

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
SHERATON DETROIT/NOVI CONFERENCE CENTER  
NOVI, MICHIGAN  
MINUTES  
July 16, 2024**

This meeting was opened at 5:01 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Aaron Payment, Kimberly Lee, Rob McRorie (Z), Lana Causley-Smith, Tyler LaPlaunt, Michael McKerchie, Bridgett Sorenson, Kimberly Hampton, Isaac McKechnie, Larry Barbeau, Shawn Borowicz (Z), Kimberle Gravelle (Z), Austin Lowes  
Absent: None

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve the agenda as read.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve the meeting minutes from Regular Meeting July 2, 2024.**

**Motion carries with Director Gravelle abstaining.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve the meeting minutes from Special Meeting July 9, 2024.**

**Motion carries with Director Gravelle abstaining.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve Resolution 2024-226, Health Division – Purchased Referred Care and Third-Party Revenue FY 2024 Budget Modifications.**

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 Purchased Referred Care for an increase from 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$1,480,000.00.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 budget modification to 3rd Party Revenue increasing the amount to Purchased Referred Care \$1,480,000.00.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-227, Health Division – Sault Ste Marie Pharmacy, St Ignace Pharmacy, Manistique Pharmacy and Third-Party Revenue FY 2024 Budget Modifications.**

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 Sault Ste. Marie Pharmacy for an increase in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$569,422.80.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 budget modification to St. Ignace Pharmacy for an increase in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$177,893.45.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 budget modification to Manistique Pharmacy for an increase in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$496,982.05.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2024 budget modification to 3rd Party Revenue increasing the amount to Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, and Manistique Pharmacies \$1,244,298.30.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaut, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-228, Health Division – Sober Sanctuary Establish a FY 2024 Budget.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to amend to use Opioid Settlement Funds instead of third-party revenue.**

**Motion to amend carries unanimously.**

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 Sober Sanctuary with Opioid Settlement Fund monies of \$62,387.48.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the Opioid Settlement Fund allocating \$62,387.48 to Sober Sanctuary.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to approve a Resolution, Authorization to Enter into a Contract for the Construction of a Storage Building at JKL School.**

**Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director Hampton, to table.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion to table carries with Directors' McKerchie, Lee, Gravelle, Causley-Smith, Hampton, Sorenson, Borowicz, Barbeau approving; Directors' Payment, McRorie, LaPlaut, McKechnie opposing.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Tribe or his designee is hereby authorized to enter into and execute a contract with McGahey Construction Co. for the completion of the Storage Building Project at the JKL School, in accordance with the funding authorized for this purpose.

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaut, to approve Resolution 2024-229, LATCF Fund Appropriation Sault Tribe EDC 7 Seas – DeMaWating Development.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaut, supported by Director McKechnie, to amend to reflect the one that Dan Doyle sent in an email.**

**Motion to amend carries unanimously.**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians authorizes the Executive Director of Enterprise Operations, or his designee, to procure the repairs/maintenance/construction up to the specified amount in the RIS of the 7 Seas using LATCF unallocated funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorize an administrative budget modification to the Enterprise Capital Expenditures budget, specifically for 7 Seas up to the specified amount in the RIS. This resolution

will also authorize the administrative budget modification for LATCF, CC#12651 to transfer the amount of the capital expenditures to the 7 Seas budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes an administrative budget modification to establish a budget for LATCF, CC#12651, for the amount of the purchase price of the 7 Seas property as stated in resolution 2024-196.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes an administrative budget modification to create a cost center and operational budget for 7 Seas.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Executive Director of Enterprise Operations, or his designee, to execute and amend any and all contracts and purchase agreements related to the repairs/maintenance/construction as listed on the Resolution Information Sheet (RIS) on behalf of the Sault Tribe EDC.

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

**Moved by Director McKerchie, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-230, ARPA Fund Appropriation Amendment – New Natural Resources Facility.**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution No: 2002-189 is amended by authorizing an additional \$1,000,000.00 for the renovation and construction of new Natural Resources facilities at 199 W. 3 Mile Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, for a total of Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00).

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-231, Buildings – BIA 105(L) Contract Agreement.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves to enter into a contract with FSA Advisory Group, LLC for services relating to the BIA 105(L) lease program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the contract amount of \$100,000.00 to submit applications for up to 5 leases with an option to provide an additional 5 leases for submission for an additional charge of \$100,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Tribal Chairperson, or his designee, to execute any and all documents, including contracts, financial payment instruments and any or supplemental documents or forms that do not change the scope of these projects, as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the CFO to create the necessary internal budget documents that appropriate these funds to the project identified from cost center 4000.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2024-232, Open Bank Account with Sovereign Bank to Manage the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI).**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribe has designated Sovereign Bank as a depository of funds for the tribe and authorizes each of the following individually to transact and deposit business with the bank, including, but not limited to, open any deposit account in the name of the Tribe and deposit funds therein and withdraw funds there from

Austin Lowes, Tribal Chairman

Tyler LaPlaunt, Tribal Vice-Chairman

Isaac McKechnie, Tribal Treasurer

Robert Schulte, Tribal CFO

Christine McPherson, Tribal Executive Director

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

Lisa Sawruk, Tribal Comptroller

Holly Haapala, Tribal Senior Accountant

Heather Weber, Executive Assistant

Jan Lehenbauer, DCN Controller

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-233, Unallocate Unspent ARPA Funds from Resolutions 2021-167 and 2022-289.**

**Moved by Director Lee, supported by Director McKechnie, to amend to change from ARPA monies to third party revenue monies.**

**Motion to amend carries unanimously.**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians allocates the unspent funds from resolutions 2022-289 in the amount of \$4,760,000 to be returned to the unallocated ARPA funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians allocates \$4,760,000 of third party revenue to be used for the Recovery Campus.

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 as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution and authorizes the CFO, or his designee for all internal administrative budget modifications from the authorized budgeted funding.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-234, Unallocate Unspent ARPA Funds from Resolution 2023-064.**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians allocates the unspent funds from resolutions 2023-064 in the amount of \$19,590 to be returned to the unallocated ARPA funds.

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 as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution and authorizes the CFO, or his designee for all internal administrative budget modifications from the authorized budgeted funding.

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

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Lee, to approve a Resolution, Amending Resolution No: 2024-82 Accepting Tribal Hub's Recommendation of Changes to the Administrative Structure of MIS.**

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

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

**Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Terry McPherson's re-appointment to the Unit 4 Elder Committee, for a 4-year term expiring July 2028.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Paula Finfrock's appointment to the Anishinabe Bimaadiziiwin Waawiyeyaa Circle (aka Anishinabe Cultural Committee), for a 4-year term expiring July 2028.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Michael Larson's appointment to the Anishinabe Bimaadiziiwin Waawiyeyaa Circle (aka Anishinabe Cultural Committee), for a 4-year term expiring July 2028.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve Bridgett Sorenson's re-appointment as chairperson on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a 4-year term expiring in July 2028.**

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

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

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

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Sorenson, to approve Heather Alstrom's re-appointment as Secretary/Treasurer on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a 4-year term expiring in July 2028.**

**Motion carries with Director Payment abstaining.**

**Moved by Director Lee, supported by Director Sorenson, to adjourn.**

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

Adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Date: 8/16/24

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Robert Schulte, Jessica Dumback, Christine McPherson, Ashlee Mielke, Lona Stewart, Aaron Schlehuber, Joseph Street, Andrew Lane, Michelle Moore, Elaine Clement, Tina Fox (Z), Carrie Horton (Z), Joel Lumsden (Z), Bill Connelly (Z), Dan Doyle (Z), Robin Clark (Z)