

**LTBB CWC 11-4-11 Open Session**

MINUTES APPROVED 12-16-11

**LTBB Child Welfare Commission Regular Meeting  
11-4-11  
Open Session Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Heidi Bosma called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

**Attendance:** Heidi Bosma, Rochelle Ettawageshik, Emily Proctor, Debbie DeLeon and Steve Sochay.

**Excused Absent:** None

**Staff and Guests:** Denneen Smith, LTBB Human Services Department Director, Matt Leskey, LTBB Prosecutor, Lisa Kurtz-Tollenar and Tosha Bennington, LTBB Social Workers.

**Approval of Agenda:** Ms. Ettawageshik made a motion to approve the agenda; supported by Ms. Proctor; Motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Opened and closed at 1:10pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Ettawageshik made a motion to approve the October 14, 2011 Open Session and Closed Session Minutes as amended; supported by Mr. Sochay; Motion was approved unanimously.

**Chairperson's Report:**

- The Chair attended **Building Strong Sovereign Nations: Anishnaabek Leadership For Seven Generations Tribal Governance Training Conference** and reported on her experience, the wealth of information she learned and handouts that she brought back to share with the CWC members.
- The Chair and Ms. Proctor have not been able to meet to discuss training options and invited ideas from all. She also shared that LTBB Appellate Judge Jim Genia also expressed an interest in participating with any training that we develop.

**Social Services Director's Report:** The Director reported that she is working on scheduling a date when Mary Mehren from State DHS to come to meet with us regarding the Title IV-E Agreement. The draft agreement is basically the plan, but does not spell out who is responsible for what—the nuts and bolts of the overall agreement.

**Prosecutor's Report:** The Prosecutor advised that he expects to have a cultural agreement form prepared for the CWC to review and utilize at the next meeting...still under construction.

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41 **Closed Session:** Ms. Ettawageshik made a motion to go into Closed Session at 1:28pm; Ms.  
42 Proctor supported the motion; Motion passed unanimously.

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44 **Return to Open Session:** Motion was made by Ms. Ettawageshik to return to Open Session at  
45 2:36pm; Supported by Ms. Proctor; Motion approved by unanimous decision.

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47 **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reported that she is still trying to work with the Executive  
48 Office regarding the budget and what costs are eligible, such as getting internet access during  
49 meetings, etc. She still hasn't received the most recent report at this time.

50

51 **Old Business:** Michigan Indian Families Preservation Act (MIFPA)--Discussion continued  
52 regarding the MIFPA and the request for this commission's support. Our concern is that we  
53 have not been a part of the process and need to understand what has transpired and why the  
54 descendents of the Treaty, State Historic and Canadian Tribes are not included. It was decided  
55 that we need to have LTBB Attorney Allie Maldonado, who has been involved from the  
56 beginning, come in to bring us up to date with an historical update. **Motion was made by Mr.**  
57 **Sochay to support the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act indicating that this is a good**  
58 **start and encourage continued efforts towards eventually including descendents of the Treaty,**  
59 **State Recognized and Canadian Tribes in the Act. Supported by Ms. Proctor. Motion passed**  
60 **unanimously.**

61

62 **New Business:**

- 63
- 64 • Ms. DeLeon provided an update on the MI Coalition on Race Equity in Child Welfare and  
65 Juvenile Justice and will copy and share information received at the last meeting.
  - 66 • A **motion was made at the previous meeting** by Ms. Proctor to authorize costs  
67 associated for any commissioner to attend the following:
    - 68 ○ **November 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting**
    - 69 ○ **November 19<sup>th</sup> – Dobie Connect Presentation—this would promote remote**  
70 **access/participation with meetings and trainings. 1pm**

70 Motion was supported by Mr. Sochay. Motion passed unanimously.

- 71
- 72 • **Mr. Sochay made a motion to have the chair schedule a work session with Allie**  
73 **Maldonado to get an historical perspective and update on the Michigan Indian Family**  
74 **Preservation Act. Supported by Ms. DeLeon. Passed unanimously. The Chair will**  
75 **work with members to arrive at a date to be announced with Ms. Maldonado.**

75

76 **Announcements:** Rochelle reported on information she obtained from attending the National  
77 Congress of Indian. She shared that the BIA is working on the ability for tribes to use 638 funds  
78 as a match for Title IV-E.

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79 **Meeting Schedule:** The next monthly meeting has been changed to December 9 & 10, 2011, at  
80 1:00pm and 10am respectively at a location to be determined.

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82 **Adjournment:** Ms. Proctor made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Sochay supported the motion.  
83 Motion passed; meeting adjourned at 3:17pm.

84

85 Respectfully Submitted,

86 Debbie De Leon

87 CWC Secretary