

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

Volume 19 Number 77  
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: August 13, 2019  
Approved: August 20, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ronald Trahan, Chairman; Leonard Gray, Vice-Chairman; Shelly Fyant, Secretary; Anita Matt, Treasurer; Myrna DuMontier; Fred Matt; Dennis Clairmont; Charmel Gillin; and Carole Lankford.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Leonard TwoTeeth (Rocky Mountain Leaders Meeting).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary; and James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:10 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Leonard Gray.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for August 6, 2019 were presented for approval. **No action taken.** The minutes were tabled until full council is present.

**Charmel Gillin** joined the meeting.

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

**MOTION** by Leonard Gray to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Brad Eneas** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Sid Shourds**, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority, was present for discussion.

**Betty Weaselhead** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **CloAnn Westerman**, Tribal Lands Department, was present for discussion.

**Wayne Burland** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. **Shelley Grenier** and **Cory Clairmont**, Personnel Department, were present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

**Vernon Finley**, Kootenai Culture Committee, met with council to discuss community members that help out with camps. He wants to put them on contract. Vernon wants to put Phyllis Mathias on contract as the cook.

**MOTION** by Myrna DuMontier to put Phyllis Mathias on contract for the duration of both camps. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 7 for; 1 opposed (Shelly Fyant); 1 abstention (Ron Trahan).

**Chairman Trahan** requested a copy of the contract and request in writing.

*Shelly Fyant, for the record, "The reason I opposed is because we don't have a copy of the contract."*

**Vernon Finley**, Kootenai Culture Committee, requested approval to hire Travis Afraid of Bear on contract to help with the camps. There are two camps left. **No action taken.** Council requested a copy of the contract and request in writing and present back on Thursday.

**Charmel Gillin** changed her vote to abstention on the previous request. It does not change the outcome of the action. Charmel wants to see the contract prior to voting. The vote was changed to 6 for; 1 opposed (Shelly Fyant); 2 abstentions (Ron Trahan and Charmel Gillin).

**Norrie Dusty Bull** informed council that the Arlee Pow Wow Committee elected new officers. The committee will finalize everything so they can start taking donations. They want to do that as soon as possible so the new committee can begin fundraising. Norrie sold raffle tickets to the council members.

\*\*\*\*\* **Break** \*\*\*\*\*

**Renee Joachim**, Personnel Department, requested authorization to convert Deb Dennison from contract status to FTE status in the Indian Preference Office Assistant position. Deb has worked in this position for several years.

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to go with the recommendation of the department head and convert Deb Dennison from contract status to FTE status. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Leonard Gray** was at the Tribal Police Department and witnessed the actions of a young officer in a dangerous situation. He thinks the officer should be recognized. The department would rather not single out one employee since all

the police officers are in danger each day. Leonard wants council to consider recognizing the police officers to show our appreciation to them.

**Dan Decker** and **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, requested approval of a contract with Litigation Abstract, Inc. to assist with discovery process in a litigation matter.

**MOTION** by Shelly Fyant to approve by resolution the contract with Litigation Abstract, Inc. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

### **RESOLUTION 19-165**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR CONSULTATION AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH LITIGATION ABSTRACT, INC.**

#### **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 Litigation Abstract, Inc. wishes to provide Data Management, eDiscovery services and, if necessary, Electronic Trial Support services, as requested, by the Tribes' legal representatives under this contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Litigation Abstract, Inc. has agreed to provide their personal professional services according to the terms and conditions of a contract agreement.

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

**Dan Decker** and **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, requested approval of a contract for consultation and professional services with Peter Dayton to assist in a litigation matter.

**MOTION** by Charmel Gillin to approve by resolution a contract for consultation and professional services with Peter Dayton. Seconded by Myrna DuMontier. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

**RESOLUTION 19-166**

**A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR CONSULTATION AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH PETER DAYTON**

**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 Peter Dayton wishes to provide expert consulting services on legal access and land title issues on behalf of the Tribes' legal representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, Peter Dayton has agreed to provide their personal 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.

**Jordan Thompson** and **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, requested approval of an amended State-Tribal Ex Officio Cooperative Agreement with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks for aquatic invasive species.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the amended State-Tribal Ex Officio Cooperative Agreement with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

**Jordan Thompson**, Legal Department, informed council that the highway dedication is scheduled for September 26 from mile marker 7 to 9. Jordan will provide further details to council.

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**Brian Upton** and **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, informed council that there is the Federation National Board meeting next month and council is invited to the dinner and reception on September 19, and council is invited to make opening remarks. The staff is planning to show the bison film. September 20 there will be a tour of the Bison Range with the board members and MFWP staff. The Greater Montana Foundation provided funding to show additional film screenings.

**Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department, informed council that the meetings with the stakeholders have been going well. The most recent one was with Senator Tester's staff and was attended by Mark Baker and Senator Sales.

**Rick Eneas**, Financial Management, provided a copy of the proposed questions for the Energy Keepers, Inc. Board of Directors interviews scheduled for this afternoon.

**Council** discussed issues/concerns of staff and the need for training how to handle people in certain situations. **Fred Matt** suggested they have dash and body cams. **Shelly Fyant** wants council to bring up the issue with FIIP and Robert Compton, BIA Superintendent. **Carole Lankford** commented that it is a federal agency so they are required to provide training to these employees.

**Myrna DuMontier** left the meeting for the remainder of the day due to the Energy Keepers, Inc. Board of Directors interviews being a conflict of interest.

**Rick Eneas**, Financial Management, gave an update on yesterday's conversation stemming from Thursday's presentation regarding the makeup of the Energy Keepers, Inc. Board of Directors. The oversight of EKI is unique throughout the country. It was suggested that they develop a process to meeting criteria for the composition of the board. A well-qualified pool of candidates is needed and it should be advertised nationally due to the nature of this type of business.

\*\*\*\*\* **Lunch** \*\*\*\*\*

**Shelly Fyant** left the meeting for the remainder of the day to attend a conference call for human trafficking training.

**Council** met in **executive session** to conduct interviews for the Energy Keepers, Inc. Board of Directors vacancy. **Melanie Piedalue**, Personnel Department, was present for interviews.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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**MOTION** by Anita Matt to accept the results of the ballot and appoint Jeffrey Foley to the Energy Keepers, Inc. Board of Directors. Seconded by Dennis Clairmont. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**Chairman Trahan** discussed the Betty Weaselhead issue from this morning. **Anita Matt** had concerns about access to inspect the premises and the dog issue. It will be changed to one dog.

**MOTION** by Anita Matt to approve the lease with Betty Weaselhead for the former House property, with the corrections. Seconded by Leonard Gray. Carried, unanimous (7 present).

**MOTION** by Carole Lankford to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 4:25 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, August 15, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES**

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Shelly R. Fyant  
Tribal Secretary