

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Special Council Quarterly Report Meeting

April 29, 2019

2:00 p.m. Legendary Waters, Buffalo Bay Grand Ballroom

Chairman Rick Peterson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Richard Peterson, Excused 3-4:30 p.m.
Nathan Gordon, Present
Laura J. Gordon, Present
Johanna Wilson, Excused @ 6:30 p.m.

Carolyn Gouge, Present
Dan Duffy, Excused
Nicholas DePerry, Excused
Bryan Bainbridge, Present
Chris Boyd, Present

QUORUM

Others present: Dave Ujke – Tribal Attorney, Wade Williams – Assistant Tribal Attorney, Robert Powless – Public Works Division Administrator, Carmen Vander Venter – Internal Compliance, Edwina Buffalo-Reyes – THPO Assistant, Jared Blanche – Education Director, Pam Calhoun – Planning Department, Jeff Benton – Planning Department, Linda Johnston – ECC Administrator, Gwen Topping – Associate Tribal Judge, Don Rosin – TAL, Rebecca Benton – Family/Human Services Division Administrator and community members.

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OPENING CEREMONY

Opening Ceremony was performed by Frank Morris.

AGENDA

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chris Boyd moved to go into Executive Session at 2:06 p.m. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION

Johanna Wilson moved to return to Regular Session at 3:15 p.m. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Chairman was excused briefly, report was given after the TAL report.

VICE CHAIRMAN:

Vice-Chairman Gordon spoke of standing meetings with staff and Division Administrators. He spoke of the signing of an MOU between the Red Cliff Tribe and WI DPI with Tony Evers in January. He continues to be very involved in various organizations and boards such as NATOW, GLITC Board of Directors, Voight Task Force and Tribal-County Relations Committee. He encouraged interested community members to request a copy of his written report to learn more details.

Bryan Bainbridge moved to approve the Vice Chairman's report. 1-Abstention (Nathan Gordon). Seconded by Chris Boyd. Motion carried.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:

Bryan Bainbridge moved to table this report due to vacant CFO position. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

Mary Johnson and Pam Calhoun presented the report.

Mary Johnson and Nicole Boyd were newly hired this year. Pam stated Nicole has doing a great job and has quickly adapted to her new position. A total of seven grants were awarded to the Tribe this quarter that will be funded by state, foundation and federal agencies. Three grants are in progress for projects involving the library, court and family violence prevention program. Pam discussed the eCivis software reporting and grant tracking capabilities, added it is underutilized.

Chris Boyd moved to approve the Planning report. Seconded by Bryan Bainbridge. Discussion: Transportation Department should be included in future Planning reports. Motion carried.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION LIASION:

Don Rosin gave an overview of areas of focus and provided a calendar of activities for the past three months. He noted the Accounting Department is now at full staff and payables are quickly being caught up on. He has been assisting Accounting while the CFO position has been vacant, Diane Erickson has also assisted when needed. Next quarter he will be conducting Division Administrators performance evaluations to include input from staff.

Bryan Bainbridge moved to approve the TAL (Tribal Administration Liaison) quarterly report. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN:

In addition to day to day tribal business, the Chairman listed the various events and meetings he attended throughout the quarter. He also acknowledged the accounting staff who went above and beyond during the government shutdown ensuring no service interruptions occurred.

The Chairman was involved in meetings regarding the Keeps Eagle grant (fish processing plant planning), GLIFWC, GLITC, Ojibwe Language planning, First Responder/Emergency Preparedness and Red Cliff Housing. He also prepared and gave testimony to the U.S. House of Appropriations Committee in Washington D.C. to advocate for additional funding for Tribal Law Enforcement.

Carolyn Gouge moved to approve the Chairman's report. Seconded by Nathan Gordon. Motion carried.

DIVISION & DEPARTMENTS

EDUCATION DIVISION

Linda Johnston presented the Early Childhood Center report. Frank Montano gifted the ECC with a flute, staff are making plans to incorporate lessons or activities involving this gift with students. Homebased enrollment is down, most parents prefer kids to attend at the ECC. Nathan Gordon suggested further outreach to be done to recruit families.

Jared Blanche presented the report for the Education Department. He is working with LCO College to offer GED classes at the cabin, it is unknown when this will be offered. The Honor's Banquet is scheduled for May 20th at Legendary Waters. Several JOM Committee members have resigned, these seats will be posted soon.

FAMILY/HUMAN SERVICES

Rebecca Benton reported on the FHS Division. Brighter Futures Initiative (BFI) received notification that funds may be used for Wolf Camp this year. T-Ball and Little League will be starting this summer, flyers and information will be out soon. The Boys and Girls Club will be hosting a Summer Kick Off event on June 8th. Some position vacancies throughout the Division have yet to be filled. TANF and GA is exploring options for clients that have a criminal record that limits their ability do their work their hours in certain programs. Some have been assigned for road cleanup. The Division is also working on a safety plan, outreach plan and complaint process. Concerns were discussed on the on the requisition process. Some programs have experienced delays with getting checks to clients, specifically those who apply mid-month. Johanna asked that the program directors follow up with Accounting in those cases to ensure checks are made available as soon as possible.

TREATY NATURAL RESOURCES

Gabrielle VanBergen and Ernie Grooms presented the report. Frog Bay Tribal National Park received the Governors Tourism Award this past quarter which has gotten the Park a lot of attention. The Red Cliff and Frog Bay Tribal National Park Facebook pages are gaining a lot of followers resulting from this award as well as the wildlife videos being shared. Another big success of the quarter was the purchase of the Atwood or Pageant Grounds property. Gabrielle noted she is part of the Tourism team who is working on a travel guide for Red Cliff. The Fisheries Department has been busy with various assessments, assessment plans and monitoring. They have also replaced one program vehicle this quarter. The Environmental Department completed the revisions to Chapter 12 and Ernie Grooms is working on the

Volkswagen settlement which will apply to some tribal vehicles. Staff have been hired recently to work with the Summer Youth Interns.

PUBLIC WORKS

Robert Powless stated the harsh winter kept the roads crew busy this past quarter with snow removal and clean up. The Pumphouse project was completed and work will begin the next few months on the scattered sites. The water & sewer cutoff moratorium also ended and will be in effect the same time each year moving forward. Nathan Gordon asked what the new poll barn is being used for or if there any future improvements planned for this building. Mr. Powless noted the building is currently being used for storage but if there are available funds remaining in FM at the end of the year, this will go towards improvements to the building. Chairman Peterson expressed this appreciation to the Department for their hard work in keeping up with the snow this past winter.

HEALTH DIVISION

Diane Erickson presented the report. The Health Center will soon be implementing an electronic personal health record system where patients may log in to view their records. The Ziigwaan event was held this past quarter and had approximately 250 participants. Diane has also been involved in the development of the Tribal Action Plan and the Health Center's strategic plan is near completion. She also noted the LAUNCH grant was submitted, the application is requesting \$800,000 for the five-year project. She mentioned other community events are being scheduled including Honoring Relatives & Memorial Garden.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Kyle Cadotte was not present, no questions were asked regarding this written report.

Nathan Gordon moved to approve the Divisions reports. Seconded by Johanna Wilson. Motion carried.

POLICE COMMISSION BI-ANNUAL REPORT

Melonee Montano and Ernie Grooms presented the 6-month report. The commission is now meeting every other month, instead of monthly, and all meetings are open to the community. Several findings noted from the BIA audit cannot be resolved at this time due to lack of funding, specifically findings that recommend a renovation of certain areas of the building or the need to purchase certain equipment. The State audit resulted in no findings. The retention of officers is an ongoing concern and the commission requests assistance from Administration to explore options. Chairman Peterson stated he has been advocating for additional funding to increase wages and improve benefits. He also noted that the Tribe is required to pay a certain wage for officers, but the funding often makes that impossible. Melonee stated there has been a significant delay in receiving financial reports from Accounting prior to meetings. Nathan stated he will follow up on this. Philomena Kebec from GLIFWC provides trainings regarding overdose prevention and has overdose kits. If the Tribe is interested, Melonee can contact her. In future reports, the commission offered to provide data to show crime rates in comparison to past years to identify possible trends. The department also has space needs, specifically a secure

confidential space for victims or individuals reporting crimes. This was also a finding during the BIA audit. A possible option may be the ICW Building, the program will be moving to a new location on Water Tower Rd. Bryan Bainbridge asked if anyone has come to the commission with formal complaints. Melonee stated this has been done only a few times, she believes it may be due to individuals not knowing the process. There is a form that can be used and submitted. Melonee also suggested to add this to the next Commission meeting for discussion.

Chris Boyd moved to approve the Red Cliff Police Commission report (October 2018 – March 2019). Seconded by Bryan Bainbridge. Motion carried.

Chris Boyd moved to post for the alternate police commission according to RCCL 42.5.2. Seconded by Nathan Gordon. Motion carried.

COMPLIANCE:

Carmen Vander Venter stated three grant implementation meetings were held and seven have been held since the start of the fiscal year. This past quarter she has assisted with BIA TPA contract paperwork and assisted the external auditors as needed.

Laura J. Gordon moved to approve the Compliance report. Seconded by Bryan Bainbridge. Motion carried.

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT:

The Ishpiming Akin Cemetery Committee finalized the Cemetery Ordinance and policies. The contract for the tree clearing was extended due to delay caused by the winter storms. The Frog Bay Archeology Survey project will be conducted in June and the department received funding for a 2-week summer school program at Frog Bay. THPO continues to meet with Rebecca Comfort from the WI Historical Society on the development of the new museum being planned for in Madison. The first Language Advisory meeting was held at the clinic and a Language consultant has been selected. THPO also is organizing the annual Language Camp and Annual Pow Wow.

Chris Boyd moved to approve the THPO (Tribal Historic Preservation Office) quarterly report. Seconded by Carolyn Gouge. Motion carried.

COURTS:

Gwen Topping has been working to secure funding for the Healing to Wellness court from the BIA, they should hear by the end of May if this will be funded. She also is working to expanding the public defender services which only applies to ICW cases currently. A grant is being submitted to expand the current courthouse, but a new building and location would be ideal and meet the needs of the court. In February the court met with Bayfield County court staff to continue to build cooperation relationship. Bayfield County is not currently holding hearings in Red Cliff since they need WI Circuit Court access during hearings. GAL contracts are being finalized and the court will be developing a bench book and clerk manual. Some issues regarding personnel were noted to be discussed further in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bryan Bainbridge moved to go into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Chris Boyd. Motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION

Bryan Bainbridge moved to return to Regular Session at 7:20 p.m. Seconded by Carolyn Gouge. Motion carried.

Gwen noted Chapter 58 will be presented to Council soon for approval and the court is discussing hiring a bailiff or asking Law Enforcement to be on site during some hearings.

Bryan Bainbridge moved to accept the Courts quarterly report. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

LEGAL:

Attorney Ujke and Wade Williams presented reports for the Legal Department. Updates were given on pending cases including the Fee Lands Tax Issue, Zoning disputes and Trespass Claims. Council asked that the Legal Department place a notice in the newsletter to individuals regarding the Fee Lands Tax Issue. The Legendary Waters SOPs continue to be reviewed. Wade Williams noted the number of contracts and PAC applications reviewed during the quarter lease applications processed by the Lands Office.

Nathan Gordon moved to approve the Legal quarterly report. Seconded by Carolyn Gouge. Motion carried.

OTHER

ADJOURN

Bryan Bainbridge moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:


Alana Babinneau, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:


Laura J. Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council