

White Earth Reservation Business Committee

Regular Meeting

June 30, 2023

Mahnomen, MN

Chairman Michael A. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 9:24 a.m., roll call was taken with a quorum present.

Present: Michael A. Fairbanks, Chairman
Michael LaRoque, Secretary/Treasurer
Henry Fox, District I Representative
Eugene Sommers, District II Representative
Cheryl "Annie" Jackson, District III Representative

Absent:

Others Present: Laurie York, Executive Director
Curtis Rogers, Deputy Director
Antonio Solorzano, General Counsel
Tracy Lhotka, Chief Financial Officer
Maria Bevins, Recorder

Agenda Approval

Additions:

- **Signatory Requests & Ratifications**
- **White Earth and Naytahwaush Pilot Study**
- **Property and Casualty Renewal**
- **Chief Justice Letter of Support**

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve with additions: second by Cheryl "Annie" Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

RBC Meeting Minutes (05/24/23)

Motion made by Cheryl "Annie" Jackson to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Consent Agenda / Signatory Requests and Ratifications for June 30, 2023, with additions and tabled requests.

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Elders Council – Not Present

Elders Commission

Pam Aspinwall is present and provided a brief report. They will be replacing vacancies. In their By-Laws it states they must have an election. They will follow the procedures that the White Earth Constitutional Reform delegation did. The election was announced at the elders meeting and taking nominations.

Brief update on the National Indian Health Board Conference. This was a scholarship opportunity for them.

Brief update on the White Earth Nation Website that they will have a tab in this area for White Earth Elders specifically for services available for elders.

Commissioners will follow up on concerns at Bimiidaziwin regarding management.

Brief discussion held on voting members. Brief discussion held on the applications for National Indian Council on Aging.

Old Business

Pine Point Township Board, Carsonville Fire Department Contract – Tabled

New Business

Property and Casualty Renewal:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

White Earth and Naytahwaush Pilot Study:

Matt Smith is present and provided a brief update on the pilot study. The main goal of the pilot study was to see if biological treatment is suitable for the primary treatment at White Earth and Naytahwaush. White Earth and Naytahwaush are using a non-biological treatment and are basically chlorine and media bed with anthracite a commonly used media for iron and manganese removal. This is a main source of drinking water systems that are EPA compliant Safe Drinking Water Act. The main complaint is the iron and rusty water. The main goal is to see if the biological treatment is better than what they currently have. I.H.S and the consultant Apex Engineering recommended they do stay with biological for White Earth and Naytahwaush due to being effective. They had to remove ammonia and total organic carbon with non-biological after time it seeps through and with the biological, they will have better treatment. They will continue to move forward with the biological plant.

They have proposed an amendment to their existing agreement with Apex to continue design services. With the engineering services continuing they hope to begin construction in 2024 with completion in 2025.

A brief update was provided on Pine Point water system. They are contracting with Apex for the Pine Point community and presenting treatment options. A brief update was provided on Rice Lake water system. New filters will be installed next week.

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to go into Executive Session at 9:50 a.m.; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Land

Megan Bakken and Sarah LaFriniere are present and provided updates.

Homesites; District I – 2 sites, District II – 7 sites, and District III – 9 sites:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Residential; District III – 1 site:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Lakshore; District II – 6 sites and District III – 2 sites:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

[REDACTED]

Business; District II – 2 sites and District III – 3 sites:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Agriculture; District III – 1 site:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Other:

Brief discussion held on WELO – Tower North LLC, Verizon. Discussion on who will be building the tower. This request will be tabled.

[REDACTED]

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Brief discussion held on WELO – Variance Big Elbow Lake Lodge and Campground LLP. Concerns were brought forward and discussed. This request will be tabled.

Tabled Signatory Requests

New Business License Request – Dylan Smith- KSmith Construction/Maintenance, LLC, and David Greene – Strawberry Lake Enterprise, LLC:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for 0 against.

Enrollments:

Katherine Warren is present and provided brief updates.

Enrollments (Eligible) – 34 Individuals:

Motion made By Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED] second by Eugene Sommers.
Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Enrollments (Ineligible) – 25 Individuals:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve [REDACTED]; second by Michael LaRoque. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Enrollments (No Parent) – 2 Individuals:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED]; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Enrollment (Relinquishment) – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Band Transfer – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve [REDACTED]; second by Henry Fox.
Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Band Transfer – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers.
Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve [REDACTED]; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED]; second by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve [REDACTED]; second by Michael LaRoque
Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against, 1 silent.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers.
Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve [REDACTED]; second by Michael LaRoque. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Cheryl “Annie” Jackson to approve [REDACTED]: second by Henry Fox.

Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED] second by Eugene Sommers.

Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve [REDACTED]: second by Eugene Sommers.

Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 3 Individual:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve [REDACTED] second by Henry Fox. Motion

carried: 4 for, 0 against

Blood Degree Change – 1 Individual:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve [REDACTED]: second by Henry Fox. Motion

carried: 4 for, 0 against

Executive Session ended at 11:02 p.m.

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to adjourn meeting at 11:02 a.m.; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried, 4 for, 0 against.

Michael LaRoque, Secretary/Treasurer

