Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
November 12, 2010
4:30 p.m. Bingo Hall

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Rose Soulier, Tribal Chairperson.

Roll call taken for School Board members:
Rocky Tribovich, Present       Brian Goodwin, Present
Jackie Merila, Absent          Cindy Garrity, Present
Bob Nelson, Present            David Curran, Present
Deb Knopf, Present
Also present: Linda Kunelius, Bob Kent and Teachers.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ROLL CALL:
Rose Soulier, Present          Larry Deragon, Present
Marvin Defoe, Present          Jeanne Gordon, Present
Laura J. Gordon, Present       Ray DePerry, Absent
Dennis Soulier, Present        Jim Pete, Present
Mike Gumoe, Present            Quorum

In attendance: Bayfield School Board, Teachers, Mark Montano, Director Tribal Operations, and community members.

OPENING CEREMONY
Opening ceremony was performed by Frank Montano

AGENDA
Add: #6) Health Center Consultant Grant Contract Request. Dennis Soulier moved to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Question asked if everything wasn’t discussed will another meeting be set up if needed. Tribal Chairperson Rose Soulier stated there will be a follow up meeting. Motion carried.

RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVIDING TUTORS
The school is responsible to provide tutors, how is this determined? Another question asked was regarding Native versus non Native on student tests and the disproportion of it, what are the averages if 75% is Native? Are there students who fall through the gaps at school that are Native? Example given of a student in 6th grade who can’t read at a 2nd grade level, has to be a way to measure this and what is done to get them up to the level they are suppose to be at.

Discussion on reading skills. Comment made that a student can read it but can’t comprehend what they read. What evidence does the school have to measure this and how is this deficiency addressed? Are tutors paid the equivalent of others? Superintendent Linda Kunelius, Board members and teachers responded to some of the issues expressed.
Council would like numbers in future such as math scores etc. Need something to look at and go from there. Discussed reduction of staff and students needing assistance, Assessments need to be done at the beginning of the school year, middle and the end of school to get a system in place so this can be measured from grade to grade on students. Concern expressed on extracurricular activities at school when a student has a D+ grade level. Lot of lower grades getting D’s and F’s.

**SCHOOL LAND INTO TRIBAL TRUST STATUS**
Discussed this issue, needs to be looked at with the various options available such as a school in Red Cliff and Town of Russell or leave it as is. Discussing the land at school? Discussed the issue if there was ever a consolidation of schools and what the State would do in this case. What would the impact be on Red Cliff and students in the school district. Discussed tax payers and their contribution to schools in the state. At some meetings it was discussed to change the name of the school. Needs to be accessed, what are the benefits, risks, shared responsibility, how funded etc.

**IMPACT AID**
A hearing was recently held on this. The District received additional monies from previous year and would like to know how was this used? Superintendent response was that monies received are put in General Fund 2010 under general operations and additions such as a Nurses services, reading specialist etc. She also stated there were 117 fewer students than 10 years ago but more staff. President Rocky Tribovich responded that Bayfield is healthier than other districts due to the foresight of previous school boards being frugal.

Community member wanted to see what the breakdown is on Impact Aide and where it was spent. Discussed back payments and how long it takes sometimes to get payments (received funding in 08 for 06 and 07-08 for 04-05 and 07). Question asked if the Tribal Chair signs off on Impact Aid. Tribal Chairperson Rose Soulier responded she certifies the number of students living on the Reservation.

**BULLING IN SCHOOL**
This discussion should be added to #2) gangs. A parent stated her children will not be going back to school until this topic is addressed at school. The policy is to deal with incidents as they happen. One other parent stated she did not like the school talking to another parent about her child and the problem not being addressed. Some students are out of control and no child should be afraid to go to school.

There is a State law and a policy adopted in August on how to respond to bullying incidents or to stop this. School does respond if they know about it. One teacher stated she wasn’t aware of it, her students let her know and she stated it will be dealt with. Also the Need to work together to stop it. Another parent commented this has been a problem for the last 20 to 30 years at school. She also stated busses are an issue and the need to have monitors on them. Monitors keep the bus calmer. There was a student smoking in the back of the bus, one driver wears headphones, kids are fighting on the busses, drivers don’t pay attention.
Question asked where are the parents? The community is represented, School Board, there is going to be a discussion on gangs. It’s a difficult issue and needs to be dealt with, also the drug issue. We want it stopped.

Comment by community member regarding 75% Native American issue, we had treaties too and were guaranteed an education, and land, there is no 75% land, wanted that statement clear.

Tribal Chairperson Rose Soulier thanked everyone for the discussions and attending. Rose will get with Rocky and establish another meeting to finish the agenda items.

OTHER
Health Center Consultant Grant Contract Request between Red Cliff and Gary Leva of Gary Consulting Group from Spokane Washington for an application to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for New Access Points for the Red Cliff Clinic.

Dennis Soulier moved the Tribe agrees to pay the Contractor a total of $5,000 for services for completion of Phase I of the application by November 17, 2010 and agrees to pay $25,000 for completion of Phase II of the application and submission of the entire grant by December 15, 2010. Seconded by Larry Deragon. Motion carried.

Dennis Soulier moved to adjourn. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

Adjourned at: 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:  

Kathy Hanson  
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Laura J. Gordon, Secretary  
Red Cliff Tribal Council