



Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

RESERVATION TRIBAL COUNCIL

83 Stevens Road, PO Box 428
Grand Portage, Minnesota 55605
Tel. (218) 475-2277 • Fax (218) 475-2284

MINUTES OF A REGULAR R.T.C. MEETING HELD ON January 29, 2025 AT THE GRAND PORTAGE LOG COMMUNITY BUILDING.

Chair calls meeting to order at: 5:03 P.M.

Roll Call: Robert Deschampe, Agatha Armstrong, April McCormick, Marie Spry and Toby Stephens.
Quorum Present

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the agenda.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Agatha Armstrong, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve minutes.

Carried 4-0

TREASURERS REPORT

All bills are paid in full. In January, we had \$110,074.88 for self-insurance, as we are looking at Tribal State Aid, we estimate there are five months remaining of this funding resource between self-insurance and Stop Loss Insurance expenditures.

One of the items I know the Chairman will report out on, is on some of the information that's been released in the news media about federal funding, I want to take an opportunity as your Treasurer, to reassure everyone, to stay calm as best you can, to take it one step at a time as there are a lot of things flying around in the media. We have savings in our accounts, and we have our Administrator team and staff monitoring all of the communication that's coming out about federal impacts to program services funding. We want to communicate that we are very strongly situated going into this and a commitment to communicate should any changes occur in the future, and that we would communicate that well in advance. We've been through previous administrations going through and cutting programs through sequestration, and we've lived through the pandemic of having zero income. I just want to reassure everyone that we are going to rise to this challenge and, **ultimately, we are going to continue to provide services to the community.**

The Tribal Executive Committee met in Fond du Lac last week. Reported out on three resolutions and four topics in letter to the Governor from the six bands of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe: DNR pulled out of the Tribal State Relations mandated by E.O. 10.65, Board of Soil and Water asserting their regulatory authority on small wetlands/streams (non-public waters) impacting reservation waters, lack of consultation through the Gas Technical Advisory Committee report (of close to 500 comments, Tribes commented 175 times, of those issues raised, only 5 of the collective tribal topics were addressed by GTAC report). We are expecting some action by the Governor's Office or by the Environmental Quality Review Board regarding GTAC. If you have any questions, I'm happy to explain any part of this.

As the TEC Secretary, shared out the future TEC quarterly dates – April 28-29 in White Earth, July 14 we will host in Grand Portage, October 20-21 in Bois Forte.

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Carried 4-0





Trust Lands Administrator, Vallen Cook presented about the application for Department of Energy funding for “Tribal Clean Energy Planning and Development” (FOA Number DE-FOA-0003401), explaining we are going to host a three-day workshop in June to go over this with the community and this grant is just the initial planning funding application. We anticipate the microgrid to cost approximately 65 million. The Tribe will not be expected to pay for anything at this point as we will continue to look for grant funding to support this.

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 01-25 Application to Department of Energy for the Tribal Clean Energy Planning and Development Grant.
Carried 4-0

Chairman acknowledges the HeadStart Report was received and reviewed by Tribal Council in the staff meeting earlier today.

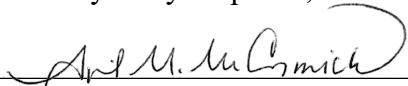
Donovan Dahmen presented concerns for the deer population being low and recommended a committee to address this concern. Trustlands Administrator, Vallen Cook shared additional deer population statistics. Chairman thanked Donovan and requested Vallen to look into it and have a community meeting.

Motion by April McCormick, seconded by Marie Spry to approve the Gichi-ayayaag Maawanji’idiwag Elders fundraiser request of Bingo, 50/50 Raffle, and bucket draws with a spaghetti dinner, to be held on February 13, 2025, to benefit the Elders.
Carried 4-0

Council Reports: Toby Stephens, Agatha Armstrong, and Marie Spry.
CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to pay all bills.
Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by April McCormick to adjourn at 5:47 P.M.
Carried 4-0



April M. McCormick, Secretary/Treasurer





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MINUTES OF A REGULAR R.T.C. MEETING HELD ON February 26, 2025 AT THE GRAND PORTAGE LOG COMMUNITY BUILDING.

Chair calls meeting to order at: 5:02 P.M.

Roll Call: Robert Deschampe, Agatha Armstrong, April McCormick, Marie Spry and Toby Stephens.
Quorum Present

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve the agenda.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Marie Spry to approve the minutes.

Carried 4-0

TREASURERS REPORT

All bills are paid in full. Tribal State Aid: In January, we had \$112,851.90 and \$106,586.52 for Stop Loss, we estimate there are four months remaining of this funding resource. During our Legislative meeting with Governor, I requested a point of contact within the state for any changes to federal funding, they also advised a reach out to Senator Smiths office regarding federal funding and assigned a contact in the AG's office for follow up. I've reached out and what we've learned is that even though these individuals of the state and federal offices have access to information, they don't often know what is going to be impacted in real time so they are relying on us to tell them what has been impacted, meanwhile we are inquiring about any potential changes that could happen, more information to come out on it. Reported out on MCT Legislative Dinner as Secretary of MCT, Quarterly meeting with Forest Service and training and as a representative on EPA's National Tribal Caucus, we are concerned about EPA rolling back protections for NEPA - National Environmental Protection Act (changes under current comment period).

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Carried 4-0

Elderly Nutrition Program Director, Bonita Poitra, presented a resolution and information about Title VI funding and the associated Needs Assessment "*Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders.*"

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Marie Spry to approve Resolution 02-25 Authorizing Application for Elder Services Funding Title VI and Participation in the National Resource Center on Native American Aging Needs Assessment.

Carried 4-0

Forestry Director, Tim Miller, presented two resolutions regarding ERFO Emergency Relief Funding BIA (Road Culvert Replacement) and NRCS funding, including the 2025 Forest Development Projects.





Motion by Agatha, seconded by April McCormick to approve Resolution 03-25 FY 2025 Forest Development Projects for forest management practices, including: 17 acres of preparation treatment, 13 acres of planting, 98 acres of timber stand improvement treatment (sapling release).

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 04-25 2025 Tribal Transportation Retained Funding Agreement (RFA) FY 22 ERFO Funding in the amount of \$3,123,250.00.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by April McCormick to approve the Head Start Report for January.

Carried 4-0

Sam Zimmerman presented his art design for a mural in Grand Marias, he requested feedback from the Council and Audience.

Council Reports: Toby Stephens, Agatha Armstrong, and Marie Spry.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

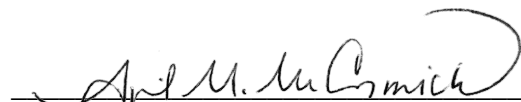
Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to pay all bills.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by April McCormick to adjourn at 5:39 P.M.

Carried 4-0

Carried 4-0



April McCormick, Secretary/Treasurer





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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL R.T.C. MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2025 AT THE GRAND PORTAGE TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICE.

Chair calls meeting to order at: 11:20 A.M.

Roll Call: Robert Deschampe, Agatha Armstrong, April McCormick, Marie Spry and Toby Stephens.
Quorum Present

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 09-25 supporting an application to the Buffalo Council Herd Development Grant and accepting funding from the Intertribal Buffalo Council.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve Resolution 10-25 Supporting an application and accepting 8 surplus Buffalo from the Intertribal Buffalo Council to enhance food sovereignty and increase the herd.

Carried 4-0

Motion by April McCormick seconded by Marie Spry, to approve the fundraiser request from Gichi-ayaayaag Maawanji'idiwag (Grand Portage Elders Advisory Committee) to hold two raffles at the Honor Our Elders Powwow on May 10th (one for a handmade quilt and the other 50/50 raffle) in support of elder activities.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the Resolution 11-25 the Tribal Council specifically requests that the Administration of Cook County Schools consider the input of Grand Portage Reservation students, parents and community to make the Native American Studies course offered at Cook County High School accessible to the Grand Portage students and scheduled at time that ensures maximum enrollment for the class (addressing ISD 166 removing Native Studies Curriculum from Cook County Highschool 2025 Roster without notifying the Local Indian Education Committee, the Tribal Council, or seeking input from students).

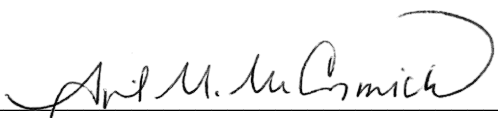
Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 12-25 Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO).

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by April McCormick to adjourn at 11:39 A.M.

Carried 4-0



April McCormick, Secretary/Treasurer





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MINUTES OF A REGULAR R.T.C. MEETING HELD ON MAY 28, 2025 AT THE GRAND PORTAGE LOG COMMUNITY BUILDING.

Chair calls meeting to order at: 5:01 P.M.

Roll Call: Robert Deschampe, Agatha Armstrong, April McCormick, Marie Spry and Toby Stephens.
Quorum Present

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the agenda.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Agatha Armstrong, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the minutes.

Carried 4-0

TREASURERS REPORT

Reported out Tribal State Aid expenditures for May, one stop loss payment, we anticipate that there will be one more month left of payments. Tribal State Aid got funded for the next two years, we are excited to see it renewed. We are still seeing less patrons, we are keeping a close eye on the Enterprises performance. The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) meeting will be hosted by Grand Portage in mid-July. The Subcommittees on Natural Resources, Education, Health and Human Services, Legislative subcommittee meetings and TEC meeting will all be in one day, these meetings are open to tribal members and the public (except for the Housing Finance Subcommittee is closed session).

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Carried 4-0

Margaret Watkins, Water Quality Specialist presented the Resolution: This is certification for federal permit for stormwater discharges, and our certification for the general permit is for one sector, gravel pits, it is the only industrial activity that occurs in Grand Portage. (In the future if applicable, other industry discharge can occur in Grand Portage, those activities would require an individual permit).

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve Resolution 13-25 Grand Portage 401 Certification for the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Conditions of the Multi Sector General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP).

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 14-25 Land Assignment Modification for Christian Deschampe (adding Parcel 13).

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by April McCormick to approve Resolution 15-25 Land Assignment Modification for Nicol Rousseau (adding Parcel 11).

Carried 4-0





Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 16-25 Land Assignment Relinquishment for Karen E. Morton.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve Resolution 17-25 Land Assignment for Rebecca Deschampe.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve Resolution 18-25 Land Assignment Relinquishment for Michelle Marie Amyotte Hoy.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by April McCormick to approve Resolution 19-25 Land Assignment for David R. Hull.

Carried 4-0

Heather Boyd, Grand Portage National Monument Superintendent, presented the 13 projects for the amendment to the Annual Funding Agreement and read them aloud. Denice Swanke, Isle Royale Superintendent, offered that she was available for questions on the Isle Royal projects.

Motion by Marie Spry, seconded by Toby Stephens to approve the Amendment #1 to Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Funding Agreement Between the National Park Service and the Grand Portage Band, for 13 projects in the amount of \$860,986.00.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to approve the Head Start Report for the month of April.

Carried 4-0

Council Reports: Agatha Armstrong, Marie Spry, and Toby Stephens.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

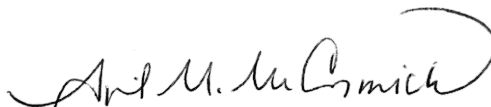
Chairman announced that the 1854 Treaty Payment *Increase* (from the past two years) was not funded this legislative session, so we are going back down to the lower amount. The funding was not increased by the DNR as directed by the Governor and the Legislature, so the treaty payment will be lower than the past two years without that increase payment from the DNR.

Motion by April McCormick, seconded by Toby Stephens to pay all bills.

Carried 4-0

Motion by Toby Stephens, seconded by Agatha Armstrong to adjourn at 5:47 P.M.

Carried 4-0



April McCormick, Secretary/Treasurer

