

## Tribal Board gives interim powers to Vice Chairwoman

Contributed by Michelle Bouschor  
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SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Tribe Board of Directors at its June 7 meeting voted for the second time on an amendment to the Tribal Election Code that would avail themselves of a non-binding special advisory election and on giving Vice Chairwoman Lana Causley interim powers necessary to run the daily operations of the Tribe until the Board appoints a successor. The Board did not appoint an eligible tribal member to serve out the term of former Chairman Darwin "Joe" McCoy, who announced his resignation May 10.

According to the resolution, Causley will serve as the ceremonial figure head and spokesperson; sign any correspondence that requires the signature of the Chairperson; perform any and all duties delegated to, authorized to be performed or directed to be performed by the Chairperson in a previously adopted resolution; and will perform any and all duties delegated to, authorized to be performed or directed to be performed by the Chairperson in the various Team Member Manuals. The resolution also stated that the Vice Chairperson will execute all documents that require the Chairperson's signature. Any and all actions taken by the Vice-Chairperson since May 10, 2011, were deemed to have been taken pursuant to the passed resolution and considered fully ratified and approved. The declaration of power in the Vice Chairperson will cease upon the appointment of a Chairperson by the Board of Directors. There will be no salary increase for the Vice Chairwoman assuming these duties. This resolution passed by a vote of 9 to 1.

The Board also voted not to consider a resolution to amend Chapter 10, Section 203 of the Tribal Election Code, until after the 2012 tribal general elections. The failed amendment to Tribal Election Code would have allowed for a change in timelines that currently prohibit the Board from using a non-binding special advisory election as a tool to help appoint a tribal member to the open Chairman seat. The board voted to table further discussion on this Chapter of Tribal Election Code by a vote of 6 to 5, with the Vice Chairperson breaking the vote.

The next Tribal general election is June 2012. The 'Notice of Election' for 2012 will be posted January 27 pursuant to Tribal Election Code. Letters will be sent to all adult tribal members (at least one notice per household) and will be posted the tribal newspaper, on the tribe's official website, and posted at all tribal offices.

Updates on the Board's decisions will be posted on line and on the Tribe's Facebook page. Sault Tribe official resolutions, voting matrix, press releases, election code and constitution document can be found at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).