

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN  
MINUTES  
May 2, 2023**

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

Present: Robert McRorie, Bridgett Sorenson, Tyler LaPlaunt, Lana Causley-Smith, Isaac McKechnie, Betty Freiheit, Darcy Morrow, Kimberly Lee, Kimberly Hampton, Shawn Borowicz and Austin Lowes.

Absent: Michael McKerchie

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

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2023-165, LE Operation Stonegarden**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby accepts the Homeland Security Grant Program Operation Stonegarden for year one in the amount of \$72,000.00, with \$1,800.00 withheld by the State of Michigan for M&A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2023 budget for Operation Stonegarden with Other Revenue \$33,811.75. No effect on Tribal Support

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2023-166, ACFS-Culturally Specific Underserved**

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

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

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2023-167, ACFS-Transitional Housing**

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 \$40,000.55, Federal HHS Revenue monies of \$18,192.00, and Other Revenue monies of \$6,072.81. This budget modification will change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-168, JKL Fiduciary Committee**

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 JKL Fiduciary Committee to increase in Federal BIA Revenue monies \$236,303.80. No effect on Tribal Support.

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

**Moved by Director Borowicz, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-169, FY 2023 Budget Document 003 Schedule C**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2023 Budget Document 003 totaling \$111,397,033, of which \$21,257,193 comes from Tribal Support.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Directors Freiheit, McKechnie, McRorie, Causley-Smith, Lee, Borowicz, Hampton, LaPlaunt supporting; Directors Sorenson, Morrow opposing.**

**Resolution FY 2023 Governmental Cap Ex**

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director McKechnie to table.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Directors Causley-Smith, Lee, Freiheit, Morrow, McKechnie supporting; Directors LaPlaunt, Sorenson, Borowicz, McRorie, Hampton opposing. Chair Lowes supported to break the tie.**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-170, FY 2024 Budget Document 001 Schedule A**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 Budget Document 001 totaling \$16,932,078 of which \$166,392 comes from Tribal Support.

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

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2023-171, GRIP Solar Energy Storage Project**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to sign, amend, and submit the application for United States Department of Energy funds through the BIL Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) (DE-FOA-0002740) program, Topic Area 3; and BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to execute any and all documents, including ancillary or supplemental documents or forms as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution.

**Moved by Director Morrow, supported by Hampton to table the Resolution 2023-171 GRIP Solar Energy Storage Project.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails. Directors Morrow, Causley-Smith, Hampton, Sorenson supporting; Directors Lee, Freiheit, Borowicz, McRorie, LaPlaunt, McKechnie opposing.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Directors Freiheit, McKechnie, McRorie, Lee, Borowicz, Hampton, LaPlaunt supporting; Directors Sorenson, Causley-Smith, Morrow opposing.**

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2023-172, Appointments to Tax Commission amend**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby appoints the following directors to the Tribe's Tax Commission:

Tyler LaPlaunt-Vice-Chairman (three-year term expires May 2, 2026)

Isaac McKechnie-Treasurer (three-year term expires May 2, 2026)

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Tribal Chairman, or designee, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and



appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution.

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Causley-Smith to change to a 3-year term May 2, 2026.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Director McRorie, Sorenson, Causley-Smith, Borowicz, Freiheit, Morrow, Lee, Hampton supporting; Director LaPlaunt, McKechnie abstaining.**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Freiheit, to approve Resolution 2023-173, Appointment of J. Hautamaki Reserve Appellate Judge**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby appoints Jared Hautamaki to serve as a Reserve Appellate Judge (attorney position) for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Court of Appeals, for a four (4) year term beginning May 2, 2023.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Directors Freiheit, McKechnie, McRorie, Causley-Smith, Lee, Sorenson, Borowicz, Hampton, LaPlaunt supporting. Directors Morrow opposing.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by McRorie Resolution Eighth Amendment to approval of Key Employees**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails. Director LaPlaunt, Hampton, McRorie supporting; Director Sorenson, Morrow, Borowicz, Lee, Causley-Smith, Freiheit opposing; Director McKechnie abstaining.**

#### **Committee Appointments**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve all Committee Appointments of the following:**

##### Elder Committee Appointments

Unit 2- Hessel Elder Subcommittee

Perry Causley – RENEWAL - Regular Member, 4-year term expiring 2027

Susan Lively – NEW – Alternate Member, 4-year term expiring 2027

Unit 3 St. Ignace

Joseph Horn – move from alternate to Regular Member 4-year term expiring 2027

Joseph Thibault – NEW – Alternate Member 4-year term expiring 2027

##### Health Board

Reappointment of Patrick Frazier, 4- year term expiring 2027

**Motion carries**

Approve Small Mesh Permit R. Peterson

**Moved by Director Freiheit, supported by Director Sorenson**

**Approval by unanimous vote**

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Causley-Smith Swearing in of Unit One Top Vote getter**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith amendment to the motion to wait until May 9<sup>th</sup> to appoint (court contests items are exhausted) Amending amendment to obligated to swearing in 48 hours after all contest closed and election is certified.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion fails. Director Causley-Smith, Morrow, Sorenson, Borowicz support; Director Lee, Freiheit, LaPlaunt, McKechnie, McRorie, Hampton opposing.**

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt to table Swearing in of Unit One Top Vote Getter

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries. Director Lee, Freiheit, McRorie, Hampton, LaPlaunt, McKechnie supporting; Director Borowicz, Morrow, Causley-Smith, Sorenson opposing.

Adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Date: 9/7/23

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Christine McPherson, Jessica Dumback, Robert Schulte, Aaron Schlehuber, Elaine Clement, Jennifer Clerc, Michelle Moore, Clarence Hudak, Bob Marchand, Juanita Bye, Larry Jacques