## TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE NORTHERN CHEYENNE RESERVATION LAME DEER, MONTANA

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

#### **MINUTES**

November 6, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Acting President Fisher called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** 

Sheldon King

**ROLL CALL:** 

PRESENT	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>
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X		
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Quorum Established

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acting President Fisher-Before we have roll call, I want to say that part of our constitution acknowledges that the Cheyenne language is the first language. I'll be incorporating the Cheyenne language.

#### CIRCLE OF LIFE PRESENTATION-COLLENA BROWN

Collena Brown-I gave out information. It's home care, we take care of elderly and disabled. In the beginning of September, we moved to Hardin. We're making sure both reservations know we're a home care agency. We train to take care of elderly and disabled in their home. We're here to help, we're here to hire. We'd like to open a satellite office. We'd have someone maintaining a full time position here.

Debbie Charette-Is it income based?

Collena Brown-We get referrals, we have to make sure they are Medicaid eligible. We get the phone call, sent to Mountain Pacific in Helena. The average is 4-20 hours a week. They make

about \$10.80 an hour. There is a nurse on staff that calls to check on the clients. They only thing the State regulates is that they cannot be an immediate family member, the only case is if it's a child that takes care of a parent.

Sheldon King-What if they do away with Medicaid?

Collena Brown-We're looking at private pay, and looking into V.A. There's three of us that work in Hardin. We are having an open house on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. The more clients we get, the bigger we can grow. I have clients that have PTSD, clients that are diabetic, it varies from person to person.

#### ENROLLMENT-WALLACE BEARCHUM

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS. Motion made by Joe Fox, Jr. Second by Ernest Littlemouth. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH ADOPTION OF ELEVEN (11) INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS. Motion made by Debbie Charette. Second by Joe Fox, Jr. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		

Willie Rowland	X	
Vernon Small	X	
Dana Eaglefeathers		

9 votes Yes U votes No U Abstentions Motion Carr	9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING DATE OF BIRTH CHANGES FOR ONE (1) TRIBAL MEMBER ON THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS. Motion made by Joe Fox, Jr. Second by Sheldon King.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL RELATING TO THE RELINQUISHMENT OF SIX (6) INDIVIDUALS FROM THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE. Motion made by Sheldon King. Second by Willie Rowland. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		1
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift			ABSENT
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING NAME CHANGES FOR TWO (2) MEMBERS ON THE NORTHERN

**CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS**. Motion made by Merlin Sioux. Second by Joe Fox, Jr.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
9 votes 1 es	U VOLES INO	U ADSTEILIOUS	Monon Carried

AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL RELATING TO THE RELINQUISHMENT OF TWO (2) INDIVIDUALS FROM THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE. Motion made by Merlin Sioux. Second by Waylon Rogers. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING BLOOD QUANTUM CHANGES FOR TWO (2) TRIBAL MEMBERS ON THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLL. Motion made by Debbie Charette. Second by Joe Fox, Jr.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift	X		

Merlin Sioux	X	
Waylon Rogers	X	
Willie Rowland	X	
Vernon Small	X	
Dana Eaglefeathers		

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried

#### **BUDGETS-DEBRA CHARETTE**

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION AND OR ADOPTION OF CERTAIN BUDGETS FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS: FUND 700-138E. Motion made by Debbie Charette. Second by Sheldon King.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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#### MINUTES-TRIBAL SECRETARY

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: September 12, 2017. Motion made by Vernon Small. Second by Debbie Charette.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King			X
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift			ABSENT
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

7 votes Yes	0 votes No	1 Abstention	Motion Carried
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APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: October 16, 2017. Motion made by Debbie Charette. Second by Sheldon King.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift			ABSENT
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

8 votes Yes 0 votes	No 0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: October 23, 2017. Motion made by Debbie Charette. Second by Vernon Small.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			X
Benji Headswift			ABSENT
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

7 votes Yes 0 votes No 1 Abstention Mot	ion Carried
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#### ECONOMIC IMPACT FUNDING-SHELDON KING

Sheldon King-I'm testifying in Oregon on this.

Joe Fox, Jr.-Darlene is here, has there been any kind of discussion on this?

Darlene Bement-Small-No discussion, none of the employees know about this. The impression that they have down there, is the Council doesn't support them. You need to communicate with them, there's a lot of frustrations there. You need to have a solid plan. Who's going to have

priority to have that training? Who will provide that training? What business is being developed so they can provide that training.

Sheldon King-It was brought to our attention, we were just given this and asked who could go and I volunteered. Individually they come to us, when something goes on over there, we're individually contacted by them. Let's set up a system once a month or so. We can't go over there and say "Hey, we're tribal council".

Darlene Bement-Small-A lot of them are scared to say anything because of retaliation. We had things set up and some of them didn't show up. The Council didn't show up, it was frustrating. It would be good to have a process. To try to develop that. I rely on the tribal liaison to try to address these. It's hard to try to get everybody together.

Acting President Fisher-The Council asks to support the economic impact aid, wind farms or some other form. Making the transition will be challenging. We want to support anything that will help our tribal members. It's important for liaisons to assist Darlene.

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ALLOCATION OF TRANSITION FUNDING TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE TO OFFSET ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO THE TRIBE RESULTING FROM THE CLOSURE OF THE COLSTRIP POWER PLANT. Motion made by Sheldon King. Second by Vernon Small. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift			ABSENT
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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### TONGUE RIVER LUMBER COMPANY CHARTER AMENDMENT-BENJI HEADSWIFT

Benji Headswift-This resolution calls for to delete the waiver of sovereign immunity.

Acting President Fisher-This occurred because the letter of interests that came to my office were these folks. This is a draft resolution. I know there were several others nominated. In talking to the Council, we want to work together on this.

APPROVAL OF THIRD AMENDMENT OF TONGUE RIVER LUMBER COMPANY CHARTER. Motion made by Benji Headswift. Second by Merlin Sioux. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.			
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

9 votes Yes U votes No U Abstentions Motion Carr	9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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#### NCDC APPOINTMENTS-ACTING PRESIDENT FISHER

Benji Headswift-There were others, Eddy Edwards, Lafe Haugen and Terry Beartusk. Given the work history that Eddy Edward has, I would be willing to throw his name on the table.

A RESOLUTION OF NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL CONCURRING THE THREE APPOINTMENTS OF STEVE CARRELL, LAFE HAUGEN, AND EDDY EDWARDS, TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD. Motion made by Merlin Sioux. Second by Vernon Small. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift			X
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers			X
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	J.		

7 votes	Yes	0 votes No	2 Abstentions	<b>Motion Carried</b>

Merlin Sioux-I want to include in the motion that they will have a meeting on November 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

#### MEDICAL MARIJUANA VENTURE EXPLORATION-BENJI HEADSWIFT

Benji Headswift-I'm not sure the process on how to go about it. Resolution read into record.

Basically, we have finances, no policies, absolutely nothing. At ground zero with the medical marijuana era. We don't want to be one of the tribes that got left behind. At this point, it's just an idea. It's better to have an idea rather than no idea. We'll go down visit with the Las Vegas Paiutes. They haven't been shut down yet. Those that curious, it's called Nuwu Cannabis. It's the first of its kind. Based off the visit that we had with them, one of their biggest problems was finding finances for it. And finding a secure financial system. I think we can do it here on the reservation.

Sheldon King-If that's the way our Tribe wants to move, it'll be good to go down there and see what's going on. It's a good idea to find what's needed there.

Waylon Rogers-This is personal to me, in 2010 I broke my spine, I had two surgeries and was on opiates and got addicted to them. I've had two sisters that passed away from renal failure. I quit opiates right there. Out of desperation, I got marijuana. I had tests again with my kidneys and they started coming back. I whole heartedly support the resolution. The majority of the people that use medical marijuana are over 40. I campaigned on legalizing cannabis. Thank you Benji for working on this. I know many tribal members appreciate this.

Debra Charette-I had someone say, you should legalize it, they're easier to deal with than if they're on meth.

Acting President Fisher-We do have card holders on the reservation. They can't publicly display it because it's illegal here. But they do have a legitimate card holder status. Do you have a time frame when you take it out to the tribal members?

Benji Headswift-We could take a first run, it'll be more beneficial if we have concrete information and go from there. Whoever wants to, can join me. I found out that the card holders are in the hundreds. They probably have a hard time getting to Laurel. I'm not trying to make marijuana ok with everybody. There's a lot of people that are for it. What else do we have here? If we're going to do solar, wind, like Moapa, that's a huge facility. We need to bring revenue into the Tribe. It's going to be tough. I'm curious to find out how much we've made so far. Based off today, we did invite the CEO to come down.

# A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG INTEREST IN EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRIBAL MEDICAL MARIJUANA VENTURES. Motion made by Benji Headswift. Second by Willie Rowland. ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Debra Charette		X	
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Waylon Rogers	X		
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		

Dana Eagle	efeathers		
8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried

Vice President Fisher-As we all know we have an MOA that was done. Part of that resolution, authorized that we would expressly allow the state to come into the reservation when there was illegal activity going on. The purpose of the MOA was because of some incidents that occurred on the reservation. We came up with a document to try to enhance our sovereignty. Part of it was they need to have a written expressed consent by the tribe. We had something this week that occurred. They came to the administration, we had a debate. There was a legal document in place to address these issues. We had a couple Council that weren't too wild about that. What it came down to was the legal advice of the attorneys. We have a binding agreement in place. We could do anything we want with the MOA. However, we have to remember why we put this in place in the first place. We make it specific that if they do come on, here's what they need to do. It's actually to enhance our sovereignty by saying if you come on, here's what you have to do. My office allowed them a ten hour opportunity one day to come in, do their investigating. They had to be accompanied by local law enforcement and allowed Gene Small to be the designated representative. I told the Fish Wildlife & Parks that is you can withhold information from your immediate colleagues. You are the ones that created this stipulation. We have an informal meeting with them. On how to best address this issue and other activities that might be going on. I would strongly encourage a meeting with FWP. If you want, we can set up a meeting. That will happening sometime this week. They want to revisit what I did by cc:ing the Council. They think it opened up the door, for people to forewarn the suspects.

Joe Fox, Jr.-I think until we have our own fish & game, we can have our own. I don't have that trust. It put the foot in the door. I'm against this, I still don't feel, I wished we didn't pass it then. And done it case by case.

Benji Headswift-They're saying we can't be trusted as tribal leaders. We can't trust them either. 1/3 of that game wardens time was spent on the reservation, he admitted that. Sheldon-If they're going to do that, make them go all the way around.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING.** Motion made by Benji Headswift. Second by Sheldon King.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Sheldon King	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.	X		
Joe Fox, Jr.	X		
Benji Headswift	X		
Merlin Sioux			
Waylon Rogers			
Willie Rowland	X		
Vernon Small	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers			

7 votes Yes 0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion C	Carried
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Adjourned @ 3:34 p.m.

**PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED** by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council by 6 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 1 abstention this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017.

Melissa Lonebear, Tribal Secretary

Northern Cheyenne Tribe