

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

SPECIAL SESSION

MINUTES

July 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

INVOCATION: Nizhoni Friesz

ROLL CALL:

	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Melissa Lonebear	X		
Debra Charette.	X		
Norma Gourneau	X		
Eva Foote		X	TRAVEL
Torrey Davie	X		
Serena Wetherelt, President	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President		X	TRAVEL
Silver Little Eagle	X		
Nizhoni Friesz	X		
Donavin Limberhand	X		
Gwen Spottedhorse	X		
Melissa Fisher	X		
Total:	10	2	

Quorum Established

ITEM #1 ON THE AGENDA – EXCLUSION

DISCUSSION:

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: The first WHEREAS, strike the TiPi Ranch. Just put range units, plural.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Actually, I think it's only 24A.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: That's why I said to strike it because they don't have the documentation

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: BIA is doing those. 24A is when we stepped in.

COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU: Can we go back and look at that 3rd Whereas on the 2nd page? *Reads the 3rd whereas out loud.*

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: Formally given notice.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: That the Tribe imposed legal sanctions.

COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU: The Tribe imposed legal action or the Tribe was imposing legal action?

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: And were given full notice.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Strike “was.” When you do these, when it’s all cleaned up, we should probably use the full name, just put it in the minutes. Also recommend, in my opinion, they were not fine enough. That kid would do it again. That young man was so disrespectful.

COUNCILMAN FISHER: When we were in there, I said this isn’t final because Andy said I still need to look at the damage for the allottees because there are several allottees. That is why I said it’s not final with the amount that Gene gave them because the assessment is not done on the allottee side so it shouldn’t be final.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: They kept saying agreement and I told them this is not an agreement. This is not a negotiation. They broke our law and they have to pay. In the future

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: I think on that ordinance it said we could take it times 2.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I think this is a lesson to us too. Like for him, he went into 4 range units. It should have been that amount times 4. His cows ate the grass up in every unit.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: There were 2 farm and pasture leases. I think that would have been 4 ranch, lower tipi, 3M and 24 A range units.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Maybe we need to go over the ordinance too and look at the range and grazing. It should be that amount per unit. We are going to charge them that amount for how ever many units they went into. This one is a learning experience for all of us.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: The thing about it to is that we need to have that documentation because they have to be checked so many days that they were there.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: What’s crazy is that they knew that. They would keep them there for 10 day and then they would start over.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: When they were told by the BIA to move them in 3 days, they did but they just moved them to another unit.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: That's my question. How did they know which units were vacant?

COUNCILMAN LIMBERHAND: I don't even know the units. When they say 24A, 3M. I know them by the creeks. I don't know them by the BIA's map.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I'm a landowner and I don't even know my own units. He said he just took a picture of the map.

COUNCILMAN LIMBERHAND: Took a picture of the map and just went to that unit.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: In May, my uncle Allen was sending me pictures of cows and said whose cows are in 3M and again, hey there's cows in 3M. I said I don't know, where's 3M at? I said I don't even know creeks, I don't know roads. I just know Crazyheads.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: In all seriousness of this and to have a tribal member that was guiding them along the whole way. It's common knowledge of who it was. I was told last night that his mother is even running cows. So, everything needs to be tightened up and it's up the grazing board to establish a stricter boundary.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: If we were start an investigation into that, who would do that? Would it be Tommy?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Why do you think when we had it in that AFA and everything we signed said we could do a 100% compliance check, why do you think it blew up and they all ended up in here. They didn't want nobody out there because they would be messing with fees.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: If the grantors need to do that then change the ordinance. They all need to come together and change the ordinance.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Yesterday after some of the council went out to go to another meeting, Andy was telling me, Gene and Tommy that there are unidentified cows in JT's moms. They already checked. They are registered in Montana. They are not registered in South Dakota so their next step is to see if they are registered in Wyoming.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: Not only that but when they are subleasing under the table, only the people that are getting the Tribal lease are the ones that are getting the money not the people that the land belongs to.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: It's taking from the allottees and it's taking from the Tribe in general.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, Andy said he wants Gene and Tommy and himself to get with Brian and John Grinsell to start that investigation on JT. Gene was already here this morning. He was having discussions with Trish. Trish does have the pictures of the hoof prints

all over those graves and the tire marks. They knocked down headstones and they drove over those graves.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: That makes me feel like they were doing all of this at night.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: The agreement was with JT and Ross and now Ross is no longer here. JT was smoothing over the coals with Jennie. Jennie is kind of, you know, she is getting up there in age. They had chains and locks, like extra locks on those gates out there. When Trisha and them went out there that first time, they had to park at the road and walk to those graves. The next time, they just brought a cutter and they cut that chain and went in. They went to those graves and they went up there. That's when she found those headstones were knocked over and those cow tracts were all over and there were tire tracts, fresh tire tracts across those graves. She was devastated. She came back into town and she was crying. She said I don't even know why my dad did, I don't know the whole situation but I don't like it. I don't like the deal that is going on out there. We are locked out of the graves, now they ruined headstones. They knocked those headstones down and they drove over the graves.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Trisha should do a financial breakdown of her loss just for that part.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, what happen was they had to take down that fence to put Ross where they wanted him. They had to take down the fence. Normally there is a fence around those graves but they had to take down that fence to put Ross where Jennie wanted him and they didn't have the man power to put the fence back up so that's why the fence was still down. Gene came and talked to Trisha. He told Trisha to work with me or Melissa to get everything wrote out. I told her first of all, you need to print out those pictures. I'll help her. She did call Jennie. She did tell Jennie that she could no longer accept anymore payments from JT and not to let anyone else go out there. Ross isn't here no more. That must have been who the agreement was with was Ross and JT. When Ross passed away then JT was giving Jennie money. So, Trish is going to work on everything and she did call Jennie and told her not to accept anything from JT and that they are investigating. They are starting an investigation on this.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Ok.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: It's NCIS?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Andy said he wants to get John, or NCIS on board so they can start the investigation.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: But BIA is the one initiating the investigation, is that what you are saying?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Andy said he wants to meet with Tommy and Gene

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: I'm just trying to figure out who the investigation will be under.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: This is an ordinance excluding Christian Harvey, Kris Harvey and Gus Harvey from the exterior boundaries of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation and it is for 100 years.

ORDINANCE EXCLUDING CHRISTIAN HARVEY, KRIS HARVEY AND GUS HARVEY FROM THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE RESERVATION

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Donavin Limberhand.

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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MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Silver Little Eagle.

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 @ 1:30 P.M.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council with 10 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 1 abstention on this 8th day of August 2023.



Edina Redstar, Secretary
Northern Cheyenne Tribe