

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

REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES

November 22, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

INVOCATION: Burt Medicine Bull

ROLL CALL:

	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Melissa Lonebear	X		
Debra Charette	X		
Norma Gourneau		X	X
Eva Foote		X	
Torrey Davie	X		
Serena Wetherelt, President	X		
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President		X	
Silver Little Eagle	X		
Nizhoni Friesz	X		
Donavin Limberhand	X		
Gwen Spottedhorse <i>*by telephone</i>	X		
Melissa Fisher	X		
Total:	9	3	1

Quorum Established

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: One announcement for the funeral arrangements for Sheriff King. The wake is Tuesday at the Big Horn County Fairgrounds. The funeral is Wednesday at Lockwood High School.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Any other announcements?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Can we just take a moment of silence.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Councilwoman Charette asked for a moment of silence so we would like to take that moment of silence. Our prayers and condolences to the family. We lost her. It's trying to connect. Any other updates?

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: I have an add on item. Should I do it now.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Hold on. We have to establish quorum. We lost Gwen.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Was there something else we were going to, Tribal Health.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Eva, we need one more for a quorum. Are you available?

COUNCILWOMAN FOOTE: Yeah. I'm just worried we might get cut off.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: If you can stay on the phone now, we'll just continue to reconnect.

COUNCILWOMAN FOOTE: Ok.

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: I'd like to make a motion to add an item to the agenda. It's a nondisclosure agreement with Scout Clean Energy.

MOTION TO ADD ITEM TO THE AGENDA

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X
Eva Foote <i>*appeared by phone @ 9:20 a.m.</i>	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Gwen Spottedhorse				X
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #1 – ELDERLY (MOVED TO THE NEXT MEETING)

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Item #1 had requested that she be moved to the next meeting, the first meeting in December, just for this next time because she is not here today.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: One thing I wanted to mention was that the heat has been out in the commons area for 2 weeks now. Going on 3. It was a part that they couldn't get or something. On Monday we requested that Housing clean the chimney for that fireplace and then Tribal Forestry contributed blocks of wood. They are using that to keep warm. There are some questions on their budget but we'll talk to you about that after.

ITEM #2 – DISTRICT UPDATES

RYHAL ROWLAND: I don't have too much of an update other than today we are going to meet with Tommy to do another walk thru for Muddy District for the renovations. There were things that he seen as a contractor. Things that we missed that we would need to amend our contract. I guess, the only question that I have that was brought to my attention is an update on the HAF Program. Like, are you guys accepting applications? What's the deal with the HAF Program?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Right now, the applications are on hold because they are going through and making sure that the funding is available for all the projects and all the applicants that are there. So, right now, applications are on hold. Progress is moving slowly with the program.

RYHAL ROWLAND: On that application where it says first come first serve or I guess, on your guys' application, somewhere it says first come first serve, I seen. Right? Somewhere it says first come first serve on there. Wasn't there something that said first come first serve? I seen something that said first come first serve.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: They kept the order they received them. They kept them in order and they didn't communicate to the homeowner that they had to find their own vendors or their own contractors to do the work. So, there was a lot of applications just sitting there and the homeowner didn't know that they can go hand pick because she wasn't communicating. Now there's some things that need to be done. There's a budget revision process with Treasury because the money that was applied for doesn't really fit the communities.

RYHAL ROWLAND: So, those ones that were

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: So, it'll balance out a little bit. The ones that haven't been passed yet. There's a stack that haven't even been passed yet, hopefully there's enough to cover all the applications.

RYHAL ROWLAND: So, those people that are just sitting there with their applications waiting, like you said, like that. Is that considered the first come first serve or I mean you said you weren't taking anymore applications but that money is allocated to them? They are going to get that money? What if they don't have no drive to get it done? What about everybody else that is waiting?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I think that is what they are trying to do is balance out their budget to see to the applicants that they have there. The need was different from what the application.

RYHAL ROWLAND: Do you guys know when that will be?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I think they were working on it with William. Right?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Yeah. The report was just due last week or just a few days ago. So, now after the reports done they can, after the reporting process they can request for a budget revision. I'm not sure how long the budget process is or the report process is going to take. They are already looking forward to doing a budget mod for the program.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: They have to upload into a port and once that is processed, that's when they can go in with a budget mod.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Because that money comes directly from U.S. Treasury.

RYHAL ROWLAND: Okay. That answers my questions. Thank you. That's all I have

ITEM #3 – RATES FOR GRAZING ON THE TRIBAL ORIGINAL LANDS 2024-2028

GENE SMALL: Good morning. President Wetherelt, councilmen and councilwomen. So, this grazing rate for the Tribe. The Tribe owns land. The allottee's have been set already. So, now we are at the tribal rate was extended for a year from last year. You guys just extended it a year. Now, with the new permits coming about we need to extend it out even further. So, what I propose was a 4-year permit. I don't know what you guys set that allotted rate at. I don't know if it was at 4 years. I don't know. The reason I am setting it at 4 years is to fall in line with the appraisal. Every 5 years, the Bureau does the appraisal. That's what the allotted rate is set at. That's where they get the allotted rate. So, the reason for the 4 year is to fall back in line because of all the extensions and what not. So, we get back in line with that 5 year. You guys kind of understand what I'm saying or am I making sense. So, we are just trying to get it back on track with that appraisal.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: So, that appraisal is every 5 years. This year is when it starts again. The new permit year and it'll go for 5 years.

GENE SMALL: For 4 years because we missed a year. We just extended a year so that takes away a year from the 5. That just gets us back on track. We had a community meeting on the 4th of October. We had it here in the chambers. We had a pretty good turnout. About 40 people. From that meeting, they took a show of hands vote of what they thought the rate would be, I guess fair, what they would like it to be and it was 10 dollars. That's where the 10 dollars is coming from. We did go to the Grazing Board after that and we approved that 10 dollars at the Grazing Board level.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: This is the first time we are hearing about it as a Council so we probably need a working session.

GENE SMALL: Well, we invited Council to the public meeting.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I mean, we still do need like a working session with your Grazing Board.

GENE SMALL: Well, for all this confusion and chaos with the grazing, we are set back now on our time frame to advertise grass. Some grass didn't get advertised last year until late and it was never taken up. So, you have the landowners sitting out and not getting their income, possibly from the sale of that grass. All these timelines were never met. Mainly by the Bureau and maybe some from here. I'm not real sure but these timelines are set back. So, now they are going to advertise this grass the first 2 weeks in December. They are going to put this grass out for advertisement so we need a decision on the tribal rate in order for that to move forward so that these bills get out in a timely manner and the allottees get paid in a timely manner too and the Tribe. The more we put it off, I guess, the more we're set back again coming into this new grazing period. So, we really need a decision on this as soon as possible. Actually, kind of behind on it really.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: What was the rate before?

GENE SMALL: The what?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: The tribal rate?

GENE SMALL: What is the tribal rate now?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Yes.

GENE SMALL: Well, it was extended for 1 year at the same rate of 17 and a quarter, I think it is. But, yeah, in order to get that back on track, we need something from the Tribe in order for this to keep moving in a timely manner. We are working on updating the Ordinance. That is why we had the community meeting. The board has been working pretty hard at getting a redline copy of what their changes were brought about in the meeting. We're planning another meeting and hope you guys to be present. We are going to bring that forward. Maybe we can put it up on the screen or something and show what they are looking at for proposed changes to the grazing ordinance. It's been since 2006 that this ordinance has been updated.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I would like to hear from operators. I know and I appreciate that the meeting was held because that's who needs to be telling us or giving us direction on what works best for the business. Your individual businesses.

COUNCILMAN LIMBERHAND: How did you guys come to 10 dollars?

GENE SMALL: You know in the past it used to be 6 dollars. Just through the years, through the market study and stuff, you know, it just kept going up and going up and going up. I think we sold the most grass when it was at 12 dollars. The tribe sold the most grass when it was at 12 dollars. You're asking how they come up with 10, I guess they were shooting for a low-ball number you know.

COUNCILMAN LIMBERHAND: How did they come up with 17, I should say.

GENE SMALL: So, 17 was just based off of the market study. I kind of think in the past they always kind of hung 5, 6 dollars behind the market study for the tribal rate. Keep in the that market study is top dollar figure you know.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I think that was presented when you were in Range. When you were the Land Authority Director.

GENE SMALL: The market study or what?

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: That rate.

RYHAL ROWLAND: Gene, can you tell them about that meeting that we had on October 4th. The operator's biggest concerns on why they wanted the price lower.

GENE SMALL: Maybe that's where the 10 dollars comes from Donavin. A lot of the operator's concerns. So, we as a board, asked the operators what was their main concern. What would they like to see out of this Range and Permanent Fund that we got? Number one on the list was weeds. That's their big deal and we got some new grasses. Should say new weeds not grasses. Ventenata is working its way this way. It's a bad one. It's chocking out everything. It's even chocking out the old weeds that we had. That's how bad it is. It takes up all the vegetation and there's really nothing there to graze once it comes through. So, it's a big deal and it's coming this way. Horses were another factor. Feral horses. Fence lines. You know, we got an opportunity to rebuild everything on this side from the fires. We had that FEMA money so we got everything rebuilt on this side. It's the rest of the reservation that's lacking I guess. Road access. I guess right of ways. We got people shutting some of these entry ways off even though they are Indian Reservation Roads. Although it's an IRR road, they are still shutting it off so access was another issue. I think that's about it. If you guys should think about. Water, mainly in these units that aren't being leased. That's what the Grazing Board going to concentrate on is these leases that never have been leased over the years. You know there's a reason why and its water. So, we are going to address that as a board. We only been in since July and we only got a year left. We're looking at 20 years of problems here that we're trying our best to address. That's why we asked at the meeting what's the number one concern so we can address it and that was weeds.

RYHAL ROWLAND: When you combine all 5 of those, people don't want to pay prime dollar for AUM's when they can't get full capacity out of the range unit they're paying. That was the operator's biggest concern is paying a high amount when a lot of them can't even get access to their range units because of the back roads.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I feel like the increase because we pass something, I guess, going against what the BIA dictates to us but it didn't work. It didn't fly anyway but they dictate what that price is for allotted and I understand that landowners should be paid a good price for their property but at the same time our operators take a hit and it's a drastic hit because that's was. What was the price difference in that?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: It even was a hard hit for the new operators.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yeah. That's another concern too.

GENE SMALL: Yeah. That's another issue, is the new operators.

RYHAL ROWLAND: I wasn't at that meeting but didn't Hopkins say ----- it was window time though, right? Where they actually put boots on the ground

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: No. They based it on Miles City area. It doesn't even compare to our terrain and our issues with everything else.

GENE SMALL: I think we are never going to get around that appraisal. You're never going to get away from that. The only thing I can recommend is if the Tribe stands up and hires their own appraiser and gets their own appraisal. Then you can contest the Bureau.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: We did put in for that and didn't get a reply.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Your own surveyor and appraiser.

GENE SMALL: That's what I'm saying. If we did our own appraisal and ask for that price. Yes, it is true that they are taking outside private land for that appraisal. I mean, prime. Even with your irrigation, they're taking that price from Miles City and irrigating what's already there and we're paying for TiPi Ranch. Well, they're working with us but you know you get TiPi Ranch and there's nothing. It's pretty hard to pay 80 dollars for nothing an acre.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Well, I make the motion to approve.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I'll second.

COUNCILWOMAN FRIESZ: I was wanting to know if we could go into executive session before we vote just to talk about it internally to get all the input that we can from everyone here but to just talk internally about it first.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I think we need input from the operators. I don't feel like, as a council, we shouldn't be making this decision. If they are recommending a balance to us then we could meet and leave the operators in here. That'll work but I'd like input.

GENE SMALL: Let me give you guys kind of an update here. So, Crow pays 4 dollars. That's what Crow pays for the Tribal rate. Crow pays 4 dollars. Rocky Boy pays 4 dollars. Wind River pays a dollar. Some of these other tribes are not as, I guess, as lucky as us because we're almost 100% trust. You know, some of these other reservations are checkerboarded and allotted so that price is way out there. You know because you've got all these allottees, basically white people, running on them reservations and they're the ones that set that rate. Kind of like how they do this appraisal, getting it from Miles City. You know, from that, from what they're paying.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yeah.

GENE SMALL: So, I guess the main concern too is, you know, we gotta preserve our tribal ranchers. We should be proud of what we got here because we're 100% tribally owned. You know, we're almost 100% trust and the ranches are all enrolled. If you keep raising that rate, you're gonna start running these guys out or even giving these young guys a chance. You know, you're not going to give them a chance and they should have a chance you know

RYHAL ROWLAND: I have a question. Is there a surplus over here? Or, do you guys know? This is for Nizhoni's information. Like the amount of grass that was not sold last year because the high rate compared to when it's lower. How much more grass, how much more money can be made when it's at a lower rate versus the higher rate.

GENE SMALL: So, I'll go back to the time frames. So, the third round was never even advertising until the end of July and it was never even looked at. It was never sold because May is your target date to turn out for that grass. So, with all these time frames and setbacks the third round didn't even come out to July so we didn't even get a bid or nothing on the third round. So, that's why we need to get this back in order so that in timely manner so that this gas can be sold, you know. I do know that when grass was twelve dollars, they sold the most grass. The Tribe did. That's when they sold the most grass.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Could you go back to \$12.00 on this then?

GENE SMALL: Could we go back to 12 dollars on this? Well, we want \$10 but that's up to you guys, you know what I mean.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Well, this is what I think. If we, just like they're saying, if we want them to pay all that money then we need to be investing into weed control and getting those feral horses out of there and fixing fences and making sure that the, you know, all of these listed items that they brought to the attention of the grazing board, that we have somebody out there taking care of this stuff so that we do have top notch grass to sell these guys and not a bunch of weeds.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: So, we need another program?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Yeah. Well we need a, we need our program.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: We need our program back. It's at the Bureau now

GENE SMALL: There's really been nothing done. When we were in there

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: In order for us to sell the grass at \$17.00 then we should we should fix up these range units. We should take care of these weeds. We should get those feral horses out of there. We should take care of these. Knock these out and then come back to the drawing board but right now it's probably worth that \$10 dollars.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: This \$10 dollar is gonna be for the next 4 years.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Yup.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: So, it's something we'll have to go back to the drawing board on our budgets also.

GENE SMALL: I just want to give you guys a

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: And it goes back to, and I said this last year when we were dealing with the allotted rates. But, we as a council need to create revenue. We've depended on the ranchers for since the beginning of time and we have ideas to create revenue we just need to

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Come together and do it.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yeah.

GENE SMALL: A thought for you guys too, it's kind of off subject but on subject. This appraisal, so they can do the appraisal for the grass price, right? So, the land, we're still selling land here at \$200.00 an acre. Why doesn't that off reservation appraisal work in the benefit of the tribal member? You got land that's being appraised at \$800,000 off the res but yet we're still the tribal member or the allottee is selling his for 200 bucks. You know what it means? I mean, it's kind of off a little bit but I'm just giving you an example of what, you know, what the Bureau is dictating to us. They're dictating this grass rate but yet when we go so an acre land, we're only getting \$200.00 an acre. If it's farm land, lucky 400, you know. That's the same appraisal they're using for this grass rate is top tier, you know.

RANDY ELLIOTT: I just want to explain a little bit. After we had the open meeting with all of the operators and the land owners in here, I went home. About 3 or 4 days later, I called one of my buddies that actually leases land off the reservation in the area where they do these studies. I just grilled him for information because I wanted to know. So, the way that they do it off the reservation, and I want you guys to help think about this a little bit, you know, mow it over a little. The operators off the reservation decide to lease property from BLM for service or other private entities. They pay that \$26 to \$30 dollars in AUM's but this is the kicker, they have the semis come to their ranch, take their cows and take them to the leased land. They don't have to mess with them. They don't have to fix fence. They don't have to worry if they're cows have water. They don't have to worry about wild horses. They don't have to worry about hunters, in and out, leaving gates open. So, for them to pay that higher rate, to me, that's a peace of mind. You know, I'd pay the \$26 dollars in AUM all year long knowing my livestock was taken care of; watched; safe, my investment was safe. So, they do that study off the reservation, they come here, they put that number on us, \$26 in the AUM's. There're people right in here that have to go, including myself, had to go get loans to fix tribal fence that's not mine. Have to continuously deal with wild horses. Have to continuously deal with cows getting out into the neighbor's unit because people go through it, open gates, and leave them. My thought to you guys is yes, \$10 dollars in AUM's would be outstanding but, we need to turn around and we need to put more money back into our land. If we're not gonna put money, if we're gonna do \$10 dollars in AUM's and it's just gonna be washed away and gone, we're not doing nothing. You know, like Melissa said, we need that program back. We really need that program back. We have fence

contractors on our reservation now. We have all kinds of stuff that we, if we don't take care of our land it's not going to take care of us very soon. You know, I got a range unit this year and I paid for it. ----- thousand dollars and I paid for it. I didn't put one single cow on it because I wanted to let it rest. It's been abused. It's been damaged. You go out there today and it looks like I had 200 head of cows on it strictly because of wild horses, you know. So, what, wild horses are you guys or the peoples. Why am I paying for the grass to feed them? We gotta figure out a way to make our operators want to buy all these AUM's. You know, we got new fence in all these units. We got water in all these units. We've got a program that's out watching and maintaining and checking things. The other thing that you guys need to take into consideration is agriculture and the ranches on our reservation are dying. They are dying. Not just here. They're dying everywhere. The younger generation doesn't want them. Sharon can speak on this a little bit. Peggy Fredericks. There's a lot of people that can speak on it. The younger generation is on the fence of even wanting one. You see big ranches getting sold all over the place. Lifelong family history being sold. We keep these prices up and up and up. How do we expect the younger generation to come in and spend \$25,000 dollars a year just so their cows can eat? Also, we've got to, I would really, really like it if the council, the land committee, I'd really like it if we had a once a month meeting and got a plan of how we're going to save this place and how we're going to turn it back around, you know. A lot of money comes in from the operators. There's one thing we seen in the meeting. It almost blew me away. How much money the operators put in to how much money the land owners really get. Pennies on the dollar. Where the hell is that money going in between? Where it should go to making sure that that range unit is taken care of, weeds are controlled. If that ventenata gets over here we're all screwed because the cows won't eat it. Like Gene said, it's killing the weeds that we had before and it's a big bend up Muddy Creek and it's coming. So, we've got to be in front of it. We've got to get some, get the program back, get some funding, get some management, work together to have something.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: So, as far as like the abatement goes to, we have RJS. So, I know I get notices from like Kathy and whatever but we need to be out there looking for grants to apply for

RANDY ELLIOTT: Kathy. Kathy Knobloch. We've talked to her. She's come to a couple of meetings. We've talked to her about doing a reservation wide equine program. Which can be fence, could be weeds, water projects. It's stuff we need to. Equine pays for 80-90% of it so the Tribe, the Range Improvement Program, the Land Authority, whatever is going to have to put money aside to get things rolling.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: That'll be the next step.

RANDY ELLIOTT: I would really like to encourage all you guys to come to one of our meetings.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: We can schedule.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Yeah.

RANDY ELLIOTT: So, we can get together on some of this stuff. There's a lot of stuff going on. I wish some of you would have been there the night we had the open meeting because there was some stuff said that, holy cow, been going on for years and years and years. Got on little old lady here struggling to buy groceries and she's a major land owner. That's not right. That's my 2 cents.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Thank you. We have a motion and a second on the floor.

COUNCILWOMAN FRIESZ: I would still like to go into executive session just for a few minutes. Is that possible President Wetherelt?

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Yeah, it's possible.

COUNCILWOMAN FRIESZ: I just want to discuss the BIA program. Like what we can do to help with the feral horses and that sort of thing first before we make a decision on this. I want to see what our side, what our responsibility is first before we move forward with a decision.

RYHAL ROWLAND: You should tell her about the feral horse money that you guys have.

GENE SMALL: What's that?

RYHAL ROWLAND: The feral horse. All the feral horse money that you guys have.

GENE SMALL: We put it back into Land Authority. You talking about the money that we. All that money went back into the Tribe, into Land Authority.

RYHAL ROWLAND: Tell her what you did.

GENE SMALL: We gathered about 420 horses. When we first got the Reservation Species Grant for \$250,000.

RYHAL ROWLAND: Rewind. First, remember, how many people were hitting horses on the road?

GENE SMALL: Oh, the livestock ordinance. Yeah, that livestock ordinance, maybe some of you were involved in that. I'm not real sure. It was implemented because of the livestock on the roadways. You know, where we were having people hit cow and horses on the roadways. The Bureau wasn't really doing nothing. Mind you guys, the meeting the other day, Andy Werk said livestock on the roadways is the Bureaus responsibility. That's what he said in that meeting, huh Randy? But, they weren't doing their duty, their fiduciary responsibility so the Tribe implemented that livestock ordinance so we had something to follow to get them cattle off, them horses off. We were impounding them, keeping them. We had an impound fee. That cleaned things up at the time.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: We are going to go into Executive Session.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Hold on really quick. This young man would like to speak.

FRED SMALL: Thank you. I'd like to just bring up one thing. I think I always bring up to the Bureau. They're selling grass to the Tribe and the Bureau is selling grass here and we don't have a right of way to most of these range units. You're selling a product that you don't have access. I'm just sitting here looking around the room here and just on the road I live on, there are 3 people affected by it. I think that there's a Federal Government is in the process of maybe going back to the Range inventory of 52 and 53 and declaring that's all a right of way. I don't know. That's what I hear. This is a fact that I bring up because at any point other than Carl Bement highway here to Muddy and Birney and Ashland, there's no access. I think in all this talk, you can say you want this much and say you want this much but somewhere in the middle there we gotta look at all the facts. The appraisal the Bureau does, them places are individual places, they don't have right of way problems. They don't have a water problem. They don't a lot of these other problems we have here. I agree, I couldn't here half the conversation anyway, but at some point, and time, we are going to have to start controlling our own destiny otherwise we're probably not going to have a reservation here and I don't think that's too far down the road. Right now, there's legislation right now on the sovereignty issues opening it up so individuals can sue the council and the president because they are over reaching on a lot of their people's rights and stuff. I think, you know, in order to keep the people's support and they'll never be perfectly happy with this whole situation. There're people that want a million dollars and there's people that want nothing. At some point and time, this factor, we got what a divorce or two, we have retired member or two. There's probably gonna be more. We're gonna have some more surplus. So, we need to start thinking about what we are going to do about that because originally, we had 300 head as the maximum. I was one of the architects of getting it to 600 because we had so much damn surplus. We had tons of surplus. We had to do something. Now, we only have 2 operators. Maybe one now that's at the maximum. Right of ways are a big issue. Something you're gonna have to take a look at and take it into consideration in setting your price. It's imperative because you know you're going to sell that and some point in time it'll come back and bite you. So, you know, keeping in mind, let the operator know that's his responsibility or his, you know, I guess chance that he goes up here and gets to be able to take his cattle and get them back out of there. I just wanted to bring that to your guys' attention. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Ok. We are going to go into executive session so I just ask you guys to step out. As soon as we are done and out of executive session, we will bring you back in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION @ 9:56 A.M.

OUT OF EXECUTVE SESSION @ 10:13 A.M.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Before we went into executive session, Delores asked to speak.

DELORES MORGAN YELLOWEYES: I just wanted to mention, you know, all this talk about the Bureau and the Land Management and the cattle, I think the most important thing is to involve the people. A lot of times people come and ask us, which we're the grazing board you know, and they want to know what's going on. Especially the allottees, you know, the land owners as to what's going on. I think it would be a good idea for each district chairman, I mean

what do you call them, Councilman from east district. We wanted to put up a meeting for each district and have the Councilman attend so the public can be aware of what, like the Bureau has control over the allottees but still there's cattle that run on the allottees land and they're not compensated as much. Maybe I can't, you know, quite quote but I know personally. I own allotted land too and I only get like 300 and something or as, you know, one cow, you know when they go sell them, they get like 1600 that they get paid. Anyways, I think it'll be a good idea because the public needs to be notified. This reservation was established with the tribal members not only for certain group. So, I think it would be a good idea to hold a meeting for each district with the councilman presented to let the public know what the difference between Bureau and the councils. So, I think maybe in due time, maybe pretty soon, because it's a lot better to establish a meeting in each district because they to us with their concerns concerning cattle and whatever the issues they have. We don't have the answers to them because the Bureau and you council know what's going on. Questions that they need answered. So, I think it would be good, in due time, we'll set up a meeting in each district because the public needs to be informed as to what's going on. Can't be left out in the dark. I wish you would take that into consideration. I think it's a good idea because they're enrolled members and their tribe. They need to know what's going on. Ok. Thank you for your time.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Ok. President Wetherelt, we had a motion and a second on the floor. I would like to withdraw my second.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Amend. I amend my motion. I amend my motion to put the rate at \$12.00 dollars rather than \$10 for the 4-year period.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I'll second that. We will have a plan to work on bringing back range to the Tribe. We will on behalf of the Tribe, we will really focus on those areas and bring the program back and cleaning up what our program needs to clean up. We'd like to make that promise to you operators that we will work on those and fix those areas and work on bringing range back to the Tribe and get the program going for you operators. So, we came to an agreement at the \$12.00 rate and we will make some changes on behalf of the council and the tribe.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Can we have a motion.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: There is a motion. I second it.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I just amended my motion and put \$12.00.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I think that helps out you operators because you know your rate for the next 4 years.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: We do want input from the operators too for everything this entails. We need to know the struggles that everybody faces. We have been making pushes for like road maintenance and different things to try to. I understand that access is almost impossible in some places but we are working on that. Just so you guys know.

RANDY ELLIOTT: We are having another open meeting probably the end of next week or the following week with the operators. Make sure you guys are aware of that.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: The land board is trying to buy equipment so we do have a blade and we've been trying to get it out there. I know we have our projects that are going also. We do have a backhoe and we're going to try to help as much as we can but it'll be scheduling with that. We are trying to make improvements and strides on our part also. Little baby steps but we're getting there.

MOTION BY MELISSA LONEBEAR TO SET RATES FOR GRAZING ON TRIBAL ORIGINAL LANDS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2024 THROUGH 2028 AMENDING THE RATES FROM \$10.00 TO \$12.00.

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: We'll be scheduling some meetings with you guys and the BIA.

GENE SMALL: Yeah. Just a quick update. We are working on our ordinance. We need a new ordinance. We are going to have one more community meeting and take all these changes we got and start taking them out to the Districts. Maybe the Council reps, like Delores said, show up and support us in that sense and then try to get something to the council floor maybe by the first of the year.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: When do you guys plan on starting your other meeting? The other one that you were taking about Randy.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: The open meeting.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: The open meeting is next week?

RANDY ELLIOTT: Probably next week. We'll have a meeting with us, probably Tuesday, and then we'll set the next open meeting for Monday or so or the following week.

GENE SMALL: Following week probably,

RANDY ELLIOTT: We'll get a flyer out. I'll email it to all of you.

ITEM #4 – MONTANA INDIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM GRANT FY'24 FUNDS

MINA SEMINOLE: Good morning. Thank you for meeting with us. I want to introduce our cultural department, our language department. We have Burt Medicine Bull, who's the language teacher at the college. We've got Rosalia Bad Horse, she just came on board about two months ago. She's our linguist. The Cheyenne linguist. Then we have Clyde Wolf Black and myself. So, there's four of us. We all kind of wear different hats. Like Burt wears two and then Clyde, he's also the highset person. Not sure what title it is there but then he works with me too. Anyway, this morning we come to you for approval for Chief Dull Knife to submit an application to Office of Public Instruction and that's for \$186,000. You have the resolution there, the draft. \$168,750.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: This will be for Chief Dull Knife College to administer the program?

MINA SEMONOLE: What we're gonna be doing, what we've been doing is, we're doing some planning right now. A while back, there was a strategic plan that the college had developed. And we're kind of following on that strategic plan. So, hopefully in the future we can have a language nest, you know, here for the little ones because we believe it's the younger ones that are going to be carrying on the language. In the latest census there's over 1700 that are between zero to 9. Then the young families, the next group, is like the young families, there's 2188. So, if we can work with them more, but that's like in the future. So, right now we're gathering information, our department is gathering information, to set up this this program.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: How many Cheyenne speakers do we have left?

MINA SEMINOLE: Right now, we've been working on that list and I think what we've come up with is 275. Those are first language speakers like myself, where Cheyenne was my first language and Burt and Clyde. We're all first language speakers.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: Okay.

MINA SEMINOLE: So, with just that few, every time that a Cheyenne speaker dies, you know, that our culture and our language goes away. So, it's really critical right now that we do whatever we can to preserve our language.

COUNCILWOMAN LONBEAR: I'm in support of this and I'll make the motion to approve. One thing I wanted to mention Mina and I mentioned this before because last year when we got on the council, there was an ANA Grant that was sitting on a shelf. Nobody did anything with it. So, I brought that up because I knew it needed to be sent somewhere so that funding wasn't lost to help preserve our language but that grant was given to Head Start. I don't know if anybody communicates with them from the cultural department but you probably should reach out to them just to coordinate with them or maybe advise them. I know there's been tons and tons of money put into preserving our language with not a whole lot of success. Now it's different. I want to thank you for that. Even our kids, like my kids now, they speak more than I do because of the efforts of the people that have made the commitment. So, I am in support of this and I will probably continue the support with you guys even getting more grant funding.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: That grant you're talking about, Michelle came up to me over at Birney. She talked about that grant. She said, would you be available to help us and I told her I would. Come up with some kind of curriculum for the little ones. We say basic. There's no such thing as basic in our language but to make it understandable, we need to teach them the animals, the numbers, colors. The CNA, they call it and just how to talk good to each other like, good to see you. Teach them manners, table manners. I'm thirsty (says it Cheyenne). We're going to set up a meeting. The next thing is, this grant here this opportunity to get this funding, you, as a council need to come up with some kind of a committee. I kind of mentioned it to Melissa. I said, we got a committee here already. We could be the committee, the four of us but we would need one or two council people to be on that committee.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: That was my recommendation.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: We could make the recommendation to all of you and say this is what they came up with. I don't know if you have a cultural specialist. If you don't have one, I'd like to recommend Rosalia. She'd be perfect. She just graduated with her Master's in Linguistics and I'll help her. We'll help her. We've been helping each other.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: So, my daughter in law, Faith Merrick's, Craig is married to her. Her name is Sarah. She is Hupa. They were living in California. It was an aunt of her and her sister. They started their own language program. They are working with toddlers. They start from there. It's moving. It's seeing some good success.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: This funding, we were thinking about. Right away, we started discussing this that we would establish some kind of survey to ask people that would really be interested and they have to be dedicated. If they get on and start saying things like "Oh, I gotta go to Billings" they have to be there because that's how intense our language is. You have to be there every day. Me, I only teach them for 45 class periods. That's not enough time to be a fluent speaker. It takes about 2 to 3 years to even become a semi fluent speaker. We were thinking about sending out a survey. Who would be dedicated. We would ask if they understood the language but can't talk it. Those are the people that we would target. Adult age group. I would say 18 plus. Just start off with a small number. It says on there it's an impossible task but they said, who's going to be a fluent speaker in one year. You can't do that. It takes about a

good 3 years. Takes 3 years to start understanding and talking. Start to re-wire our English wire brains. I always say that to my students. All your brains are English wired so you try to talk Cheyenne English when you are talking Cheyenne language and it just doesn't work that way. You have to start instilling that Cheyenne thinking. We could come up with a curriculum.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, Mina, in the resolution can we add the board members in? I mean, in the resolution, can we make an amendment to add board members into the resolution or would that be a separate one?

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I would do it separate so you have time to

CLYDE WOLFBLACK: I think the way that this currently works is through the State. Like a government to government type of thing. The designation, to add anything, would be Chief Dull Knife College. Even the way that it has been, historically, there have been numerous documents and resolutions to that effect but in this one in particular, the committee or government, coinciding together collaborating on any of these language things, I think the board would be a separate thing. Just designate it in there if it's not in there clearly that this government is telling the State government that Dull Knife is designated.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Ok. So, that would be a for the coming resolution? We can pass the resolution today and then we'll bring another one to set the committee. Possibly look for funding to employ the cultural specialist. That could be forthcoming.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: With this committee, we could communicate with you the progress of what we're doing.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: I'd like that. I would really, really appreciate that.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: Because I know there wasn't that much communication in that area. That's what we talked about. We need to communicate with them on the progress, if we get the funding.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: We would be able to enhance. Build up a good program here.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL WHICH AUTHORIZES CHIEF DULL KNIFE COLLEGE TO APPLY FOR AND, WHEN SUCCESSFUL, TO ADMINISTER MONTANA INDIAN LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM (MILP) FUNDS THAT RESULT FROM THIS APPLICATION.

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Torrey Davie.

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			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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BURT MEDICINE BULL: I just wanted to ask, do you guys have a copy of this?

CLYDE WOLF BLACK: I think that document there is one, going forward, at some of the State is asking that the Tribal government to be involved. It doesn't really change who the grantee is. The money is funded through the college, you know, the award. That might be a change so you might see that fiscally. Kind of like other funds that come in and you create a fund and then it goes out to the college. There might be a change but some of the other language in there, the activities. I think we touched on it a little bit, like a little more collaboration with Office of Public Instruction. I just wanted to make plug for Head Start. I know they are kind of down on their numbers and they need children. I think there's a question of opening Happy Times. Happy Times was one of the places where they did have an immersion and it was well received. So, in terms of numbers, you know, and that money that's available, I think it would be ideal to make a plug for kind of proto-immersion classroom. I think there are some of us teachers that are there that would be willing to go there and teach.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: We really need to establish a Cheyenne language building in order for this to really work.

COUNCILMAN DAVIE: If I had my way, you guys are standing in it right now. I don't think we should be in here. I think this building should belong to the kids. There should be an Immersion school here and this should be the place for it but that's a conversation for another time.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I know Head Start was looking for, I was just sharing that with him. Head Start was looking for some funding to get a new building and so that could possibly be the home for the Immersion school.

BURT MEDICINE BULL: That'll be nice because that's what you need is an immersion school.

ITEM #5 – 2024 HOLIDAY LIST

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: The next item, #5, holiday list. There was one in the packet. Nizhoni made some corrections so Edina had to print out a different one. We went through and looked at the 2024 holiday list and we added in the Head Chief Young Mule Day and made some corrections. Changed it up.

COUNCILWOMAN FRIESZ: I wanted to add that 3rd page that's on there. The Northern Cheyenne tribal holidays honoring your history. A lot of that came from what you had written and I just added a little bit to it. For the new holiday, the Chief Young Mule day.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I'm going to ask Conrad if he could write up a summary and email it in.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Where is that change at?

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: It's in September. We passed the resolution and the day was September 13th.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: For the dates on this too, there was question that I got on this holiday weekend because we had it down for the Federal holiday being Thursday and Friday but it's only Thursday. I said, well, people can google it.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: Which one?

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: The color. Just the color blocks. So, Thursday is Federal holiday but Friday the Federal employees have to work. So, make it half and half.

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE: This is for us.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yeah, it is.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: This is not for Federal employees.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: Yes. That's why I said they can google it.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE HOLIDAY LIST FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

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			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #6 – NC GAMING COMMISSION CHANGES/RESCIND DOI -079 (2023)

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: So, in front of you, you have a resolution that is adding a member from the Busby district, which is Jeromena Beartusk and rescinding the previous resolution DOI-079 (2023). The rest of the members are still on there. Ladawn K. Medicine Bull for Ashland. Apolonia Castro for Lame Deer. The new one, Jeromena Beartusk for Busby District. Jerry Spang for Muddy District and September Walksalong for Birney District are the members of the Northern Cheyenne Gaming Commission effective immediately.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING CHANGES OF A BOARD MEMBER TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE GAMING COMMISSION AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. DOI-079 (2023).

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #7 – CONTRACT WITH PROTOGEN

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: I would like to make a motion authorizing a contract with ProtoGen to assist with request for proposal to renewable energy developers.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH PROTOGEN TO ASSIST WITH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPERS

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau				X

Eva Foote				X
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie	X			
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle	X			
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #8 – INDIGENIZED ENERGY CONTRACT

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: I'd like to make a motion to approve agreement with Mission Edge/Indigenized Energy Initiative for the White River Community Solar Project.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH MISSION EDGE/INDIGENIZED ENERGY INITIATIVE RE WHITE RIVER COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #9 – NDA – ENGIE RENEWABLES

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: WHEREAS, the RFQ states that interested parties may request certain information from the Tribe but must sign a nondisclosure agreement before receiving that information; and

WHEREAS, ENGIE Renewables NA LLC (ENGIE) is a renewable energy company that is interested in seeing the information and submitting a proposal, and has proposed edits to the standard nondisclosure agreement in the form attached to this Resolution; now

APPROVAL NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT WITH ENGIE RENEWABLES

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			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried
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ITEM #10 – ZIONTS CHESTNUT LAW FIRM CONTRACT AMENDMENT

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I would like to make a motion to approve the amended contract for the services with Ziontz Chestnut Law Firm.

**A ROSOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL
APPROVING THE AMENDED CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH ZIONTZ
CHESTNUT LAW FIRM**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	1 Abstention(s)	Motion Carried
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ITEM #11 – APPOINTMENT TO N.C. COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION BOARD

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I would like to make a motion to appoint Carroll Onsea to the Northern Cheyenne Communications Corporation Board. She is a longtime manager of the Hopi Telecommunications, Inc., Carroll Onsea is available to the serve the term intended for Mr. Ferreira.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENEN TRIBAL COUNCIL
 APPOINTING CARROLL ONSEA TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE
 COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION BOARD**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

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			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstention(s)	Motion Carried
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ITEM #12 – AGREEMENT WITH DARLENE BURDEN, CPA TO NCCC

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I’d like to make a motion to approve the agreement wit Darlene Burden, CPA, to consult with the Northern Cheyenne Communications Corporation.

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH DARLENE BURDEN, CPA, TO CONSULT TO
 NORTHERN CHEYENNE COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION**

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette

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			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried	
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ITEM #13 – AGREEMENT WITH ALDRICH CPA’S & ADVISORS TO NCCC

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I’d like to make a motion to approve an agreement with Aldrich CPAS + Advisors to consult with the Northern Cheyenne Communications Corporation.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH ALDRICH CPAS +ADVISORS TO CONSULT TO NORTHERN CHEYENNE COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

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			

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstention(s)	Motion Carried	
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ITEM #14 – NDA W/ SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY

COUNCILWOMAN LITTLE EAGLE: I’d like to make a motion to approve the nondisclosure agreement with Scout Clean Energy.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: I just want to mention too that these renewable energy resolutions that we are passing. Serena, has that position been advertised?

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Yes. I gave permission to Brian to get it out to some of these other entities that are interested. He put it in the Billings Gazette. They picked up the cost for it because Denise told him they didn’t have any money to do any PR so he picked it up.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: There was a bunch of grants applied for. I was called by a contact from ANA that we have a grant sitting on a shelf again. The money hasn’t been drawn but it was approved. So, we need to figure out or

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Which one was that? Is it the ERE Grant.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: It's for the Land Board but it was applied for by Kyle. So, you and Kyle were designees for that.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: We do have it but we are trying to figure out. Brian didn't think it was a fit for the Land Board so he wants to switch it to a different entity.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: So, by the next meeting should have a resolution?

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Yeah.

COUNCILWOMAN LONEBEAR: ANA needs a name to contact. A contact person that they can work with. They're reaching out to us that's why. I'm thankful that they told us it existed.

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: That's what that new position would be. That's the person that will be doing all of that.

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: But we don't have anybody in there temporarily?

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: Not yet. Actually, William was kind of taking up some of the stuff that Kyle was working on. This is a new thing so I'll have to decide whether or not he can go ahead and just go ahead and do that until we hire. Be the contact person until we hire for that position.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT WITH SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

8 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I forgot to make this announcement in the announcements but I got the phone call yesterday from Toys for Tots. Toys for Tots will be delivered December

13th. It's 26 pallets. I'll work with our maintenance crew and possibly, probably, Colton's crew to see if we could get the fork lift over here so we can pallets unloaded off the truck on the 13th. Then we will get them sorted in here and then get them back out to the districts as soon as possible. Toys for Tots. It's going to be busy. We'll get it taken care of and get it right back out to the districts.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

11 votes Yes	0 votes No	0 Abstentions	Motion Carried
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MEETING ADJOURNED @ 10:54 A.M.

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

Edina Redstar, Secretary
Northern Cheyenne Tribe