

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

**REGULAR SESSION COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**  
April 18, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Fisher called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m.

**INVOCATION:** Joe Fox, Jr.

**ROLL CALL:**

	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>Personal Leave</b>
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>President Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		

Quorum Established

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tracy Robinson-Friday is MT WY TLC, Ivan Posey retired, it would be beneficial to go up there and support that they move the Vice Chair to act in the Chair position, it seems like the vote has been one sided. We should all try to make the meeting, it's Friday at 9:00.

Lame Deer High School Tribal Government Class in attendance.

**NORTHERN CHEYENNE LANGUAGE-ALLEN CLUBFOOT**

Allen Clubfoot-Thanks for having us this morning for your agenda. We've been working on the Cheyenne Language for awhile, the original one was passed in 96. We formed a group, Northern Cheyenne Preservation Coalition Group, to get this amended. When we were having our meetings, every Wed. at the Culture Center. The group picked Burt Medicine Bull to be the spokesperson for the group. We asked elders from every district to speak.

Burt Medicine Bull-Cheyenne Speaking

Hugh Clubfoot-Birney District-Cheyenne Speaking

Albert LaRance-Ashland District-Cheyenne Speaking. The loss of language really scares me, it will be forever forgotten. The Cheyenne language is difficult to learn, I grew up with it all my life, and lost it when I went to school. Hopefully you'll give us some help with this.

Gilbert Whitedirt-Muddy District-Cheyenne Speaking

Some of us talk our language, it's about time to bring it back. Are we ashamed of it? Let's get our language back. Crow takes pride, they talk their language, they're not ashamed of it. I'm 78 years old, maybe I live to long already. We understand each other, we have to know our ways, we have to respect our people. Today, let's get our language back. Let's not be ashamed of it. I'm glad to talk today, I'm in a lot of turmoil, the elk horn scraper side. We're still here, we're supposed to tell everybody, do this in a good way. Today, we fight each other. I use both languages. I'm glad everybody heard me out today. I hope by what I said, I hope people understand me. Creator give us language, we have two languages over here English, and Cheyenne. Today, some have lost the language. We'll get it back some day, somehow. Let's take it serious, not make fun of anybody when they say. I'm glad to be here and talk today.

Helen Yellowrobe-Busby District-Cheyenne Speaking

I'm happy to be here, they did mention Cheyenne language was on the menu, whether or not to keep it. I and my husband talk Cheyenne in my house. My son understands, and I speak to my grandkids, so they at least understand it. Cheyenne was my main language.  
Cheyenne Speaking.

Buford Curley-Lame Deer District-Cheyenne Speaking

Joe Littlecoyote-I want to thank Allen for giving me this opportunity. I want to thank the Council for taking the time undertaking this. I'm retired now, this is the first opportunity to address anyone on this language manner. I have a lot of thoughts about it. I deal with it, I write oral history for the Cheyenne. I was raised by my grandparents since I was four years old. The language I speak is from my grandparents, they came straight off the plains. When I address anyone in public, I've always been taught to stand up. A lot don't realize we're made up of two peoples. It's slowly going away, we shouldn't have to have this kind of meeting to adopt the language as the official language of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. We only have one thing, Sweet Medicine and Stands on the Earth, don't forget our ways, or we'll disappear. This is not an economic language, so what value does it have? If we don't want to forget who we are as a people, we need to keep our language. I have ideas of how it can be preserved, within two generations the Mauri restored their language themselves. We should figure out or own method on how to preserve our language. We should not forget who we are as a people, not only our language but our ways. How do we pass on our Cheyenne spirit? We need to preserve our language and our ways. We don't want to disappear.

Demonstrations from Lame Deer School.

Mildred Red Cherries-I teach language, history, and culture. I taught my kids that language is our identity. I've been teaching them Cheyenne. When we were coming down, here I told the kids to write down what they think of the language.

Statements from students in Cheyenne and English.

Larry Medicine Bull-We come down here from Tribal Government class to listen. Some of us are retaining the language, it's a good thing that we're doing that. I'm not going to give up on the language, I'm going to keep encouraging it. I didn't have to read it, I didn't have to write it, I learned it orally.

Pam Sooktis-I'm the language teacher for childcare. Statement read into record. Out of 30 providers that teach our kids, only 8 of them are Cheyenne speaking.

Ann Knowshisgun-I'm applying for a grant from the Kellogg Foundation. I estimated \$107,000 that we're asking for. We're supporting Dull Knife, and in return they're supporting us. Class VII Cheyenne language teachers: Adeline Spotted Elk, Victoria Bearcomesout, Adeline Fox.

Adeline Fox-Cheyenne Speaking

Adeline Spotted Elk-Cheyenne Speaking

Victoria Bearcomesout-Cheyenne Speaking

Melissa Lonebear-I want to thank Vicki and Burt for teaching my kids, they know more than I do. My fourth grade son is learning to speak in sentences. She's doing that by writing it in English so they are learning it.

Mildred Redcherries-I teach my kids phonetics, inevitably, we'll have to know this. My kids know about 400 words.

Burt Medicine Bull-I teach that way at the college. I write it in English and phonetically. What we're asking for is for you to recognize us, support us, so we can create curriculum. Headstart, Kindergarten, all the way up, we create a curriculum at the college level too. I write it on the board, pronounce it, and record it. In Cheyenne language 3 & 4, they start reading and writing it. This springtime, we have our awards banquet, we have 8 more. We're here to ask for your support, we come here in a nice way. Thank you for your leadership, and for giving this change to present our critically endangered language to you.

President Fisher-I was the Tribal Chairman in 1993 or 1994, the Council passed a resolution to have Dull Knife to start teaching the Cheyenne language. I certified the first two Class VII teachers. It took this long to become a reality so to speak.

Florene Whiteman-The Whereas, Wayne Leman, and Dan Alford, does that give them the copyright?

Sheldon King-Why aren't we trying to incorporate Cheyenne language in our communities. Can we set up a language class in the community? Offer incentives, I was fortunate to come home from Minnesota, and had Burt Medicinebull. Language is a big thing, my mom tells me that over and over. Not everybody can be Title VII certified, our elders are instilled in Cheyenne. In Cheyenne, if you say one thing a little bit wrong, they laughed at you. I miss those days being able to sit with the elders in Busby.

Jace Killsback-I tell my mom this, how many of you speak Cheyenne? How many of your kids speak Cheyenne? We don't need to be certified to teach this language, the incentive has to be, this language is going to die. We have to start thinking outside the box. Our generation and younger, we don't know Cheyenne. All the Cheyenne speakers, make fun of us, and make fun of us for not knowing the language.

Tracy Robinson-Everybody here is all in favor of this and support this. This Ordinance is missing a lot, and needs more work. Rather than passing it today, I would like to work with some of you to get this right. I was told that this is amending 10 (97).

Conrad Fisher-We need to come up with an orthography, it gets a little more extreme. When we look at our younger generation. Being made fun of, does psychological damage. That shouldn't be a deterrent. The determining factor was that I could be just as fluent as they are. Prove that you can be a Cheyenne speaker. There's many ways you can look at the fluency of Cheyenne language.

Florene Whiteman-This started in 1993, it was a govt to govt, state to state. Florence Whiteman was the first Class VII in the state of MT.

**MOTION MADE BY TRACY ROBINSON TO TABLE THE LANGUAGE ORDINANCE -THE TRIBAL COUNCIL WILL WORK WITH THE COUNCIL TO PUT THE ORDINANCE TOGETHER. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY AT 5:00 P.M. IT WILL BE PLACED ON THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA. SECOND BY BENJI HEADSWIFT.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>	X		

<b>9 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**PERMANENT FUND UPDATE-RESCHEDULED**

**HEADSTART UPDATE-CLYDE WOLFBLACK**

Information included in packet.

**BIA SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE-NOT PRESENT**

**IHS UPDATE-NOT PRESENT**

**BUDGETS**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION AND OR ADOPTION OF CERTAIN BUDGETS FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS: 398-331A.** Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Benji Headswift.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

**8 votes Yes      0 votes No      0 Abstentions      Motion Carried**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE BUDGET PROCESSING POLICY.** Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Conrad Fisher.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

**8 votes Yes      0 votes No      0 Abstentions      Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 5, 2016, OCTOBER 12, 2015, OCTOBER 19, 2015, OCTOBER 27, 2015.** Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Benji Headswift.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		Abstain on 10/19
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		Abstain on 10/27
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

<b>6 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>2 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**DEVIL’S TOWER NAME CHANGE-TEANNA LIMPY**

Teanna Limpy-Aside from the updates, Tribes had a caucus, and the window to change this name is closing with President Obama going out of office. It also signifies some of the NC cultural history. That is our goal for the end of the year. We’ve ask the Crow Tribe to use their legal to take this to Obama.

Conrad Fisher-This is a very real issue. Devil’s Tower has been a thorn on the side. Many attempts have been made to change this name. There’s opposition by local people. One of the arguments that Tribes have is too many times we have someone else that identifies sites for us, our own sacred sites. We have many origin areas there. The Black Hills area is home to the Tsististas. We can look at that area and find sites, we can find that area and find cultural depth. We have to realize that we can’t do this alone. If we have enough support, by Non-Indians, we need legal people to push this forward.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE NAME CHANGE OF DEVIL’S TOWER NATIONAL MONUMENT TO BEAR LODGE NATIONAL MONUMENT LOCATED SOUTH OF HULETT, WY.** Motion made by Conrad Fisher. Second by Tracy Robinson.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

<b>8 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**THPO/FHW MOA-TEANNA LIMPY**

Teanna Limpy-This has gone through the 106 and NEPA, it is located in the Black Hills area.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE AND THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER, AND THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION REGARDING THE SOUTH ROCHFORD PROJECT IN PENNINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.** Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Benji Headswift.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

<b>8 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**DEPUTATION AGREEMENT-TRACY ROBINSON**

Tracy Robinson-Law Enforcement is understaffed, the Drug Task Force, one of the questions we asked them was why can't we get people here. One of the things was they can't pass the backgrounds.

**AUTHORIZING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TO ENTER INTO DEPUTATION AGREEMENT WITH MONTANA DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.** Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Conrad Fisher.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		

<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

**8 votes Yes      0 votes No      0 Abstentions      Motion Carried**

**NCTBOH CREDIT CARD POLICY-L. JACE KILLSBACK**

Jace Killsback-The credit card, the Treasurer came to the meeting. There was an issue dealing with the ability to take out cash. The other thing was that there was a resolution passed that restricted credit cards. It would have been nice to know that she did have issues with it, since it was passed two months ago.

Conrad Fisher-In the past, there's been a controversy on the issuance of credit cards. How are we going to guarantee that those credit cards are not being abused?

Jace Killsback-The reason Tami was in agreement with it is because it had language to withdraw cash, we took that completely out.

Sheldon King-She gave her blessing?

Jace Killsback-Yes, and Willie can attest to that.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL BOARD OF HEALTH'S CREDIT CARD POLICY AND AUTHORIZING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL BOARD OF HEALTH TO OBTAIN AND UTILIZE CREDIT CARD FOR TRAVEL PURPOSES.**

Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Benji Headswift.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
<b>Sheldon King</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

**8 votes Yes      0 votes No      0 Abstentions      Motion Carried**

**INTEGRATED ORAL HEALTH PROJECT-L. JACE KILLSBACK**

L. Jace Killsback-We partner with MSU to work on this study.



Tracy Robinson-Will they utilize Headstart?

Jace Killsback-it's for the betterment of the children.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE "HEALTHY SMILES – HEALTHY LIFE – INTEGRATED ORAL HEALTH PROJECT". Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Conrad Fisher.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

<b>8 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**NORTHERN CHEYENNE HISTORIES PROJECT-NORMA BIXBY**

Tracy Robinson-We tabled this a month ago, they've used it before.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE COUNCIL APPROVING OF THE USE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL SEAL FOR INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL PUBLICATION ENTITLED "MONTAN INDIANS – THEIR HISTORY AND LOCATION TRIBAL", AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS THAT DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE WHEN DEVELOPED BY THE MONTANA OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR DISTRIBUTION. Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Sheldon King.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>			<b>ABSENT</b>

<b>8 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**HOMESITE LEASE FOR CONRAD FISHER**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL ALLOWING CONRAD FISHER, LAME DEER DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO HAVE A HOMESITE. Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Joe Fox, Jr.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>			X
<b>Vice President Russell</b>	X		

**8 votes Yes      0 votes No      1 Abstention      Motion Carried**

**\*Resolution was not submitted to BIA due to not receiving the land description and it not being a requirement of the land authority.**

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING. Motion made by Tracy Robinson. Second by Willie Rowland.**

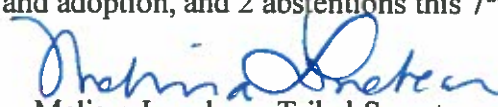
**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
<b>Sheldon King</b>	X		
<b>Eloise Snow</b>			
<b>Joe Fox, Jr.</b>	X		
<b>Tracy Robinson</b>	X		
<b>Merlin Sioux</b>	X		
<b>Benji Headswift</b>	X		
<b>Willie Rowland</b>	X		
<b>Oly McMakin</b>	X		
<b>Conrad Fisher</b>	X		
<b>Vice President Russell</b>	X		

**9 votes Yes      0 votes No      0 Abstentions      Motion Carried**

**Adjourned at 12:46 p.m.**

**PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED** by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council by 8 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 2 abstentions this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December 2016.

  
 Melissa Lonebear, Tribal Secretary  
 Northern Cheyenne Tribe