

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

Volume 23 Number 41
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: April 11, 2023
Approved: April 25, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom McDonald, Chairman; Len TwoTeeth, Vice-Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; Ellie Bundy, Treasurer; Mike Dolson; Jennifer Finley; Carole Lankford; Jim Malatare; and Terry Pitts.

MEMBERS ABSENT: James “Bing” Matt (Attending a Service with Family – Browning, Montana).

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 9:05 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Carole Lankford.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for April 4, 2023 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2023, with corrections. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Jennifer Finley out of the room).

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for April 7, 2023 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Ellie Bundy to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2023, with corrections. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Robert Earling informed council he was told someone was building on his mother’s property located in Sanders County between mile markers 26 and 27

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on Highway 200. Someone built a house on the property and the individual told Robert that he owns the land. Robert's mother passed away in 2012. The administrative law judge ruled that her will that was done in Spokane was null and void due to being unsigned, and the judge awarded the land to him. The man who purchased a piece of property asked him to sell his mother's land and Robert refused to sell. Robert does not know how someone got permission to sell the property. It is unknown if the land is in trust or fee status. Robert's mother, Rose McDougall, inherited the property from her mother. **Carole Lankford** did not know why this issue was before the council. More information is needed, and she suggested the Tribal Lands staff determine the details. **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department, informed council he was not aware of this matter until last night. More research is needed. **Terry Pitts** is leasing the adjacent parcel. The individual claiming ownership of the land installed a fence and locked the gate, and he has been hauling materials up there. Terry told Robert he needed to come to council to get some support sorting this out. The individual is from Florida and plans to flip the property; he is trying to get Mission Valley Power to install power to the land and threatened to take it to the governor. **Council** directed the Tribal Lands staff to follow up and obtain additional information.

Martin Charlo reminded everyone there is no council meeting on Thursday so the council members can go on the Medicine Tree trip. It is important for us to go back to our homelands and exercise our connection with the land.

Chairman McDonald reminded council that the agriculture summit is Thursday and Friday at Kwataqnuq Resort. Tom talked about the open pit mine that covers seven square miles close to the Medicine Tree.

John Neiss, Facilities Maintenance; **Chad Cottet**, S&K Technologies; **Lisa Shourds**, Administrative Services; and **Bud Moran**, S&K Technologies Board Member; requested approval of a contract with SKMM for the replacement of 150 HVAC units. Council action is required to enter into the task order agreement due to the price exceeding \$250,000. **Mike Dolson** would like to receive regular updates during the chairman's meetings.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the task order agreement with SKMM for the replacement of 150 HVAC units. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (9 present).

Council **recessed** the regular meeting at 9:42 a.m. to conduct an S&K Technologies shareholder meeting.

Council **reconvened** into the regular meeting at 10:41 a.m.

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

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Jordan Thompson, Tribal Executive Office; and **Melissa Schlichting**, Legal Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legislative issues. **Gwen Lankford**, Consultant, was present for discussion.

Council met in **executive session** to discuss departmental issues. **Jordan Thompson**, Tribal Executive Office, was present for discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

Dan Decker, **Michael Wheeler**, **Brian Upton**, **Chelsea Colwyn**, **Lynsey Gaudioso**, **Grace Judge**, **John Harrison**, **Melissa Schlichting**, and **Zach Zipfel**, Legal Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session** to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

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

MaryRose Morigeau, Natural Resources Department, requested a change of duty for tribal employees to participate in the Earth Day Highway 93 cleanup on April 20, 2023.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve a change of duty, with supervisor approval, for tribal employees to participate in the Highway 93 cleanup on April 20, 2023. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (8 present – Martin Charlo out of the room).

Ellie Bundy left the meeting for the remainder of the day to go to an appointment.

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented the Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Emergency Response Plan and requested approval to submit the plan for public comment. The moose populations have been low and the staff has only had six observations in the past two years. There might be a special hunt for CWD. The staff is looking at long-term monitoring if CWD is detected since it cannot be eradicated.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to submit for public comment the Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Emergency Response Plan. Seconded by Terry Pitts. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented for approval the final draft 2023-2024 Pheasant and Waterfowl Regulations. A public comment was held and only one comment was received regarding youth hunting.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the final draft 2023-2024 Pheasant and Waterfowl Regulations. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented the final Draft 2023-2024 Ferry Basin Elk Regulations and requested approval to submit the regulations for public comment.

MOTION by Jim Malatare to approve the Draft 2023-2024 Ferry Basin Elk Regulations for public comment. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented the final Draft 2023-2024 Big Horn Sheep regulations and requested approval to submit the regulations for public comment.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Draft 2023-2024 Big Horn Sheep regulations for public comment. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented the Draft 2023-2024 Moose Harvest Regulations and requested approval to submit the regulations for public comment.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the Draft 2023-2024 Moose Harvest Regulations for public comment. Seconded by Carole Lankford. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented the Draft 2023-2024 Grey Wolf Hunting and Trapping Regulations and requested approval to submit the regulations for public comment.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Draft 2023-2024 Grey Wolf Hunting and Trapping Regulations for public comment. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, informed council that the Yellowstone Bison Hunt Regulations are not ready for public comment yet and will be brought back at a later date.

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented a request for a scientific collection permit from the Inter-Mountain Bird Observatory to conduct surveys in the Jocko area between May and July.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve a scientific collection permit from the Inter-Mountain Bird Observatory to conduct surveys in the Jocko area between May and July. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented a request for a scientific collection permit from the Boise State University to collect information on migratory birds for a regional project on bird migration. It would be two surveys this year in April and August. They are aware that a tribal recreation permit would be required on tribal lands.

MOTION by Terry Pitts to approve a scientific collection permit for Boise State University to collect information on migratory birds for a regional project on bird migration. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Len TwoTeeth commented that the elders have concerns in the Elmo Bay area and he would like the staff to contact the Kootenai Culture Committee. **Kari Kingery** will follow up.

Kari Kingery, Natural Resources Department, presented a request for a scientific collection permit for a small mammal survey to collect data along the river by Buffalo Bridge on tribal land.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve a scientific collection permit for a small mammal survey to collect data along the river by Buffalo Bridge on tribal land. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (8 present).

Chairman McDonald requested the Natural Resources staff provide bear spray demonstration, hand out bear spray, a demonstration on bear-proofing trash cans, overview of the apple cider program, and any other public awareness at the July quarterly council meeting. **Kari Kingery** will follow up.

Martin Charlo mentioned he has seen a lot of unusually dead birds on the Salish Kootenai College trails by the pond area. **Kari Kingery** will follow up.

Filip Panusz, Arlee Rehabilitation Center, discussed the mission of the organization to protect animals. They held two summer camps in 2022 and they helped 150 animals during the past year. ARC is a foster-based organization and hope to have a healing center in the future to increase ability to help people in crisis with animals. ARC offers spay and neuter clinics, but their resources are

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limited. There will be a spay and neuter clinic on April 29-30, 2023 at Salish Kootenai College and they hope to serve 200 animals. ARC has received \$168,000 through their nonprofit. There will be a second spay and neuter clinic offered September 9-10, 2023. There will be a summer camp in Arlee June 12-18. ARC will be fundraising and hoping to reach their goal of \$12,000. **Council** suggested Filip fill out a donation request application. **Carole Lankford** would like the chairman to send a letter to the tribal corporations, Eagle Bank, Salish Kootenai College, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority, and Mission Valley Power to put together a sizeable contribution of \$1,000 each. **Chairman McDonald** mentioned there will be a community garden in Arlee. Tom thought there could be multiple uses at the pow wow grounds and he would like the Tribal Lands staff to look into that.

Len TwoTeeth presented a request for a change of duty for tribal employees to participate in the highway cleanup in Elmo tomorrow.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve a change of duty, with supervisor approval, for tribal employees to participate in the highway cleanup for the Elmo area on April 12, 2023. Seconded by Terry Pitts. Carried, unanimous (7 present – Martin Charlo out of the room).

Mark Couture and **Zanen Pitts**, Tribal Lands Department, met with council in **executive session** to discuss land issues.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Council **adjourned** at 4:33 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary