

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 5, 2023**

This meeting was opened at 5:22 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Tyler LaPlaunt.

Present: Lana Causley-Smith, Michael McKerchie, Kimberly Lee, Betty Freiheit, Darcy Morrow (Z), Tyler LaPlaunt, Bridgett Sorenson (Z), Isaac McKechnie, Shawn Borowicz, Robert McRorie.  
Absent: Kimberly Hampton, Austin Lowes.

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve the agenda as read.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, will add the following item to the agenda:**

- 1. Authorization to Negotiate and Purchase Liquor License for Bear on the Mountain Golf Course under Resolutions.**

**No objections.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to excuse Austin Lowes and Kimberly Hampton.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve the minutes from 01/03/23 Regular Meeting, 01/17/23 Regular Meeting, 05/31/23 Special Meeting, 06/06/23 Regular Meeting, 06/20/23 Regular Meeting and 11/14/23 Regular Meeting.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, the reading of all resolutions will be waived.**

**No objections.**

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-369, Sault Tribe Construction FY 2023 Governmental Capital Outlays Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the modification to the FY 2023 Governmental Capital Outlay Budget to increase the expenses for Sault Tribe Construction \$10,752.00 from Other Revenue monies.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-370, Eldercare Services FY 2023 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification for Eldercare Services to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses. No effect on Tribal Support.

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

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2023-371, ACFS Division – Transitional Housing FY 2023 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification to Transitional Housing for a decrease in Tribal Support monies of \$52,064.53, Federal HHS Revenue monies of \$11,744.00, and Other Revenue monies of \$12,030.00. This budget modification will change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Lee, Freiheit, Borowicz, McRorie, McKechnie, Causley-Smith, McKerchie, Sorenson approving; Director Morrow opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Lee, to approve Resolution 2023-372, Management Information Systems (MIS) FY 2023 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification to MIS to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-373, Newspaper FY 2023 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification to the Newspaper for an increase in Tribal Support of \$15,000.00. This budget modification reflects the extra pay period in January and an increase in expenses.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Lee, to approve Resolution 2023-374, Northern Travel and Indirect Costs FY 2023 Budget Modifications.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification to Northern Travel for an increase in Tribal Support of \$6,000.00 and Other Revenue \$125,000.00, and to decrease the transfer in from Indirect Costs \$6,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of the Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 budget modification to Indirect Costs to decrease Tribal Support \$6,000.00 and decrease the transfer out to Northern Travel \$6,000.00.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Lee, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-375, Cultural – Library Establishment of FY 2023 and FY 2024 Budgets.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of FY 2023 budget for Cultural Library with Tribal Support monies of \$1,342.60.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of FY 2024 budget for Cultural Library with Tribal Support monies of \$11,949.46.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Lee, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve a Resolution, JKL – Fiduciary Committee FY 2024 Budget Modification.**

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

**Roll Call Vote: Motion to table carries with Directors' Causley-Smith, McKerchie, Lee, Morrow, Sorenson, Borowicz approving; Directors' Freiheit, McKechnie, McRorie opposing.**

**Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve Resolution 2023-376, Insurance – Sponsorship Program Establishment of FY 2024 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 2024 budget for Insurance – Sponsorship Program with Other Revenue monies of \$195,600.00.

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

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2023-377, Education – Adult Learning Center Establishment of FY 2024 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 2024 budget for Education – Adult Learning Center with Other Revenue monies of \$46,853.18. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Lee, to approve Resolution 2023-378, Health Division – Manistique Fitness Center Establishment FY 2024 Budget.**

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director Lee to Table.**

**Motion to Table fails, with Directors' Borowicz, McKechnie, Freiheit, Lee supporting; Directors' Sorenson, McKerchie, McRorie, Morrow, Causley-Smith 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 2024 budget for the Health Division Manistique Fitness Center with Third Party Revenue monies of \$266,260.56.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Morrow, McKerchie, Causley-Smith, Borowicz, Sorenson, McRorie, Lee approving; Directors' McKechnie, Freiheit opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKerchie, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2023-379, Health Division – Gladstone Fitness Center Establishment FY 2024 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 2024 budget for the Health Division Gladstone Fitness Center with Third Party Revenue monies of \$75,455.14.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Causley-Smith, Borowicz, McKerchie, McRorie, Sorenson, Morrow, Lee approving; Directors' Freiheit, McKechnie opposing.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Lee, to approved Resolution 2023-380, Buildings – Escanaba Community Center FY 2024 Budget Modification.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 budget modification to Escanaba Community Center for an increase in Other Revenue monies of \$299,412.36.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' McRorie, Lee, Causley-Smith, Borowicz, Morrow, Sorenson, McKerchie approving; Directors' McKechnie, Freiheit opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-381, Buildings – Marquette Community Center Establishment of FY 2024 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 2024 buildings budget for Marquette Community Center with Other Revenue monies of \$195,594.08.

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

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2023-382, Buildings – Manistique Fitness Center Establishment of FY 2024 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 2024 buildings budget for Manistique Fitness Center with Other Revenue monies of \$244,435.04.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' McKerchie, Lee, Morrow, McRorie, Causley-Smith, Sorenson, Borowicz approving; Directors' Freiheit, McKechnie opposing.**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2023-383, Continuing Funding Authority for Fiscal Year 2024 January to December.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves continuing funding for the attached cost centers for fiscal year 2024, at their 2023 spending levels, for a period not to exceed March 31, 2024.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-384, Appointment of Health Division's Interim Diabetes Program Manager.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the Interim Appointment of Lisa Myers to the role of Interim Manager of Diabetes Program for the Health Division. This appointment will provide a 5% increase in wage effective 11/01/2023. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2023-385, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Center.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves changing the status of the Sault Tribe Health Division's Health Centers from Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alike to Tribal Federally Qualified Health Center.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Health Director to obtain the status of Tribal Federally Qualified Health Center for the Sault Tribe Health Division's Health Centers.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-386, Authorization to Change Signers with Soo Co-op Credit Union.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Soo Co-Op Credit Union.

Austin Lowes	Tyler LaPlaunt	Isaac McKechnie
Kimberly Hampton	Robert Schulte	Christine McPherson

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Accounting Department staff:

Julie Hagan	Lisa Sawruk
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**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-387, MERS Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement and Customized Definition of Compensation Addendum.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby reviews and adopts the Defined Benefit Plan Adoption and Customized Definition of Compensation Addendum, in the forms attached, and authorizes the Chairperson of the Tribe to execute the said Agreement and Addendums mentioned in this resolution, and the Chief of Police of the Tribe to submit the required documents to the plan administrator for recordation.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-388, Authorization to Purchase U.P. Tire Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribe's Executive Director of Enterprise Operations to enter into an agreement to purchase U.P. Tire and surrounding properties in Michigan not to exceed the amount listed in the RIS (Resolution Information Sheet) subject to satisfactory completion of all necessary and appropriate due diligence including building inspection and environmental review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson or his designee is hereby authorized to negotiate and enter into a suitable loan, not to exceed the amount listed in the RIS to finance the purchase of U.P. Tire and surrounding properties and, further, that the loan shall be repaid from the revenues generated by the U.P. Tire enterprise.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Causley-Smith, McKechnie, Lee, Freiheit, Sorenson, McKechnie, Borowicz, McRorie approving; Director Morrow abstaining.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve a Resolution, Revising Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance.**

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

**Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Directors' Sorenson, McRorie, Lee, Morrow, Causley-Smith approving; Directors' Borowicz, McKechnie, McKechnie, Freiheit opposing.**

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve a Resolution, Revising Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance and Establishing the Election Commission and Emergency Election Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Motion fails with Directors' Freiheit, McKechnie, Borowicz, McKerchie approving; Directors' Causley-Smith, McRorie, Sorenson, Morrow, Lee disapproving.

Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve a Resolution, Snow Plowing for Veterans and Surviving Spouses of Veterans Residing in Unit I.

Moved by Director Morrow, supported by Director McRorie, to Amend to add in all units, all elders and spouses, and all handicapped individuals.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Morrow, to Table.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Directors' McKerchie, Lee, Morrow, Causley-Smith, Sorenson, Borowicz approving; Directors' Freiheit, McKechnie, McRorie opposing.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2023-389, Authorization to Negotiate and Purchase Liquor License for Bear on the Mountain Golf Course.

Moved by Director Lee, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to Call for the Vote.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Call for the Vote carries with Directors' Causley-Smith, McKerchie, Lee, Freiheit, Morrow, Sorenson, McKechnie, Borowicz supporting; Director McRorie opposing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Executive Director of Enterprise Operations with the assistance of Legal to negotiate the purchase of a liquor license for Bear on The Mountain Golf Course not to exceed the agreed upon terms approved by the Board of Directors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director of Enterprise Operations and CFO to execute any budget modifications and loan documents for Eagle Lending using the terms agreed to by the Board of Directors.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, upon successful negotiations, the Board of Directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to sign any and all documentation, to complete the purchase and transfer of the license.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve the following appointments to the Unit 5 – Munising Elder Committee:

1. David Martin, RENEWAL, Regular member, 4-year term expiring 2027.
2. Rebecca Kolbus, NEW, Regular member, 4-year term expiring 2027.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKerchie, supported by Director McRorie, to approve the following appointments to the Unit 5 – Marquette Elder Committee:

1. Corey LaPlaunt, Regular member, 4-year term expiring 2027.
2. Rosemary Larson, NEW, Alternate member, 4-year term expiring 2027.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Lee, to approve the following appointments to the Elder Advisory Committee:

1. Phillip Martin, Regular member, 4-year term expiring 2027.
2. Rebecca Kolbus, Alternate member, NEW, 4-year term expiring 2027.

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, handle these in batches: three that are dual enrolled handled individually, one enrolled under step-mother by mistake, two siblings enrolled under adopted father, and twelve as a family that do not have lineal descendancy:

1. Cathline Bowen

Motion carries with Directors' Lee, McRorie opposing.

2. Claudia Shagen

Motion carries with Director McRorie, Lee opposing.

3. Autumn Kuzmik

Motion carries with Directors' McRorie, Lee, McKerchie opposing.

4. Shannon Willis

Motion carries unanimously.

5. Paul Aikens and Tara Mussatto

Motion carries unanimously.

6. Kurt Jones, Tarressa Stilwell, Hailey Mayer, Winston Mayer, Koen Mayer, Steven Schoonmaker, Sally Hawk, Hailee Hawk, Anna Schoonmaker, Kelly Newbill, Austin Newbill and Wendell Jones

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, Amend and Approve the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors 2024 Calendar as follows:

1. March 26 back to March 19.
2. January 9 to January 2.

Motion carries with Director Freiheit opposing the January change.

Adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Date: 1/16/24

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Ryan Mills, Ashlee Mielke, Aaron Schlehuber, Jessica Dumback, Robert Schulte, Dillon Hillock, Jennifer Clerc, Clarence Hudak, Marie Richards, Andrew Lane, Holly Kibble, Juanita Bye, Christine McPherson, Jennifer Dale-Burton, Sheri Mastaw, Doug Goudreau, Marlene Glaesmann, Leo Chugunov, Dan Doyle.