

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 23, 2017

4:30 p.m. Legendary Waters, Buffalo Bay Grand Ballroom

ROLL CALL

Richard Peterson, Present
Nathan Gordon, Present
Mercie Gordon, Present
Johanna Wilson, Present
Daniel Duffy, Present
Carolyn Gouge, Present

Nicholas DePerry, Present
Jeanne Gordon, Present
Antone Basina, Absent (Excused)

Quorum

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Others present: Dave Ujke – Tribal Attorney, Wade Williams – Assistant Tribal Attorney, Lavonne Goslin – Head Start Director, Rob Goslin – Tribal Administration Liaison, Chad Abel – TNR Division Administrator, Diane Erickson – Health Center Administrator, Robert Powless – Public Works Division Administrator, Rebecca Benton – Family/Human Services Division Administrator and community members.

AGENDA

Changes and corrections:

1. Correction made to include "Internal Compliance Report" under Quarterly reports
2. Addition of "PNR priority list" to Other

Johanna Wilson moved to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Nathan Gordon. Motion carried.

OPENING CEREMONY

Honor song by Frank Morris.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON

Chairman Peterson read through his written report. After taking office, the Tribal Council chose to replace the Health Administrator and then conducted extensive financial review of the Red Cliff Community Health Center. The review found the clinic is in a dire financial condition. He stated many changes are being made to both the budgetary and operational aspects of the clinic in order to rectify and stabilize the clinic. A new Administrator has been hired and staff contracts are also being renegotiated.

Chairman Peterson spoke of meetings with Law Enforcement and Housing discussing ways to combat the drug epidemic. Improvements thus far include: the hiring of a new police officer, funding was obtained to hire a drug investigator and build an AODA drop in center and security cameras are being installed in various locations in the community. Chairman Peterson has also met with other tribes to work on collaborative efforts.

Changes were made to Red Cliff Economic Development Corporation, which oversees the Buffalo Bay Gas Station and the Casino Smoke Shop. The Director position for the Corporation was eliminated and supervisors were hired for each entity.

The 10 year agreement between the State of Wisconsin, Red Cliff, and Bad River expired 3 years ago. One year extensions of that agreement have been signed since while a new agreement is negotiated. Since coming into office, the Chairman met with all parties to advance the negotiation process. He feels that a new agreement can be achieved in the near future.

Chairman Peterson also spoke of improvements made to the services provided to Elders. One of the main changes that we made was the creation of an "Elder Liaison" whom the Chairman communicates with on a regular basis. The Elder Day Room has been repainted, leaned and new appliances were added. Staff is working to improve the quality of food service and transportation services and activities.

Nathan Gordon moved to accept the Chairman report for July 2017 through September 2017. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

VICE CHAIRMAN

Vice-Chairman Gordon spoke of the daily and weekly meetings with key staff and Division Administrators. He also spoke of the many meetings with community members, county, tribal and state officials.

In July, he was involved in the coordination of the annual Pow-Wow. He also noted meetings and conferences he had attended with Chris Borden from USDA-NRCS regarding the 2018 Harmony Training, NATOW, GLIFWC and BIA Annual Conference in Prior Lake, MN.

In August, he was participated in the planning of Red Cliff Days, the Tribal Employee party and met with State staff among other meetings.

In September, he spoke of meetings with NATOW, GLITC and AIANTA annual Conference in Green Bay, WI. Also noted that included in his report, links were provided for those interested in learning more about the various organizations he had contact with throughout the quarter.

Carolyn Gouge moved to accept the Vice-Chairman report. Seconded by Dan Duffy. 1-Abstension (Nathan Gordon) Motion carried.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR LIAISON

Rob Goslin gave an overview of his written report. He stated much of his time was focused on the Red Cliff Health Center and strengthening the HR Department. Carmen Vanderventer and Mr. Goslin have also planned a site visit to Fond Du Lac tribe to learn of their Internal Compliance Officer duties and role.

Carolyn Gouge moved to accept the Tribal Administrator Liaison report. Seconded by Dan Duffy. Motion carried.

DIVISIONS REPORTS

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Lavonne Goslin spoke of challenges facing the ECC. There are numerous vacant positions and the Americorps position will not be filled for this year. There is a great need for subs. Teachers are feeling the strain of the increased classroom hours. Some IT issues have also interrupted daily activities. Chairman Peterson stated he will meet with Theron Rutyna to assist in resolving the IT issues.

FAMILY/HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

Rebecca Benton presented the Division report. The Family Violence Program is hosting a DV Awareness event on October 24th in tribute to the 73 lives lost in the state to domestic violence this year. The program was also awarded funding to hire an additional case manager. Funding is also available to hire additional ICW staff which is greatly needed due to the devastating drug epidemic in the community. The Division sponsored the Language Camp in July and will soon be fundraising for next year. The Tribal Youth Advocate and ADRS positions have

been filled. Johanna Wilson asked if the TANF program is planning to offer training sessions for clients, since the winter season is approaching. Rebecca stated the planning of those sessions are in the works. Jeanne Gordon asked for an update on the CST program. Rebecca stated interviews were held and the position should be filled. The in-kind issue for this program has also been resolved.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Taylor Gurnoe presented the report. The department will be offering free Microsoft Office training soon. She is also in conversations with WITC to begin offering GED classes in Red Cliff. There is currently no staff for the library. She noted the number of scholarships awarded and described the data collected. There were a number of drop outs which she believes that financial aid issues are a contributing factor. Many students need assistance in submitting their FAFSA. She will be planning FAFSA nights around student deadlines.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Robert Powless provided a listing of all work orders completed throughout the quarter. A discussion was had on the Old Housing Water & Sewer Improvement project. The department acquired bids but all were rejected by the BIA. All bids were significantly over budget. The project will be re-bid in October and will start in the spring of 2018.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Chief Mertig was not present but provided a written report.

TREATY NATURAL RESOURCES

The Division quarterly newsletter has been released to the community. The Clayton Creek trail project is complete. Signage along the trail will be installed soon. The Farmer's market and CSA program was a success. The farm will also be selling eggs to the ECC once the hens have matured. Mercie Gordon asked that staff from the Division visit the Youth Center. A baler was purchased for the Transfer Station which will eventually reduce the cost of recycling disposal. Some of the ANA Zoning funds that were awarded last year may be returned to the funding agency due to the turnover in the Planning department. Chad had reprogrammed as much of the funding as possible but is unable to justify expending all of the prior year funds. Chad also announced to the community the tribe had acquired 80 acres through the GLRI funding.

HEALTH CENTER

Carolyn Gouge announced that Diane Erickson was officially hired as the Health Center Administrator. RCCHC hosted the annual Fall Fest in September. The ZHV program is in their 6th year and data shows an improvement in all 6 of the mandated benchmarks. There have been a few staff changes and work is being done to catch up on medical coding.

INTERNAL COMPLIANCE

Carmen VanderVenter gave a summary of her written report of activities. She conducted a total of 52 programmatic reviews.

Johanna Wilson moved to accept the Division and Internal Compliance reports. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

INTERIM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Desiree Livingston was appointed the Interim CFO effective September 3, 2017. She stated the Accounting Department is extremely understaffed. An overview of the written report commenced.

Nathan Gordon moved to accept the CFO report. Seconded by Carolyn Gouge. Motion carried.

PLANNING

Jeff Benton was not present. Any questions regarding his written report would be forwarded to Jeff.

Jeanne Gordon moved to accept the Planning report. Seconded by Mercie Gordon. Motion carried.

COURTS

There has been progress made in collecting forfeitures. The Stark Collection Agency has been ineffective thus far. The Court, Child Support and UW-Extension will be meeting next week regarding Co-Parenting programming.

Mercie Gordon moved to accept the Courts report. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

LEGAL

Tribal Attorney Ujke and Assistant Attorney Williams presented the quarterly report. Much of the information contained in the report is confidential and not made available to the public.

Discussion was had on the Fee Lands Tax issue. Johanna Wilson asked individuals should be told regarding this. Dave stated that the legal department represents the Tribe, not individuals so he cannot advise them on steps to take. The Legal Department continues to prepare this matter for litigation later this year.

Nathan Gordon moved to accept the Legal report. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

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OTHER

PURCHASE/REFERRED CARE PRIORITY LISTING

The Managed Care Committee made the recommendation that the Purchased/Referred Care Department provides authorization of payment for Priority levels I, II, III. Which include: Therapy sessions, routine eye exams and eyewear, diabetic eye exams and routine dental care. The PRC will continue to utilize the services of Delta Dental Program for routine and emergency dental care in scope with the dental summary plan. This recommendation will be active for October through December 2017 with a review to take place in January.

Jeanne Gordon moved to approve the recommendation of the Managed Care Committee. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

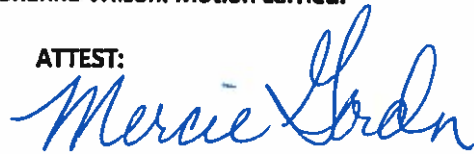
Jeanne Gordon moved to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Alana Babineau
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Mercie Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council