

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

REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES
April 15, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: President Peña called the meeting to order at 10:57 a.m.

INVOCATION: Don “Pork Chops” Shoulderblade

ROLL CALL:

	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman		X	Medical
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.		X	
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Winfield Russell, Vice President		X	Medical
Rynalea Peña, President	X		

Quorum Established

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Labre Senior Class in attendance.

Henry Speelman-We have people here from Mountain Ministries.

MOUNTAIN MINISTRIES PRESENTATION-GARY & FAY MILLER

Gary Miller-My wife and I oversee Mountain Ministries. I was laying face down dying at the bottom of a tent. I had been to ten secular treatment programs, they were all court ordered. It wasn't in my heart prior to change that. Because of drugs, I walked with a cane. I knew if I didn't get help, I would die at the bottom of that tent. I went to the hospital, they told me in eight days they would get me help. I told them I wouldn't make it eight days. The Lord began to minister to my heart. My children, all they knew of their father was drug addiction and cops. I'm now one of the directors for the last two years. God is restoring my children back into my life. I attribute all the changes to my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. I have a heart for people just like me. We want to give away what's been given to us. Right now, about 2/3 of our clients are native ladies from

Northern Cheyenne & Crow reservations. It's not that we lack our own people, the people that continue to come are native people. We have a heart to come here and offer what we do have. I'm here to disciple these people to navigate life in a different way. I believe the Lord has brought us here. God has placed every one of us in a place of responsibility. We're greatly honored to be here.

R.D. Bailey-You stated that you questioned them culturally? Do you want to exonerate?

In any culture, there are good things and bad things. It doesn't matter what our backgrounds are. What is the fruit? If the things that I was doing weren't working for me, then something has to change. When I wake up, I want to be a better man than I was yesterday. All we can do is present, the truth is as we believe it to be. We don't believe we have everything figured out. There's good and bad in every culture.

Hilary-I am a student in Mountain Ministries. I believe the answer to that question, what they're saying is for one year, give up everything you know. It certainly has done miracles for me.

Delayna Limberhand-I am a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. I graduated 7 years ago in 2013. I went to Mountain Ministries before and I came back here in 2017. I lasted 3 months and went back to addiction. To be out there, to encourage them, it's a blessing. We're here to present what Mountain Ministries is about. As the years went on, there was more people coming from reservations. The thing between tradition and Christianity that is up to you. I wanted someone to tell me who I was, when I went out there. You have to be willing to learn, it's gotten me where I am today.

Lane Spottedelk-As a young person, what advice would you give?

Delayna Limberhand-My advice, the only one we can look to is God. If you think about it. Whether it's life or death, we always thank God. You don't know the truth until you seek it out yourself.

Merlin Sioux-How many Northern Cheyenne are out there? I know everything costs money. What can we do to help?

Delayna Limberhand-The Mountain Ministries runs off donations. My duty is to help out with scheduling.

Merlin Sioux-Write a letter and send it to President Peña.

Delayna Limberhand-I never thought coming here, that the Tribe would really help. They teach us how to live in a Godly way, with structure. Some people have never lived that way.

President Peña-The cost is free, it's just the cost of getting out there.

Jackie Whistlingelk-I have a daughter, she was really broken. A lot of natives grew up without unconditional love.

Dana Eaglefeathers-Thank you for coming down and sharing. As Mr. Bailey stated, you have to be more sensitive to the cultural aspects. We all pray, we're praying people. When it comes to

ceremonial ways, a lot of us sought out the same help. Let's be a little more sensitive when you're dealing with native people. This body is more than happy to help. I have family that went to Mountain Ministries and were successful. Just be a little more sensitive when you're dealing with cultures.

Gary Miller-I appreciate and receive that. There's a lot more to be learned. Maybe the words I chose misrepresented what I was trying to say. There's a lot we can learn from each other. There's all these things that attach themselves to people's lives. That's something that each person has to discover. I want to share convictions that I have with other people.

Florene Whiteman-I was raised on the Northern Cheyenne reservation. I have all these accolades and I still maintained my language. I made it to church every Sunday.

BUREAU OF PRISONS PRESENTATION-REGINALD MICHAEL & HARLAN TROMBLEY

Harlan Trombley-I am the Native American liaison for the Bureau of Prisons. I want to learn about culture here to change some things.

Merlin Sioux-What are the ages of those incarcerated?

Reginald Michael-I only deal with adults. There is no number, the majority is probably 25-50.

Merlin Sioux-How can we help?

Reginald Michael-It starts with those young people in those chairs (student audience). I was fortunate to have support in the early stages of my life. Change has to start with young people.

Lane Spottedelk-You talked about meaningful change, maybe we can have a dialogue monthly or quarterly. As long as youth feel involved. How does the board of crime control fit in?

Reginald Michael-I do sit on the board of crime control. We have a limited amount of grant funds that come through. I would encourage the Tribal Council to be aware of BOCC activity.

President Peña-Vice President Russell has met with Harlan. That's an area that he's always been abreast in. We can schedule a meeting or even a conference call. Harlan will be the go to.

Dolly Rockroads-They used to let us in the prison. I created a mess in the Montana State Prison. We used to go over there and cook a traditional meal. They had a Prayer Warriors organization. We made dry meat and choke cherries.

Reginald Michael-I would be open to a conversation about it. At a prison, there are concerns with security. I would be open to discussion. We want people to learn something about themselves and give them something for them not to come back.

R.D. Bailey-Is your position non-partisan?

Reginald Michael-I am a political appointment for Governor Bullock. I'm here to serve the current Governor.

R.D. Bailey-The state of Montana allows Native American prisoners to participate in sweat lodge ceremonies. What you need to come with is data. In sparking a discussion, we need data. You need to tamper down on recidivism.

Reginald Michael-He has a dialogue that we want here. We have concepts and ideas that we want to see to fruition.

President Peña-Winfield, Frank, and Calvin have been going.

Lavonda Braidedhair-We have a big problem here. There's no help when they get out. They are very selective and there are very few that are successful. Maybe there's something they can set up when they come back to the reservation.

NCUC DISCUSSION

Henry Speelman-There's an issue with Utilities. There has been no water at the church for 40 days. Last week, I finally knew about it. They're short of funding and requesting some assistance.

Deacon Joe Kristufek-We have had not water for 45 days today. They dug and then covered it up and then everything backed up. A comment that got to me was that I am just a resident. My bathroom is being used more than any place on this reservation.

Dana Eaglefeathers-We had a meeting and the board didn't even know about it. We're all aware of it now and it's being addressed.

Deacon Joe Kristufek-IHS said there's a company out of Billing that can bring a probe.

Dana Eaglefeathers-A follow up memo from the President's office should work.

BREAK @ 12:45 P.M.
RECONVENE @ 12:51 P.M.

BUDGETS-LANE SPOTTEDELK

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION AND OR ADOPTION OF CERTAIN BUDGETS FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS: FUND 718-197. Motion made by Lane Spottedelk. Second by Debra Charette

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		

Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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President Peña-What is this for?

Diane Spottedelk-Did you guys have your meeting?

Debra Charette-This was already done and included the land purchase at Bear Butte. OST wanted it done a different way.

Lane Spottedelk-For future reference, we should correlate these. This came from our last meeting with Lynette.

Debra Charette-We were looking at them for the three years I've been here, and they've been done the same way.

President Peña-Explanations like this would be nice to have before.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE FIRST SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 LAND AUTHORITY AND GRAZING OPERATING BUDGET. Motion made by Lane Spottedelk.

Second by Merlin Sioux.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE’S COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FIVE YEAR PLAN 2018-2023. Motion made by Lane Spottedelk. Second by Dana Eaglefeathers.
ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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President Peña-Have you gotten to look at this?

Lane Spottedelk-Briefly. It is data driven.

Debra Charette-It’s pretty straight forward.

Lane Spottedelk-We can change at any time. We should sit down and take a look at it.

Debra Charette-It’s a living document that can be changed.

MINUTES-MELISSA LONEBEAR

Dana Eaglefeathers-There was a couple times there was supposed to be a working session. In the minutes, there was two, Dolly Rockroads and TERO Ordinance.

Henry Speelman-We have some legal issues on TERO. We need to sit down.

President Peña-I have a calendar that we put everything on. If we can coordinate.

Dana Eaglefeathers-This was in a Council meeting and it is in the minutes.

President Peña-We really need to tighten up on how we schedule things. I’m prompt. We need to coordinate with each other.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 22, 2019. Motion made by Merlin Sioux. Second by Lane Spottedelk.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

SERVICE AWARD-ADDIE BAKER

MOTION MADE BY MERLIN SIOUX TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM TO RESEARCH HOW MANY OTHERS HAVE NUMEROUS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE TRIBE. SECOND BY HENRY SPEELMAN.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

PERSONNEL MANUAL REVISION-PRESIDENT PENA.

President Peña-This was presented to me for the Finance Department. They want it to coincide with the Financial Management policy.

Lane Spottedelk-I've had several employees approach me about this. This is the first time seeing this. Is this what the council wants to do?

Dana Eaglefeathers-The statement that was made that this was an audit finding isn't true. I read the audit. It wasn't a finding.

President Peña-Have Jordan come in and present this. He was the one that presented it to me. He would like it to coincide.

Debra Charette-We would cause a lot of hardship to employees. Everything is so automated now.

Lane Spottedelk-Is it something that Finance recommends? We have a lot of employees that it may cause hardship to. Another option is to change the Financial Management policy.

Jordan Knowshisgun-We can maybe schedule the change for 2-3 weeks out. So people can go to their banks.

Debra Charette-We have 400 employees that would be affected.

Lane Spottedelk-There are two options.

Jordan Knowshisgun-My suggestion would be to follow the manual.

President Peña-With payday, as a supervisor at Headstart, I did a lot of corrections on leave.

Debra Charette-With employees, you're always going to have that.

Jordan Knowshisgun-I checked with payroll too.

Denise Swank-Years ago, I worked for the Tribe and our paydays were on Friday. I wasn't aware of all these manuals. I returned four years ago, I have my payments set up for Thursdays. Either way, It would cause some hardship. Follow the policy, or let's change it.

MOTION MADE BY DANA EAGLEFEATHERS TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM UNTIL THE TRIBAL COUNCIL REVISITS THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN. SECOND BY EVE FOOTE.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			

Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

Lane Spottedelk-Let's try to have this resolved by the next meeting.

CHIEF'S POW-WOW & RODEO COMMITTEE-HENRY SPEELMAN

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPOINTING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE 4TH OF JULY CHIEF'S POWWOW & RODEO COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2019. Motion made by Henry Speelman. Second by Debra Charette.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

BIA FUNDING-BEARSTAR-NCTS-DEBRA CHARETTE

Clayton Small-Howcome this wasn't bid out?

Debra Charette-It has to be done by June 1st.

Clayton Small-This is the same thing with the Wellness Center. He isn't a tribal member. I would at least get numbers from them.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE USE OF BIA FUNDING TO SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH BEAR STAR, INC. FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS FOR THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL SCHOOLS (NCTS) CAMPUS HOUSING. Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Lane Spottedelk.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		

Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman		X	
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

7 votes Yes 1 vote No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

NCUC DISCUSSION (CONT.)

Adam Spang-Last week we had an engineer come. It wasn't as bad as we initially thought. The engineer said to hire a company that can come probe the line.

Dana Eaglefeathers-Write a letter waiving the tampering fees. If we can work together to get this done.

Adam Spang-The fee schedule and tampering fee.

Dana Eaglefeathers-The President can send you a memo.

Lane Spottedelk-We had a discussion on the financial status. Utilities is a not for profit enterprise. We have to look at this as a business model.

President Peña-I would like a letter from NCUC stating how this happened before I write a memo.

Doris Limberhand-The tampering fee is primarily for the homeowners. Since this is mutual cooperative agreement, there is no tampering fee.

President Peña-45 days is quite a while to go without water.

MOTION MADE BY DANA EAGLEFEATHERS TO COORDINATE RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO REPAIR WATER LINE-NCUC & NCTHA TO WORK TOGETHER FOR HEALTH & SAFETY REASONS. SECOND BY LANE SPOTTEDELK.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		

Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

Dana Eaglefeathers-Can we have Clayton lead the charge?

MOTION MADE BY DANA EAGLEFEATHERS TO HAVE CLAYTON SMALL TAKE THE LEAD ON THE WATER PROJECT. SECOND BY DEBRA CHARETTE.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING. Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Ernest Littlemouth.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Debra Charette	X		
Phillip Beckman			
Eva Foote	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Henry Speelman	X		
Merlin Sioux	X		
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr.			
Waylon Rogers	X		
Dana Eaglefeathers	X		
Vice President Russell			

8 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council by 7 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 2 abstentions this 21st day of May 2019.



Melissa Lonebear, Tribal Secretary
Northern Cheyenne Tribe