

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
KEWADIN CASINO AND CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
MINUTES
October 18, 2022**

The meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Vice- Chairman Lowes.

Present: Michael McKerchie, Austin Lowes, Betty Freiheit, Isaac McKechnie, Rob McRorie, Lana Causley, Kimberly Lee, Bridgett Sorenson, Shawn Borowicz, Darcy Morrow, Kimberly Hampton, Tyler LaPlaunt, and DJ Hoffman.

Absent:

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to suspend the rules and add a resolution to rescind Res. 2022-90.

Roll Call Vote: Motion denied with Directors Lee, Freiheit Hampton, LaPlaunt, McKechnie, Borowicz, McRorie approving; Directors McKerchie, Morrow, Sorenson opposing; Director Causley abstaining. This needed a vote of nine.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Morrow, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Res. 2022-274, Indian Health Services Project Summary Sanitation Facilities Memorandum of Agreement Project BE 22-M79.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Vice-Chairman of the Tribe to execute the Memorandum of Agreement entitled “Construction of Sanitation Facilities to Serve Other Category Homes”, and such other documents as may be necessary to further this purpose.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve Res. 2022-275, Indian Health Services Planning Agreement Project BE 22-M84.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Vice-Chairman of the Tribe to execute the Planning Agreement entitled “Planning Activities for Kincheloe Sewer Laterals Rehabilitation to Serve Existing Category Homes on the Sault Ste. Marie Reservation Chippewa, County, MI”, and such other documents as may be necessary to further this purpose.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Res. 2022-276, U.S. Department of the Treasury Homeowner Assistance Program Policy & Terms.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, due to the frequently updated Treasury guidance on implementation requirements of the Homeowner Assistance Fund Program, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby delegates to the STHA the authority to revise the Homeowner Assistance Fund Program Policy as necessary to carry out the program and maintain compliance with federal requirements. Revisions shall be reviewed and approved by the Grants Sub Committee Chairperson of the Executive Task Force prior to implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors approves the Homeowners Assistance Fund Program Policy and Term Sheets, as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Housing Director or designee, to create and submit the HAF Plan in the Treasury State, Local and Tribal Portal (SLT Portal), as described above to secure the remaining 90% of the U.S. Treasury Homeowner Assistance funding; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors and Sault Tribe Housing Commission do agree to follow the approved U.S. Department of Treasury regulations, terms and conditions of the Homeowner Assistance Fund program.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve Res. 2022-277, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY 2022 Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Sault Tribe Housing Authority Director or its duly authorized representative, to submit an application requesting \$1,397,500.00 for the FY 2022 Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages (ICDBG), administered by the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to provide installation of energy efficient roofs on the Sault Ste. Marie Housing Site.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Res. 2022-278, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY 2022 Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby confirms that the requirements of 24 CFR 1003.604(a) have been met by the Housing Authority. That all comments have been considered and any modifications to the proposed application have been made.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Morrow, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Res. 2022-279, Approving Contract Michele Castagne.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves the contract between the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Michelle Castagne, starting immediately and ending December 31, 2023, for the purpose of providing Federal Policy Analyst services to the Tribe.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Morrow, to approve Res. 2022-280, Mackinac County Road Commission Cooperative Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Vice Chairman or his designee, to sign the Cooperative Agreement between Mackinac County Road Commission, a duly organized County Government, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and authorizes expenditures up to \$60,000, from the Transportation Maintenance Fund, cost center 2931.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Morrow, to approve Res. 2022-281, Authorize Contract with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. of Minnesota for Coordinated Health and Human Services Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors approves the selection of SRF Consulting Group; and authorizes the Transportation Program to administer and facilitate this planning project.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorize the Tribal Vice-Chairman or his designee, to negotiate, execute and amend any documents resulting therefrom on a contract between the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and SRF Consulting Group of Minnesota, Inc., for Professional Consulting Services to create a Coordinated Tribal Health and Human Services Transportation Plan, and authorizes expenditures up to \$170,000 from the Tribal Transit Program Fund, cost center 12461.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Res. 2022-282, Tribal Transportation Program – Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Establishment of FY 2023 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2023 budget for Tribal Transportation Program – CRRSA with Federal Revenue - BIA monies of \$407,491.77. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Morrow, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve Res. 2022-283, Michigan Technological University U.S. Department of Transportation University Transportation Center.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby supports Michigan Technological University proposed Center for Inclement Weather Adaptive Transportation University Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Vice Chairman or his designee, are authorized to submit, negotiate, execute, and amend any documents resulting therefrom on the Tribes behalf.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Res. 2022-284, Approve Application for USDA Rus Rural Econnectivity Program Grant and Consent to Provide Service on Tribal Lands.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby supports and recommends the submission of a grant to the Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Program within U.S. Department of Agriculture, for the Rural eConnectivity (“ReConnect”) Program, FOA4.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors also consents to provide services on Tribal lands as outlined in the application.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves its Vice-Chairman, or his designee, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions and intent of this Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Res. 2022-285, Approve Application for USDA Rus Rural Econnectivity Program Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby supports and recommends the submission of a grant to the Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Program within U.S. Department of Agriculture, for the Rural eConnectivity (“ReConnect”) Program, FOA4.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby approves the USDA-RUS ReConnect “100 Percent Grant for Alaska Native Corporations, Tribal Governments, Colonias, Persistent Poverty Areas and Socially Vulnerable Communities” class for up to the max amount of 25 million.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves its Vice-Chairman, or his designee, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions and intent of this Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Res. 2022-296, Network Neutrality Standards for Rural Utilities Services (RUS) Reconnect Broadband Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby authorizes and agrees to network management protocols and standards that are consistent with the network neutrality policy framework adopted by the FCC for purposes of the ReConnect program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the same network neutrality policy framework and the RUS ReConnect Broadband Program’s requirements for network management, the Board of Directors agrees to refrain from the following network management practices solely for purposes of the RUS ReConnect Broadband Program if awarded under the same:

- Block lawful content, applications, services, or non-harmful devices, subject to reasonable network management;
- Impair or degrade lawful internet traffic on the basis of internet content, application, or service, or use of a non-harmful device, subject to reasonable network management;
- Engage in paid prioritization – meaning the management of a broadband provider's network to directly or indirectly favor some traffic over other traffic – including through use of techniques such as traffic shaping, prioritization, resource reservation, or other forms of preferential traffic management, either
 - (a) in exchange for consideration (monetary or otherwise) from a third party, or
 - (b) to benefit an affiliated entity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors commits to faithfully comply with the requirements set forth in the RUS ReConnect program’s eligibility requirements pertaining to network management and non-discriminatory practices.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves its Vice-Chairman, or his designee, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions and intent of this Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Res. 2022-287, Terminating Board of Directors Retirement Income Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby authorizes the termination of the Retirement Income Plan for Directors and directs all necessary action be taken to formally terminate the Retirement Income Plan pursuant to the terms of the Retirement Income Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any participant or beneficiary already receiving benefits or eligible to receive benefits from the Retirement Income Plan shall not have their benefits decreased or eliminated due to the termination of the

Retirement Income Plan, and any current Board member will not be entitled to further accrual or vesting of retirement plan benefits after the end of the current calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of this Resolution hereby control, supersede, and rescind any past Resolution or policy that is contrary to the action of the Board of Directors set forth in this resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Tribal Vice-Chairman, or designee, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried with Directors McRorie, Hampton, LaPlaunt, McKerchie, McKechnie, Borowicz, Freiheit, Sorenson, Lee approving; Director Morrow opposing; Director Causley abstaining.


Moved by Director Causley, supported by Director Morrow, to reappoint both Karen Frazier and Carl Frazier, Regular Members, to a 4 year term, expiring October 2026, to the Naubinway Elders Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director Morrow, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve both referendums on Res. 2022-228 and Res. 2022-229, as valid referendums and send/refer to the Election Committee to send out to the membership.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned: 6:47 p.m.

Date: 12/20/22 Secretary: 

Others present: Christine McPherson, Jessica Dumback, Bob Schulte, Eric Clark, Bob Marchand, Jeremy Patterson, Jen Clerc, Katelynn Griffin, Joanne Carr.