

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (QUARTERLY REPORTS)

January 29, 2018

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

ROLL CALL

Richard Peterson, Present
Nathan Gordon, Present
Mercie Gordon, Absent (Excused)
Johanna Wilson, Present
Daniel Duffy, Present
Carolyn Gouge, Present

Nicholas DePerry, Present
Jeanne Gordon, Present
Antone Basina, Present

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 – ECC, Nicole Boyd – ECC, Rob Goslin – Tribal Administration Liaison, Chad Abel – TNR Division Administrator, Diane Erickson – Health Center Administrator, Robert Powless – Public Works Division Administrator, Carmen Vanderventer – Internal Compliance, Bill Mertig – Protective Services, Jeff Benton – Planning Department and community members.

AGENDA

Carolyn Gouge moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

OPENING CEREMONY

Opening ceremony and song by Frank Morris.

Nathan Gordon moved to appoint Jeanne Gordon as acting Tribal Secretary. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

CHAIRMAN

Chairman Peterson read through his written report. In addition to day to day tribal business, he gave explanation of areas he had largely focused in the past quarter.

The financial and organizational status of Red Cliff Community Health Center is moving in a positive direction. Changes have been made to remedy the situation including the hiring of Diane Erickson as the new Administrator.

Positive developments have been made to combat the drug epidemic in the community. Red Cliff Law Enforcement received funding from Department of Justice that will allow the department to hire a drug investigator and related equipment. Additional funding was received to build a new AODA Drop in Center and surveillance cameras have been installed in strategic locations throughout the community.

The 2 main entities of the Red Cliff Economic Development Corporation, Buffalo Bay Gas Station and the Casino Smoke Shop, have seen a great deal of changes. Upon initial assessments, the Director for the Development

Corporation position was eliminated as a result both businesses are now being run independently each with a Supervisor/Manager appointed.

The Chairman continues to focus on the 10-year State of Wisconsin Commercial Fishing Agreement which has been expired and in negotiations. Due to the negative impact shown for tribal fisherman, he hopes a new agreement can be reached in the near future.

Many improvements have been made in services to the elders. One of the main changes that we made was the creation of an "Elder Liaison" whom meets with the Chairman on a regular basis. Other improvements include: upgrades to the Elder Day room/common areas and staff is working to improve transportation services. Multiple community events

Nathan Gordon moved to accept the Chairman's report. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. 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. He emphasized his belief in working as a "team" for the benefit of the tribe as a whole. He acknowledged the work of the staff and present/past Council.

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

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR LIAISON

Rob Goslin presented is written report. Much of his focus the past quarter has been improving the Human Resources Department. Positions have been filled within the department and they are working to evaluate and improve processes.

Rob and Carmen Vanderventer visited the Fond Du Lac tribal Human Resources and Compliance Departments to learn of their staff's roles and responsibilities.

He noted much of his time is spent assisting with internal conflicts and emphasized his belief in having an open door policy.

Johanna Wilson moved to accept the Tribal Administrator Liaison report. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

DIVISION/DEPARTMENTS

HEALTH

Diane Erickson presented the Division's written report. After an the in-depth analysis of the financial status of the Health Center, one of the main priorities has been addressing the backlog of coded/billed visits. By the end of the quarter, the backlog had been reduced from 3,457 to 1,791.

Diane noted IHS is reviewing the Level of Need funding methodology for each tribe. Red Cliff is currently funded at 43.1% and the goal is 60%.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The new Fire Truck is not been fully equipped. The department also has 19 volunteer fire fighters, a number of them are also enrolled in the EMS class.

The \$250,000 donation from the Tribe has allowed the police department to hire additional officers as well provide additional training. Bill Mertig discussed current and past data regarding types of calls. Drug related calls are steadily increasing.

COMPLIANCE

Carmen Vanderventer presented the quarterly report. She spoke of the recent visit to Fond Du Lac and an upcoming training she will be attending for "Character Investigation" pertaining to background checks. She also completed a number of programmatic and file reviews.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Peterson asked Public Works Administrator Robert Powless of an estimated date the pump house damage would be repaired. Mr. Powless could not provide a definite date, since it will be dependent on weather and other factors. He expressed his appreciation to the community for their patience during this time.

EDUCATION

Lavonne Goslin and Nicole Boyd presented the quarterly report for the Red Cliff Early Childhood Center. Many upcoming activities are being planned. Many vacant positions have been an obstacle and some job descriptions have been amended to assist in meeting the needs of the Center. Nicole asked that Administration and Human Resources look into some type of centralized background check due to many programs needing specific background checks completed. Nicole also noted their department is unable to access needed reports in MIP. Johanna Wilson will look into this. Carolyn Gouge asked if the ECC provides Ojibwemowin activities or language table. Nicole stated the current budget cannot support language tables at this time or a language teacher. This position was included in next years proposed budget.

FAMILY/HUMAN SERVICES

Justine Rufus presented the Division's written report on behalf of Rebecca Benton. Crystal Newago was hired as the new Elder Director. CST Coordinator position remains vacant. BFI is holding groups at the Bayfield School. ICW staffing has increased to 5. Child Support performance rates have increased and the Boys and Girls club has a number of vacant positions.

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Joseph Montano stated the Department is currently looking to purchase software to track THPO activities and reviews. Rose Soulier was recently hired as the Department's Administrative Assistant. Staff are working to strengthen the department and general operations.

Nathan Gordon moved to all Division/Departments reports. Seconded by Antone Basina. Motion carried.

PLANNING

Jeff Benton presented the report. Betty Kerr was recently hired as the Tribal Planner she has been assigned a number areas of focus including the Tribal Census, Circles of Care, Revolving Loan Fund and Strategic Planning to name a few.

Pat Hood, tribal member from Iron River, repaired the road grader at no charge. The Department is grateful for this donation of time and services.

Carolyn Gouge moved to accept the Planning Department report. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

COURTS

Wade Williams presented the Courts written report. Outstanding forfeiture balances has increased. The Court has also applied for funding from Department of Justice to enhance court.

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

LEGAL

Wade Williams presented the Legal report. Discussion on Fee Lands Tax issue. The Legal Department has advised individuals to consult a private attorney regarding their land. The Department continues to prepare this matter for litigation sometime in February.

LWRC Standard Operating Procedures have been returned to the Compliance Director months ago and no further development is known at this time. Council agreed these need to be finalized as soon as possible.

Jeanne Gordon moved to accept the Legal Department report. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

OTHER

No other items.

ADJOURN

Nathan Gordon moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by Nicholas DePerry. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Alana Babineau
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Mercie Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council