

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
MUNISING TRIBAL CENTER  
MUNISING, MICHIGAN  
MINUTES  
September 17, 2024**

This meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Shawn Borowicz (Z), Tyler LaPlaunt, Bridgett Sorenson (Z), Isaac McKechnie, Michael McKerchie (Z), Kimberly Hampton (Z – not present until 5:27 p.m.), Rob McRorie (Z), Aaron Payment (Z), Kimberly Lee, Larry Barbeau, Kimberle Gravelle, Austin Lowes  
Absent: Lana Causley-Smith

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to excuse Director Causley-Smith.**

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Without objection, add Resolution, Approving Service Agreement with Serv-Ice Refrigeration, to the agenda.**

**No objection.**

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

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve the meeting minutes from Regular Meeting September 3, 2024.**

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-270, ACFS – Social Work 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 Social Work budget for an increase in Tribal Support of \$19,891.51.

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-271, Natural Resources Division – GLRI Wolf 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 GLRI Wolf with Federal BIA monies of \$33,774.26. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-272, Natural Resources Division – Planning St. Mary's Coastal Wetland 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 Planning St. Mary's Coastal Wetland with Federal National Fish and Wildlife Foundation monies of \$ 100,045.34. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-273, Natural Resources Division – Monitoring and Restoration in the St. Mary's River 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 Monitoring & Restoration in the St. Mary's River with Federal BIA Revenue monies of \$61,302.43. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-274, Natural Resources Division – Lake Whitefish 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 Lake Whitefish Experimental Rearing with Federal BIA monies of \$ 40,499.49. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not signed in yet.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2024-275, Health Division – Sault Ste. Marie Housekeeping/Maintenance 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 Housekeeping/Maintenance for a decrease in Other Revenue monies of \$65,005.73 and an increase in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$75,481.00.

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 Sault Ste. Marie Housekeeping/Maintenance \$75,481.00.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-276, Health Division – Manistique Administration, Optical 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 Manistique Administration for a decrease in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$15,871.79.

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 Optical for an increase in 3rd Party Revenue monies of \$15,871.79.

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 reallocating \$15,871.79 from Manistique Administration to Optical.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-277, Health Division – Sault Ste. Marie Pharmacy 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 Sault Ste. Marie Pharmacy for a reallocation of expenses and a change to the personnel page. No effect on Tribal Support.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-278, Governmental – Elections 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 Elections budget for an increase in Tribal Support of \$15,319.41.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-279, Approval of Agreement Between JKL Fiduciary Committee and Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the agreement between JKL Fiduciary Committee and Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chairman or his designee to execute any and all documents to carry out the intent of this resolution.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-280, Approving Contractor Selection – Marquette Facility Renovation.**

**Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director Sorenson, to amend to go with the Native Company instead.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion to amend carries with Directors' Payment, Barbeau, McRorie, Sorenson, Lee supporting; Directors' Gravelle, Borowicz, McKechnie, Hampton, McKechnie opposing; Director LaPlaunt abstaining; Tie Vote: Chairman Lowes supporting.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves the recommended contractor, Premeau Construction, to conduct the Phase I renovation of the Marquette health center site as specified and designed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to execute this agreement and take such other steps as may be deemed necessary.

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

**Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-281, Accept Inter-Governmental Forest Protection Award.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to accept this Tribal Forest Protection Act award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Chairman of the Tribe, or their designee, to execute all documents, contracts, and subcontracts as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this resolution.

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

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2024-282, Approval of Sixth Amendment to the Tax Agreement Between the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the State of Michigan.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to execute the Sixth Amendment to the Tax agreement between the Tribe and the State of Michigan.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2024-283, Granting License for use of Tribal Logos in American Indian Law Handbooks.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Barbeau, to amend to match what Legal emailed during the workshop.**

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors hereby grant a limited, non-exclusive, world-wide, royalty-free, transferable license to the Tribal State Federal Forum for the use of the Tribe's logos, seal, pictures, for the limited purpose of use in the American Indian Law Handbooks, to be used in a non-disparaging manner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby grants the authority to the Legal Department to approve any additional use of the Tribe's intellectual property for the Tribal State Federal Forum not granted in this resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this license shall expire ten years from the date of this Resolution understanding that the Tribal State Federal Forum may request an extension in the future if it so desires.

EXEMPLAR OF LOGO:



**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2024-284, Authorizing Joint Venture Agreement for Tierra Cheboygan 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 execute all documents and agreements with Tierra Realty Trust, LLC for the Tierra Cheboygan project.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2024-285, Authorizing MOU/MOA for MI Native American Boarding School Project.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman or his designee to execute any and all documents to enter into a MOU/MOA for the MI Native American Boarding School Project with the State of Michigan.

**Motion carries with Directors' McKechnie, Barbeau, McKerchie, Borowicz, Hampton, Sorenson, McRorie, Lee, Gravelle approving; Directors' LaPlaunt, Payment abstaining.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2024-286, National Congress of American Indians 2024 Annual Convention Delegates and 2025 Dues.**

**Without objection, the reading was waived.**

**No objection.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, which is the official governing body of the above-named Tribal Nation, hereby authorizes who is the official principal tribal official, to take the necessary action to place the Tribal Nation in Membership with NCAI.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tribal funds in the amount of \$12,000 based on the Tribal Membership dues schedule in the NCAI By-Laws, Article III – Members, Section C 2 are authorized to be paid for NCAI membership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on the tribal enrollment of persons, the Tribal Nations shall have 180 votes, in accordance with Article III – Members, Section B 1s.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that pursuant to Article III, Member, Section B 1(b) of the NCAI Constitution and By-Laws, the Tribal Nation designates the following persons as Delegate and Alternate Delegate(s) and instructs them to become Individual Members in Good Standing with NCAI in order to fulfill their responsibilities as Official Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the National Congress of Americans Indians Annual Convention, Executive Council Winter Session and Mid-Year Conference.

Delegate: Austin Lowes            Title: Chairman  
Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Tyler LaPlaunt        Title: Director, Vice-Chairman  
Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Kimberly Hampton     Title: Director, Secretary  
Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Isaac McKechnie        Title: Director, Treasurer

Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Aaron Payment Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Kimberle Gravelle Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Robert McRorie Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Michael McKerchie Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Kimberly Lee Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Lana Causley Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Shawn Borowicz Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/25/26

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Bridgett Sorenson Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Larry Barbeau Title: Director

Term Expiration Date: 06/22/28

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Michael McCoy Title: Legislative Director  
Term Expiration Date: N/A

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate: Michael Pins Title: Gaming Commission Executive Director  
Term Expiration Date: N/A

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Delegates and Alternate Delegates are allowed to hold an officer position within the NCAI.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director LaPlannt, supported by Director Hampton, to a approve Resolution, Establishing a Grants Department.**

**Without objection, the reading was waived.**

**No objection.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Hampton, to Table and get it back on a workshop agenda.**

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-287, Tribal Styrofoam Ban.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes that effective January 1, 2025, the Tribe will no longer use styrofoam products, such as one-time-use cups, dishes, and takeout containers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes that this resolution will have no impact on the use of styrofoam products for medical purposes or packaging for products that are purchased.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2024-288, Purchase of Narcan Dispensers for each Unit.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Health Center to purchase Narcan dispensers for each Unit, for a total of up to \$100,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the CFO to make an internal budget modification utilizing the Opioid Settlement Funds.

BE IF FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Tribal Health Center to place these Narcan dispensers in each Unit at locations determined to be most beneficial to members.

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

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-289, Kewadin Casinos Smoking Ban Implementation Plan.**

**Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director Sorenson, to amend to take out 2<sup>nd</sup> to last Be It Resolved.**

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby establishes that Kewadin Casino gaming spaces, and all public spaces in casino properties shall be smoke-free.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Kewadin Casino Executive shall present to the Sault Tribe Board of Directors and the Kewadin Gaming Authority, an implementation plan to happen within 30 days of enactment of this resolution.

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

**Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2024-290, Approving Service Agreement with Serv-Ice Refrigeration.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby approves a service agreement with Serv-Ice Refrigeration negotiated by the Recreation Facility Manager for phase III services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chairman or his designee to execute any and all documents for the Serv-Ice Refrigeration Agreement.

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

**Without objection, do committee appointments together.**

**No objection.**

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Mary Moriarty's appointment to the Unit 2 Elder Committee – Naubinway as an alternate member, for a 4-year term expiring September 2028 and Rosemary Laron's appointment to the Unit 5 Elder Committee – Marquette as a regular member, for a 4-year appointment expiring September 2028.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Without objection, meeting adjourned.**

**No objection.**

Adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Date: 10/11/2024

Secretary:   
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Robert Schulte, Jessica Dumback (Z), Christine McPherson, Ashlee Mielke, Lona Stewart, Aaron Schlehuder (Z), Joseph Street, Jen Clerc (Z), Dan Doyle (Z), Robin Clark, Ryan Mills (Z), Clarence Hudak (Z), Junita Bye (Z), Stephanie Sprecker (Z), James Benko, Brad Silet (Z), Jack Tuomikoski (Z), Joel Lumsden (Z), Nicole Fuson (Z), Carrie Horton (Z), Latisha Willette (Z), Traci Swan (Z), Tammy Graham (Z)