

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

Volume 23 Number 25
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: January 31, 2023
Approved: February 2, 2023

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

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 Jim Malatare.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for January 26, 2023 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for January 26, 2023, with corrections. Seconded by Jennifer Finley. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Martin Charlo).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Sharon Cazier, Tribal Member, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the purchase of Sharon Cazier’s interest in Allotment No. 2104-A either on a contract for deed for a two year period and if that’s not possible do a direct purchase at the appraised price of the interest. Seconded by Ellie Bundy. Carried, 8 for; 2 opposed (Mike Dolson and Martin Charlo).

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023

***Martin Charlo**, for the record, "I don't ever want to take action impulsively because we have members in front of us."*

Martin Charlo informed council he was asked to be a speaker at the ARC dinner/gala and he wanted a headcount on who would be attending. The fundraiser is scheduled for February 11 in Missoula.

Jim Malatare asked council if there was any ARPA funding available to help tribal members with needed repairs to their homes. **Carole Lankford** heard there was an income guideline for that funding. She would like the director to meet with council to let them know council does not want any income guidelines for that money. **Rick Eneas**, Tribal Executive Officer; **Greg Spahr**, Director of Financial Management; and **Patricia Hibbeler**, Director of Tribal Member Services; joined the discussion. Greg explained people needing assistance with water wells, sewer or septic need to make their needs known to the Department of Human Resources Development. DHRD is managing the program and the staff will identify what their situation is and will handle the relationships with the service providers for a solution. **Chairman McDonald** advised the issue is that the income guidelines that would be prohibitive for folks who are in dire need of assistance. Carole heard there were income guidelines. Greg stated the ARPA funding is designed to solve these types of problems without there being any income guidelines. Some of the funding that comes from the Tribal Health Department and the federal government have guidelines, but this funding has none. Patricia stated the requirements are the applicant must be the homeowner and live in the home. It must be determined if the request is for an emergent and urgent need, consistent with the ARPA requirements. Tribal elders are prioritized. Patricia needs to know of any individuals in need of home repairs so she can send them the application and begin the process. The person Carole spoke of had her baseboard heaters go out, which is urgent and emergent. The person sent in an application yesterday and today the application is being reviewed and the staff are looking for a contractor. Many times, the contractors are busy so it may delay services due to the lack of available contractors. The assistance has not been announced yet because the staff wants to get the process in place and ensure there is equity across the board for those in need of home repairs.

James Lozeau, Tribal Member, informed council that his father has been living without power since March 2020.

Tony Incashola, Jr. and **James Lozeau**, Tribal Forestry, requested approval to submit a grant application to the National Forest Foundation for expansion of the greenhouse.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve by resolution submission of a grant application to the National Forest Foundation for expansion of the greenhouse. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 23-049

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION

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

WHEREAS, the Forest Development Tribal greenhouse was first established to provide the Tribes with the opportunity to provide the membership with a future forest and job opportunities.

WHEREAS, the Forest Development Tribal greenhouse, as part of its operations are to provide future generations with healthy forests.

WHEREAS, the Forest Development Tribal greenhouse is soliciting funding from out sources to help maintain the greenhouses in the amount Of \$250,000 to provide upgrade and new construction of current greenhouses. **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Forest Development Program is authorized to submit its updates and revisions to further carryout the purposes of the funds request to The National Forest Foundation and to integrate and implement its most recent funding request.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes supports the submission of the National Forest Foundation proposal documents and authorizes the Tribal Chair and his designated representative to negotiate and sign all documents and execute this grant on behalf of the Tribes.

Council met with James Lozeau in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Tony Incashola, Jr.**, Tribal Forestry; and **Jordan Thompson**, Tribal Executive Office; were present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Jordan Thompson, Tribal Executive Office; **Dana Hewankorn**, Food Sovereignty Program; gave an update on the Food Sovereignty program. They reviewed the

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023

organizational chart. The program just completed its third annual winter food distribution at eight different distribution sites. 1,200 organic food boxes were distributed and 1,125 tribal members were served. The program hopes to have CSKT elk, deer, bison, and fish in the future. **Carole Lankford** asked if the food boxes need to be organic. She wants to get connected with the Food Sovereignty Board so she can be a part of it. There was so much more that could have been included in the food boxes and there needs to be a larger quantity of food. Dana stated the goal is to not depend on large suppliers for food so we are truly sovereign. The program prepares dinner for the CSKT Warming Center three nights per week. The current and upcoming partnerships are with Fish Keepers, Inc., Natural Resources Department depredation and administrative hunt programs, DHRD Elders program meals, Victor Garden Network, and Rocky Mountain IAC conference. A distribution plan will be developed for all meats that are received. Dana offers canning classes. There will teaching gardens in Hot Springs, St. Ignatius, Arlee, KHJCC, SKC, Forestry Green House, and Ronan. There is a meeting on February 6 to plan the next season. The program will hold classes on preparing and preserving foods by canning, freezing, and dehydrating. The staff worked with the Arlee Community Development Corporation to teach bison classes. 6 individuals participated in the ServSafe training. Future ideas include having chickens for eggs. Dana requested approval to purchase capital equipment consisting of a center generator for a cost of \$17,800.00. The generator will automatically power the freezers for at least 72 hours.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to authorize the purchase of capital equipment consisting of a center generator in the amount of \$17,800.00. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Dana Hewankorn, Food Sovereignty Program, requested approval to give the processed meat from 4 deer to Two Eagle River School.

MOTION by Jennifer Finley to approve the distribution of 4 processed deer to go to Two Eagle River School for school events. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Craig Barfoot, Natural Resources Department, discussed cutthroat trout conservation. The Fisheries program is proposing to use Rotenone in a cutthroat trout conservation project in the South Fork Jocko River drainage. Rotenone is widely used to remove introduced fishes so the native fish can be restored, but it has not recently been used by the fisheries management on the reservation. The program previously had informational discussions on the use of Rotenone for cutthroat trout conservation with the Tribal Council, Culture Committees and tribal elders. Craig requested approval to proceed with analysis, scoping and permitting. Craig plans on putting information on the tribal website and in the Char-Koosta News. A public meeting could be held, as well. **Bing Matt** would

like Craig to give a presentation at the Arlee district meeting. It was the **consensus** of council to authorize the program to continue their planning.

Jordan Thompson, Tribal Executive Office, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to provide a legislative update.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Mike Dolson out of the room participating in a conference call.

Dan Decker and **Chelsea Colwyn**, Legal Department, requested approval of a sole source contract for consultation and professional services with Historical Research Associates.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve by resolution a contract for consultation and professional services with Historical Research Associates. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, 8 for; 0 opposed; 1 abstention (Len TwoTeeth); 1 not voting (Mike Dolson out of the room).

RESOLUTION 23-050

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

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, as primary governing body of the Flathead Nation, is entrusted with the responsibility to protect and preserve Tribal property, wildlife and natural resources, and to protect the health, security and general welfare of the Tribes, and

WHEREAS, protection and preservation of property, wildlife, natural resources, health, security, and general welfare of the Tribes is among the highest priorities of the Tribes, and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes wish to secure, and Historical Research Associates, Inc. wishes to provide their professional and historical research expertise, services, consultation, and testimony to and on behalf of the Tribes, and

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023

WHEREAS, Historical Research Associates, Inc. has agreed to provide their professional services according to the terms and conditions of a contract for consultation and professional services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council approves said agreement and authorizes its execution by the Chairman and the Tribal Secretary.

Dan Decker, Brian Upton, John Harrison, Melissa Schlichting, Chelsea Colwyn, Katie Jones, Yolanda Page, and Zach Zipfel, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters. **Dan McClure, Shannon Clairmont and Amanda Bourdon**, Natural Resources Department, joined the discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the letter to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks pertaining to the Montana statewide grizzly bear management plan. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Mike Dolson and Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Miranda Burland, Tribal Education Department; and **Carolyn Hall**, Upper West Shore School District; presented the annual Indian Education Report for the Dayton Elementary School. The school serves grades K-6. Carolyn gave the council a gift from the third and fourth graders that are stories about the CSKT. There was a total of 59 students and 6 were tribally affiliated. The attendance for 2021-2022 school year was 86.7% and it has increased to 90.16% this year. The attendance rate for the tribally affiliated students this year is at 93.62%. The student count for the 2022-2023 school year is 52 and 3 are tribally affiliated. The school does not have a hot lunch program and does not provide transportation. The student count has decreased due to students transferring to Polson since their siblings go to school in Polson and others are being homeschooled. The academic report was provided. Most of the 3-6 graders did not test well.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to accept the 2021-2022 Indian Education Report and the 2022-2023 Midyear Report for the Dayton Elementary School. Seconded by Terry Pitts. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Mike Dolson out of the room).

Council met with Miranda Burland in **executive session** to discuss a departmental matter.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023

Council **adjourned** at 3:11 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary