

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MANISTIQUE TRIBAL CENTER
MANISTIQUE, MICHIGAN
APRIL 15, 2025

This meeting was opened at 5:03 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Lana Causley-Smith, Rob McRorie, Michael McKerchie, Larry Barbeau, Shawn Borowicz, Kimberly Lee, Bridgett Sorenson, Aaron Payment, Kimberly Hampton, Kimberle Gravelle, Tyler LaPlaunt, Austin Lowes
Absent: Isaac McKechnie

**Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director Hampton, to excuse Director McKechnie.
Motion carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, add Approving Contract Baker & Hostetler LLP and Butzel Long under Resolutions and Board Calendar under New Business.
No objection.**

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

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director McRorie, to approve the meeting minutes from Regular Meeting April 1, 2025.
Motion carries unanimously.**

Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-73, ACFS – Establishment of FY 2025 Budget for Staffing Operations and FY 2025 Budget Modification to ICWA Subpart IV-B.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2025 budget for Staff Operations with Federal BIA Revenue monies of \$137,079.93 and Tribal Support monies of \$13,800.86.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2025 budget modification to ICWA Subpart IV-B to decrease Federal HHS Revenue monies \$18,224.00 and increase Tribal Support \$19,038.96.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2025-74, Language and Culture – Pow Wows Establishment of FY 2025 Budget.

Moved by Sorenson, supported by Director Hampton, to amend to make it so each Pow Wow gets \$10,000.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to amend carries with Directors' Sorenson, Gravelle, LaPlaunt, Lee, McKerchie, Borowicz, Hampton, Causley-Smith, Payment, Barbeau supporting; Director McRorie opposing.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2025 budget for Pow Wows with Tribal Support monies of \$90,000.00.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-75, Language and Culture – General Pow Wow Establishment of FY 2025 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 2025 budget for General Pow Wow with Other Revenue monies of \$4,500.00 and Tribal Support monies of \$87,100.00.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2025-76, Language and Culture – Culture Camp Establishment of FY 2025 Budget.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Lee, to table.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to table fails with Directors' Lee, Borowicz, McRorie, Sorenson supporting; Directors' Payment, Barbeau, Causley-Smith, Hampton, McKerchie, LaPlaunt, Gravelle opposing.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2025 budget for Culture Camp with Other Revenue monies of \$35,000.00 and Tribal Support monies of \$729,459.27.

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

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-77, NAGPRA Appointment Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby appoints Emma Donmyer as NAGPRA designee and reaffirms the appointment of Cecil Pavlat as alternate for the purpose of addressing NAGPRA issues for a four (4) year term, expiring May 6, 2029.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2025-78, Authorization to Enter into a Contract with Bulletproof IT Security Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Purchasing Department, with the concurrence of the Executive Staff and legal, recommends awarding the contract to Bulletproof IT Security Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves awarding the security assessment and testing contract to Bulletproof in the amount of \$50,310 and an additional \$7500 for consultant travel and incidentals related to completing this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves Executive Management/Administration to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, intent, and administration of this Resolution, including but not limited to the ability and authority to implement any budgetary changes administratively without the need for formal Board of Directors budget modifications.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors authorizes the Chairman of the Tribe, or their designee, to enter into and execute the contract and any supporting documents with Bulletproof to fulfill the intent of this Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously; Director Gravelle not present at this time.

Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director Payment, to approve a Resolution, Enterprise Reporting.

Moved by Director Payment, to Amend to approve this resolution limited to those businesses that the staff did not recommend in the first place and for which we do not have a projected positive revenue ever projected.

Motion to amend dies due to lack of support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' McRorie, Payment, Hampton approving; Directors' Lee, Gravelle, McKerchie, Borowicz, Causley-Smith, LaPlaunt, Barbeau, Sorenson opposing.

Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director Payment, to approve a Resolution, Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course Closure.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Hampton, to Amend to remove the 3rd whereas, the last two resolves and add open as scheduled and bring back a plan within 30 days on how we can make it profitable.

Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director Sorenson, to Call for the Vote on the Amendment.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Call for the Vote on the Amendment carries with Directors' Gravelle, Causley-Smith, Borowicz, McKerchie, Sorenson, Barbeau, Lee, Payment supporting; Directors' McRorie, LaPlaunt, Hampton opposing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Amend fails with Directors' Causley-Smith, Barbeau, Sorenson, Gravelle, McKerchie supporting; Directors' McRorie, Hampton, LaPlaunt, Lee, Borowicz, Payment opposing.

Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director Payment, to amend to add at the end of the 1st resolved, to provide Tanglewood's financials to the Board of Directors within 120 days for the Board of Directors to determine a time-frame to publish Tanglewood's financials to the membership.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to amend carries with Directors' LaPlaunt, Barbeau, Payment, Hampton, McRorie, Lee supporting; Directors' McKerchie, Causley-Smith, Borowicz, Sorenson, Gravelle opposing.

Move by Director Lee to table.

Motion to table dies due to lack of support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' McRorie, Borowicz, Payment, Hampton, LaPlaunt approving; Directors' Causley-Smith, McKerchie, Barbeau, Lee, Sorenson, Gravelle opposing.

Chairman Lowes asked for a motion to approve a Resolution, Land Utilization for Food Sovereignty.

Died due to lack of motion and support.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-79, Acceptance of the 2024 Kewadin Casinos Audit.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby accepts and approves the 2024 Northern Kewadin Casinos Audit as accepted by the Audit Committee, on April 11, 2025.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2025-80, Acceptance of the 2024 Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority Audit.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby accepts and approves the 2024 Kewadin Casinos Audit, which includes the Downstate Developments, as accepted by the Audit Committee, on April 11, 2025.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2025-81, Approving Contract Baker & Hostetler LLP and Butzel Long.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby approves the contract with Baker & Hostetler LLP and Butzel Long to provide legal services as outlined in the attached RIS.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Tenniel McLeod as the chairperson of the Higher Education Committee – remaining officers will be appointed once the committee is full.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Amber Flowers appointment to the Food Sovereignty Committee with a term set to expire February 2027.

Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve the Special Needs Enrollment Committee's recommendation on the disenrollment and making that person an honorary member.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Lee, to table.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Directors' Lee, Borowicz, Barbeau, Causley-Smith, Hampton, McKerchie, Gravelle, Sorenson supporting; Directors' Payment, LaPlaunt opposing; Director McRorie abstaining.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Hampton, to change the Novi Meeting to Lansing.

Without objection, for July 14th and 15th if meeting space is available for those two days.

No objection.

Motion carries unanimously.

Adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Date: 5/6/25

Secretary: Kimberly Hampton


Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Ashlee Mielke, Christine McPherson, Jessica Dumback, Aaron Schlehuber, Robert Schulte, Dan Doyle, Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Ryan Mills, Mary Jenerou, Clarence Hudak, Junita Bye (Z), Catherine Devoy (Z), Emma Donmyer (Z), Allen Kerridge (Z)