

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN  
MINUTES  
August 6, 2024**

This meeting was opened at 5:02 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Tyler LaPlaunt, Isaac McKechnie (not present for roll call), Larry Barbeau, Michael McKerchie, Lana Causley-Smith, Aaron Payment, Shawn Borowicz, Kimberly Hampton, Bridgett Sorenson, Rob McRorie, Kimberly Lee, Kimberle Gravelle, Austin Lowes

Absent: None

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

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to approve the meeting minutes from Regular Meeting July 16, 2024.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-235, Internal Services – Newspaper 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 the Newspaper for an increase in Tribal Support of \$5,845.22 for changes to the personnel sheet.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2024-236, Enterprises – Demawating Development – Rentals and Sawyer Village – Residential 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 DeMawating Development Rentals to make changes to the personnel sheet.

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 Sawyer Village – Residential to make changes to the personnel sheet.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2024-237, Natural Resources Division – GLRI Atikameg Experimental Rearing 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 GLRI Atikameg Experimental Rearing with Federal BIA Revenue monies of \$219,498.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-238, Contract Approval Meritain Health (An Aetna Company) and Delta Dental.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Tribe, or designee, to execute contracts with Meritain Health and Delta Dental, with an effective date of January 1, 2025, for a period of three years, and to further take such actions as may be required to extend the current contracts.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-239, Contract Approval Native Insurance Tribal Health Program Administration Agreement.**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Tribe, or designee, to execute a contract with Native Insurance Alliance Tribal Health Program Administration Agreement, with an effective date of July 1, 2024, for a period of three years and six months, and to further take such actions as may be required to extend the current contracts.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-240, Contract Approval Comp One.**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Chairperson of the Tribe, or designee, to execute contracts with Comp One, with an effective date of January 1, 2025, for a period of three years, and to further take such actions as may be required to extend the current contracts.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2024-241, Rescinding Requirement to Enroll in Life and Long-Term Disability for Kewadin Team Members.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby rescinds the mandate that Kewadin team members must opt in to Life and Long-Term Disability coverage and hereby affirms that such coverage shall be optional.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this change shall take effect upon execution of the contract renewal for insurance coverage, but no later than January 1, 2025.

**Motion carries with Director Sorenson opposing.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-242, Approving IHS Multi-Year Funding Agreement.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby approves the IHS Multi-Year Funding Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chairman or his designee to execute any and all documents for the HIS Multi-Year Funding Agreement.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve a Resolution, Board Member Appointment Executive Technology Steering Committee.**

**Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Hampton, to Table.**

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

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

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to Table.**

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

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

**Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2024-243, Amending Resolution No: 2024-82 Accepting Tribal Hub's Recommendation of Changes to the Administrative Structure of MIS.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the resolved item number four shall be amended to read as follows:**

4. Approval to transfer existing IT employees into the new IT titles and job descriptions as defined in the recommended new IT structure, including a one-time waiver of any conflicting HR policies in order to effectively and timely restructure the entire IT team. Any existing IT employee who by operation of this resolution is transferred from tribal government to Kewadin Casinos shall keep their governmental benefit package (including vacation accrual, sick accrual and tribal government holidays.)"

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

**Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve a Resolution, Obligation of American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Tribally Controlled Schools to School Updates and Expansion.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to Table (1<sup>st</sup>).**

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaut, supported by Director Payment, to Table (2<sup>nd</sup>).**

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

**Moved by Director McKerchie, supported by Director Payment, to refer this Resolution to the JKL Fiduciary Committee.**

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Lori Stokes and Harold Osterhout's appointment to the Unit 2 Elder Committee – Newberry, for a 4-year term expiring August 2028.**

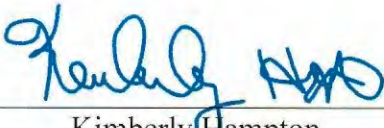
**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, Director Hampton requested to go to Closed Session for Key Employee agenda item with just the board and General Counsel present.**

**No Objection.**

Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Date: 8/20/24

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Robert Schulte (Z), Jessica Dumback (Z), Christine McPherson (Z), Ashlee Mielke, Lona Stewart, Aaron Schlehuber, Joseph Street, Jen Clerc (Z), Bill Connelly, Michelle Moore, Gerard Sagassige, Jennifer Dale-Burton, Helen Wilkins (Z), Jack Tuomikoski, Doug Goudreau, Ray Czerwinski