

Appropriations & Finance Committee
FY 2008 Budget Hearing Minutes
March 17, 2007

Call to order at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call: Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet, Treasurer Shirley Oldman, Tribal Councilor Alice Yellowbank.

Invocation: Shirley Oldman.

Staff Attendance: Legislative Leader Beatrice Law, Tribal Councilor Melvin L. Kiogima, Tribal Councilor Dexter McNamara, Tribal Councilor Fred Harrington, Tribal Councilor Mary Roberts, Legislative Office Manager Michele LaCount, Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie, Executive Assistant Rebecca Fisher, Tribal Administrator Albert Colby.

Commission Attendance: Indian Child Welfare Commission: Heidi Bosma, Rochelle Ettawageshik, Deborah DeLeon, Margaret Gasco.

Tribal Citizens Attendance: Richard Wemigwase, Patrick Wemigwase, Regina Kiogima, Archie Kiogima, Kevin Willis, Tootsie Keshick, Mkoonhs Gasco, Alice Honson, Chuck Honson Sr., Harvey Gibson.

Treasurer Oldman explained hearing process to Tribal Citizens regarding appropriations and what it costs in program cuts to be able to meet the annual per capita distribution.

Treasurer Oldman thanked Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie, Tribal Administrator Albert Colby and Executive Assistant to the Tribal Chairman Rebecca Fisher for their participation in the FY 2008 budget process.

Treasurer Oldman informed the citizens that comments will also be received in writing until Wednesday March 21, 2007.

Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie was asked by Treasurer Oldman to explain how the money the government will receive from casino revenue is a projection for FY 2008 budgets and that the cuts to budgets by the Executive and Finance Committee were worked to stretch that pot of money.

Public Comment opened: Rita Shananaquet, Beatrice A. Law, Dexter McNamara, Harvey Gibson, Councilor Yellowbank, Deborah DeLeon, Kevin Willis, Rochelle Ettawageshik, Heidi Bosma, Archie Kiogima, Jr.

10:52 a.m. Recess called

11:13 a.m. Meeting reconvened

Treasurer Oldman talked of costs for software updates and sharing costs with other programs such as the Legislative and the Judicial Branch.

Treasurer Oldman thanked Grant Writer Heidi Yapple for the good job she does in saving the tribe money through various grant funding.

Treasurer Oldman noted the Appropriations and Finance Committee received written public comments from Deb DeLeon for the Indian Child Welfare Commission, Archie Kiogima, Jr., Alice Honson and Albert Colby, Jr. and that additional written comments will be received by the Committee up until the next meeting to be held on March 21, 2007.

12:00 p.m. Treasurer Oldman thanked everyone for attending and closed the hearing.