

**LTBB Child Welfare Commission Regular Meeting**  
**3-6-09**  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order:** 11:20 a.m. by Chairperson Heidi Bosma.

**Attendance:** Rochelle Ettawageshik, Bill Denemy, Debbie DeLeon and Heidi Bosma. Absent: Margaret Gasco

**Staff and Guests Present:** Denneen Smith, LTBB Social Services Director, Elise Tippet, LTBB Social Worker, Jeannie Norris, LTBB Social Worker, Allie Maldonado LTBB Staff Attorney, and Matt Leskey LTBB Prosecutor.

Discussion was held regarding the passage of a revised CWC Statute by Council on February 22, 2009, which basically removes all delegated duties of the CWC reducing it to Advisory Commission status. Jim Bransky was available by telephone. Serious concern was expressed by everyone present regarding the impact that removing LTBB member input and responsibility into the process intended to protect our children, thus leaving all decisions in the hands of non LTBB staff. Is this truly what Council intended?

**Director's Report:** The Director provided a written report highlighting notable issues and events. To note: Site visit has been scheduled for DHHS-Children's Bureau on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 8-11:30am.

**Public comment:** Opened at 11:50 am and closed at 11:50 am

**Approval of Minutes:** Postponed until next meeting.

**Closed Session:** Motion was made by Bill Denemy to go into Closed Session at 11:51 am; Supported by Rochelle Ettawageshik. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

**Open Session:** Motion was made to return to Open Session by Rochelle Ettawageshik at 1:49 pm; Supported by Bill Denemy. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

**Treasury Report:** No report at this time.

**Chairperson's Report:** Things have been very busy because of the passage of the new CWC Statute by Council. CWC is requesting the Tribal Chairman to give serious consideration to vetoing this bill. The Chair is making the necessary arrangements to have the CWC lockable file cabinet moved from the Social Services Building to the Commission meeting room (312 of the Governmental Complex).

In response to a discussion, the CWC Chair will request a written legal opinion from Jim Bransky for clarification of the CWC Statute under Chapter 2, Section 5.203 Duties of the Child Welfare Commission, Item D regarding the ability to meet with parents, guardians or custodians after formal court jurisdiction is established.

**Old Business:** Resolution Process: Allie Maldonado will continue to do the resolutions. If she is not available, then the CWC will do them and send them to Jim Bransky for review.

**Meeting Schedule:** Next meeting **April 3, 2009 at noon**. Allie will be out of town. Any resolutions needed in Allie's absence can be sent to Jim Bransky for review. Also, the CWC scheduled a meeting with Tribal Court on quarterly basis, so will be **meeting with Tribal Court on March 20, 2009 at 3pm**, which was previously scheduled in 2008.

Motion to adjourn at 2:00 pm was made by Rochelle Ettawageshik and supported by Bill Denemy. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle Ettawageshik,  
CWC Secretary