

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

Volume 24 Number 25
Council Chambers, Pablo, MT

Held: January 25, 2024
Approved: January 30, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Dolson, Chairman; Tom McDonald, Vice-Chairman; Martin Charlo, Secretary; James Steele, Jr., Treasurer; Jennifer Finley; Carole Lankford; Jim Malatare; Danielle Matt; James “Bing” Matt; and Len TwoTeeth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Trahan, Tribal Council Support; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:00 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Tom McDonald.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for January 23, 2024 were presented for approval.

MOTION by James Steele, Jr. to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2024, with corrections. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for; 1 abstention (Jennifer Finley).

Jennifer Trahan, Tribal Executive Office, requested Resolution No. 24-032 be rescinded.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to rescind Resolution No. 24-032. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Tom McDonald to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Jim Malatare. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Carole Lankford met with the Push and Pull Play Ground Group that has funds to do a playground. They were working with Tom for a few years. The location identified is next to the skatepark in Ronan. Wade Shipley also wants to do therapy for children aged 0-5. She wants council to consider setting aside a parcel of property half the size of a football field for a playground for children

Tribal Council Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2024

located next to the skatepark. Carole spoke to the group about Arlee. They have money to bring to the table and will also do some fundraising. **Tom McDonald** was told by Joe Durglo there is funding to contribute to the project. The skatepark was going to be next to the physical therapy facility. Tom was in favor of setting aside a couple of acres for the playground. Once there is a commitment by the council Carole will work with the Tribal Lands Department. **Jennifer Finley** was asked about the possibility of having a playground by the community center in Arlee. Carole was told there may be enough of that funding for Arlee, and Tribal Health also has funding. It would be nice to get a playground in each community. It was the **consensus** of council to proceed with the next steps.

Chairman Dolson informed council that the SKC Press can get the materials from the St. Ignatius Mission from 1844-1907 translated into English. There is a Latin translator that offered to translate the materials. It could be a valuable asset to tribal families. **Council** had no objection.

Council met in **executive session**. **Rick Eneas** and **Jordan Thompson**, Tribal Executive Office, joined the discussion.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Greg Spahr, Financial Management, discussed a letter of commitment to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Thriving Communities Program. It's a consensus building with MVP, DHRD, Roads, and CSKT affirming their request for technical assistance for a period of 12-36 months for the establishment of electrical vehicle charging grid on the reservation. It is a non-financial commitment. It was the **consensus** of council to approve the letter.

Tony Incashola, Jr., Tribal Resources Management; and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; requested approval of a letter of declaration to the USDA-FSA Service Center Office regarding correct measures to declare an emergency for producers on the reservation due to the winter weather conditions. The deadline is January 30, 2024, and they are requesting an extension of time. It would also provide the opportunity for feed assistance to producers in need.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve a letter of declaration to the USDA-FSA Service Center Office regarding correct measures to declare an emergency for producers on the reservation due to the winter weather conditions. Seconded by Tom McDonald. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, informed council that there is a Land Committee meeting next week and he can provide a copy of the maps for further discussion on the skateparks and playgrounds.

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

Carole Lankford left the meeting to go to the Drug Court.

Ruth Swaney, Financial Management, presented a request from the Legal Department to purchase capital equipment consisting of a vehicle to do field work associated with the water compact for an estimated cost of \$40,000. The request was not included in the fiscal year 2024 budget development so it requires council approval.

MOTION by Tom McDonald to authorize the purchase of capital equipment consisting of a vehicle for the Legal Department to do field work associated with the water compact for an estimated cost of \$40,000. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present- Carole Lankford out of the room).

Abby Dupuis, Appellate Court, requested approval of a judicial services contract with Danny Tenenbaum to serve as Attorney Associate Justice for a three-year term.

MOTION by Jim Malatare to approve by resolution a judicial services contract with Danny Tenenbaum to serve as Attorney Associate Justice for a three-year term. Seconded by Dannielle Matt. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 1 not voting (Carole Lankford out of the room).

RESOLUTION 24-042

A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A JUDICIAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH DANIEL TENENBAUM

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

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation wish to enter into a contract with Daniel Tenenbaum to provide judicial services needed for the administration of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Court of Appeals' authorized activities contained in Ordinance 103-A, as amended, the CSKT Laws Codified; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED that beginning January 12, 2024, Daniel Tenenbaum shall act as Associate Attorney Justice of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Court of Appeals providing services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract attached hereto.

Len TwoTeeth asked the status of the Sergeant of Arms position. **Chairman Dolson** told him the vacancy is currently being advertised.

Seth Makepeace and **Mark Simpson**, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of noncompetitive negotiations with DOWL to complete the final design for the Crow Creek Pumping Plant and approval of the contract in the amount of \$898,170.10.

MOTION by Tom McDonald to approve noncompetitive negotiations with DOWL to complete the final design for the Crow Creek Pumping Plant. Seconded by James Steele, Jr. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

MOTION by Tom McDonald to approve the contract with DOWL in the amount of \$898,170.10. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Seth Makepeace, Natural Resources Department, informed council that the program plans to competitively solicit bids for the Post Creek project at the feeder canal. Council had requested a more comprehensive review of projects, so the NEPA Coordinator will provide a PowerPoint presentation on the pending projects in the near future.

Miranda Burland, Tribal Education Department, requested approval of the 2024-2025 Higher Education Scholarship Policy Handbook. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2024 and the deadline to submit all additional paperwork is August 9, 2024. Miranda will work with the Personnel Department to get an updated Tribal employment link because the current link does not work.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the 2024-2025 Higher Education Scholarship Policy Handbook. Seconded by Tom McDonald. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Miranda Burland, **Karissa Trahan**, **Sarah BigSam**, and **Alfred DeRoche**, Tribal Education Department, introduced the Tribal Education Advocates. Karissa partners with the Hot Springs, Dayton and Polson schools; Sarah partners with the Ronan, Dixon and Charlo schools and Early Childhood Services; Alfred partners with the Arlee, St. Ignatius and Nkwusm schools; and all the staff partners with Two Eagle River School.

Miranda Burland, Tribal Education Department, requested approval of the updated CSKT Johnson O'Malley Policy Handbook. The JOM Conference will take place October 9-11 in Oklahoma, and Miranda will provide more information as it becomes available.

MOTION by Danielle Matt to approve the CSKT Johnson O'Malley Policy Handbook. Seconded by Tom McDonald. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Carole Lankford out of the room).

Miranda Burland, Tribal Education Department, informed council there will be an Indian Education Committee JOM training on February 2, 2024 at the Marvin Camel building in Ronan. Parents serving on the IEC are required to have a background check completed.

Patricia Courchane and **Leroy Black, Jr.**, Department of Human Resources Development, requested approval of the DHRD Security Policy Manual for implementation. **Len TwoTeeth** discussed the need to have cameras and surveillance in tribal buildings and he was not sure what the holdup was. The Tribes have purchased many cameras that were never installed and now they are outdated. Leroy responded that he could only report on the DHRD cameras since he no longer has access to any of the cameras for other departments. He only does security for the DHRD buildings. Len stated that the council's intent was to have a separate security office to make sure all the tribal facilities are covered. Patricia informed council the program is required to submit an annual report to the feds and include a DHRD disaster plan in that report. She had to create a five-year DHRD disaster plan for all five divisions when she became the department head. The disaster plan includes an evacuation plan with a floor plan. Dale is part of that process. DHRD did not have a security manual. Patricia created seven positions in the updated organizational chart that was recently approved. The security cameras are outdated so the program ordered new cameras that were never received. **James Steele, Jr.** saw the Disaster Emergency Services vehicle wrecked on Pablo Pass and he would like a report on that provided to the chairman and council. He thought the DES should have been here for this discussion. **Martin Charlo** asked if the plan was reviewed by the Legal Department. He pointed out some inconsistencies throughout the plan, such as calling 9-1-1, tribal dispatch, and tribal security. Martin also asked about funding. Leroy responded that the Legal Department reviewed it twice. Rick Eneas had Leroy also send it to all department heads, but he never received any comments back. The inconsistencies depend on what the disaster emergency is whether an individual needs to call 9-1-1 or tribal dispatch. Leroy has met with Law & Order and had the policy reviewed. Patricia explained that the primary call is to 9-1-1 and 9-1-1 dispatches the correct response agency. Leroy stated the CPR equipment is supposed to be updated every three years and it has not been updated. **Martin Charlo** suggested offering CPR training and how to use the defibrillators. He also recommended having a threat assessment done for public facing facilities. Martin would like to hear from the Chief of Police instead of using his silence as the consent, and he would like to hear from the Tribal Legal Department. Leroy mentioned that a threat assessment was completed. Patricia explained it is the responsibility of law enforcement to respond to any threats in the tribal buildings; this policy is for the DHRD facilities only. DHRD was willing to assist with the development of a CSKT-wide security manual. DHRD is required to have a security manual. **Tom McDonald** thought this manual could be used as a template for the entire organization. Tom recommended following

up with the Tribal Executive Officer and Executive Team. Patricia will make the stated corrections to the phone numbers and add the tribal number on page 67. **Martin Charlo** pointed out that page 69 of the evacuation plan has Eric's office as the area of refuge and not everyone knows who Eric is and where his office is located. Patricia has all the offices numbered so she can change it to the office number. The evacuation maps and staging areas are posted in the DHRD offices. **Tom McDonald** recommended requiring all tribal employees to go through first-aid, CPR, and active shooter training and include that requirement in their position descriptions.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Department of Human Resources Development Security Policy Manual for implementation, with the stated corrections. Seconded by Tom McDonald. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Council discussed the upcoming visit from the Lt. Governor that was cancelled. **Len TwoTeeth** would rather meet with the Governor since it is such an important issue. **Martin Charlo** suggested being open to going to Helena for the meeting. The discussion continued in **executive session**. **Melissa Schlichting**, Legal Department, was present for discussion.

Council met in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Martin Charlo announced the Séliš-Qlispé Culture Committee will be having Coyote Story Night at the Longhouse on January 25, February 8, and February 15. Dinner will be provided.

Martin Charlo would like to do a Robert's Rule of Order training. **Chairman Dolson** advised that could be part of council orientation.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 11:59 a.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Martin A. Charlo
Tribal Council Secretary