

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

Volume 23 Number 39
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: April 4, 2023
Approved: April 11, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom McDonald, Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; Ellie Bundy, Treasurer; Mike Dolson; Carole Lankford; Jim Malatare; James “Bing” Matt; and Terry Pitts.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Len TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman (Reservation Economic Summit – Las Vegas, Nevada); and Jennifer Finley (Reservation Economic Summit – Las Vegas, Nevada).

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 9:03 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Terry Pitts.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for March 28, 2023 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for March 28, 2023, with corrections. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, 5 for; 3 abstentions (Jim Malatare, Bing Matt and Mike Dolson).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Pete White invited council to the Native American Agriculture Summit April 12-14, 2023, at Kwataqnuq Resort & Casino. It is a partnership between CSKT, Inter-Tribal Agriculture Council and MSU Extension Office. The summit is an opportunity tribal member producers to understand the CSKT agriculture resources, discover USDA programs that support producers, and meet with the Inter-Tribal Agriculture Council technical assistance folks to gain information from the USDA. There will be a listening session with the tribal member producers.

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Joel Clairmont requested approval to take water from the Flathead River to irrigate Lease 1299 located at Buffalo Bridge. He has been working with FIIP to get water on that lease for the past 18 years. Joel's EQIP expires in July, and he requested that the council direct the Tribal Lands staff to prioritize his request so he does not lose his \$90,000 EQIP contract. **Chairman McDonald** advised Melissa Schlichting and Seth Makepeace have been working on this matter, but there is no guarantee it will be resolved by Joel's deadline. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, reported Seth sent out an outline of how the system will be working and Melissa will be meeting with council on April 13 to provide an update. There will be a meeting to go over the application. Herb Webb retired and that position should be filled by July.

Chairman McDonald informed council that Pat Matt went to the Hope Center in Great Falls. The facility deals with addictions. Tom asked if council would entertain a presentation about that program. **Council** agreed to have a presentation.

Craig Morigeau and **Jeanne West**, Mission Valley Power, requested approval of a budget modification to the fiscal year 2023 budget to add \$6,025,000 to (1) increase the line item for increases in the cost of wholesale purchased power and to (2) purchase a truck and (3) to increase the emergency reserve for the utility. The budget modification is addressed to Bryan Mercier, Northwest Regional Office, requesting the modification. There was a change in purchased power so the rates were increased, and now MVP is modifying that by \$4+ million. MVP also wants to increase the emergency reserve by \$600,000, for a total emergency reserve of \$4.5 million.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve a budget modification to the fiscal year 2023 budget to add \$6,025,000 for purchased power cost increases, to purchase one truck, and an increase to the emergency reserve by \$600,000. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Patricia Hibbeler, Director of Tribal Member Services, requested approval of a resolution to support full participation in and approve receipt of funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Tiwahe Initiative. CSKT will receive \$500,000 the first year and an additional \$100,00 for Tribal Court improvement the first year, and will receive \$1 million per year in perpetuity as long as congress awards it. The funding is to improve service coordination between departments and lessen gaps in services for families at risk of having their children removed from the home.

MOTION by Terry Pitts to approve the resolution to support full participation in and approve receipt of funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs

Tiwahe Initiative. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-078

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FULL PARTICIPATION IN AND APPROVE RECEIPT OF FUNDING FROM THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIR'S TIWAHE INITIATIVE

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

WHEREAS, The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe is a federally recognized Tribe, recognized by the United States Government and all of its governing bodies and agencies for the Tribal Council to act pursuant to its inherent and retained sovereignty, empowered in all matters that concerns the health, safety, and wellbeing of the Tribe and its tribal members; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council has determined care, services and support of their tribal member and descendent children and the family is the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council, through issuance of eight priority resolutions, see the importance of improved coordination of service delivery for CSKT by grounding tribal values and principles and increasing access to family and social services, creating alternatives to incarceration, improving links to prevention, intervention and treatment opportunities, improving case management services and improving partnerships amongst local, tribal, county, state and federal providers; and

WHEREAS, the Tiwahe Initiative is a five-year project enacted by Congress to provide a comprehensive approach to address the interrelated problems existing in tribal communities that result in child abuse/neglect, family violence, unemployment, substance abuse and poverty; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes was selected as one of the two tribes in this fiscal cycle, designated as a new TIWAHE project to receive funding, beginning in Fiscal Year 2023 to develop a tribally directed comprehensive approach that is an effective, efficient and well-coordinated service delivery model to improve access to family based tribal services in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is fully supportive of the development of a well-coordinated plan to address interrelated problems existing in our community

that result in child abuse, neglect, family violence, unemployment, substance abuse and poverty; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council respectfully approves the receipt of funding and is highly supportive of TIWAHE Initiative's support to improve our service delivery model.

Michelle Mitchell, Tribal Education Department; **Patricia Hibbeler**, Director of Tribal Member Services; **Kelly Peterson**, State of Montana; and **Grace Behrens**, Office of Rural Health; requested approval of a resolution authorizing the Tribal Education Department to partner with the Montana Office of Rural Health and Area Health Education Center and apply for funding from the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to be housed within the Tribal Education Department. It provides funding for five years and will have an annual \$150,000 subaward through the Tribal Education Department. Stephanie Iron Shooter reached out to see if CSKT wanted to partner in a proposal they will submit to the Office of Rural Health. It is a professional development piece for health workers to provide cultural awareness training to non-Native healthcare workers and what they must know when working with tribal members. **Chairman McDonald** would like them to find out if the large donation to MSU from the Jones family will be shared with CSKT in any way.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the resolution authorizing the Tribal Education Department to partner with the Montana Office of Rural Health and Area Health Education Center and apply for funding from the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-079

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO PARTNER WITH THE MONTANA OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH AND AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER AND APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

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

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has published a request for proposals under the FY 2023 Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health, short title "REACH"; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Education Department is the authorized Tribal Education Agency of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Education Department, on behalf of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, desires to focus on partnerships and collaboration between tribal, state and local systems to reduced health disparities in chronic conditions of hypertension, heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and obesity through the implementation of evidence-based and culturally tailored, cross-sector strategies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention be requested to make available a grant, pursuant to the terms of the request for proposal, to the Tribal Education Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Tribal Council or his delegated representative is authorized to execute the transactional documents necessary to administer the grant on behalf of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Ruth Swaney, Financial Management, gave a report on the fiscal year 2024 projected revenues. Fiscal year 2024 has officially launched and Ruth will continue to meet with the council in the next several months throughout the budget process. The discussion continued in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to accept the 2024 projected income report. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, unanimous (7 present – Mike Dolson out of the room).

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

Jordan Thompson, Tribal Executive Office; and **Melissa Schlichting**, Legal Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legislative issues.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

***** **Lunch** *****

Dan Decker, **Brian Upton**, **John Harrison**, **Grace Judge**, **Katie Jones**, **Chelsea Colwyn**, **Lynsey Gaudio**, and **Zach Zipfel**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

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Council met in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Council **adjourned** at 2:07 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Friday, April 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., for the quarterly council meeting.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary