

**White Earth Reservation Business Committee**

**Regular Meeting**

**June 28, 2024**

**Mahnomen, MN**

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Chairman Michael A. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 9:34 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 ~ Via Teams

Absent:

Others Present: Laurie York, Executive Director  
Curtis Rogers, Deputy Director  
Andrea Kingbird, General Counsel  
Veronica Newcomer, Deputy General Counsel  
Andrea Szabo, Land & Environmental Attorney  
Tracy Lhotka, CFO  
Ayecia Kemp, Executive Assistant  
Maria Bevins, Recorder

**Agenda Approval**

**Additions:**

- **Transit: FY2023-2024 5311c Tribal Formula ~ New Business**
- **Finance: Letter updating UEI number associated with U.S Department of Ed Grant for COLA ~ New Business**
- **Special Counsel Agreement ~ Executive Session**
- **Urban ~ Executive Session**

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve with additions: second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 4 for, 0 against.

**RBC Meeting Minutes (05/31/24)**

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

District III Representative Cheryl “Annie” Jackson stated this is her last meeting and wanted to say Chi-Miigwech and the pleasure working with everyone during her time in office. Michael Laroque commented on Cheryl “Annie” Jackson time with the RBC.

*Cheryl “Annie” Jackson left meeting Via teams at 9:38 a.m.*

### **Elders Council**

Tim Rindahl was present and provided brief updates. Very busy month for the elders. Programs worked together for the parade and commented on the team building organization at these events.

Great turnout for the powwow. They used their new elder's building. Thank you to the programs that provided donations to the elderly for the powwow.

Lawncare: The Elders Council will be forming a small crew to help in this area for elderly people who are home bound and in need of small home repairs as well.

Bus: Elders are struggling to get to appointments and grocery shopping. Requesting bus passes for the elderly.

Boise Forte: Elders will be attending the TEC meeting, 12 elders signed up to attend. The White Earth elders will be attending the Urban elders' picnic.

A brief discussion was held on a gas card for the elderly bus. A brief discussion held on the responsibility of keeping the bus clean.

### **Elders Commission**

Rebecca McCradie, District II Representative for the Commission is present and provides a brief update.

- Their last meeting was held on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Naytahwaush.
- Food Shelf Tour
- They are preparing for their election and following their Bylaws. June 17- July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Old Business**

Resolution – Proposed Amendment to White Earth Conservation Code Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge Ordinance:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve Resolution No. 057-24-023A; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

### **New Business**

Transit: FY2023-2024 5311c Tribal Formula:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. 001-24-055; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Finance: Letter updating UEI number associated with U.S Department of Ed Grant for COLA:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

### **Consent Agenda / Signatory Requests for June 28, 2024, and Signatory Requests**

- **8<sup>th</sup> Fire Solar Letter of Support ~ Executive Session**

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve of changes: second by Michael LaRoque. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

### **White Earth Powwow Budget ~ Ratification**

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

*Motion made by Michael LaRoque to go into Executive Session at 10:03 a.m.; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.*

*Meeting Recessed at 10:04 a.m.*  
*Meeting Reconvened at 10:28 a.m.*

**Land**

Megan Bakken and Sarah LaFriniere are present and provided updates.

Secretary/Treasurer LaRoque recommended to table District III Homesites and Lakeshore and bring into the RBC Special meeting on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

*Homesites; District II – 2 sites:*

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

*District III – 1 site: Table*

*Lakeshore; District II – 3 sites:*

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

*District III – 3 sites: Table*

*Other:*

Warren Property; General Fund – Land Purchase and Warren Property; WELSA Fund – Land Purchase: Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

NTW Charter School – Building Purchase:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

[REDACTED]

Blough LLC Auction; General Fund - Land Purchase:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Nazari, Lombard and Ronaldson Land preauthorization of funds to start negotiations. RBC in consensus to move forward.

**Legal Update**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Special Counsel Agreement:

Motion made by Eugene Sommers to approve; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

**Enrollments**

Shannon Heisler is present and provides brief updates.

Enrollment Eligible; 39 individuals:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 2 for, 0 against and 1 silent.

Enrollment Ineligible; 34 individuals:

Motion made by Henry Fox to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Enrollment No Parent; 09 individuals:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 2 for, 0 against and Eugene recused himself and is silent.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change; 01 individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Add Parent and Blood Quantum Change; 01 individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Enrollment Relinquishment; 01 individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Enrollment Relinquishment; 01 individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED]; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

Band Transfer; 01 individual:

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve Resolution No. [REDACTED] second by Henry Fox. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

**D3 Discussion**

[REDACTED]

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to approve; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against. Swearing in New District III Representative at the RBC Special meeting to be held on Monday, July 1, 2024.

**Tabled Signatory Requests**

American Indian Mental Health Advisory Council: Remove off tabled requests until further notice waiting for applications.

American Indian Substance Abuse Advisory Council: Remove off tabled requests until further notice waiting for applications.

New LLC – Hustle Squad, LLC David Bower Jr.: Table and bring into the RBC Special meeting on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Contract for Becker County White Earth Mobile Mental Health Services and Children’s Mental Health Services: Table

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Proposal Request for New Enrollment Incentives ~ Table as Tracy needs to look at numbers.

Urban discussion: Table and bring to the RBC Special meeting on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Motion made by Michael LaRoque to adjourn meeting at 11:39 a.m.; second by Eugene Sommers. Motion carried: 3 for, 0 against.

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Michael LaRoque, Secretary/Treasurer