

# Tribe should strive to provide better services



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

This past Saturday, Director Chase and I attended the Escanaba elders' picnic held at Gladstone Park. It was a beauti-

ful day for a cookout, thank you to everyone who attended.

The Marquette elders' picnic is on Aug. 8 at Beaver Grove starting at noon. The Manistique elders will have a picnic on Aug. 19 at the Manistique Tribal Center starting at noon.

I do not think I would be doing any justice if I didn't let tribal members know that they are not really a concern for certain board members. As it gets closer to election time only certain tribal members or communities matter.

The board makeup is really interesting — you have individuals making financial decisions that couldn't even balance their own checkbook. I am not say-

ing this to be rude — this is our tribe's reality and unless tribal members start being heard and not allowing this to continue, it will. Don't just take their word for everything, do your homework.

I have sat at this board table for three years and I continue to be amazed how they pack up to ensure their communities are always ahead of all other members throughout the seven-county service area. When the western end speaks up for equal services for Units IV and V, we are told we are greedy. If looking out for the members who have many obstacles to get services (for example, long distances to the nearest health

center, no transportation, no gas money, etc.) is considered greedy by other board members, then I guess I am. All we are asking is that all members in the seven-county services area be considered when funding comes available.

The tribe is moving at a snail's pace to make progressive changes where we need to. I have watched no one being held accountable in top management from governmental to Kewadin Casinos — this disturbs me. As board members, we should want the best treatment and services for our members. We should be striving to provide them the easiest way to receive services instead of making it harder for

them. I have been with the tribe for over 20 years and I can't believe we have allowed our members to be treated the way they are treated when it comes to seeking out services. This is our tribe — we should be getting better at taking care of our own instead of worse. If board members don't care how the members are treated then why are they there? I hope this doesn't disturb you too much but it's a reality Unit IV deals with every day.

Thank you, feel free to contact me.

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