

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

**REGULAR SESSION**

**MINUTES**

April 2, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**INVOCATION:** Councilwoman Silver Little Eagle

**ROLL CALL:**

	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>
<b>Melissa Lonebear</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Debra Charette</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Norma Gourneau</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Eva Foote</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Torrey Davie</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Serena Wetherelt, President</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Silver Little Eagle</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Nizhoni Friesz</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Donavin Limberhand *arrived @ 9:04 a.m.</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Gwen Spottedhorse</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Melissa Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	

Quorum Established

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Good morning. Before we have our agenda with 11 items. 2 announcements. First announcement is the I.H.S. acting CEO is not available today so we'll scratch #1. I would like to make a motion to table #11.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** Second.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** We will have a working session before we bring it forth.

**MOTION TO TABLE ITEM #11 ON THE AGENDA.**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Torrey Davie.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried
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**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I just wanted to mention the Big Water, it's a health and housing needs assessment planning session today and tomorrow. They'll have a community meeting this evening. I think it's from 6 to 8.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Yeah. Is that going to be at the casino too?

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** I guess kind of explain it in a little more detail. It's to gather information similar to a census so that we can have better statistics for the Housing Authority to go by. Currently they're going by statistics from the Counties and surrounding communities that is not going to give us the correct numbers since this place is so different. I encourage everyone to go over there and attend that community meeting. All the program directors and basically everybody that works for the Tribe to go over there at some point today.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Yeah. I think everyone got invitations and all of the programs too.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Thank you Torrey. Thank you, Melissa.

**ITEM #1 – INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE UPDATE**

Indian Health Service Acting CEO unavailable today.

**ITEM #2 – BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS UPDATE**

**SECRETARY REDSTAR:** I did send him an invite and he did accept so I am not sure why he is not here.

### **ITEM #3 – ELDERLY UPDATE**

**SECRETARY REDSTAR:** She also said she would be here.

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### **ITEM #4 – NCT-RSP / FREEDOM FOREVER**

**DONICA BRADY:** Good morning everybody. While we get started, I have some Freedom Forever swag, if you guys want some. There're cups, hats, beanies.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** You know I want a cup. What you talking about? What are you asking for? Give me a cup. You know I want a cup.

**DONICA BRADY:** You guys might have to arm wrestle for it.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** You only brought one cup for everyone to fight over.

**DONICA BRADY:** Good morning. Round 2. Ok. So, Freedom Forever wasn't able to join us today. Devyn really wanted to be here today but she had a loss in her family so we're kind of filling in just a little bit. There were a couple of things that we wanted to say on their behalf but can't say too much because, well, we're not them. Just looking at this, the dark green, is where Freedom Forever is. The Tribe was able to pair with one of the biggest solar companies. Go ahead Daniel, you know more about the numbers.

**DANIEL EAST:** Yeah. Just wanted to mention a couple of things. that it's pretty ----- that the Tribe is able to partner with one of the biggest solar companies in the United States. They just opened an office in Montana after completing several jobs in 7 ----- and actively hiring in this region and already hired some local residents of the reservation. The numbers at the bottom show the number of panels they installed so far. Here are just a couple of pictures that Devyn Waitt, the Program Manager. She wasn't able to make it today and had to cancel her trip at the last minute, unfortunately. She has been dedicated resource, 100 percent, to the grant. Not only the department of broadband. They have hired Otto, whose job is to pursue grant opportunities with Tribes. I would just say that they are not just contractors coming in to do work. They have been inspired by Northern Cheyenne and are eager to learn how to do this work respectfully and to expand the type of support that they can provide in Indian country. Is there anything else that you want to add Donica about Freedom Forever? You work with them pretty closely.

**DONICA BRADY:** So, Freedom Forever; Devyn, Jessica, Josh. All of them. I think I mentioned a little bit last time on how respectful and how careful they are around here. Especially with our, I guess, someone who holds pretty good status in our community. If I can speak a little on the fact that, with everything that just happened with William. I was really impressed on how they handled themselves. When they found out, one of the first things they asked was, how can we help? What can we do? I was able to help guide them in our ways. I told them a little bit about the significance behind the baskets, why we burn our wood, why we do things the way we do. They didn't hesitate to help out. For me, personally, that meant so

much because there's not a lot of outside entities that'll do that. They'll come in, do what they need to do, get their money and head out. It made me feel good and they were so thoughtful with the stuff that they got, that they gave to the family. I was really impressed. I was really touched. It made me feel good to be able to work with them. Devyn, she was here for a little bit during the first phase. She was super excited to be here. She loves coming here. She loved how green it was. I was teasing her. I said, wait until it's a little more brown because we had a lot of rain last year. If the Tribe has any sort of questions, she is the main point of contact for Freedom Forever. That's her email right there. It's [dwaitt@freedomforever.com](mailto:dwaitt@freedomforever.com). I've had a lot of really good conversations with this lady. The first thing she said is, I don't want to disrespect anybody on the tribal council. How can I make sure that I don't do that? I told her, as long as you be yourself. She's super bubbly. I'm hoping that later on the phase 2, if the Tribe decides to go with Freedom Forever, that you guys get to hang out with her. She is pretty cool. Laura Ford, I only got to sit down with her once. Her role in what she does at Freedom Forever is huge. Like just specific to working with Native American communities. That shows me that Freedom Forever is really taken to heart the impact that they can have. The impact of just respectful to us as Native Americans. Devyn wanted me to give those out so probably afterwards. I'll leave that box somewhere. There're all kinds of sweet stuff in there.

**DANIEL EAST:** Donica and Sonny shared with the Council a month ago some updates. All 15 units are up and running. We are able to monitor these from afar and actually begin to see which days are sunny, less sunny and we can see how well the systems are doing. We can even diagnose issues. This graph shows solar production for Montana. This also monitors how much energy the home uses. We've been learning a lot and are eager to utilize these types of products. Donica's been in here doing some training with the solar pods. Is there anything you want to share about your experience in this phase? Once we do the install, we are going to be monitoring them for 20-25 years.

**DONICA BRADY:** So, I know it just looks like a lot of bar graphs but on the side here it shows its kilowatt hours. So, the systems that were installed are rated at 10 kilowatt hours. That means in one hour that is how much it can produce with very good sunlight. You can see the fluctuations. All this stuff I learned of their cool little training thing. They have a whole academy dedicated to it. You can get on there and learn about it. You can ask Silver. I kind of went off. You can look at them through the month, through daily usage, through lifetime. When it gets lower here, I believe this is when we had some snow and so there was a little bit of snow build up. The other cool thing about this is that we can add the participant on to it so they can monitor their own. It's the solar edge app. This thing is one of the coolest things I've been able to figure out. I can see everybody's. I'd put it on there but it has names. The daily production. They all access everything from their phone. He spoke a little bit on ----- which is the consumption. What those are is that it hooks up to the circuit in your breaker box. It monitors how much energy is being used. How much power or electricity is being used by whatever appliance is plugged in. It can let you know, like say if you leave the house and you accidentally left your oven on, there will be a little notification that says oven left on. The purpose of the consumption is to help educate everybody on how much energy they use. If they want to upgrade their appliances they can see which one is using more power. I have it installed at my home. It tells me that my subpanel takes everything. It's really easy to add. With a working email, we can add people. Add the participants so they can see the stuff their stuff on there. So,

they can monitor their production. They can monitor their consumption. Which is one of the things that we had talked about in the beginning so to actually see it come about is pretty cool. It does take a few months for them to see anything in their bill. So, we are getting to the area where they are starting to notice the ups and downs. That's a whole other slide that maybe we will have next time. Once we hand everything over, once the Tribe is ready to take on this responsibility, we can help train up anybody to be able to look at this and know what they are looking at to see what's going on. I, for one, my favorite thing. I check it at least two or three times a day. There was a point where we had one array that had a fried optimizer. An optimizer is. Has anyone looked at the arrays that were installed. There is a little black box in the back of the solar panels. There's 40 of them. One of those fried. I don't know why. I wish I had a reason but sometimes things just happen. But because that fried, I was able to learn how to go install it. I was out there in really deep snow. I have pictures. We were able to see which panel, which optimizer specifically that was acting up instead of having to go and test each one individually. So, that is the cool thing about Solar Edge monitoring platform is that we can see it before we go out there. Go ahead Daniel.

**DANIEL EAST:** Thanks, Donica. As the phase 1 is closing out. Phase 2, we will be working with the Department of Energy to re-allocate the budget; modify the budget to do more residential homes. The next phase has three commercial sites in Busby tribal buildings and then also, hopefully, another 55 homes. Part of that process, there's going to be a lot of things coming up in the coming weeks and months for us to be able to move forward with this and get these installed this year. One of the first steps is to re-open the application process. A handful of names left over from this process a couple of years ago. Donica's been working really hard to get that application ready, launching it and then she will be going out there to the communities, meeting with homeowners; helping them understand the program; getting all of their paperwork. So, that's where that's at. We are ready for the green light to do that. Freedom Forever is already working on some contract updates with the tribal lawyers for the next phase. Then tomorrow, --- ----- and I should be there tomorrow. We are going to do a site assessment of the Busby School, Head Start. Those are part of the three locations that are designated to get solar. If you remember, there was a shared savings program. This was a pretty innovative piece that was passed by resolution last fall when we were just starting the program and it allows for the tribe; it actually sets up a third-party entity to help handle those transactions. Basically, to help collect some of the savings that the solar generates so that the tribe can be monitoring the systems. Have someone who is looking at those graphs and helping to repair things when things are damaged or get turned off or need to be rebooted or replaced. That shared savings programs are going to help make that possible. That system will be starting up this summer. As of right now, those 15 homes that have solar, they are retaining all of the savings. In that graph that we showed, it's showing 1.41 megawatt hours for the month of March. That's roughly \$130 towards savings that this homeowner got for the month March. In the winter, which is not even the highest production months. That homeowner is receiving the whole savings of their energy bill right now. When the program starts up, the Tribe will start to retain some of the value and pay for some of the monitoring and maintenance. So, that is all coming up. I've only another short slide left but I just want to offer it to Donica again. She's been really working closely with all the homeowners on that particular process. She's done a lot of work to get it ready and just for the 15 homes. So, now that we are doing roughly 55 more, Donica, do you want to speak to your role in that or what that process looks like.

**DONICA BRADY:** I think I mentioned last time that we have a digital application and a paper application. I'm hoping that we can have a drop box here at the tribe. We can check that however often that you guys want me to. Our thoughts behind it, the way we streamlined the app. They sent over a draft last week. Super, simple couple pages. When this launches, I am hoping that I can get all the district reps to help me promote this. I don't care if I get 300 applications, 400 applications. I want everybody to apply because if and when the opportunity for more funding becomes available, having that many people on deck will be more of an incentive for people for grant monies for our funding opportunities. As far as the application process goes, it's fairly simple. If an applicant fills out a paper app, I'll upload it on the digital form. It'll automatically get put in our tracking system. Everything is almost all automated except the upload process. I highly recommend everyone do the digital. It's a lot quicker and it has a time stamp because I think we cover the selection criteria before. One of the deciding factors; if someone is absolutely the same across the board is when they apply. The application is 3 pages. There's a contact page. There's a how you want to get in contact with us, how you want us to get in contact with you. Everything is just circle or simple information input. Tried to make it as easy as I could for everyone. I know there's some people, they like to be techy and do it online and there's some people who prefer to do things physically, with physical media in hand, which is me. Even though I have my phone and computer all the time. Does anyone have any questions about that?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** No, but thank you for your work on this. I've seen the solar panels at the different homes. I think it's exciting. The more households we can serve, I think it's better for everyone. So, I appreciate what you're doing.

**DONICA BRADY:** I appreciate you all. I mean, without you guys doing the, getting the grant and everything, I wouldn't have this position. I wouldn't be here. I wouldn't be able to help anyone else in our community. Thank you. I think it's pretty cool.

**DANIEL EAST:** She certainly mentioned the selection criteria that has been presented in the past but we worked with Silver and the Solar Energy Committee to make sure that the selection process is fair for everyone. Like Donica was saying, we hope everyone applies. William worked very closely with Indigenized Energy and a new coalition of tribes with Northern Plains Coalition that applied for some money through the EPA and fingers crossed, we'll be hearing back from them in the next couple of weeks whether they are wanting to do another 200 homes on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. That would include batteries and energy efficiency. We're very excited about that. I just wanted throw a little timeline chart to show the importance of the timing. The DOE reviewing of the application now. There's work on the contract to be signed with the EDC and Freedom Forever. Then there's material; recruitment and training; the full installation is still a month away. The more that we can keep moving things along, the better chance we have of installing these this year. There'll be more hiring opportunities. The next will include roof tops. It's real exciting that we get the word out about the applications. Through that we can figure out where the opportunities are. With that, I'll just open it up to any questions anyone has. Once again, sorry but I got stranded in Arizona last night but I'm grateful for this opportunity. It's so great to see this progress and to know that folks are learning how to install the solar panels. It's good to see Donica jump in head first and learn about everything and

help educate the homeowners. That's really powerful to witness. Very grateful for this. Thank you.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Thank you.

**DONICA BRADY:** Anyone have any questions? I think we answered all the questions.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Just let us know when the application

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** When you need us to

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Yeah. When we need to help with the application process.

**DONICA BRADY:** Ok. First, I need it ok'd by the Sustainable Energy Committee.

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** Would we have to pass it by resolution? The application.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I would say at a committee level you could pass it.

**DONICA BRADY:** Ok. Thank you.

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## **ITEM #5 – INDIGENOUS ENERGY**

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## **ITEM #6 – BIA ARCHAEOLOGIST FUNDING**

**TEANNA LIMPY:** Good morning everybody. I have a resolution to present for BIA Archaeologist funding. I'll go ahead and read the resolution. A resolution of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council authorizing funding from the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Historic Preservation Office from the DOI-Bureau of Indian Affairs to hire an archaeologist to conduct cultural surveys for BIA projects. It'll be for special projects that the BIA Forestry has been wanting to complete for several years now and they applied for funding to get these projects completed. One idea was to transfer money to THPO to hire an archaeologist to get these pending projects completed so they can move forward with their logging projects, their harvesting projects, hazardous fuels projects. The BIA only has one archaeologist for all 8 reservations right now so the archaeologist is pretty constraint to the amount of time they can dedicate to a tribe. This is one of the mechanisms that we came up with to try to get these priority projects for the BIA completed. Therefore, be it resolved that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council hereby accepts funding from the DOI-Bureau of Indian Affairs to hire an Archaeologist for BIA projects that will be administered by the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** I'll make that motion to approve.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** I have a question. Have we missed this January 17 deadline?

**TEANNA LIMPY:** No. I was able to get my proposal in and Alicia authorized the ASAP. I got it in on time. He asked for the resolution, budget and job description. So, I attached the job description onto the packet. That’s the one I’ll use when I do the advertisement for the archaeologist.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Do you have one in mind?

**TEANNA LIMPY:** No. I’m hoping I can field good candidates. If not, we might have to go through contracts like an archaeologist firm and see if they can bring somebody from their firm down to the reservation. Have to make a contract with them for it. It’s really hard to get people to want to come work here since we’re so isolated and there’s not much housing or hotels or anything like that. Hopefully we get some candidates who are interested and will apply.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL  
AUTHORIZING FUNDING TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION OFFICE FROM THE DOI-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TO HIRE  
AN ARCHAEOLOGIST TO CONDUCT CULTURAL SURVEYS FOR BIA PROJECTS**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Torrey Davie.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

<b>8 vote(s) Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**ITEM #7 – NORTHERN CHEYENNE YOUTH COUNCIL**

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** A resolution of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council establishing the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Youth Council, approving the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Youth Council Constitution and Bylaws, and approving the Northern Cheyenne Youth Council’s involvement with the Unity Network. This constitution that is attached is very easy for like the youth to be able to, I guess, draft it themselves but this is just a starting point when



our first youth council is elected. After that, they'll be able to change it the way that they'd like to. With the Unity Network, that's a National Youth Council that I would like our Youth Council to be involved with and it needs a resolution to be able to be a part of that. I'm going to read the whole thing.

**WHEREAS**, the future of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe rests on the hopes and dreams of its young people; therefore, the well-being and empowerment of Northern Cheyenne Youth is a high priority to the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the youth of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe represent a great natural resource; and

**WHEREAS**, today's youth of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe will one day become leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, the youth need leadership training and experiences to better prepare them for these important roles; and

**WHEREAS**, the youth should be given the opportunity to bring about positive changes in the existing conditions on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the young people between the ages of thirteen to twenty should have a greater voice in matters concerning them; and

**WHEREAS**, the youth, through their collective action, can serve as a catalyst to bring about more unity, harmony, and healing in the Northern Cheyenne Community; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for a mechanism which will allow for the distribution of information, coordination of activities, and sharing of resources; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for interaction and communication among the youth representing the various schools and communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council declares that our youth's spiritual, mental, physical, and social well-being is the highest priority.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council authorizes the formation of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Youth Council to give our youth a greater voice and greater opportunities to develop as leaders. This organization will operate under the supervision and with the support and encouragement of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Administration, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, and the Northern Cheyenne Youth Advisory Board.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the attached Northern Cheyenne Youth Council Constitution and Bylaws are approved.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Youth Council is approved to join the UNITY Network, sponsored by United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc., in an effort to bring about positive change in Native America.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I just have one question. On page 6, Section 1A; Youth Advisory Board will consist of five (5) youth advocates appointed by the Tribal President but my recommendation is to have the President do just how we regular committee appointments

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** Yeah. She’s going to put out a poster today.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** I’ll put out a poster today.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Maybe we need to clarify that just so we have representation. Like, across the board and if your going to do it by districts. I mean, just the same process as we do for the committees.

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** Oh yeah. So, add language

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** For each district representative.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** That’s my recommendations. I don’t know if anyone else has any.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Are we going to an at-large or is it just 5?

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** I was just going to do 5. The regular amount for boards. We could do one at-large.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Yeah.

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** Ok.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL  
ESTABLISHING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL YOUTH COUNCIL,  
APPROVING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL YOUTH COUNCIL  
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, AND APPROVING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE  
YOUTH COUNCIL’S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE UNITY NETWORK.**

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

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

<b>8 vote(s) Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**ITEM #8 – ZIONTZ CHESTNUT CONTRACT – 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT**

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** You have before you a resolution approving a second amended contract for services with the Ziontz Chestnut Law Firm. The Ziontz Chestnut Law Firm (“Attorneys”) has provided legal services to the Tribe on a broad variety of matters since 1973. The current Ziontz Chestnut Contract as amended has an annual limit on fees that may be charged and an annual limit on out-of-pocket expenses that may be reimbursed of. Based on the Tribe’s current legal support requirements, the Tribe needs additional services and wishes to increase the above annual limits that may be charged under the current Contract to \$355,000 in fees and \$120,000 in out-of-pocket expenses. This resolution means that we’re increasing the legal fees to \$55,000 and out of pocket expenses to \$40,000 for fiscal year 24. So, my motion is the Tribal Council hereby approves an amendment to the current Ziontz Chestnut Contract to increase its annual limit to \$355,000 in fees and \$120,000 in out-of-pocket expenses, and authorizes the Tribal President and Tribal Treasurer to take any actions consistent therewith.

**APPROVAL OF SECOND AMENDED CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH ZIONTZ CHESTNUT LAW FIRM**

Motion made by Norma Gourneau. Second by Silver Little Eagle.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

<b>8 vote(s) Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**ITEM #9 – XCEL TRIBAL CAPACITY FUNDING AGREEMENT**

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** You have before you a resolution approving XCEL Tribal Capacity Funding Agreement for the purpose of protecting the Sand Creek Massacre site in the State of Colorado. On November 29, 1864, Colonel John M. Chivington and U.S. Calvary of Colorado troops under the command of the U.S. War Department attacked without provocation the peaceful Cheyenne and Arapaho village of Cheyenne Chiefs Black Kettle and White Antelope and Arapaho Chief Left Hand at Big Sandy Creek – to history Sand Creek – on reservation lands in the Colorado Territory set aside for the Cheyenne and Arapaho by the 1861 Treaty of Fort Wise and over 230 Cheyenne and Arapaho men, women, children and elders were brutally massacred . Xcel Energy is developing a new energy transmission line across Colorado

as part of their Power Pathway program which could be as close as approximately 10 miles from the historic Sand Creek Massacre site and spur the development of energy projects along that line. Tribal representatives have worked to avoid any impact the transmission line or the associated development could have on the Sand Creek Massacre site to protect the integrity of the site landscape, the experience of visitors to the site and their ability to understand and appreciate the historic and physical context in which the massacre took place, and most importantly, the cultural significance of the Massacre site landscape to the Cheyenne and Arapaho people, especially descendants of the Massacre victims – and that work is ongoing. In recognition of the Tribe’s sovereignty, Xcel Energy has offered the Tribe funding to be used in the Tribe’s sole and unfettered discretion as set forth in the attached Grant Agreement. The Tribal representatives involved in protecting the site from the above-referenced development believe it is in the best interests of the Tribe to accept the Grant Agreement so that the funding may be used to protect the Massacre site. My motion is that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council approves the attached Grant Agreement and that the Tribal Treasurer is directed to set up a bank account for the deposit of the funds to be paid under the Grant Agreement and that the funds shall be administered by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and spent solely for the purposes related to the protection and preservation of the Sand Creek Massacre site in connection with the proposed Xcel Energy Transmission Line in Colorado and related energy projects.

**COUNCILWOMAN SPOTTEDHORSE:** I have a question. The Cultural Commission and the THPO were not aware of this and they wanted to know if we could table it or move it to the next council meeting because they have questions on the one-time grant. Is that something we can do.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Well, my understanding is that Otto and the attorney and Williams Walksalong had met with the energy company. This is a onetime grant that they’re going to fund the THPO office. Now, if the Cultural Commission would like more money, I think they have other opportunities to get more money to do their projects.

**COUNCILWOMAN SPOTTEDHORSE:** Yeah. They just wanted to see if we could move this to the next council meeting so they could have a working session or up to date for them. Usually they get up to date on stuff like this but they weren’t aware of this and they wanted to know if we could push it to the next council meeting so they could get more information.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Right now, there is a motion and a second already on the floor.

**VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLEMOUTH, SR.:** This is a one-time agreement of \$50,000. We’ve been through this with the Cultural Commission. I think there should be a little more than \$50,000 because it is a sacred sight. I think we need to look at a little more. My answer is no.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Vice-President, shouldn’t you have been more involved in what was going on then.

**VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLEMOUTH, SR.:** What’s that?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** As Vice-President, shouldn’t you have been more involved with what’s going on.

**VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLEMOUTH, SR.:** Well, the way I look at it, I think, what I’ve seen so far is \$50,000 for our sacred site, transfer line going through.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** So, what is your vote?

**VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLE MOUTH, SR.:** No.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE:** From my understanding, this already came across Teanna, right? And there's no interference with our sacred site in Colorado. So, yes.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING XCEL TRIBAL CAPACITY FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROTECTING THE SAND CREEK MASSACRE SITE IN THE STATE OF COLORADO**

Motion made by Norma Gourneau. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

<b>6 vote(s) Yes</b>	<b>2 votes No</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**ITEM #10 – OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** A resolution approving safekeeping and application of opioid settlement funds for treatment and rehabilitative services. Thus far, Northern Cheyenne has been paid over \$1 million from settlements reached with Johnson & Johnson and the three primary distributors as well as with Teva, Allergan, Walmart, Walgreens and CVS. These settlements are restricted to specific uses identified in the settlement documentation, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation services are an allowed use. Whereas, the Tribal Council wishes to direct the principal amount of these funds be safeguarded in safe Federal Deposit Insurance Company-insured bank savings accounts or short-term (1 year or less) certificates of deposit that accrue high rates of return, and to maintain and apply the earnings on these funds to drug and alcohol rehabilitation and treatment services that integrate Northern Cheyenne traditions provided by the Tribal Board of Health. Therefore, be it resolved that the Tribal Council hereby directs and authorizes the Tribal President and Treasurer to ensure that the principal of the opioid settlement funds are in FDIC-insured bank savings accounts or short-term (one year or less) certificates of deposit that accrue high rates of return. Be it further resolved that the Tribal Council hereby directs that the Tribal President and Treasurer ensure that the earnings only on the principal amount of the settlement funds are transferred at least once per year to the Northern Cheyenne Board of Health to be applied for drug and alcohol rehabilitative and treatment services at least in part based on

Northern Cheyenne traditions. Be it further resolved that the Tribal Treasurer and the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Board of Health Director report, in writing, on the status, principal and earnings of these funds to the Tribal Council on a quarterly basis. Be it finally resolved that all future opioid payments shall be safeguarded and applied as provided in this Resolution. That is my motion.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I'll second but I have a recommendation. For the "be it further resolved" I don't think the responsibility should solely be with Treasurer. I think it needs to be with either the director of the program or the recovery.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** So, program director of recovery?

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Or the Tribal Health Director. I'll amend my motion with changes.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING SAFEKEEPNG AND APPLICATION OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

<b>8 vote(s) Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**ITEM #11 – LAND USE PLAN – TABLED**

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** We will go ahead and take the update from BIA, Andy.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Good morning tribal council. I'll try to be brief today. Councilwoman Fisher made me aware that you folks want to get over to the Housing meeting. I got an invite myself so I'm going to try to be making some time to go over the next couple of days. First of all, I know I haven't been here in a while. Just want to offer my condolences concerning William to you folks and his family and surrounding community. The other thing too is I hope you folks had a nice holiday weekend. Councilwoman Fisher passed out a written report. I haven't been here in so long. I know I.H.S. started submitting written reports

to the council so I thought we should be doing the same. It's a work in progress. I apologize about the formatting on some of the program sections. I'll make sure that I get corrected before the next meeting but I'll go through it. I'm just going to hit the highlights in the matter of time. I guess, if you folks have any questions or if you want to follow up with me by phone call or email, we can do that also. I'll just start with Realty. One highlight I just want to hit was that we still have our ongoing right of way project. I know it's been awhile since we met with TRECO but that is still going on with some expired right of ways. We are working on. Well, we completed the ones for Range and for Big Horn Electric and determining like we talked about before. If those are right of ways or service line agreements. We're going to be sending out letters and I'm hoping whenever, at the Tribe's convenience, we would be meeting again with Range, I presume and possibly Big Horn Electric like we did with TRECO concerning right of ways that have expired. The other thing that I wanted to mention was the fiber project that the Tribe did. I continue to be behind on the power curve with that but I've spoken to the President about that Councilwoman Gourneau. I need to get a letter over here to the Tribe. I just need to get that done and communicate with the Tribe on that as far as moving forward. I'll just leave it at that for now until we get to that. The other thing also, as far as Realty is concerned, is the Rosebud cut across road. I'm aware that that's a project for the Tribe. I haven't seen an application as far as right of ways that are concerned. I know a lot of that route isn't going to change but some portions of it are. Especially on the East end coming off the highway 39. So, I'm going to reach out. I think I already talked to the President and Councilwoman Gourneau about this. Reaching out to transportation and communicating with them about that project, especially as far as easement goes. We've met with Range already about it at the Agency, Frank Miller. He has the Tribe's specs on that project. Trying to get their work done. Trying to get easements and get their work done prior to the construction project itself. I got a note in here for trespass. We just have some ongoing trespass challenges. Most of that was due to last year but we'll just continue to work on those at the agency. Moving over to agriculture. We completed the first round. We have a few stragglers for that. We sent out a 10-day show causes for that. Just wanted to make the Tribe aware of that. I seen, this morning, in the lock box the Tribes grazing permits are in there. I know that was something I was communicating with Councilwoman Charette about and Brandon Small. I didn't realize until recently that when you send it in the mail it's kind of a slow process. I had one operator came in and he just kept asking, why hasn't my payment been received. It took about 3 weeks from when he dropped in the mail to get where it gets sent, you know, out of state and then it gets processed. I think I mentioned, you know, on a few of those stragglers, we sent out 10 days show causes. There's only a few but trying to see if we can get those resolved as far as the first round is concerned. The second round just closed on Friday. We did receive some applications. I had sent an e-mail to the tribal council that we were advertising for the second round as the grazing board. Just like the first round I presume we might get some stragglers that'll come in even though it closed on Friday. Just like the first round, we'll just forward those over to the grazing board for their consideration. The compliance checks ----- measures, I know, councilwoman Lonebear, I sent you an e-mail. You reached out to me on that prior. Merle went back to Range but we're gonna try to see if we can continue to do compliance, you know, at least try to meet our GPRA performance measure goals for FY24. We had some hay trespass and appeals. Those are, I think, pretty much buttoned up. You know, they went to the region; the Regional Director made a decision on those. The only thing to that, I think, I wanna mention as far as that Realty goes is that I'm working on getting a trespass training for the Agency through the Regional Office. You know,

some of the letters that went back that even came to the tribe on those appeals didn't give a lot of an explanation, especially to us at the Agency. I just want to see if there's some things that we did wrong or we can correct that they make us aware of that and we can get training our TA from them to learn from it and better. Forestry, it's mostly business as usual there. I know Alonzo's been working with the climate trust, Madeline Montauk, the Tribes contractor. I just wanted to mention I'll reach out Madam President and see if I can get another update through the regional director. I know the Tribe has been waiting on their carbon agreement to be an answer on their Tribes carbon agreement. In the initial letter that was sent to the Director, I think the Tribe pretty much had the process flushed out already that it needs to go to the director. The last update that I got on it, it needs to be reviewed by the Central Office Solicitor. That's the first step. So, I did talk with the President a few weeks ago about it and suggested that they maybe send another letter out to Asia or Central but the regional office is aware. I will reach out to them even again today to see if I can get an update. I know it's at central office but the last update I got I wasn't sure if it's been reviewed yet or not but I know that's something to the Tribe and the contractor wants is to move forward on. Fire, I know we had AD's come back on, trying to get ready for fire season. Social Services, normal day-to-day business there. I apologize. I should have had, it's been so long. We have a new, maybe the next meeting, a new social worker there. I might have mentioned before Clayton Baxter. He's trying to get him into a temporary promotion as the Acting Supervisory Social Worker but I'll have him come over and attend the next meeting. One of the challenges, I just wanted to say about Social Services is, obviously, it's understaffing but communication. So, in the past, I was made aware that before COVID, the agency used to facilitate CPT meetings. The child protection team meetings. We're going to start doing those again at the agency. So, we'll be reaching out to the Tribe, Tribal programs and OJS. I'm not sure if I.H.S. participates in those also but from what I understand, you know, they were really good meetings for network and communication. So, we'll be working on doing those again. Administration, HR, the Deputy Superintendent, Maintenance Worker Supervisor, Secretary and Custodial Worker, those have all been submitted to HR. I know I've been saying, since I've got here, we've had discussions about the Deputies, so I'm really excited about that. I'm hoping very soon that's gonna be advertised out on USA jobs. The Maintenance Supervisor worker, also, like I said. We did hire a Range Land Management Specialist, a Social Services Rep and a staff assistant. They haven't started yet but we've hired them. They've accepted the position. We're just waiting on a EOD or a start date. One thing I wanted to mention is a Realty Specialist position. On USA Jobs and, I guess, I know we're live on the YouTube for the listening public also. The Bureau or HR, I guess, in Central Office, they've taken a different approach recently to Realty Specialist positions. They're, if you look on USA jobs right now, there's a Realty position that I would say is advertised nationally. What the Bureau is trying to do is backfill and fill vacant funded positions for Realty, specifically Realty Specialists. On the advertisement though it doesn't specify a location. It just says, I can't remember the right words verbatim, but just the location after selection. The agency was made aware on March 11<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup> that the Agency was being considered for this position because we were on a list for a data call of having a vacant funded Realty Specialist position, which I wasn't aware of and I didn't think was accurate based on our current approved org chart. Well, that's not correct. Our current approval chart we just approved a Realty Specialist at 9-11 just a few weeks or almost a month ago. Anyways, but the point I guess I'm getting at is that we weren't aware that a position was being considered at the Agency for a Realty Specialist. Once we became aware, we did send an e-mail over to the Tribe. We sent it at the agency, as did the Region. We put it on our bulletin board



outside of that, there's not much I can do as far as USA jobs is concerned. But, the reason I'm mentioning it today is because it is an ongoing cert. Like I said, they're trying to fill these positions around the country. When we were asked for a response, I said, well I think it's important to try to make it more public that we do have a position available at the agency. So, that's why we sent that over to the Tribe, put it on our bulletin board and I had asked if we could you know give it a few more weeks so it provides an opportunity if we're trying to make it more public for people to apply. Self-determination. I just wanted to, you know, as far as funding. You know there's almost a, it's \$935,000 available to the Tribe. Just wanted to, if you folks are interested in a drawdown there. Maybe it's not as urgent as it was with the CR looming last month but I'm glad, you know, Congress, the President signed off on approving a budget for the year so we don't have a CR constantly looming. Just some notes there about reports. I'll continued to coordinate with the President's office about that. Our resolutions. One note I wanted to make is that we did receive the resolution for 638'ing the Range Program last week. I noted that. I made the Regional Office aware of that. Those have been sent back to Edina. Last week Alicia sent them back and CC'd the council. We'll be sending out a follow up letter this week, to the Tribe, just to start the process, as far as, I guess proposal budget negotiation. So, just wanted to mention that in today's meeting and obviously making the Region aware as far as negotiating with the Tribe to contract the Range Program. Carryover funding. If you look at the ones that are in bold, it looks like we're waiting on some proposals still on some carryover funding that we've made available to the Tribe. There was one other one that I wanted to mention. I know I just did approve a new ----- late last week for Buffalo funding. Councilwoman Charette has reminded me about that a few times, and Brandon, because I told her we were trying to identify some funds. So, we did. So, we'll be getting that processed and obviously wait for the same process from the Tribe with the resolution, budget and stuff.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Just for #1, the Native Act.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Yes ma'am.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Who did you send the letter to for the proposal?

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** To me and I sent it down to Colton and then Mariah.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Ok. Perfect. We are re-doing the craft center. That's why I asked.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. Great.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** I have a question. Did, was there anything available for the enrollment department?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** I can check.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Ok. Because I thought they were sending a proposal down I did talk to Wallace and Joetta because they have a position that needs that's doing the ETC funds or the ETC ID's and they need a position funded.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** That person is needed in that department and I told them to get a proposal e-mailed to you guys.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. I'll follow up.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** I'll follow up with them too as well.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** I'll follow up with Alicia and get back to you Councilwoman Fisher.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** Ok. Thank you.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Facilities. You know, we've been trying to keep up with work orders. We've been trying to do what work we can with the vacant homes at the Agency and the staffing that we have available. If I had all the money in the world, I'd do some serious renovations but that's not going to happen anytime soon. I just think the minor renovations are going to be really helpful for recruitment retention of Agency staff.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Wait. Wait. Can you stop there for a minute.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** yes ma'am.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Just so that everyone understands that if the detention facility has issues right now we're not going to be able to use it to house temporary tribal members there so it's a big issue and

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** Are they not housing youth there right now?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** No. Well, they're holding them and then they're moving them on to different facilities.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** But they're using the facility as a holding?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** They are still assigned to them.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** I probably guarantee it's not for very long if it's in need of a new boiler than it's not warm enough, right?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** I need to go back and check. I think, I don't know if I'm getting it mixed up with the youth service center but I think the new boilers in there. Unless I'm getting it mixed up with YSC. I don't know if you remember Norma.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Either way. Even if it's the youth detention facility that needs new boilers or if it's the adult. All it does is delay the tribe being able to house any of their inmates here.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I feel like it's retaliation. It's just one thing right after another. I know that's not on you Andy but.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Councilwoman Gourneau mentioned that to me before. The facilities are old. Especially the adult jail. Councilman Davies, it is being used by OJS. Not, you know, up to full use, I guess. I don't want to speak for OJS but obviously with the youth service center being not used right now. I mean, it impacts that, also, but I'm not going to disagree with you Councilman Gourneau. It does. It's something that you don't have community members being housed here locally and fill. We're responsible for facilities at the Agency. The facility is old. One thing I'll go back and regroup with my staff about, or the Region, is that you know we need to look at, you know, some serious um changes to the adult facility to get it to the capacity so it can be used.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** It needs to be prioritized #1. Like, put it at the top of the list because it's every single thing that is a problem here for the tribe in general, whether it be programs, the people, it stems from that lack of having a facility to house people that are doing lesser crimes. I mean we can't even, they just they just let them go. Don't even slap them on the wrist. They just let them go. So, it's a huge problem. If it wasn't, if it was like that anywhere else, I mean, you'd have, it would be, no city or anywhere would have control over their situation. It's been, I've been on council for a year and a half now and it's the same old song every time we hear about it. When, I'm like, as they alluded to. We know it's not your problem. I mean, it's not you that's causing the problem. We know where the problem is coming from. I think instead of just recommending things I think that the one thing that should be recommended is that it be #1, top priority, to get those facilities up and running.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** I would just like to make this suggestion to. You know, you could pass this information up but why continue to put more money into this building when, you know, why couldn't it be that number one priority that they look for funding to build something new. They put money into this building, something else goes wrong. I mean, it's this ongoing issue with this building that continued to hold, you know, restrict us from keeping inmates here.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** It's actually keeping us from providing or even pushing the issue of having any kind of recovery or rehabilitation program for our tribal members and that's huge. That is huge right now because of, well, for a lot of reasons but that's one of my main concerns is that we cannot even help our tribal members that get arrested mentally, spiritually.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** Well, they're not even getting arrested. I mean, you got people that are getting picked up for intox that are getting dropped off at their grandma's house. You know, I mean, that's not gonna work. And because they don't go to jail for that 24 hours to sober up, or whether it's a, you know, another count like child endangerment; whatever they get, they're not getting the resources to be able to try and fight that addiction; try to fight that issue. So, it's

literally just, it's literally the definition of sweeping it under the rug. It's every small crime, unless you get a DUI. I mean, I've heard of instances where DUI's aren't even getting picked up because they have nowhere to house them and they don't want to transport somebody at 2 in the morning because they don't have anybody there to do the transport. It's just an ongoing thing, you know. We need an adult detention facility. We need a juvenile detention facility. It should be #1 priority. Bottom line.

**VICE-PRESIDENT LITTLEMOUTH, SR.:** The Birney shelter ain't no drunk tank either.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** That's right.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** The comparison for the cost for the transport. I mean. I'd like to see a budget of how much was spent on transports alone.

**COUNCILMAN DAVIE:** I mean, especially when they are going to Oklahoma. That's gotta cost BIA some money man. I mean, it's crazy. It's crazy.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** I know. I just bring that up because it is an issue for us. So, if you could do what, you know, talk to people that are the decision makers that would help.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. I'll tell you folks, I'll make it a priority at the Agency to meet with my own staff, the regional director, that this is a priority of this council. I hear you loud and clear. It's a public safety issue.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** I wanted to you to finish your report before I ask the President and Vice President a couple of questions.

**SUPERINTENENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. Just finishing up on detention. I know it's in the report here that the youth service center is still scheduled to have the roof be replaced in May. I know that's not a fast process. It's not currently being utilized but I'll say that it's a good thing because it's been a long-standing thing with that facility. That facility isn't very old but when I been in meetings or looked at some research on it in the past, you know, that that that roof out there's been band aided over and over. Honestly, you know, I give credit to our AO. He was fired up, you know. When we start getting on these calls with the Region and, you know, getting some Central Office staff involved and we finally got funding to replace the whole roof. So, that's a good thing for that facility. It's just that it, you know, it took time to get it run through the process, you know, and get a contractor secured. That is still scheduled to start in May. Probate, just mostly day-to-day business to there. I guess, one note to that is that, talking to Jermaine, just having a concern about the backlog. I'm not sure, you know, I'm gonna start with my boss but, you know, like with OHA I think everyone is aware of that. The process can be slow but I'm just gonna try to do some follow up and checking on backlog and you know, when are we gonna be getting some hearings scheduled for folks. You know, family members that have folks that have died. The only other thing I had was the USGS ----- meeting. I think that's scheduled for next week, right? Is that next Tuesday?

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Yeah.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** I'll be here. the other thing is Jason Whiteman reached out to me. I think it's later this week. I need to go back and check. There's a meeting, I think, he scheduled it for Billings but there's a zoom option also. I think.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** It's like the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Oh, it's the 17<sup>th</sup> now. Ok. Ok. I'll go back and check. I guess the reason I mentioned that is my only partial involvement is that I've been on some, I've been in some calls with him and Water Resources out of the Region, Kevin Bradley and then Jeannie Whiting. You know, a lot of that has revolved around this, excuse me, Advisory Committee for Tongue River Dam that's in the Tribe's water compact. So, I just told him I'd be supportive in that but, excuse me, that's all I had for now.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** I just have a couple of questions. These lots back here. I just wanted to ask, who is responsible for trespassing the squatters?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Back here?

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Yeah.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Where at?

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Is it our responsibility or is it the Bureau's responsibility?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Where at Councilwoman Lonebear?

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Behind the boys and girls club.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** We are. We're responsible.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Ok. I think we need to prioritize that.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Last year and I think I gave you a call.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** You did.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Regarding the Federal Marshalls back here and the safety of the kids that walk back and forth and just the kids that are at the club in general.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** And then with the ----- training, what day was that?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** I think it's next Tuesday.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** On the 9<sup>th</sup>.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** And it'll be here? ----- training. As far as, like. I did ask you this before but as far as the requirement of having a Federal, I mean, a certified surveyor. How will the BIA adjust, or how can we adjust everything to be able to us technology for like our homesites or land descriptions?

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Are we the only Agency that requires a certified or is it the Region?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** The only Region is the Rocky Mountain Region. It's the only ones that have that requirement and it's a policy. That's why we keep asking and asking why can't that be reversed.

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Do you know why? Why is our Region the only one?

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** The thought then was that those people that graduated with a degree in surveying, they didn't know enough about Indian lands. So, they had to have this extra class to learn how to assess Tribal Federal lands. So, they needed to go to training and they had to have that requirement before BIA would accept any survey that came in. But everywhere else, they accept a regular surveyor's notes and their maps and they move on. Here, just having that additional requirement, our appraisals went from \$400 to \$1,200. Around here, people can't afford that. It would be something that we should, all the Tribes now, because those people that were pushing it and implemented it are gone now. It's something that we should be talking about and trying to get that decision reversed. But, I have a couple questions for Ernest and Serena. I don't know who the supervisor is but what's the status of that Rosebud Lodge?

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** She was trying to. Well, they got smoke damage to it. Some kind of plastic around the furnace. It started on fire. There were 2 studs that burnt. That kind of started burning. There wasn't much fire damage to the shelter but it was smoke damage. She was trying to look for a place to put the lodge temporarily. She hasn't been able to find anything yet. She doesn't want to lay off her employees because she has a hard time hiring them. She wants to try to keep them on. I've been trying to help her find a temporary place for them to have that shelter.

**COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:** So, are you her supervisor?

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Yes.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** My next question is; do you have a recommendation on the I.H.S. letter declining our pre-award?

**PRESIDENT WETHERELT:** Not yet but I think I'll give the Area Director a call and see what recommendations he has.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** Thank you.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Andy, maybe we can just send you a list of areas that we would like you to prioritize.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Sure.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Trespass.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** We'll try to research on our side and see.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. I know we were trying to address something like the livestock. This one, I remember when you called me. Richard and I went out the same day that that happened but we need to follow up and follow through with the trespass.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** One of the things that we talked about is that if you trespass them then we could come in and help clean it up.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok.

**COUNCILWOMAN GOURNEAU:** And remove those broke down trailers or whatever.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Ok. Alright.

**COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR:** Alright. Thank you, Andy.

**SUPERINTENDENT ANDREW WERK:** Yeah. Thank you.

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**MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING**

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Melissa Lonebear</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Debra Charette</b>				
<b>Norma Gourneau</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Eva Foote</b>				
<b>Nizhoni Friesz</b>				
<b>Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice-President</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Torrey Davie</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Donavin Limberhand</b>	<b>X</b>			

<b>Silver Little Eagle</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Gwen Spottedhorse</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Melissa Fisher</b>	<b>X</b>			

<b>8 votes Yes</b>	<b>0 votes No</b>	<b>0 Abstentions</b>	<b>Motion Carried</b>
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**MEETING ADJOURNED @ 10:35 A.M.**

**PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED** by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council with 11 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 0 abstention on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2024.

  
 Edina Redstar, Secretary  
 Northern Cheyenne Tribe