

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

Volume 21 Number 57
Zoom Meeting

Held: April 27, 2021
Approved: April 29, 2021

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Matt.

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

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:01 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Martin Charlo.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for April 22, 2021 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy McLeod to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for April 22, 2021, with corrections. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Justin Benn, Tribal Member, discussed progression and coming together. He is here to talk about suppression, oppression, and progression. That needs to be covered by us as tribal people. Suppression is the main topic. A lot of people do not like to approach the Tribal Council because they do not like to talk, and the council does not listen to people like that. The Tribal Council suppresses the art society. Justin took a persona test and scored a 490, which is a high level of creativity. There are many issues within the reservation boundaries that need to be addressed. He does not think we listen enough. He has worked for the Tribes for a long time and he does not think the tribal organization is set up

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2021

right. There is no human resources and no voice for the employees. He wanted to know where the comment box was. Justin feels Tribal Health can be improved by moving to digital data. It is vital we secure our Tribal Health records and that would improve the Tribal Health system. He thinks nurses are smarter than doctors and Indians are smarter than anyone else. The borders should have never been opened up and we would not be in the situation we are in right now. People are improperly informed about masks and they are dying at a high rate. Our housing system is broken. Some things that apply to people do not apply to others. Our ability to help people do not meet the need. He lives in the housing unit in Pablo, and he has seen law enforcement dropping off people in the parking lot where he lives. The Tribal Council has failed to provide a place. We have all lost connection in our way, and the power of the internet is the way to get it back. Drug problems stem from the judicial system. There are still problems out there and you just need to follow the money. When his house got raided, the police walked out with a bag of weed and a bong. Justin tries to be people's friend and talk them out of suicide. He has them smoke weed to get them off meth. He does not think ethics versus policies work. Justin thought he was a good administrative assistant in the organization because he never said anything. Justin is getting evicted from Housing due to having too many points. We are not listening to this pandemic and we have all failed. He reached out to some of the council members, and they failed to listen to him. He thinks our businesses are corrupt. Our reservation used to be held as an idol. Addictions need to be addressed with mental health. Justin listens to both sides of the isle. People are afraid to come out as gay because society classifies them as bad people.

Council met in **executive session**. **Jody Perez** and **Su-san Perez-Tenas**, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority, joined the discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Charmel Gillin joined the meeting.

Elizabeth Roushe, Nkwusm, informed council that Nkwusm is planning graduation for 7 students (4 preschool and 3 eighth grade) and they want to use the pow wow grounds for the ceremony on May 28, 2021. Graduation will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. They plan to have five people per graduate plus the board members, staff and cleaning crew. It is estimated that there would be about 75 people attending. They will comply with social distancing, follow the CDC guidelines, wear their masks, and have hand sanitizer available. Nkwusm is requesting that the power be on at the pow wow grounds so they can use the sound system and they want to be able to use the restrooms. Nkwusm hired Joe

Durglo to clean up after the event. The feast will take place offsite. **Martin Charlo** requested that they have a list of attendees for contact tracing purposes.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the request for Nkwusm to use the pow wow grounds for graduation, allow them to use the bathrooms on the north side, work with Maintenance to use the facilities, follow the protocols, have a sign-in sheet, and do temperature checks. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, 8 for; 1 abstention (Charmel Gillin).

Charmel Gillin, for the record, *“I was absent last Thursday during the policy discussion about COVID protocols and gatherings such as this.”*

Jean Matt and **Dale Nelson**, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Dale Nelson** reported that we are in the beginning of flood season and he is checking out the streams. He has a few masks left. Most of the masks he had went to Transportation. Dale still has 200 gallons of hand sanitizer if anyone needs any. He is looking forward to Saturday for the second vaccine clinic and then the following Saturday will be the second shot clinic. There will be a setup meeting at Salish Kootenai College on Friday at 3:30 p.m. **James Steele, Sr.** requested some more masks for the council chambers. Dale will deliver them today. **Jean Matt** commented that traffic is increasing, and the snowbirds are coming back. The Unified Command Team is looking at graduations coming up in the communities. Spring sports are going on. The UCC is still committed to wearing a mask, washing hands, and social distancing. **Martin Charlo** reported that the Tribal Council is looking at events coming up and their plans as far as what we have in our organization and rules regarding COVID. He prefers to do the graduations in the safest manner possible. We need to remain diligent, avoid crowds, wash our hands, wear a mask, and social distance. The vaccine clinic this weekend is open for anyone needing a vaccine and is the second shot clinic for those who vaccinated three weeks ago. People can also sign up for an appointment at cskthealth.org. **Chairwoman Fyant** commented that we are trying to reach herd immunity, which is 70%. According to last week’s report, Lake County is still at 42%.

Brenda Bodnar, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of a temporary employment agreement with Becky Brundin to fill the Clinical Registered Dietitian/Certified Diabetes Educator position two days per week through December 31, 2021. The vacancy was advertised, and the only applicant backed out.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to approve a temporary employment agreement with Becky Brundin to fill the Clinical Registered Dietitian/Certified Diabetes Educator position two days per week through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2021

Rob McDonald, Communications, requested approval of a modification to Contractor Agreement No. 21-116 with Brooke Swaney, Same Land Film, LLC, to extend the term to June 17, 2021. All other terms of the contract will remain the same. Brooke was hired to make a short film about CSKT's efforts to combat COVID-19, but the project was delayed due to COVID-19 issues and the addition of an animation piece.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the modification to Contractor Agreement No. 21-116 with Brooke Swaney, Same Land Film, LLC, to extend the term to June 17, 2021. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Melanie Smith, Department of Human Resources Development, requested approval of a memorandum of agreement and subrecipient agreement with the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children in the amount of \$19,667.00 to implement the Handle With Care model in Lake County Public Schools. The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (DEC) will assist with the ongoing development of the Tribal DEC efforts on the reservation, as well as the National DEC efforts and how they support the Tribal DEC efforts; promote the DEC resources; be responsible for the Tribal DEC development for the Flathead Reservation and for promoting the DEC efforts, including the Handle With Care model, through presentations and trainings; provide technical assistance to the Tribal DEC leaders; make the connection between the DEC approach with Handle With Care and DEC promising practice; and respond to other technical assistance requests, as necessary.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the memorandum of agreement and subrecipient agreement with the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children in the amount of \$19,667.00 to implement the Handle With Care model in Lake County Public Schools. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Rich Janssen, Natural Resources Department; and **Craig McLane**, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; presented a request from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks for a scientific collection permit for the annual sampling for aquatic invasive species at high-risk sites and open water sites.

MOTION by Charmel Gillin to grant Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks a scientific collection permit for the annual sampling for aquatic invasive species at high-risk sites and open water sites. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

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

Rhonda Swaney and **Mary Price**, Legal Department, requested approval for Mary Price, Seth Makepeace and Casey Ryan to travel to Gold Creek, Montana on May 6, 2021, to attend a field tour with the irrigation community to talk about water management issues.

MOTION by Anita Matt to authorize Mary Price, Seth Makepeace, and Casey Ryan to travel to Gold Creek, Montana on May 6, 2021. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Rhonda Swaney and **Legal Department Staff** requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal issues.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Maja Pederson, University of Montana; **Chelsea Kleinmeyer** and **Ashley Glass**, Tribal Health Department; gave an update on the second manuscript on “Physical Activity Intervention Adaptation: Recommendations from Rural American Indian Older Adults” that they hope to submit for publication. Maja gave an overview of the study described in the manuscript, main findings, and how the team hopes these findings can be useful for community-based physical activity programming on the Flathead Reservation in the future. This manuscript was developed as part of the “Growing Older Staying Strong” community-based research project. This has been an ongoing project since 2018 through a partnership between the University of Montana and the Tribal Health Department. The draft manuscript was reviewed and approved by all co-authors and study team members and has completed a review and approval process by the Tribal Health Department.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the manuscript as is. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Jody Perez and **Sid Shourds**, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority; **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; **Jami Pluff**, Policy Analyst; **Janet Camel**, Economic Development Office; **Dan Decker** and **Stu Levit**, Legal Department; **Pete White**, Tribal Credit; and **Sam Wall**, S&K Business Services; met with council regarding property management. **Janet Camel** gave an update. The team developed an inventory for the residential structures and developed a draft hybrid option. Salish Kootenai Housing Authority may be able to help with compliance where they have units. The discussion continued in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department; **Stu Levit** and **Michael Wheeler**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss the Tribal Lands Ordinance.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Anita Matt to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 3:35 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, April 29, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Council Secretary