



# Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

## RESERVATION TRIBAL COUNCIL

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### **MINUTES OF A REGULAR R.T.C. MEETING HELD ON November 3, 2021 AT THE GRAND PORTAGE LOG COMMUNITY BUILDING (and via ZOOM).**

Chair calls meeting to order at: 4:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Robert Deschampe, April McCormick, Bill Myers, John Morrin and Marie Spry.  
Quorum Present

Motion by Bill Myers, seconded by John Morrin to approve the agenda.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Bill Myers to approve the minutes as read.

Carried 4-0

Motion by John Morrin, seconded by April McCormick to approve Resolution #28-21 appointing Vallen Cook to the Intertribal Buffalo Council Membership.

Carried 4-0

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Reflecting on the recent effects of the pandemic, for the past 20 months, we've been operating with the border closed, and hopefully that will change next week when it opens. This economic depression that's been created by the pandemic/border closure has led to an extreme loss and an economic hardship that our band has faced. It also impacts our ability to provide services and reinvest in our infrastructure. Our calculations on the impact of this border closure have created a scenario of that extreme loss/hardship that far exceeds our ARPA funding. We will continue to advocate and secure resources to reinvest in our community and our infrastructure.

The two ARPA programs that we've created, Enterprise Assistance Program and the Individual Assistance Program, are deployed and being used. Most band members have applied for the Individual Assistance program and have received their check. If you haven't applied yet, our deadline is December 31, 2021.

#### **Secretary of Tribal Executive Committee Report**

On the 28th of October, the TEC held subcommittee meetings. In the Natural Resources Subcommittee, we focused on the tribes joining together when we handle natural resources, topics with the EPA, MPCA, and also the Forest Service. Tribes have a really strong commitment to all of us joining together in tribal leader letters to support the protection of our natural resources. At the regular TEC meeting on October 29, most of the discussion was general business. One of the things that was discussed at the meeting is the Referendum; there's no date set yet. This next process will be developing the specific question that will be on the Referendum ballot, the question is in regards to each of the six Bands being able to pass an ordinance for enrollment. Also, the TEC approved the election calendar, and that's going to be forthcoming on the Minnesota Chippewa tribal website. Tribal leaders in the Legislative Subcommittee and at the TEC meeting described that there needs to be more discussion on the election ordinance language, it will be reviewed at the December Meeting for approval. All in all, the TEC is looking forward to working with our tribal members to ensure that we can have action on the enrollment through the Referendum. There will be a lot of education coming out of future discussions, we'd love to hear your perspective on it.



*GICHI ONIGAMIING – GREAT CARRYING PLACE*



Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by John Morrin to approve the Treasurers Report.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Bill Myers to approve the monthly Head Start Report for October 2021.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Bill Myers, seconded by April McCormick to acknowledge the review on September 17, 2021 and approval of the National Park Service Annual Funding Agreement Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$1,170,216.77.

Carried 4-0

Motion by April McCormick, seconded by John Morrin the acknowledge the review on September 17, 2021 and approval of submission of the Grants Single Audit by WIPFLI.

Carried 4-0

Chairman announced that the Holiday Christmas Hams and Turkeys were approved and the envelopes with forms will be coming out in December. The Halloween Carnival was very successful in raising funds for Christmas gifts to the Community, thank you to our volunteers. In the future it would be great to see more volunteers in the community. November is Native American Heritage Month, there will be a mini pow-wow on November 24, 2021 at the Lodge and Casino. We have a rise in COVID cases on the reservation, some are breakthrough cases, we need everyone to continue to use hand sanitizer, etc. The Council met to approve the amount of the Christmas Check of \$600.00 this morning, the checks from the 1854 Treaty payment will be coming out November 19, 2021. The Commissioner of Minnesota Department of Transportation came up to Grand Portage, the '1854 Treaty Boundary' sign was the first to go up in the 1854 ceded territory. Leaders from Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and MNDOT were present.

Motion by April McCormick, seconded by Marie Spry to authorize the distribution of the annual 1854 Treaty Agreement payment, 'Christmas Check' in the amount of the \$600.00.

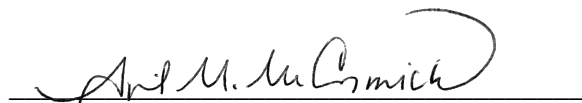
Carried 4-0

Motion by Bill Myers, seconded by April McCormick to pay bills as prioritized by the payment prioritization process, that have been prepared by our team.

Carried 4-0

Motion by John Morrin, seconded by Marie Spry to adjourn at 4:31 P.M.

Carried 4-0

  
April M. McCormick, Secretary/Treasurer



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