



Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI 49740

TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL NARRATIVE

Submitted by: Treasurer Reyes

Training/Event: United Tribes of Michigan/Building Strong Sovereign Nations
Location: Manistee, MI
Date of Event: October 25 - 27, 2016

Thank you fellow Council members and the Citizens of LTBB for allowing me the opportunity to attend The United Tribes of Michigan meeting and the Building Strong Sovereign Nations Training. The following is a brief travel report/summary:

Tuesday– October 25, 2016

I departed from my home in Harbor Springs and in an effort to assist with cost saving measures via carpooling I went to the Tribal Government Complex to pick up Secretary Shananaquet, then picking up Councilor Naganashe at his home on the way out of town.

United Tribes of Michigan dinner meeting – Speaker Robert Tim Coulter, Director of the Indian Law Resource Center

Wednesday – October 26, 2016

Morning Session:

UTM Executive Board Meeting: Election to fill vacant Office of President (*Aaron Payment, Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Band of Chippewa Indians was elected to UTM President. As a result of the election there was a need to fill the UTM Vice President vacancy. Jamie Stuck, Chairman, Notawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians was elected to this position*)

Opening ceremony - Presentation of the flags (Councilor Naganashe was offered tobacco and asked to join the drum), Opening prayer by Gary DiPiazza, Council Member, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of the Agenda – UTM President, Aaron Payment

Welcome by Ogema Larry Romanelli, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Approval of Minutes: 5-5-2016 meeting

President's Comments

Finance Report – Treasurer Romanelli

Executive Director's Report – Frank Ettawageshik (*Diane Rosen retired the end of September 2016 for health reasons*)

RESOLUTIONS: 1) Line 5 (passed); 2) DAPL(passed); 3) Grand Canyon National Landmark (passed)

US Geological Survey – Director, Suzette Kimball (*focus on systems approach vs prior discipline approach; placing more of a focus on developmental impacts; Science needs to be linked to decision making; Admits to engaging in surveys without Tribal consultation prior and apologizes for the oversight and pledges to NOT continue with that practice*)

Michigan Geological Survey – Director, John Yellich (*see handouts*)

MI Indian Tuition Waiver Report – Melissa Kiesewetter, MDCR (*50% High School dropout rate for*

Native American students in Michigan; Need to fight for full funding of MITW; Grand Valley has additional requirements aka: artificial criteria to use Tuition Waiver; MSU College of Law is ineligible school for tuition waiver as it is NOT considered a public institution but a private entity within MSU; see handouts)

US Veterans Administration – Peter Vicaire (VA billable for medical services provided to Veterans at IHS facilities, tribes must sign an agreement with the VA, currently in Michigan has agreements with Bay Mills, Grand Traverse Band and Keweenaw Bay; homeowners loan from the VA, no banks involved; also VA will provide 100% of cemetery costs)

MSU Native American Institute – Director, Dr. John Norder

Legal Update – Brian Pierson, Godfrey & Kahn (9th Circuit Court is very influential in Supreme Court cases; the Lewis vs Clark case was persuaded by the 9th Circuit Courts ruling in the Maxwell case; as a result tribal employees can be sued for money damages if the Plaintiff does NOT sue the tribe; see handouts)

Elementary and Secondary Education Act – Jannan Cotto LTBB Education Director **Resolution ESSA(passed)**(see handouts)

Afternoon Session:

MI Economic Development Corporation – Tom Durkee (renewed UTM sponsorship), Pure Michigan – Paul Howland, Project Specialist Travel Michigan (see handouts)

Tribal State Summit Follow Up, MI Governor's Office – Dave Nyberg (Development Disabilities Work Group, go to state website and submit an application)

GITW Benefits – Dave Walker (see handouts)

FEMA – William Sulinckas, Regional Tribal Liaison (showed video produced by youth in Bad River of the flooding that took place in their community in July, 2016 showing the tribal support that came forward to aid the victims of the flood. BIA is first agency to provide support under the **Division of Emergency Management** run by Sid Caesar, they come in if power, roads and life safety are compromised. Blackhawk helicopter was called in to transport dialysis patients as all road access was cut off to the area) **Bill will be retiring in 2018, emotional announcement made.**

Disabilities Assistance Program Proposal – Cinda Hughes, Randy Slikkers (less than 2% of Native Americans with disabilities are being served through State systems; NCAID has monies available, 10% match is required and every year Michigan leaves those dollars on the table, see handouts)

Honoring Our Children – Michelle Schulte, ITCMI

MSUE Building Strong Sovereign Nations Report – Emily Proctor

Closing Comments, Closing Prayer, retire flags (Councilor Naganashe was again asked to join the drum)

Adjourn

“Governor proposes and Legislator disposes”



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Thursday – October 27, 2016

Building Strong Sovereign Nations (*see packet*)

Introductions and Overview

Historical Overview: Anishinaabek Tribes in Michigan and the Interaction with State and Federal Governments – Jo Anne Cook, Former Tribal Council Member Grand Traverse Bay of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians and Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director, United Tribes of Michigan (F.E. – Help others (citizens) to understand what tribal leaders responsibilities are outside of our local government. WIPO – affects our traditions, dances and plant medicines, their actions could impact tribes; Article VI in the Constitution states "Treaties are Supreme law of the land"; Remember that consultation is NOT consent; Constant negotiations with local governments about our Sovereignty; always be willing to provide cultural training to local Law Enforcement and Courts; FPIC = Free Prior Informed Consent)

Leadership: Ethics, Roles & Responsibilities – Jamie Stuck, Chairperson, Nottawaseppi Band of Huron Potawatomi and Emily Proctor, Tribal Extension Educator, MSU Extension

Fiscal Management in Indian Country – John Amrhein, Public Policy Educator, MSU Extension

Conducting Effective Meetings – Brad Neumann, Government and Public Policy Educator, MSU Extension

Discussion and Wrap Up

Marcella R. Reyes

11.3.2016