

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS
OF ODAWA INDIANS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2004

GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

Meeting called to order by Chair Kishigo at 9:48 am.

Smudging by Commissioner Bott and invocation by Susan A. Swadling, Economic Development Assistant.

Roll Call:

Present: Michael Givens, Wenona Singel, Cheryl Kishigo and John Bott.

Absent: Patricia Dyer-Deckrow – excused.

Quorum established.

Staff: Susan A. Swadling, Economic Development Assistant
Theresa Keshick, Economic Development Research Assistant

Absent: Jaime Barrientoz, Economic Development Director – excused

Guest: Valerie Tweedie, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Chief Financial Officer

Motion made by Commissioner Bott to accept the phone poll of January 26, 2004 as written, supported by Vice-Chair Singel.

Vote taken: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Motion made by Commissioner Bott to accept the agenda as presented and amended, supported by Commissioner Givens.

Vote taken: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed

Valerie Tweedie, Chief Financial Officer, distributed financial information for the Kings Inn to the Commission. Discussion was held regarding the Kings Inn operation and preparation to open in May 2004.

2003 financial information for Biindigen was distributed and discussion was held regarding the end of the year numbers.

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January 2004 financial information for Biindigen was distributed and discussion was held concerning the effect that inventory has on the end of the month financials.

Valerie Tweedie left at 11:13 am.

Break at 11:13 am

Reconvene at 11:31 am.

Continued discussion of Kings Inn and the proposed business plan to be presented at Tribal Council.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Singel to adopt the minutes of January 10, 2004 as presented and amended, supported by Commissioner Bott.

Vote taken: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Opened public comment at 11:54 am

Susan A. Swadling, Theresa Keshick, Cheryl Kishigo, Wenona Singel, John Bott and Michael Givens.

Closed public comment at 11:56 am

Council feedback – none at this time

Economic Development Department staff report

Discussed the plan for Kings Inn and the planned open date of May 1st. Policies and procedures need to be developed for the front desk operation.

Discussed the Business Resource Center, there will be an article in the Odawa Trails regarding the available services at the center.

Theresa Keshick, Economic Development Research Assistant, distributed tobacco and fuel usage information for Biindigen. Discussion was held regarding this information.

Tribal Chairman, Frank Ettawageshik and Gaming Administration Commissioner Valerie Biro came in at 12:16 pm to discuss the Articles of Incorporation Charter for the tribe from James Bransky, Tribal Attorney.

Frank Ettawageshik, Tribal Chairman, and Gaming Administration Commissioner Valerie Biro left at 12:25 pm.

Break at 12:26 pm

Reconvene at 1:26 pm

Continued the Biindigen report. In order to get an accurate financial report the overhead needs to be figured out and then calculate the profit margin.

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For the Tax Agreement, 213 copies of form 4013 have been sent only to Resident Tribal Members of the tax agreement area. This form is for the sales tax reimbursement per the tax agreement. A survey has been sent to tribal head of households in the tax agreement area to obtain information regarding utility accounts. This information will be helpful in removing the sales tax from utility bills for resident tribal members in the tax agreement area.

On the swipe card system, investigating DNA Today as a possible source of the system, currently the tribe uses Teams. With DNA Today the system would be completely wireless. The Phase I study has been completed and the results were that the system was feasible. Phase II study with Netcom would be an actual physical survey. It was suggested that a synopsis of each company services be done in order to better determine the differences in services.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Singel to accept the Economic Development Department staff report, supported by Commissioner Bott.

Vote taken: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Chair's report

The Monday morning Governmental Director's reports are confidential and cannot be distributed beyond the commission. New account numbers were assigned by the Accounting Department. Commission needs a detailed budget. Chair Kishigo distributed information received from the Chairman's office for the Commission's review and reviewed the Quarterly Report presented to the Tribal Council on January 18th.

Motion made by Commissioner Bott to accept the Chair's verbal report, supported by Vice-Chair Singel.

Vote taken: 3 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Chair Kishigo), 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Vice-Chair report

Vice-Chair Singel is officially moving in June to North Dakota. There is no prohibition to an out of state commissioner; maybe meetings could be coordinated between the Tribal Court and the Economic Development Commission.

Discussed the procedure to look up Tribal Codes on the Internet:

1. NCAI – library of tribal codes
2. NARF – Google web search – of tribal codes/Indian law – Federal Court opinions – ED National Indian Law Library
3. On Google – Tribal Court clearing house – keyword
4. Tribal Law Resource Center – Native American Judges Organization
5. Pechanga.net
6. The Harvard Project on Native American Economic Development
7. Google search on specific idea – “text” – Tribal Doing Business As statute

Commissioner Bott left at 3:15 pm

Discussion was held regarding criteria to see which code has the best-written statute to fit our tribe.

Commissioner Bott returned at 3:20 pm

Motion made by Commissioner Bott to accept the Vice-Chair's verbal report, supported by Commissioner Givens.

Vote taken: 3 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Vice-Chair Singel), 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Treasurer's report – absent – no report

Secretary's report

Training for land to trust in Minnesota on March 30th to April 1st – Hinckley – Ho-Chunk Nation.

Discussed the need to have a person to sit on the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce.

Motion made by Commissioner Bott to accept the Secretary's verbal report, supported by Vice-Chair Singel.

Vote taken: 3 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Commissioner Givens), 1 absent (Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Break at 3:52 pm and Chair Kishigo left

Vice-Chair Singel reconvened the meeting at 4:15 pm

Scheduled work session for Foreign Corporation Code for Sunday following the next meeting in March.

Motion made by Commissioner Givens to authorize mileage, per diem and stipend for the Commissioners to attend the work session on March 14th, supported by Commissioner Bott

Vote taken: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Chair Kishigo, Commissioner Dyer-Deckrow)

Motion passed.

Opened public comment at 4:20 pm

Closed public comment at 4:20 pm – no comment

No closed session

Motion made by Vice-Chair Singel to adjourn the meeting, supported by Commissioner Bott

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Vote taken: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 2 absent (Chair Kishigo, Commissioner Dyer-
Deckrow)

Motion passed

Meeting adjourned at 4:21 pm.

_____ Michael Givens, Secretary