

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN  
May 5, 2026

This meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Larry Barbeau, Bridgett Sorenson, Tyler LaPlaunt (Z), Kimberly Hampton, Rob McRorie, Kimberle Gravelle, Isaac McKechnie, Kimberly Lee, Lana Causley-Smith, Aaron Payment, Austin Lowes

Absent: Michael McKerchie, Shawn Borowicz

**Without objection, excuse Directors' McKerchie and Borowicz.**  
**No objection.**

**Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McKechnie, to add Wells Fargo Enterprise Housing Affordability Breakthrough Challenge (Need 9 votes).**  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director Payment, to add Authorizing Amended Constitution Submission for a Secretarial Election (Need 9 votes).**  
**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' Sorenson and Gravelle opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve the agenda as read.**  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve 4/21/26 Minutes.**  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-119, Natural Resources – Inland Fish and Wildlife FY 2026 Budget Modification.**  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification for Inland Fish and Wildlife for an increase in Other Revenue of \$525, changes to the personnel page and reallocation of expenses. No effect on Tribal Support.  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-120, Natural Resources – GLRI Distinct Tribal Program Capacity FY 2026 Budget Modification.**  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification for GLRI Distinct Tribal Program Capacity for changes to the personnel page and reallocation of expenses. No effect on Tribal Support.  
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-121, Health Division – State of Michigan Opioid Settlement Establishment of FY 2026 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 2026 budget for State of Michigan Opioid Settlement with State of Michigan Revenue of \$538,461.00.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-122, Health Division – Human Resources FY 2026 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification for Human Resources for a change to the personnel page.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Causley-Smith, Sorenson, and Gravelle opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-123, Health Division – Manistique Medical/Nursing FY 2026 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification for Manistique Medical/Nursing for a change to the personnel page.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-124, Health Division – Marquette Medical/Nursing FY 2026 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification for Marquette Medical/Nursing for changes to the personnel page and reallocation of expenses.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-125, Health Division – Marquette Equipment Establishment of FY 2026 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2026 budget for Marquette Equipment with Federal IHS Revenue of \$167,601.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-126, BIA CARES Establishment of FY 2026 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2026 budget for BIA CARES with Federal BIA Revenue of \$858,920.23.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Hampton, to approve a Resolution, Amending Chapter 20: Licensing of Commercial Treat Fishing Activity.**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director McRorie, to amend to include any current Helper.**

**Without objection, Director Sorenson withdraws her motion to amend.**

**Motion carries.**

**Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director McKechnie, to Table.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' McKechnie, LaPlaunt, Payment, and Lee supporting; Directors' Barbeau, Gravelle, Causley-Smith, Sorenson, Hampton, and McRorie opposing.**

**Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director Hampton, to Call for the Question (Requires 8 votes).**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' McKechnie, Hampton, Sorenson, Payment, Barbeau, Gravelle supporting; Directors' Lee, McRorie, LaPlaunt, and Causley-Smith opposing.**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Payment, to Table.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Hampton, Causley-Smith, Sorenson, Lee, Payment, and McKechnie supporting; Directors' Gravelle, McRorie, Barbeau, and LaPlaunt opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-127, Amend Resolution 2024-399 – ACFS Direct Services Database Project.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians amends Resolution 2024-399 to cover the increased project costs of \$46,915 funded from Cost Center #13181.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Tribe, or their designee, to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, intent, and administration of this Resolution.

BE IF FINALLY RESOLVED, the Board of Directors authorizes the Governmental CFO and CEO to perform any administrative budget modifications necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-128, Sault Tribe Incorporated Charter Board Appointment Approval – Slomsky.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, pursuant to Article VI, section 6.6 of the Sault Tribe Corporate Charter, hereby appoints the following individual to the Corporate Board of Directors of Sault Tribe Incorporated to serve a three-year term as specified below:

Shiloh Slomsky - for a term expiring June 30, 2029

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-129, Sault Tribe Incorporated Charter Board Appointment Approval – Blanchard.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, pursuant to Article VI, section 6.6 of the Sault Tribe Corporate Charter, hereby appoints the following individual to the Corporate Board of Directors of Sault Tribe Incorporated to serve a three-year term as specified below:

Roderick Blanchard - for a term expiring June 30, 2029

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-130, Amending Chapter 30: Child Welfare Code.**

**Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director Payment, to refer to Child Welfare Committee to come back within 60 days with a recommendation.**

**Motion fails with Directors' Gravelle, Payment, Sorenson, McRorie supporting; Directors' LaPlaunt, McKechnie, Causley-Smith, Lee, Hampton, Barbeau opposing.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes and approves the above and attached proposed amendments to Tribal Code Chapter 30: Child Welfare Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is effective immediately.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' LaPlaunt, Causley-Smith, Barbeau, Lee, and Hampton approving; Directors' Gravelle, McRorie, Payment, and Sorenson opposing; Director McKechnie abstaining.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-131, Wells Fargo Enterprise Housing Affordability Breakthrough Challenge.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Sault Tribe Housing Authority Director, or their 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 carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, handle all Committee Requests together.**

**No objections.**

Walter Caswell, Appointment, Unit 2 Newberry Elder Subcommittee, Regular Member, 4-year term expiring April 2030

Sandy Osterhout, Resignation, Unit 2 Newberry Elder Subcommittee, Regular Member, term expiring November 2026

Harold Osterhout, Resignation, Unit 2 Newberry Elder Subcommittee, Alternate Member, term expiring August 2028

Suzanne M. Caldwell, Appointment, Health Board, Regular Member, 4-year term expiring April 2030

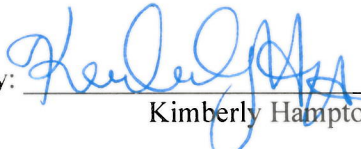
**Motion carries with Director Sorenson abstaining.**

**Without objection, meeting adjourned.**

**No objection.**

Adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Date: 5/19/26

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Samuel Derusha, Ryan Mills, Jessica Dumback, Holly Haapala, Bill Connolly, Michelle Moore, Scott Brand, Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Officer Gardner, Dani Fegan, Annie Thibert, Karen Justin, Marlene Glaesmann (Z), Clarence Hudak (Z), Jami Moran, Nicole Fuson (Z), Jen Clerc, Elaine Clement, Brenda Jefferys (Z), Rod Blanchard (Z), Rachel Heckel (Z), Mariea Mongene