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PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

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**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
REGULAR BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Logan Pappenfort

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

Chief Harper called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the invocation.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with Hank Downum not in attendance. Chief Harper advised the Business Committee that Mr. Downum had called ahead to inform the Business Committee he would be absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve the minutes of October 2, 2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Chief Harper announced a camera system had been installed in the meeting room and that this was going to be the first Business Committee Meeting to be recorded. He stated that we are not ready to have the recorded meetings posted on the website, but we are getting closer. He requested that individuals speaking from the floor use the podium.

Peoria Ridge Golf Course:

Nate Benedict, Peoria Ridge Golf Course General Manager, provided his report for the month of October and the numbers reflect that rounds were down compared to those played in Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Benedict provided a summary of the events hosted at the course and provided an overview of future events. Currently the course has reduced the staff and this reduction in staff will remain until Spring. Mr. Benedict also advised the Business Committee that the fees had been reduced to encourage play during the cooler months.

Milton Hale, Peoria Ridge Golf Superintendent, gave an overview of his written report that provided detailed information on his winterization of the course. After this overview he stated that there was some excess equipment that needed to be addressed. Mr. Hale offered a few options: it could be sold or move it to a Tribal Program.

Buffalo Run Hotel:

Kristi Riggs, Buffalo Run Hotel General Manager, stated there were some general issues going on; the septic system and the generator, but otherwise everything was good. Ms. Riggs wanted to remind everyone about the tribal member discount: \$59 + tax during the weekend and \$70 + tax on the weekends. In addition, Ms. Riggs stated that the occupancy rate had remained consistent, however on the slower days she had taken this time to do some deep cleaning of areas in the Hotel. She had been contacting players club members that had not stayed at the hotel in a while.

Buffalo Run Casino:

Steve Bashore, Buffalo Run Casino General Manager, provided an overview of the upcoming events and stated that the Cheech and Chong show was sold out and more seating had been added, which sold out again. This was a new type of event for the Casino and it did well. A new promotion had been added specifically for Veterans and was proving to be a great promotion. Mr. Bashore also highlighted the entertainment for the next few months and announced that the entertainment buyer is looking for an act to do an outdoor event in the Spring or Summer of 2019. Cathy Scott provided the September 2018 financial report for Buffalo Run Casino. Logan Pappenfort asked some questions regarding the comparison of current disbursement to Fiscal Year 2017. Ms. Scott provided a brief explanation on the "hold" and stated she anticipated October to be better.

Financial Reports:

Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the financial reports for September 2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative/Program Reports:

Chief Harper provided an overview of his Administrative Report, highlighting various points of interest during his travel. One area that provided great information and contacts was the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Annual Meeting that was held in New Mexico. Chief Harper had also attended the National Indian Gaming Association Mid-Year event in California and had drove from California to New Mexico. He was able to set up a meeting with the Mayor of Peoria, AZ and her staff. Another item of interest that he pointed out was he had established communication with an individual from the Department of Energy and they were going to visit the Peoria Tribe in the Spring to provide an Audit of our natural resources.

Chief Harper provided an update on the office and some changes that were happening there: Lacie Hickey and Mandie Ferguson had made lateral moves within the office and Erin Barnes was now in the position of Planner/Grant Writer. The IT upgrade is still underway, and the office would be transitioned to fiber optics soon. Additionally, Chief Harper briefly discussed Tribal Member Logan Keith and his project with Yale University, more information would be provided by Jordan Barlow later in the meeting. Chief Harper informed the Business Committee of the upcoming Veteran's Ceremony at the Peoria Cemetery and that the office would be closed in observance of the holiday on

Monday, November 12th. Other upcoming holidays that the offices would be closed included: November 22 and 23rd for Thanksgiving, December 24th and 25th for Christmas and December 31st and January 1st, 2019.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion/Approval to increase the Peoria Children's Christmas Party fund to \$100 per enrolled child, ages 0-13. Following discussion, the item was amended. Additional discussion included moving the 2019 Children's Christmas Party to the Show Place at Buffalo Run Casino.

Motion was made to increase the Peoria Children's Christmas Party fund to \$75 per enrolled child, ages 0-12, and to increase the gift card amount to \$75 per enrolled child, ages 13-17. Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 10/16/2018. Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 11/06/2018 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting: Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Kara North approve list of new members as recommended by the Enrollment Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R-11-06-18-A, "Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll"; Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Resolution R-11-06-18-A as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R-11-06-18-B, "Appointment of Tribal Representative to Serve on Northeastern Tribal Health Systems Governing Board"; Following discussion motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Resolution R-11-06-18-B as presented. Motion carried, Isabella Burrell opposed and Kara North abstained.

Resolution R-11-06-18-C, "Change of Date for January 2019 Regular Business Committee Meeting"; Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-11-06-18-C as presented to change the January Regular Business Committee Meeting from Tuesday, January 1, 2019, to Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution R-11-06-18-D, "Approval of Legal Counsel Contract with Akerman LLC Regarding Representation with FCC regarding 5G/Twilight Towers Class Action Suit"; Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-11-06-18-D. Motion carried, Logan Pappenfort abstained.

Resolution R-11-06-18-E, “Tribal Membership in National Congress of American Indians”; Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-11-06-18-E as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Approval on Pollinator Protection Plan: Erin Barnes, former Environmental Director, provided an overview of the Plan and its purpose. Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the Pollinator Protection Plan as it was presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Needs Assessment: Data collection to assist in development of long range economic development plan for the Peoria Tribe, our citizens and the surrounding Community Discussion on Needs: Syd Colombe, Administrative Assistant, explained that this is notification to the Business Committee that the previously discussed Needs Assessment will be published in the next Newsletter as part of our information gathering for the ICDBG Grant. Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Kara North. Motion passed unanimously

Discussion on Town Hall Meetings that will be hosted in the month of November: Syd Colombe, Administrative Assistant, explained that dates have not been selected, however staff is working to establish town hall meetings to provide community input for proposed plan for the ICDBG grant. Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Approval to Pursue a Partnership with the Yale School of Medicine: Jordan Barlow, Program Development Specialist, provided an explanation on the proposed partnership. Logan Keith, Peoria Tribal member, along with Dr. Chris Cutter had contacted the office regarding a potential project. The gentlemen had visited the office and would return on December 20th. During their recent visit they had met with various health related agencies, individuals and agencies. This could be a long-standing relationship and develop into a pilot program for other Tribes, but it is in the very beginning stages. Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Isabella Burrell. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tribal Member Sandy Byrd was in attendance and inquired about the Tribe building a Cultural Center. Chief Harper stated that the Tribe was not currently planning to build one, but that was the purpose of the Needs Assessment, to determine needs and wants of the membership. There had only been about 15-20 Needs Assessments returned and they had shown that the items listed in order of importance were: 1 - an Elder Center, 2 - a Child Care Center, 3 - was economic development and 4 - was a Cultural Center. Ms. Byrd also commented on the use of the Conference Room for Tribal members, she said she has many years of memories in the room and wants to know why it cannot be used anymore. Chief Harper replied this is an item that is high on his priority list, a Community Room. He understands the importance of a place for Tribal Members to gather and socialize and he also has many memories that involve family gatherings in the conference room. As an alternative, Chief Harper advised the group that the Peoria Housing Authority (PHA) has a room that could be used until the Tribe can build or develop an option. Furthering the discussion, Chief Harper stated that as part of the development for the Child Care Center he realizes how important it is to have evening/swing shift childcare. He himself had worked that shift for many years and does understand

how difficult it is to find quality child care for the night/evening shifts. These are both items on his radar and that the Tribe is looking at developing.

Tribal member Tabitha Six Killer was in attendance and inquired about a program for eye glasses and dentures. She said her mother needs dentures and it is an expensive item and other Tribes offer programs and she wanted to know if the Peoria Tribe had anything.

Tribal member Wess Farless was in attendance and inquired why the Cherokee Nation had declined to participate in the Yale Program. Jordan Barlow stated that the Cherokee Nation had not declined, Yale had decided to partner with the Peoria Tribe. Mr. Farless inquired why, why now had this just been brought to us. Chief Harper stated that it had come to the Peoria Tribe because Logan Keith is a tribal member and he was a graduate of Yale. Mr. Keith wanted to bring something back to his Tribe and this was an opportunity.

Jordan Barlow expressed that the discussion on the floor provided an example of why it is so important to complete the Needs Assessment. This is the information that is needed to enact change and bring new programs to the Tribe.

Ms. Byrd expressed how our area was full of all kinds of issues and that places like Picher and Tar Creek had contaminated us and would impact the future generations.

Ms. Sixkiller stated that we need an Emergency Room (ER). She also inquired if there was any possible way to get a grant for our youth where they can be taught how to make regalia. She also said our youth want to dance and learn about our culture, but they do not have dance regalia and it is expensive to make. Logan Pappenfort stated there is grants available for such things as Ms. Sixkiller is talking about and we are pursuing. He understands how important it is to teach our youth and involve them. If we do not teach our children, we will lose our culture, our language.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:


There was no call for Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Isabella Burrell. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.



Authorized Signature



Date Approved