

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

RESCHEDULED REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES
March 9, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Acting President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m.

INVOCATION: Diane Spotted Elk

ROLL CALL:

	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Lane Spotted Elk	X		
Debra Charette	X		
Norma Gourneau	X		
Eva Foote	X		
Phillip Beckman	X		
Serena Wetherelt, Acting President *Presided over today's meeting	X		
Melissa Fisher	X		
Diane Spotted Elk	X		
Gwen Talawyma	X		
Silver Little Eagle *Entered session at 10:26 a.m.	X		
Henry Speelman *Bereavement Leave*			X
Total:	10		1

Quorum Established

Sergeant at Arms role has been designated to Diane Spotted Elk from Henry Speelman through written notification for this Council Meeting.

Serena Wetherelt: Good morning, everyone. Lane just let me know that we won't have any budgets today, #2. Are there any other add-ons?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Debra Charette: I just have one announcement—the Colstrip girls will be heading out for State today around 2:30 if anyone wants to go down and cheer them on as they drive through and head out to Bozeman. Their game is at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow.

Norma Gourneau: Yesterday, I attended a meeting, Serena and I, Tribal leaders talked about things that they're doing at the Central Office to get money to the Tribes. They're focusing on

renewable energy initiatives, incentives and grants, land buy back, and timber strike team. As part of that bipartisan infrastructure law that we passed, they're going to focus on fire management, wells, and irrigation. I'll send it to all of you.

Diane Spotted Elk: Thank you.

Serena Wetherelt: I have one resolution I want to add on. It's approving the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Gaming Commission.

ADD ON: A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION

Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Eva Foote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ELDERLY BUDGETS

Diane Spotted Elk: Okay, Silver doesn't have anything for Elderly. There are no budgets. But we'd like to hear Major Robinson on behalf of the Northern Cheyenne Breakout Committee. So, we'll move #6 up to #1.

MAJOR ROBINSON AND GERRY ROBINSON JOINED SESSION VIA ZOOM @ 10:26 A.M.

Major Robinson: Thank you for letting us join. We have a pretty concise presentation and there's a couple items that we would like the Tribal Council to consider. One is the resolution for the membership and renaming of the committee. And second, we have the budget that is used and set aside for the Breakout Committee for the trip down in January for the Commemoration. So, to start with, my name is Major Robinson, I'm Northern Cheyenne and I own Redstone Project Development here in Helena, Montana. I have been working with the Breakout Committee since about 2002. Helping first with the monument that was constructed there at Fort Robinson. I have

a short presentation and would also like to introduce Gerry Robinson, based out of East Helena. He is the author of *The Cheyenne Story* and he's also a researcher that is working with the Committee. So, a couple things I wanted to cover. I think this will help. Many of you have been to Fort Robinson to view the monuments and we've been working very closely with Eva [Foote]. I know Diane [Spotted Elk] has been down there. Lane [Spotted Elk], you as well. We really appreciate all of the support from the Council. The Chair of the committee is Vincent Whitecrane. He's not available this morning, so we'll present our proposal to you all. Currently we are working on the Healing Trail, which runs to the monument and is almost four miles and are in the planning stages of that. We are working closely with Chief Dull Knife College, Dr. Littlebear, they are sponsors. We partnered with the National Trail Association and we're one of the two Tribal trails and they helped us produce this video I will show now [video was presented]. So, I want to continue and we can answer questions as we go. There are other projects that are in mind as well, like an interpretive center, but this is the next phase that we're working on with them. So, I hope that some of you have been down there to the monument, this is the trail we're talking about and continue to work on. Some of the work, we're doing with a Northern Cheyenne architect from Santa Fe, Joseph Kunkel. The good news we wanted to share was that Gerry and I, and some of the other committee members, worked on a grant with the National Park Service. We were successful in receiving this grant for \$149,500. It's a two-year planning grant through Battlefield Preservation. That started this past fall/winter, so we continue to work on that. I'm project manager on that project, Gerry is heading up the research and working with a few other individuals as well. We are working with Joseph's architectural services and working very closely with the committee, meeting once a month. And many of the other planning and research subcommittees meet a couple times a month just to keep the work going. So, we plan on doing an engineering survey, we're working with Teanna as well on the cultural survey. This here is a view of the monument and the place that our ancestors ran to from Fort Robinson. We visit there a couple times a year, during the summer and on January 9th for the Commemoration. We hope some of you can join us this coming January. These are some of the folks that had worked on this over the years, some that we have lost already, but many of them we continue to work with today. So, our request that we have before you is a resolution the committee worked on and discussed the planning for the committee and the trail and workshopped to develop a new name. It originally started out as The Fort Robinson Memorial Foundation Committee. It has over the years, been known as the Northern Cheyenne Breakout Committee. But the Committee has met and has proposed the Northern Cheyenne Journey Home Committee. They feel it accurately represents what the Committee is working on and what happened at Fort Robinson, and that journey home. So, that is our proposal. And the second thing is, some of the original committee members have passed away, so we wanted to re-establish the committee membership with those names that are listed at the bottom of the resolution. That's the first action before the Council.

MELISSA FISHER EXITED SESSION @ 10:35 A.M. AND RE-ENTERED @ 10:40 A.M.

Lane Spotted Elk: I don't have a question, I just have a comment. I really appreciate the work that you guys have been putting into this and I really appreciate the monument. With that, I'll make a motion to approve the resolution.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. DOI-174 (2003) IN THE APPLICABLE SECTIONS FOR RENAMING OF THE FORT ROBINSON MEMORIAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE) AND RE-APPOINTING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, A TRIBAL ORGANIZATION WITH THE LAWFUL AUTHORITY TO COORDINATE, FACILITATE AND PRESERVE COMMEMORATION OF THE FORT ROBINSON BREAKOUT SITE

Motion made by Lane Spotted Elk. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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Major Robinson: Wonderful. If I might add, thank you very much, Nea’ese. This is something that’s been very important for Gerry and I, Vincent and Eva. We’re looking forward to working with new committee members and with this new grant that we have. We’ll continue to bring information to the Council so you know what’s going on. Thank you for your support already. The last item I have is the annual budget and I think you have a copy in front of you. Typically, when we go down in January, the Council, the Tribe itself pays for the trip and stay down there, and the meetings that we have and the ceremony that happens there. This past year, the committee has asked me to be responsible for those funds, so I do have receipts and everything for the amount of money that you allowed us to use, which is \$5,000. With the new growing committee membership, which has basically doubled, for the trip down there, we are requesting \$9,960.00 to use this coming January 2023. So, we wanted to propose this budget to you and we’ll stay for any questions you might have.

Lane Spotted Elk: Major, this is Lane. So, regarding the budget, I think every year the Council budgets \$5,000 for the Breakout Committee. You know, coming in June or July, the Tribe will be doing the budget for the new fiscal year for 2023, so this is something we can keep in mind for the next year’s fiscal year. I guess today, we accept this request and as we prepare next year’s budget, we can factor this in. But it has to go through the Budget and Finance Committee, which is comprised of the Tribal Council as we do our planning for fiscal year 2023.

Major Robinson: Okay, that makes perfect sense. And in the meantime, if the Council has any questions before then, or the budget committee when they meet, we’ll be available for any of

those questions. We want to thank you for allowing this time to present to you all and thank you all for your support of the work that we're doing. Thank you very much.

MAJOR ROBINSON AND GERRY ROBINSON EXITED SESSION VIA ZOOM @ 10:46 A.M.

DISTRICTS

LAME DEER DISTRICT

CONNIE CONSUELO GINGRICH ENTERED SESSION @ 10:48 A.M.

Connie Consuelo Gingrich: Good morning, I would just like the Council and Serena to know that the Lame Deer District will be going into re-election at this time. We had a meeting last Monday, it was a very impromptu meeting. I wasn't informed about the meeting until 4:00 pm, the meeting was at 6:00 p.m. Usually, I get an email from the Director of the building, and I did not receive an email at all. I requested for an email this morning, and she hung up on me and said she would be in meetings all day. So, I still don't have that official document to prove that they even requested the building and how they requested the building. There were several complaints during that meeting, there were personal attacks from the district officers, there were physical attacks to one member, and I was not prepared to go to this meeting. I would just like you guys to know that I need a venue for the next re-election, and I'm not getting anywhere. I've been working on it for the last 2 weeks now. Because of the last Executive Order, it's been difficult. And I'm asking you all to help in that way, even if I can use Tribal Chambers. I know it's going to be a big meeting. Elders want to go, and they can't get into certain parts of Head start, and it's cold. I was also informed that there are two formal complaints against me as a District Secretary by Kristina Red Bird-Quaempts. I plan now to file charges of harassment on her and the District Chair because of the informal attacks I had against me after the meeting. And that's it. I think, if you want any witnesses, I have witnesses outside. They were all elders at this meeting, there's a page, Lame Deer District page on facebook, I do not have access to this page. The comment that was written on this page was that we incited a riot. This meeting was full of female women, elders, how could we incite a riot? That was just uncalled for. I stood with the membership, the officers, they shouldn't have acted accordingly at that meeting. Robert Simpson also told the membership that he was going to resign. He stated in that meeting that he was going to resign. There was no order after the meeting, they felt unsafe, and they requested to have security at this next re-election meeting. I think that's all I have to say, thank you for your time.

Diane Spotted Elk: So, your request is that we provide a venue for your next meeting, and security?

Connie Consuelo Gingrich: Yes, security and a police officer if you can, to stand in. Because the police were informed of this meeting, but they didn't show up. Or after this meeting, they didn't show up.

Diane Spotted Elk: Does anybody have any questions for Connie?

Lane Spotted Elk: Has Lame Deer District talked about an Easter egg hunt?

Connie Consuelo Gingrich: No. I'll add that to the new business. Anything else?

Diane Spotted Elk: Thank you.

CONNIE CONSUELO GINGRICH EXITED @ 10:55 A.M.

MUDDY DISTRICT

Ryhal Rowland: I can do a quick Muddy District update. I guess what we need to do for our Muddy Hall, we have Birney District's supplies in there from the COVID purchases to renovate their hall, and we have Busby District's and they're taking up a large portion of our hall and that's rendering our hall unusable. Because of the space and all of the items in there that we don't want them to get damaged. So, if you guys can reach out to your District and let them know we need to get them out ASAP. If you guys can coordinate somehow to get it done, I don't know who Busby's district rep is. I told Sheldon, but he said it's propane season. If we can make it a priority, that would be nice. That's all I got, thank you.

Eva Foote: What kind of supplies are they?

Melissa Fisher: It's the commercial kitchen equipment that we purchased through CARES. So, I think Birney Hall was just waiting to be secured with doors and stuff. So, if it's secured, we can move it over to Birney.

Ryhal Rowland: There are stoves, ovens, the hood, all of that stuff.

Eva Foote: Who can move it?

Melissa Fisher: Well, CJ is the contractor, so we just have to get in contact with CJ for the district chairs to get that coordinated. Because our stuff was moved over to Ashland.

Ryhal Rowland: There's no way to get a skid steer there. I think we borrowed commodity building's.

Diane Spotted Elk: Okay, thank you.

DEBRA CHARETTE EXITED SESSION AND WALLACE BEARCHUM ENTERED SESSION @ 11:00 A.M.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF FIVE (5) INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette *Briefly absent for vote*				X
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH ADOPTION OF THIRTY-ONE (31) INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette *Briefly absent for vote*				X
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING NAME CHANGES FOR EIGHT (8) MEMBERS ON THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette *Briefly absent for vote*				X

Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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Diane Spotted Elk: Just an announcement, Silver will be presenting for Kyle.

MINUTES

MOTION TO PASS MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 24, 2022 RESCHEDULED REGULAR SESSION COUNCIL MEETING

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette *Briefly absent for vote*				X
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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DEBRA CHARETTE RE-ENTERED SESSION @ 11:06 A.M.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL ACCEPTING AUTHORIZED DONATED FUNDING FROM AMERICAN FORESTS TO HELP WITH REFORESTATION AND AUTHORIZING THE ACTING TRIBAL PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO INITIATE THIS PROCESS

Lane Spotted Elk: I will be reading for him [Terry Spang].

Nizhoni Friesz: He had a revised resolution he gave me, too. It has a new amount on it.

Motion made by Lane Spotted Elk. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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APPROVAL OF NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT WITH ENERGY KEEPERS, INC.

Motion made by Silver Little Eagle. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION APPOINTING VOTERS COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL ELECTIONS AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. DOI-059 (2022)

Motion made by Diane Spotted Elk. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			

Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE CULTURAL COMMISSION AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. DOI-072 (2022)

Eva Foote: I recently learned that there is an alternate position in Cultural Commission, and this new resolution is adding that alternate, which will be Wallace Bearchum.

Motion made by Diane Spotted Elk. Second by Eva Foote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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CLYDE WOLFBLACK ENTERED SESSION @ 11:15 A.M.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE CHIEF DULL KNIFE COLLEGE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES (OSERS): REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (RSA): AMERICAN INDIAN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES (AIVRS) ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER (ALN) 84.250P DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Clyde Wolfblack: Good morning President, Council members, Council women. This morning I wanted to present this resolution for Chief Dull Knife College to submit an application to the Office of...Department of Education, Rehabilitative Services for the American Indian

Vocational Rehab Services for submission of a grant for financial assistance. If you've all had a chance to look over the resolution, if you have any questions, I'd be glad to answer.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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CLYDE WOLFBLACK EXITED SESSION @ 11:18 A.M.

Diane Spotted Elk: Is Mr. Trombley joining us in person, or...?

Nizhoni Friesz: He should be on zoom, but I don't know.

**RECESS @ 11:20 A.M. TO GET OUR NEXT PRESENTER ON ZOOM
RECONVENED @ 11:40 A.M.**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING
NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL
GAMING COMMISSION**

Motion made by Eva Foote. Second by Norma Gourneau.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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Jim Anderson from Department of Corrections joined the session via Zoom and began his presentation. However, technical difficulties made it difficult to effectively communicate, and the meeting with Jim was rescheduled for another time with the Tribal Council.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Phillip Beckman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Lane Spotted Elk	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Phillip Beckman		X		
Melissa Fisher	X			
Diane Spotted Elk	X			
Gwen Talawyma	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Henry Speelman				X

8 votes Yes	1 vote No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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MEETING ADJOURNED @ 11:49 A.M.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council with 6 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 1 abstention this 21st day of March 2022.


 Nizhoni Friesz, Secretary
 Northern Cheyenne Tribe