

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

SPECIAL SESSION

**MINUTES
January 18, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

INVOCATION: Eva Foote

ROLL CALL:

	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Melissa Lonebear	X		
Debra Charette	X		
Norma Gourneau		X	
Eva Foote	X		
Torrey Davie	X		
Serena Wetherelt, President	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President	X		
Silver Little Eagle *arrived @ 9:18 a.m.		X	
Nizhoni Friesz	X		
Donavin Limberhand	X		
Gwen Spottedhorse		X	
Melissa Fisher	X		
Total:	9	3	

Quorum Established

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: We forgot 2 things in that personnel manual but I don't have copies of them. There was educational leave and the telework.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: We tabled that one.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yeah but it got cleaned up. I want to add those. They're basic. Telework, there wasn't much more

MOTION TO ADD TELEWORK TO THE AMENDED POLICY AND ALSO AMENDING EDUCATIONAL LEAVE.

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President	X			
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse				X
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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9:15 a.m. – Councilwoman Charette exited the meeting to get telework policy documents

9:18 a.m. – Councilwoman Little Eagle entered the meeting

9:19 a.m. – Councilwoman Little Eagle exited the meeting to retrieve telework documents

QUORUM NO LONGER ESTABLISHED

9:20 a.m. – Councilwoman Charette entered the meeting

QUORUM RE-ESTABLISHED

****Discussions took place while the rest of the Council waited for Councilwoman Little Eagle to return with the telework policy document.**

9:23 a.m. – Councilwoman Little Eagle entered the meeting

ITEM #1 – LAW & ORDER CONSULTANT

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: This resolution came in when we had the power outage that tripped the internet. I think it was sent to all of us, actually. The only one that didn't get it was Edina. It was a very confidential thing that Brian proposed for an expert witness.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes that because of the specialized nature of the unique professional services provided by Consultant and the desire to improve law and order on the Reservation, it is in the Tribe's best interest to deviate from the regular procurement process under Section 1(A)(3) of the Procurement and Purchasing Manual and hire Consultant; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby deviates from the regular procurement process to hire Consultant to assist the Tribe to improve law and order on the Reservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Tribal President is authorized and directed to sign a contract prepared with the help of the Tribal Attorney which sets forth the terms in the attached December 1, 2023 Consultant proposal and to take any actions consistent therewith.

The consultant is Samuel Winder. That is his proposed hours and getting ready for the deposition, pre-trial, the trial and his travel is all included in that. This will help us with our litigation going forward.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Where are we getting the funds for this?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: We have it set aside. Remember we did it the year before in the permanent fund so it's still sitting there.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Oh yeah.

VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLE MOUTH, SR.: Does he have any credentials?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: He's got his credentials in the

VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLE MOUTH, SR.: Should have been on here too.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Let me ask Brian. He has never testified as an expert before but based on his experience in the Federal arena over the past 29 years, I believe that I have the expertise to assist your team. It would be an honor to assist the Northern Cheyenne Tribe in this incredibly important matter. He was asked to address the following: Based upon the Treaty of 1868. TLOA, ILERA, Indian Tribal Justice Support Act, Indian Country Crimes Act, Major Crimes Act, and the Snyder Act and any regulations based upon those laws, explain the duties of the United States to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe to provide law enforcement and facilities; Did the United States breach those duties. That's what he will address. If you want more, you can ask Brian. Should we ask Brian

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Well, I think we would just probably want to do a meet and greet with him and hear more from him.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Well, when they do the contract, they can include it.

RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH LAW AND ORDER CONSULTANT AND DEVIATE FROM THE REGULAR PROCUREMENT PROCESS.

Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President	X			
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Gwen Spottedhorse				X
Melissa Fisher	X			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: How soon will we be going to trial?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: That's what they're getting set up for us.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: I think there's a timeline. I think it's 2025 they think we're going to be complete with it.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, this will go to the BIA then to a solicitor.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: They are really important to trials, expert witnesses.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: The other one that Pine Ridges uses is their old Chief of Police but theirs was on a different matter. Aljin Young.

ITEM #2 – AMENDMENT TO PERSONNEL POLICY

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, the telework. This is the policy. It didn't exist so this will be inserted. We will figure out where to put it exactly.

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: The only thing that I was having questions on is the second paragraph, at the end. I was wondering if you want to exempt the supervisors because that would solve the question we were asking.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I would say so because they need to be present at their worksite. For the educational leave, we are just taking out the year requirement.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2 AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL POLICY INCLUDING THE TELEWORK AND THE EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President	X			
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Gwen Spottedhorse				X
Melissa Fisher	X			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: The only other thing is that week of the 29th, 30th and 31st, Housing is the 29th through 30th at the casino.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: That one was change.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Did they cancel it?

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Yeah, she put it on the group. It's February 26th and 27th.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Well, that's good because then we have the County Attorney coming and then I just put the thing on there for Erin bringing down the FBI.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: When is that? On the 31st also?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I think it's on the 30th. January 30th at 8:30 to meet with the FBI Victims Services Division.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Also, since both of you are in the room. Can you guys get Ray to switch us over from one and one to google suites since we pay for it.

VICE-PREIDENT LITTLEMOUTH, SR.: I didn't know that.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: We're having problems with our one and one, Cheyenne Nation email. You know, we paid all that money for google suites. We need to use it.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice-President	X			
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Gwen Spottedhorse				X
Melissa Fisher	X			

9 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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MEETING ADJOURNED @ 9:34 A.M.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council with 9 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 0 abstention on this 20th day of February 2024.



Edina Redstar, Secretary
Northern Cheyenne Tribe