

**TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES  
OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN NATION, MONTANA**

Volume 21 Number 87  
Zoom Meeting

Held: August 26, 2021  
Approved: August 31, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anita Matt, Vice-Chairwoman; Martin Charlo, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Charmel Gillin; Mike Dolson; and Len TwoTeeth.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman (State - Tribal Economic Development Commission Meeting – Helena, Montana); Ellie Bundy McLeod, Secretary (Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Presentation at the National Native American Law Enforcement Conference – Las, Vegas, Nevada); and St. Ignatius District (Vacant).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:00 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Anita Matt.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for August 24, 2021 were presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for August 24, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 6 for; 1 abstention (Carole Lankford).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Doran Dumont** and **Delphine Bourdon**, Tribal Members, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Anita Matt** told Mr. Dumont that the council could only hear so much of this matter since it is an open court case. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; **James Taylor**, Prosecutor’s Office; **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department; **Shana Radford**,

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Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent; and **Ryan Rusche**, Chief of Staff; were present for discussion.

**Ryan Rusche**, Chief of Staff; **Vernon Finley**, Kootenai Culture Committee; and **Tony Incashola, Jr.**, Tribal Forestry; requested to meet with council in **executive session**. **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

\*\*\*\*\* **Break** \*\*\*\*\*

**Jody Perez**, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority; **Ann Miller**, **Susette Billedeaux** and **Stephen Hunt**, Tribal Defenders Office; requested approval of a budget modification for Programs 3708 (\$26,312.00) and 3709 (\$18,550.00) to support the Permanent Supportive Housing program. The funds expire on December 21, 2021. Due to difficulty in filling vacant positions, there was some surplus funding so they would like to combine those funds and use them to purchase a vehicle for the Permanent Supportive Housing program. **Rick Eneas** advised that action is needed to approve the request and the council could also approve the capital equipment expenditure to give them the ability to start the process to purchase the vehicle.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the budget modification for Programs 3708 and 3709 in the amount of \$44,862.00 to purchase a vehicle for the Permanent Supportive Housing program; and approve the purchase of capital equipment consisting of a vehicle and require the department to follow the procurement procedure for the purchase. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Greg Spahr**, Cash Flow & Investments; and **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; requested approval of a resolution instructing the allocation of the fiscal year 2022 (second) allocation of water rights funding to be divided equally between the compact and settlement accounts with the Bureau of Trust Fund Administration; and approval of a letter of instruction to Pamela Williams, Department of Interior, to divide the funding equally between the compact and settlement accounts.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to approve the resolution instructing the allocation of the fiscal year 2022 (second) allocation of water rights funding to be divided equally between the compact and settlement accounts with the Bureau of Trust Fund Administration. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

**RESOLUTION 21-113**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF THE SECOND MANDATORY DISTRIBUTION FROM THE MONTANA WATER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:**

**WHEREAS**, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes ("CSKT" or "Tribes") are a federally recognized, sovereign tribe residing on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana, with a vast aboriginal territory stretching from Canada to Wyoming, and from Washington to Montana; and

**WHEREAS**, the 116<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress passed the Montana Water Rights Protection Act, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 3008, title V, Division DD, on December 21, 2020, which the President signed into law on December 27, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution 21-046 the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes approves and elects to carry out the Section 7(b) activities on the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project under the Montana Water Rights Protection Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of The Act requires the tribes to elect how they wish to direct the allocation of the mandatory distribution between their Compact Account and their Settlement Account; and

**WHEREAS**, the default provision for the allocation is equal division between the two accounts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Tribal Council of the Salish and Kootenai Tribes elect that their second mandatory funding deposit received into the Trust Fund in Fiscal Year 2022 be allocated equally between the Compact Account and the Settlement Account.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, any indexing amount be allocated in the same manner and on a pro-rata basis, consistent with The Act's Section 9 (b)(1) (A-C) allocation of the indexing calculation.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve the letter of instruction to Pamela Williams to divide the funding equally between the compact and settlement accounts. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; and **Chuck Reese**, Information Technologies; requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; and **Chuck Reese**, Information Technologies; requested approval to submit a grant application to the National Telecommunications & Information Administration Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program in the amount of \$50,000,000 for broadband infrastructure deployment. The application is due by September 1, 2021. The Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program is a \$980 million program directed to tribal governments to be used for broadband deployment on tribal lands, as well as for telehealth, distance learning, broadband affordability, and digital inclusion. **Martin Charlo** commended the IT staff and the entire team for all the improvements to our services during the pandemic and for their outstanding work.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to approve by resolution submission of the grant application to the National Telecommunications & Information Administration Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program in the amount of \$50,000,000 for broadband infrastructure deployment. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, 7 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

#### **RESOLUTION 21-114**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS TO THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION (NTIA), U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR TRIBAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM AND TO THE US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:**

**WHEREAS**, the Information Technology Department of the Flathead Indian Reservation has been established as a diversified team with an unwavering commitment to deliver technology-related support and infrastructure to the CSKT organization, so that it may better serve the tribal membership through the development and establishment of sustainable technology-related solutions to maintain a strong sovereign posture and empower cultural progression; and

**WHEREAS**, the Information Technology Department, as part of its effort to provide sustainable broadband to its membership, has developed a construction and implementation plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Information Technology Department is soliciting funding in the amount of \$49,617,005.00 from the NTIA to deploy Reservation-wide broadband infrastructure. This Project intends to provide qualifying internet service to 100% of Native Households living on the Flathead Indian Reservation for little to no cost to the consumer. **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Information Technology Department is authorized to submit the NTIA proposal documents with its updates and revisions to further carryout the purposes of the funds request and to integrate and implement its most recent statement of Tribal priorities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes supports the submission of the NTIA proposal documents and authorizes the Tribal Chairwoman and her designated representative to negotiate and sign all documents and execute this contract on behalf of the Tribes.

**Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer, requested authorization to purchase capital equipment to replace the sound system in the council chambers.

**MOTION** by Martin Charlo to authorize the purchase of capital equipment to replace the sound system in the council chambers. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Martin Charlo** shared the number of COVID cases. Lake County has 138 active cases, which is 13 more than yesterday. He encouraged everyone to look at the science about the vaccine. Martin asked everyone to remain safe and help prevent the spread of the virus. **Len TwoTeeth** informed Rick that council took action on Tuesday to implement the protocols again. **Rick Eneas** advised that he will be providing a summary of what is being done and then the council can let him know if they want changes made. For the most part, we still have door monitors in place and there are separate entrances for employees to prevent congestion.

**Council** met in **executive session**. **Rob McDonald**, Communications, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Martin Charlo** reminded everyone of the rodeo this weekend and he encouraged everyone to wear a mask and be safe.

**MOTION** by Charmel Gillin to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 11:18 a.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Ellie Bundy McLeod  
Tribal Council Secretary