

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

Volume 21 Number 52
Zoom Meeting

Held: April 8, 2021
Approved: April 13, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman; Anita Matt, Vice-Chairwoman; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Secretary; Martin Charlo, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Fred Matt; Charmel Gillin; Mike Dolson; and Len TwoTeeth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:04 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Anita Matt.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for April 6, 2021 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Ron Swaney and **C.T. Camel**, Tribal Forestry/Division of Fire, gave an update on the Sinkhole Fire, located five miles west of Dixon along the Flathead River. The fire is currently 100 acres in size and zero percent contained. The cause of the fire is due to some railroad work in the area. Montana Rail Link thought they had gotten the fire out, but the wind picked up and it started burning again. There are some spot fires on the Ferry Basin side. It is lined and cold to the touch. The fire also jumped to the island, which is about 3,000 feet long. It is unknown the exact size of the fire on the island, but it looks like the island burned in its entirety. Ron sent the chairwoman a picture of the fire. The roads were closed at Sloan’s Bridge heading into McDonald Basin. The Sinkhole and the island will be closed until further notice. Ron anticipated letting folks in the

Ferry Basin area by the end of shift today. The fire is still under investigation at this time. Superintendent Shana Radford will visit the site today at 10:00 a.m. In terms of damages, Ron did not think we would have logged along the river or on the island, so it is difficult to put a monetary value on the damages. **Anita Matt** was amazed at the number of people burning yesterday considering it was on the news that high winds were expected. She thought individuals could only burn until the end of March without getting a permit. **C.T. Camel** advised that open burning is allowed in March and April, and then is allowed in May and June by permit only. **Ron Swaney** put information on the Facebook page that yesterday was not a good day to be burning due to expected high winds. There were lots of people burning. The department tries to educate the public the best they can, but it is difficult to get the message across sometimes when it is a good time to burn. There was a fisherman that was stranded due to the fire, and they took action to get that individual safe. **Chairwoman Fyant** saw on the news that there were fires all over the state. She has seen C.T.'s warnings about the winds, so she does not know what more we can do. Shelly appreciates their efforts.

Johnathan Owens, Katie Lake, and Milissa Grandchamp, Tribal Health Department, requested authorization to purchase capital equipment consisting of two x-ray units, replace old equipment, install and service agreements. THD obtained three bids. Two of the bids are a refit, so it would not be new equipment; it would be refurbished. Turn-Key would remove all the old equipment and replace it with new equipment. That would drop the radiation doses by 43% to 47%, so that is better for patient care. Katie recommended going with Turn-Key. The equipment in the Polson Clinic is 10 years old and the equipment in the St. Ignatius Clinic is 12 years old. It is difficult to find replacement parts for the old equipment. Turn-Key guarantees equipment parts for four years. There are sufficient funds in the budget.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to go with the recommendation and authorize the purchase of capital equipment consisting of two x-ray units, replace old equipment, install and service agreements. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Johnathan Owens and Dr. Garry Pitts, Tribal Health Department, requested approval to renew a three-year contract with Brittany Ironmaker-Matt to fill the Dental Assistant position. She has been employed in this position since 2016 and has been an outstanding employee. She is also certified to assist in dental surgeries at St. Joseph's Hospital.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to renew a three-year contract with Brittany Ironmaker-Matt to fill the Dental Assistant position. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Carole Lankford asked why the Fitness Centers close at 7:30 p.m. She has received calls from individuals. **Johnathan Owens** was not aware of that, so he will follow up and make sure something is done. Carole asked if the gyms are still closed. Mr. Owens responded yes; they remain closed because Tribal Health is still following the contact isolation guidelines until they obtain more information on the variant strains.

Mike Durglo, Preservation Office, requested approval of a revised organizational chart so the program will operate more efficiently. Kyle Felsman vacated the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer position and Katie McDonald was moved into that position. The two Cultural Resources Specialist positions moved with her. The Contract Cultural Resources Technician positions will be filled when funding becomes available.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the revised organizational chart. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Scott Johnston, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to award the heavy hauling and materials services contract to Glacier Lake Sand and Gravel on an as-needed basis for the Safety of Dams/Roads Program through January 31, 2023. This service was bid out and two bids were received. The low bidder was Glacier Lake Sand and Gravel, who is not an Indian Preference business. The other bidder was Smith Paving, who is an Indian Preference company. Smith Paving was not within ten percent of the low bid, so they were not eligible to receive first preference in accordance with Ordinance 101-A. **Anita Matt** thought the Indian Preference bidders had the right to meet the high bid. Scott advised that he spoke to Melinda Charlo, the Indian Preference Coordinator. Smith Paving's bid was within 25% and the Indian Preference rules require the tribal preference bidder to be within ten percent of the low bid to be allowed to receive preference.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to award the heavy hauling and materials services contract to Glacier Lake Sand and Gravel for the Safety of Dams/Roads Program. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 8 for; 2 opposed (Fred Matt and Anita Matt).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, requested renewal of a memorandum of agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services. The program has had a memorandum of agreement in place since 1994 to assist the program with investigating and working cooperatively to assist livestock producers and other agricultural producers with managing depredation upon livestock and crops.

MOTION by Anita Matt to renew the memorandum of agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health

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Service Wildlife Services. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, presented a request from Dr. Ronald Sarno, Hofstra University, for a scientific collection permit for bison behavioral research at the Bison Range. Dr. Sarno will also be doing some similar comparative research at locations with other non-hunted and hunted populations of bison. Dale recommended approval of the scientific collection permit.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to grant Dr. Ronald Sarno a scientific collection permit for bison behavioral research at the Bison Range. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to pay an invoice to Homestead Helicopters in the amount of \$2,503.27 for services from fiscal year 2020, to be paid from fiscal year 2021 funds, due to Homestead Helicopters discovering an error in billing in their audit. There are sufficient funds in the contract to pay the invoice. **Anita Matt** asked if it would be an audit finding. Dale was told by Contracts & Grants that it just needed council approval to pay it from this fiscal year. **Carole Lankford** wanted confirmation from Rick that the council action would take care of that audit finding. Dale will follow up with Rick Eneas.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to pay an invoice to Homestead Helicopters in the amount of \$2,503.27 for services from fiscal year 2020 to be paid from fiscal year 2021 funds. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of a sole source contractor agreement with Mission Mountain Flying Services. The company was sold to a different pilot. Dale would like permission to continue working with that firm with the new pilot under a new contract for the remainder of the fiscal year, and then it will be advertised again this fall. Dale went through the Indian Preference Office and Melinda Charlo had no Indian Preference businesses that could provide this service.

MOTION by Bing Matt to approve the sole source contractor agreement with Mission Mountain Flying Services for the remainder of the fiscal year. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 7 for; 3 opposed (Mike Dolson, Charmel Gillin and Ellie Bundy McLeod).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of the Draft 2021-2022 Migratory Waterfowl, Pheasant and Gray Partridge Hunting Regulations. Under the Flathead Indian Reservation Tribal-State Fishing and

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Bird Hunting Agreement, the Tribal Wildlife Management Program and the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks develop annual proposals for bird hunting for nontribal members on the reservation. The draft regulations go through a public review and comment process, and then they are reviewed by the Tribal-State Advisory Board and recommended for approval by the Tribal Council and the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Draft 2021-2022 Migratory Waterfowl, Pheasant and Gray Partridge Hunting Regulations. Seconded by Charmel Gillin. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Dale Becker, Natural Resources Department, informed council of his retirement at the end of this month. He expressed his appreciation to the Tribal Council for their support and the opportunity to work for the CSKT. **Chairwoman Fyant** thanked Dale for his years of service and expressed her appreciation for all the work that he has done to make our program nationally known. **Fred Matt** commented that our Tribe has been successful and are forerunners in the natural resources wildlife area, and that is due to Dale's leadership and professionalism in leading that program. **Charmel Gillin** thanked Dale for everything. She remembers when Dale came on staff many years ago. It was wonderful to have worked with Dale. **Tom McDonald** commented that it was with a heavy heart to see Dale turn in his resignation. Tom may propose a short-term consultant contract with Dale through the summer months to assist with ongoing projects. Given the status of our wildlife program, Dale could provide consultation on the Bison Range. **Rich Janssen** commented that it has been a pleasure to work with Dale. Dale was on the hiring committee when Rich applied for his position at NRD. Dale has done a great deal of work for the Tribes. **Carole Lankford** thanked Dale for all he has done for our Tribe. We will continue to see Dale's name on many documents in the future. She wished him a happy retirement.

Rich Janssen and **Tom McDonald**, Natural Resources Department; and **Frank Tyro**, Consultant; discussed a request from Global Deal for Nature to utilize a drone for picture and video footage of the Mission Mountain Wilderness. Frank is producing a short film about the Flathead Reservation's Mission Mountain Tribal Wilderness area in relation to the Global Deal for Nature initiative.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to authorize a use permit for the Global Deal for Nature to utilize a drone for picture and video footage of the Mission Mountain Wilderness to make a film about the Flathead Reservation's Mission Mountain Tribal Wilderness area in relation to the Global Deal for Nature initiative. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Lynn Ducharme, Natural Resources Department, presented for approval a resolution authorizing the purchase of the Joseph McDonald trust property with

Bonneville Power Administration resident fish mitigation funding. The Tribal Council showed interest in purchasing 160 individual trust acres from Mr. McDonald in September 2020.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve by resolution the purchase of trust property from Joseph McDonald with Bonneville Power Administration resident fish mitigation funding. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, 10 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-053

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TRUST LAND AS RESIDENT FISH MITIGATION HABITAT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES (“TRIBES”) THAT:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council 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;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized to purchase and exchange Tribal land or any interest therein;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Land Acquisition Program was approved by the Act of July 18, 1968 (PL 90-402);

WHEREAS, the Tribes, and the United States of America, acting through the Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration (“BPA”), have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the Bonneville Power Administration for Resident Fish Mitigation (“2012-2022 Resident Fish MOU”), dated September 27, 2018 to provide for BPA to fund, and the Tribes to implement, the permanent protection and mitigation of resident fish habitat to help fulfill BPA’s duties under the Northwest Power Act, and specifically to partially mitigate the direct construction and inundation impacts of Hungry Horse Dam;

WHEREAS, the Tribes, pursuant to the terms of the 2012-2022 Resident Fish MOU, made a commitment to acquire and protect resident fish habitat;

WHEREAS, the Tribes, pursuant to the terms of the Third Amended 2012-2022 Resident Fish MOU, have developed criteria by which parcels of land that contain quantifiable amounts of resident fish habitat may be selected for purchase by the Tribes with funding from BPA;

WHEREAS, a parcel of land referred to as the “McDonald (Sheepshead) Parcel” (described below) qualifies for acquisition with BPA funds pursuant to the 2012-2022 Resident Fish MOU;

WHEREAS, Joseph McDonald is the beneficial owner of federally-held trust land, and appurtenant natural resources containing resident fish habitat in and around Post Creek, referred to for these purposes as the “Sheepshead Parcel” and more particularly described as:

all right, title and interest in the SW1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, Section 13, Township 19 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M, Lake County, Montana, containing 80 acres, more or less.

AND

All right, title and interest in the W1/2NE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4 and W1/2SE1/4NE1/4, Section 13, Township 19 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M, Lake County, Montana, containing 80 acres, more or less.

WHEREAS, Joseph McDonald has offered to sell all of his right, title, and interest in the above-described real property to the Tribes;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has agreed to purchase the above-described real property, at a negotiated price determined in accordance with federal law, to permanently protect and mitigate resident fish habitat;

WHEREAS, BPA has agreed to provide funding for purchase of the above-described real property;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above-described real property be purchased from Joseph McDonald and that the Tribal Natural Resources Department be authorized to obtain funds from BPA pursuant to the terms of the 2012-2022 Resident Fish MOU for payment of land acquisition and closing costs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-described real property will be held in the name of the United States in trust for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, pursuant to the Act of July 18, 1968, Public Law 90-402 (82 Stat. 356); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the acquired real property is dedicated for perpetual use to permanently protect and mitigate resident fish habitat.

***** Break *****

Rick Eneas and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, presented the highlights of the first quarter Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Report and the Fiscal Year 2022 Projected General Fund Revenue Estimates Report and requested acceptance of the reports. **Len TwoTeeth** asked about the water compact funding. Rick said that Ryan Rusche will clear up the questions regarding funding from the water compact and its impacts on the community and individuals. **Anita Matt** would like to know how much we have spent on water rights over the years. Rick advised that the Tribes have changed accounting systems three times since we started working on water rights. The Accounting staff is pulling the old financial records. That information will important moving forward. **Carole Lankford** would like a pie chart for DHRD revenue/expenses. Ruth will follow up.

MOTION by Fred Matt to accept the first quarter Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Report. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

MOTION by Martin Charlo to accept the Fiscal Year 2022 Projected General Fund Revenue Estimates. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Rick Eneas and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, requested approval of a letter providing CSKT's comments regarding the Office of Management and Budget consultation.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the CSKT comment letter regarding the Office of Management and Budget consultation. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Rick Eneas and **Ruth Swaney**, Financial Management, requested approval of a letter to the United States Department of Treasury providing tribal comments regarding allocation of \$20 billion in the American Rescue Plan of 2021.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve in concept the letter to the United States Department of Treasury providing tribal comments regarding allocation of \$20 billion in the American Rescue Plan of 2021. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Rick Eneas, Financial Management; **Rhonda Swaney**, Legal Department; and **Rob McDonald**, Communications; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss the 2021 Tribal Council Election process.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

***** **Lunch** *****

Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, presented for approval a comment letter in response to the United States Department of Energy's Tribal Consultation Policy.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve the comment letter in response to the United States Department of Energy's Tribal Consultation Policy. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, presented for approval a comment letter in response to the United States Office of Personnel Management's consultation request. **Charmel Gillin** made some edits to the letter. Jami will make the edits to the letter.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the comment letter in response to the United States Office of Personnel Management's consultation request. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, requested approval of a comment letter in response to the Social Security Administration's consultation request. The Social Security Administration does not have a framing paper or consultation policy. **Council** pointed out some typos and made some changes to letter. Jami will review the letter and made the edits. A paragraph will be added regarding specific written feedback from the Social Security Administration on the Tribes' concerns, whether or not it was addressed, and the reasons why they did or did not address them.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the letter in response to the Social Security Administration's consultation request. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, informed council that she did not receive any comments on the Small Business Administration consultation, so she will just provide a letter on basic tribal consultation with no comments. Jami will present the letter for approval later today.

Chelsea Kleinmeyer, Tribal Health Department, reported on the data from the EPIC system. The state's report only shows the number of doses given, but that does not provide a clear picture because there are vaccines that require one dose and vaccines that require two doses. The report showed there were 331 persons with two or more races identified and at least one of those was Native American. Lake County vaccinated 3,175 people that identified as Native American. The Tribal Health data reported that 4,002 people have been vaccinated. The data indicated that a total of 2,147 people identified as American Indian and 2,055 identified as non-Indian or was unknown. The unknown category is the people that did not write down two races if they are a mixed race or refused to identify with a race. **Martin Charlo** reported that S&K Gaming agreed to assist with

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getting people to the vaccine clinic on April 10 and 17. The clinic will be operating this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be cash drawings and gas cards; there will be 24 winners, for a total of \$5,600.00 in prizes. He asked everyone to get the word out. People aged 16 and older are eligible to go to the clinic. People can sign up on the tribalhealth.org website. Walk-ins will be allowed.

Charmel Gillin left the meeting on personal time off for the remainder of the day.

Regina Madplume, Founder of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous People Grassroots Organization; **Patrick Yawakie**, **Tyesha Wood** and **Chelsa Seciwa**, National Criminal Justice Training Center; discussed general education on AMBER Alerts for Indian Country to educate tribal councils and tribal communities on tribal resources. The Montana Missing & Murdered Indigenous People and National Criminal Justice Training Center are collaborating on this effort to bring this valuable information to tribal communities in Montana. The Navajo Reservation spans the states of Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico. Tyesha gave an overview of the Ashlynn Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018. In 2016, Ashlynn Mike was abducted from the Navajo nation in New Mexico. Ashlynn and her brother got off the school bus and someone offered them a ride home. It was a person Ashlynn had seen around town, so they got in the vehicle and were taken to a remote location. Ashlynn's brother was able to escape. The AMBER Alert was issued 13 hours later through the state of New Mexico. The next day with the AMBER Alert they identified and located the suspect. The suspect led authorities to the last known location of Ashlynn. Ashlynn did not survive the abduction. Ashlynn's mother, Pamela Foster, decided this is not how things should have happened, so she started advocating to address abductions in Indian Country. 18 months later, the President signed the Ashlynn Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act into law. Every state has AMBER Alert privileges. The group wants to make sure CSKT policies and procedures for abduction and missing children are in place. The funding they are working under is for children only. They acknowledge it is a larger problem and is people of all ages so they propose if they can provide this training and education it can be used as a foundation to accommodate the other age groups who are missing in our area. It will be a tool to provide the fundamentals. There is grant funding available for tribes to implement AMBER Alerts in their community if they want to and it will work with the State's program. Their focus is to hold implementation meetings with the Tribal nations to tailor the needs of individual tribes. A draft agenda for the implementation meeting was reviewed. **Louis Fiddler**, Law & Order, advised that Law & Order currently has the ability to issue AMBER Alerts and has access to the NCIC system. Their policy is in line with the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons policies and procedures. Law & Order works on prevention through education. **Ellie Bundy McLeod** serves on the Montana Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Task Force and

the CSKT Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Work Group. The CSKT has AMBER Alert information as part of its protocols and community response plan. Ellie liked the idea that they could come in with some scenarios because that would be a good way to test our policy. **Chairwoman Fyant** mentioned that CSKT is a unique tribe because we are a Public Law 280 Tribe. There were 10 different law enforcement jurisdictions at the table.

Ann Miller, Tribal Defenders Office, requested approval of a revised organizational chart to add a part-time Cultural Liaison position, to be funded from the CTAS grant for a five-year period. This position will help reinstate the Culture Mentoring Program and coordinate with both Culture Committees to work with clients.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the revised organizational chart. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Ann Miller, Tribal Defenders Office, requested approval to apply for funding through the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Second Chance Act Community-Based Reentry Program.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve by resolution, with the specified change, the submission of the application to apply for funding through the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Second Chance Act Community-Based Reentry Program. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting.

RESOLUTION 21-054

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, SECOND CHANCE ACT COMMUNITY-BASED REENTRY PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation wish to seek funding to improve and expand the Flathead Reservation Reentry Program to address the challenges posed by reentry and improve reintegration outcomes for those returning to the Flathead Reservation from incarceration.

WHEREAS, in partnership with correctional institutions, service providers, and other reentry stakeholders, the Tribal Defenders Office, Flathead Reservation

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Reentry Program will expand and improve case management, resource and referral to social services, jail based and post-release mental health and chemical dependency assessment and treatment, vocational training, education, housing, financial assistance, and legal assistance for clients facing collateral consequences to criminal convictions.

WHEREAS, expansion and improvement of the Flathead Reservation Reentry Program will promote community health and safety on the Flathead Reservation.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Defenders Office will make the grant application, Community-Based Adult Reentry for Organizations Serving Rural Communities, Competition ID: C-BJA-2021-00034-PROD, seeking funding in the amount of \$750,000.00 to support a 36-month program. **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes that the Tribal Defenders Office shall make the grant application, Community-Based Adult Reentry for Organizations Serving Rural Communities, Competition ID: C-BJA-2021-00034-PROD, seeking funding in the amount of \$750,000.00 to support a 36-month program. Application shall be made through the Office of Contracts and Grants to be submitted electronically.

***** **Break** *****

Dr. Wan-Yaun Kuo and **Kathryn Hilburn**, Montana State University, requested permission to share survey results at the National Congress of American Indians Midyear Conference. The Montana State Food Product Development is working on a research project titled “Gaps in Intellectual Property Management in Tribal-University Agricultural Collaborations: A case study on the CSKT and MSU toward a culturally sensitive and equitable partnership”. MSU received approval by the Salish Kootenai College IRB.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to grant permission to share survey results at the National Congress of American Indians Midyear Conference. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Ellie Bundy McLeod out of the room).

Tom McDonald and **Stephanie Gillin**, Natural Resources Department; and **Amy Coffman**, Bison Range; gave an update on Bison Range maintenance issues. There may need to be a detour in the tour route with alternate limited activities while the road repair work occurs. Tom discussed the improvements planned for this year on the auto tour route. It was recommended that there will be a pay-for-use electric car charging station at the Visitor Center. Council had no objection. The vacant positions will be advertised soon. Tom mentioned an issue that may arise is that when a person leaves federal employment and goes to work for a tribe, there is a federal process that allows their federal retirement to remain

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in full force. Tom would like the Tribes to consider that if this situation comes up. Council had no objection. There is limited bandwidth and internet services at the Bison Range, which may cause some additional issues as they hire staff. Brian Upton is helping to revise the group use permit to create it into a new permit form for the Bison Range. Tom discussed the Ken Burns American Bison Story Production that has proposed to do some shooting of stock footage of the wildlife and scenery for that documentary. That permit will be presented at a later date. It will be a commercial use permit activity. Tom asked for possible dates to schedule a fieldtrip to view the Bison Range. Council scheduled the fieldtrip for April 23, at 10:00 a.m. **Stephanie Gillin** reported that she has been meeting with various contractors. She hired two emergency hire employees from the Indian Preference list and the contractors are from the Indian Preference list. The media room demo work began. Stephanie showed council the new proposed signage and logo design. The photographer would charge a fee of \$2,500 for exclusive use of that photo. The same photo could be used in the logo, brochures, and anything they produce. She asked council if they were okay with paying that exclusive use fee for the photo. Stephanie will discuss the council's suggestions with the contractor and present back next week. Stephanie reviewed the proposed map. Changes will be made to the logo. Stephanie requested approval to delay the opening of the Visitor Center for one month to allow sufficient time to get prepared. Council agreed to delay the opening until June 6, 2021. It will not change the opening date for tours. Stephanie discussed the River Honoring. She requested feedback on the community event they usually hold on Monday night. **Chairwoman Fyant** advised that council will be discussing public events at next week's chair's meeting.

Chairwoman Fyant informed council of a request from Greg Ashley for \$600 in burial assistance for his brother William Ashley to be paid to Lake's Funeral Home. Their mother was a tribal member and William was a resident of Pablo. It was the **consensus** of council to approve the request.

Ellie Bundy McLeod presented for approval a letter requesting donations for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Work Group Silent Auction to raise funds to provide assistance to victims' families. A donation form will be attached to the letter.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the letter and the form, with corrections, requesting donations for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Work Group Silent Auction. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Ellie Bundy McLeod requested approval to travel to Helena on June 23-24. The state Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Task Force is having an in-person meeting to celebrate the passage of the bills. They have funds left over, so they will pay travel expenses. There will be 15 people attending the meeting in Helena.

MOTION by Fred Matt to authorize Ellie Bundy McLeod to travel to Helena June 23-24 to attend the State Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons Task Force meeting. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Ellie Bundy McLeod discussed a request to travel to Helena to attend an event at the Helena State Capitol on May 5 as a wrap up to the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons bills that were passed.

MOTION by Fred Matt to authorize Ellie Bundy McLeod to travel to Helena for the event. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jami Pluff, Policy Analyst, presented for approval a comment letter in response to the Small Business Administration consultation.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the letter, with corrections, in response to the Small Business Administration consultation. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Fred Matt left the meeting for the remainder of the day.

Bing Matt gave a report on the Forestry Timber Use Policy Statement meeting. They discussed nonmember assistance for the LIHEAP and Elder Program. They are going to bring in that form to the council to be able to make that request to be able to cut firewood with family members for the program. They talked about 10,000 board feet requests for lumber for tribal members. They have to cut their own timber and process it. They will come in for council direction for IDT review. They discussed upcoming timber sales and NEPA updates. They reported on the permit sales and upcoming projects.

Council met in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Mike Dolson gave a report on MACIE regarding how the language is stifled and obstructed in school systems and MACIE put out a statement on that issue. They issued a position statement regarding language revitalization and requesting that educators be educated. That position statement is going to the Office of Public Instruction and Board of Public Education as a recommendation.

Len TwoTeeth informed council that he has been approached by elders who want to see the Mission Valley Power lobby opened up. They feel the system in place is a hinderance. Len wants to have that discussion with Mission Valley

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Power. **Chairwoman Fyant** said that would fit into Monday's discussion on buildings and gatherings.

Martin Charlo discussed the hours of operation for the gyms. People who work until 5:30 p.m. are not provided an opportunity to go work out there. **Council** directed Jennifer to contact Johnathan Owens.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 4:30 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Council Secretary