

# Tribal Council Travel Report – Treasurer Marcella Reyes

Training/Event: 2014 Summer MAST Meeting and National Indian Health Board Meeting

Location: Grand Traverse Resort - Traverse City, MI

Date of Event: August 11-15, 2014

Fellow Tribal Council Members and LTBB citizens, thank you for allowing me to attend the Tribal Advisory Meeting, MAST Summer Meeting and Indian Health Services (IHS) Roundtable Discussion at the Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, MI

## Day 1-Travel Day

## Day 2 and 3

Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) presented a two day updates on the following topics:

- Metabolic Syndrome,
- Traditional Food
- Environmental Health
- Smoking and Tobacco use
- Native Specimens  
Huge topic of interest, awaiting tribal responses of how to define specimens, length of time for storage and traditional beliefs regarding "specimens" and if gathering and storage is a violation of NAGPRA
- Toxic Substances/Disease Registry  
Need for updated data (Stats used were 2006-2012)

## Day 4 – Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) Summer Meeting.

Special Note of Interest: Due to health difficulties, Cathy Abramson will retire from many of the positions she currently holds in Indian country.

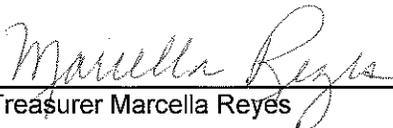
Other items of interest/discussion include:

- Need for Resolution or Declaration regarding Tribal Disaster Guidance.
- Kathleen Falk, Health and Human Services (HHS) update on 2014 consultations.
- Jenny Jenkins, Indian Health Services (IHS) Director notified of her intent to retire from her position
- Youth Detention/Wellness including discussions of funding, length of stay, cultural activity and counseling
- Nominations accepted for Treasurer position.
- Special Diabetes funding reduction – Tribal input prevented total discontinuance.

## Day 5 – Indian Health Services (IHS) 2014 Bemidji Area Listening Session-Dr. Rob

- Tribal Leaders voiced disappointment and concern of fund reductions for health services when the number of illnesses, both mental and physical are on the rise.
- Funding is greatly needed for Mental Health and alternative healing practices such as holistic healing which would alleviate prescription drug abuse.
- Discussion on the lack of coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Dr. Roubideaux requested tribal participation in the interview process when filling the seat vacated by Jenny Jenkins.

Respectfully,

  
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Treasurer Marcella Reyes