increased to eight hours. Simona Benner said it is listed as RTCE leave. Chairwoman Chavers said to set up a meeting with the Executive Director, Brandon Benner, Kim Greiner, and the HR Director to talk about the cultural leave/RTCE leave, and the stipends.

Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to adopt resolution #73-2020, approving and authorizing execution of three FY 2019 105(l) leases with Indian Health Service for lease of space for the Nett Lake Health Services Building, the Vermilion Clinic, and the Vermilion Human Services Building. Carried 3-0-0.

Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by David Morrison Sr.; to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m. Carried 3-0-0.