MINUTES
KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
NIWIN AKEAA CENTER/COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 112
111 BEARTOWN ROAD, BARAGA, MI 49908
WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 26, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.

A. Date: January 26, 2022

B. Call to Order: President Klopstein called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

C. Invocation: Ojibwa Prayer by Liz Julio

D. Roll Call: Present: Kim Klopstein, President

Susan J. LaFernier, Vice President

Toni J. Minton, Secretary

Don Messer, Assistant Secretary

Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer

Doreen G. Blaker

Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. (via Zoom)

Eddy Edwards (left at 12:36 p.m.)

Sue Ellen Elmblad

Elizabeth “Liz” Julio

Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.

Rodney Loonsfoot

E. Declaration of Quorum: President Klopstein declared a quorum present and proceeded with the order of business.

F. Approval of Agenda: January 26, 2022


MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE CHANGE. SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 1 (Eddy Edwards), ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

LAKE SUPERIOR BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS
"Home of the Midnight Two-Step Championship"
G. For Your Information:

1. Copy of Title 30 At-Risk Adult Provision (new) - A Work Session for review will be held on February 4, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

H. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

1. February 6, 2020

MOTION MADE BY DON MESSER TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 6, 2020 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Gary F. Loonsofoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsofoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 3 (Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlblad, Liz Julio), ABSENT – 0, MOTION CARRIED.

I. New Business:

1. Thomas Chosa, Jr., Fire and Emergency Management (FEM) Director – KB-004-2022 KBIC Community Wide Piles Burn Plan. This is a revised plan from ten years ago.


2. Kim Klopstein, President –

a. KBIC 2021 Senior Tax Preparation Reimbursement Program (up to $100.00 reimbursement)

MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTION TO APPROVE THE KBIC 2021 SENIOR TAX PREPARATION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR SENIORS 55 AND OLDER. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsofoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsofoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

b. CARE Committee (2 Applicants) and Election Board (3 Applicants) (1 Seat Each)

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPOINT SARAH SMITH TO THE CARE COMMITTEE. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsofoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsofoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 1 (Don Messer), ABSENT – 0, MOTION CARRIED.
MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO APPOINT MELISSA LAVERNIER TO THE ELECTION BOARD. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 0, MOTION CARRIED.

c. Gaming Commission Stipends Increase beginning October 2021 as approved in their budget

MOTION MADE BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TO APPROVE THE GAMING COMMISSION STIPENDS INCREASE BEGINING OCTOBER 2021 FROM $150.00 TO $200.00 PER MEETING. CO-SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER AND TONI J. MINTON. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 0, MOTION CARRIED.

3. Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer – Donation Request from DySean Allen who has been selected to play in the All-Star game on June 25, 2022 in Marquette. The game is funded solely on donations and sponsorships.

MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO APPROVE A $600.00 FULL PAGE AD FOR THE U.P. FOOTBALL ALL-STAR GAME FOR DYSEAN ALLEN. CO-SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT AND RANDALL R. HAATAJA. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmlad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 1 (Doreen G. Blaker), ABSENT – 0, MOTION CARRIED.

A donation request was also received from the Crystal Falls Theatre to fund a Native American band – Gary will check to see if the Outpost can help with this donation.

4. Gary Loonsfoot, Jr., Cannabis Developer - Weekly Update

Randall R. Haataja out of the room 10:08 a.m.-10:12 a.m.

5. Carole LaPointe, OVW Team Lead –

a. Resolution KB-003-2022 I.H.S. Domestic Violence Prevention Program (DVPP) application with award amounts from $100,000.00 to $200,000.00 for a period of up to five years beginning March 21, 2022 to promote prevention efforts that address domestic and sexual violence, including sexual exploitation/human trafficking, Missing and Murdered AI/AN people, and child maltreatment

MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO APPROVE KB-003-2022 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (DVPP). CO-SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER AND LIZ JULIO. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen
G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

b. Resolution KB-005-2022 Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) fiscal year 2022 Tribal Victim Set-Aside (TVSSA) Formula Program Population Certification of 3586 members

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPROVE KB-005-2022 OFFICE OF VICTIMS OF CRIME (OVC) FISCAL YEAR 2022 TRIBAL VICTIM SET-ASIDE (TVSSA) FORMULA PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

Break: 10:15 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

6. Larry Denomie III, Ojibwa Casinos General Manager

a. (2) Bids for the purchase and installation of a new boiler for the Pines Convenience Center

MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO APPROVE THE BID FROM NORTHERN HEATING & PLUMBING (NHP) WITH THE OPTIONS INCLUDED AS PRESENTED FOR $20,722.00. CO-SUPPORTED BY SUSAN J. LAFERNIER AND SUZIE ELMBLAD. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

b. Weekly Update regarding COVID-19, Financial Update, Other, and Employee Reports

7. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO - Weekly Update regarding COVID-19/Testing report, Employee Reports, and Department Updates

MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:55 A.M. SUPPORTED BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. ALL IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot) OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, ABSENT - 0, MOTION CARRIED.

Break: 10:56 a.m. – 11:07 a.m.

J. Closed Session:

1. Kevin Carlisle, Tribal Attorney - Weekly Update/KB-007-2022
2. Kim Klopstein, President – Comments on Facebook regarding the Accounting Department
3. Susan J. LaFernier, Vice-President/Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO – Elected President
Proposed Policy Discussion (3 Options) when a current employee of KBIC is elected as
Tribal Council President

Break: 12:36 p.m. – 12:33 p.m.

Eddy Edwards left at 12:36 p.m.

MOTION MADE BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION AT 12:53
P.M. SUPPORTED BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni
J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie
Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0,
ABSENT – 1 (Eddy Edwards), MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO POST THE CAP POSITION. CO-
SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. AND SUZIE ELMBLAD. THREE IN FAVOR
(Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 7 (Susan J. LaFernier,
Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot,
Jr.), ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Eddy Edwards), MOTION DEFEATED.

MOTION MADE BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TO APPROVE OPTION #2 AS
PRESENTED BY THE CEO WHICH IS: “IT IS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE KBIC
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF KBIC THAT IS ELECTED
PRESIDENT THAT THEIR JOB WILL BE HELD IN THE INTERIM FOR ONE YEAR AND
THEY WILL BE GIVEN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE, AS HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST. IF
THEIR TENURE AS PRESIDENT LASTS LONGER THAN ONE YEAR, THE POSITION
WILL BE POSTED NO LATER THAN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE REORGANIZATION
MEETING. SUPPORTED BY TONI J. MINTON. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier,
Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot,
Jr.), OPPOSED – 3 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot),
ABSTAINING - 0, ABSENT – 1 (Eddy Edwards), MOTION CARRIED.

A request from the Office of Tribal Attorney to submit a request for funds from the Attorney Fees and
Litigation Support Program to the Midwest Regional Office to appeal district court rulings in the
pending case KBIC vs. Khouri, et al.

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE KB-007-2022 AS PRESENTED.
SUPPORTED BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J.
Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie
Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0,
ABSENT – 1 (Eddy Edwards), MOTION CARRIED.

K. Adjournment:

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO ADJOURN AT 12:56 P.M. SUPPORTED BY
TONI J. MINTON. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall
R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Suzie Elmblad, Liz Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, ABSENT – 1 (Eddy Edwards), MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roe
CEO/President’s Administrative Specialist