

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

Volume 22 Number 65
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: June 23, 2022
Approved: June 28, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Len TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; Jim Malatare; Jennifer Finley; Mike Dolson; and Anita Matt.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom McDonald, Chairman (Personal Time Off); and James “Bing” Matt (USS Montana Commissioning Ceremony – Norfolk, Virginia).

OTHERS PRESENT: Jableau Arlee, Council Office Manager/Sergeant at Arms; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:06 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Ellie Bundy McLeod.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for June 21, 2022 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for June 21, 2022, with corrections. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Bryan Dupuis, Tribal Member, informed council that his two sons Ronald and Bryan “Junior” are going to the USA Summer Boxing Festival in Wichita, Kansas to participate in the national boxing qualifiers for the Junior Olympics. The Championship Boxing Club is funded by donations and grants. The boxing club has 9 CSKT enrolled tribal member boxers. Bryan requested a donation to help cover travel expenses. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that he has been tracking the boys and he thinks they are extraordinary athletes. Len asked Bryan to forward the donation request form to Jableau Arlee. **Rick Eneas** advised the Donation

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Committee meets when necessary and he asked Bryan to send in the donation request paperwork and budget so the request can be considered.

Martin Charlo reported the number of COVID-19 cases continue to increase. As of June 9, there were 784 cases and there is a weekly average of 265 cases across the state. Martin encouraged everyone to take safety precautions and protect the vulnerable population.

Council met in **executive session**. **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Jesse Laslovich, United States Attorney's Office, introduced himself to the council and provided an overview of his background/experience. Mr. Laslovich is the new United States Attorney for the District of Montana. He served as a legislator for Anaconda for 10 years and was appointed to serve on the Reserved Water Rights Commission. Mr. Laslovich discussed the importance of needing resources relating to Indian country. Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons is a priority for him. Jerrod Cobell, Tribal Relations Liaison, relocated and is leaving his position, which is a huge loss for the Attorney's Office. The vacancy announcement closes on July 4. Jesse left his contact information in case the Tribal Council knows anyone with a law degree that may be interested in applying. Maylinn Smith was a professor at the Law School when Jesse was a law student. Jesse complimented Maylinn on her new position and he plans to work closely with her on any issues that may come up. **Ellie Bundy McLeod** commented that Jerrod leaving the MMIP Task Force is a huge loss, and it will be tough to replace him. **Martin Charlo** commented on mental health and addiction issues and holistic approaches being looked at to support our membership. Ann Miller had stated that you cannot incarcerate addiction and mental health issues out of someone. Our people are highly represented in the system and it is not working effectively. The rates are not improving and we need to take a different approach. Martin hopes we can do that together to address these types of issues. We need to support and empower people coming out of the system. The Re-entry Program is funded by grants. It is important to fund these types of programs. **Carole Lankford** is part of the Lake County Drug Court. The CSKT is looking at having a Tribal Drug Court and may be seeking out funding for it. Jesse agreed there is so much more we need to do and he supports any efforts to improve things and provide more resources. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that a huge impact in Indian Country is the issue of unfair sentencing that takes place. We have tribal members committing the same crimes as non-Indians and the tribal members are receiving harsher sentences. It is happening more frequently. Mr. Laslovich thought Len had a valid point. When Jesse reviews plea agreements he committed to making sure people are being treated fairly and that tribal members are not being treated unfairly.

Jace Smith, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of modification 2 to Contract No. 21-197 with Morrison-Maierle to increase the amount by \$1,805,912.00, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$2,138,237.00, for the final design, drawings, and construction services to take the Jocko Canals K system conversion to construction ready. **Len TwoTeeth** commented that million dollar modifications are red flags for him. He wants the staff to help the council understand. When the membership sees these modifications, the council must explain it to them. He hopes in the future when we do these kinds of projects there will more information provided to the Tribal Council. Len asked how we are utilizing Indian preference and if tribal members are being used do some of this work. Jace stated this type of work fits the capabilities of the tribal membership. They are in the design phase right now, but it will lead to employment opportunities for tribal members. It would be valuable to present these projects to the public. **Martin Charlo** thanked Jace for always being willing and available to provide presentations at the district council meetings.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve modification 2 to Contract No. 21-197 with Morrison-Maierle to increase the amount by \$1,805,912.00, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$2,138,237.00, for the final design, drawings, and construction services to take the Jocko Canals K system conversion to construction ready. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Mike Dolson commented that the indexing of the settlement allows the prices to grow. The indexing should cover those costs for materials. **Len TwoTeeth** commented the council received a report on the indexing. The staff should be stockpiling materials for the future. **Jace Smith** will work with Jennifer Trahan to get something scheduled.

Jennifer Finley left the meeting to attend a funeral.

Julie Cajune, WILD Foundation Trustee, discussed a proposal to lead a network of International Indigenous Land Managers in conservation efforts relative to impacts of climate change. There is a current funding source for this through the Biden Administration initiative: America The Beautiful Act. Julie asked the council if they were interested in participating as a leader or partner in seeking funding and developing the international network. 80 percent of the biodiversity of the land left is indigenous lands. Julie encouraged council to look at the funding and convening a gathering of Indigenous folks. The WILD Foundation is willing to fundraise. **Terry Tanner** has been involved in this for many years. **Len TwoTeeth** thinks CSKT should take the lead on this initiative. Chairman McDonald is heavily involved in climate change and is a good spokesman for our Tribes. Len invited them to return at a later date when the full council is present. **Carole Lankford** was very interested in this initiative and suggested having a

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planning session to incorporate our vision. Julie was willing to have a working meeting with the appropriate staff members.

***** **Break** *****

Rick Eneas, Greg Spahr, Chelsea Colwyn, Mark Couture, Shane Morigeau, Pete White, Jordan Thompson, Janet Camel, and Velda Shelby, Property Management Team, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Council **adjourned**, and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary