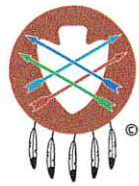


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PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

118 S. Eight Tribes Trail Miami, OK 74354
P.O. Box 1527 Miami, OK 74355

CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Rosanna Dobbs

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
September 5, 2023**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

Chief Craig Harper called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the Invocation.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Jenny Rampey declared a quorum with all members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Kara North to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, held on August 1, 2023. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Scott Myers to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting, held on August 24, 2023. Motion passed.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Financial Reports

Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the Financial Reports for July 2023 as presented. Motion passed.

Enterprise Reports

Chief Harper thanked the Committee and citizens for attending. He then introduced Mary Jewett, Acting General Manager of Buffalo Run Casino & Resort. Ms. Jewett introduced herself and thanked the council for having her.

Ms. Jewett began her report, which included:

Slot Financials

- **Coin-In** showed a *decrease* of 10.03% (\$5,553,567) from July 2023 to July 2024 and an *increase* of 1.87% YTD.
- **Slot Win** showed a *decrease* of -3.68% (\$91,912) from July 2023 to July 2024 and a *decrease* of -5.81% YTD.

Hotel Financials

- 8.68% (180) *increase* in **Occupancy** from July 2023 to July 2024, and up 1.26% (103) YTD.
- -11% (\$20,900) *decrease* in **Room Revenue** from July 2023 to July 2024, and down 3.53% (\$23,985) YTD.
- 34.44% (\$2839) *decrease* with **Grab-n-Go** from July 2023 to July 2024, and down 19.84% (\$5,654) YTD.

Golf Financials

- **Golf Revenue** showed an *increase* of 10.13% (\$10,924) from July 2023 to July 2024, and up 26.26% (\$101,395) YTD.
- **Golf Rounds** showed an *increase* of 4.93% (155) from July 2023 to July 2024, and up 20.69% (2,193) YTD.

2024 Casino Distribution

- **Distribution** comparing July FY2023 to FY2024 showed an *increase* of 21.81%, (\$76,014).
- **YTD distribution** showed a *decrease* of -4.04%, (\$342,154).

Ms. Jewett continued her report by sharing the Enterprise updates. With the Business Committee's previous approval to purchase slot machines for the Casino, a total of ninety-six new machines were purchased, bringing the total to 580 units. This is the most that we have ever owned. They will continue to watch and see what the next thirty days of revenue look like.

- Upgrade of the Evento system for the games on the floor begins this week.
- Self-Serve Kiosks at the Backwoods Bar & Grill: Finally received all the parts that were on backorder, testing this week and going live on Friday.
- Billboards: The new billboards along I-44 are working! Guests always mention them while visiting.
- Digital Flipbook: To date, we have converted 3,000 people from paper flyers to digital, which will result in savings for the Tribe.
- Coming Soon: Player Portal
- Hotel Shower Dispensers: Installments of the shower and soap dispensers are 95% complete resulting in a cost-saving initiative.
- POS Software Update: Switching the POS Software at the golf course for improved function and it will be the same as the casino.
- Peoria Showplace has had some updates which include fresh paint and taking the bar out, giving more room for events and guests.

Ms. Jewett thanked the Committee and asked if there were any questions. She then introduced Tonya Mathews, Director of Gaming for Buffalo Run Casino.

Ms. Mathews began her report, which included the following:

- Where We Were (Last Quarter) –
 - Employee Licensing September 2022 – January 2023: Processed 76 new employees, 33 position changes, 67 employee terminations, 21 license renewals, and much more.
 - Vendor Licensing & Compliance September 2022 – January 2023: Installed 57 machines, 52 conversions, 45 machine removals, and more.
 - Completed an initial internal audit for several departments and also completed second verification audits for FY22 for several departments.
 - Revised policies and procedures.
 - Training for Staff.
- Where We Are (This Quarter) –
 - Staff completed IGA Levels 1 & 2 and received Commissioner's Certification!
 - Successful audit with the state of Oklahoma.
 - Attended a few conferences.
 - Very busy processing various employee licenses.
 - Completed several audits.
 - Busy with Vendor Licensing and Compliance.
- Where We Are Going –
 - Continuing to improve employee licensing processes.
 - Working on upcoming employee training.
 - Complete revision of TICS.
 - Presenting at NTGC/R Fall Conference this month.
 - Much more!

Ms. Mathews thanked the Committee for having her and asked if there were any questions.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Chief Harper gave a recap of his written report, the highlights included:

- Back-to-School Bash at Woodland Academy
- Attended the OIGA Conference in Tulsa
- Tribal Leader's Discussion on Tobacco Compacts

- Tribal Reservation Mapping Update – Garet Couch
- Meeting with NEO President, Dr. Kyle Stafford & City Manager, Bo Reece
- Currently Interviewing for a Full-Time Teacher Assistant
- Filled (2) Natural Resources Tech Positions
- Participated in the White House Council on Native American Affairs Zoom Meeting
- Attended NTHS Governing Board Meeting

Chief Harper spoke briefly to the Council and citizens about the Ottawa County ruling against the County for \$33 million dollars that could result in a possible sales tax increase. He also mentioned the Miami Sr. Center, closing on the Rockdale property last week as well as the old Marvin's grocery store building.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 08/09/23 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 09/05/23 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting: Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-A, “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”: Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-A as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-B, “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Casino”: Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-B as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-C, “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank for the Account Entitled Buffalo Run Hotel”: Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-C as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-D, “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank for the Account Entitled Peoria Ridge Golf Course Operating Account”: Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-D as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-E, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank Allowing the Use of Purchasing Cards, ePayables, and all Merchant Services with Buffalo Run Casino and Resort”: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-E as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-F, “Authorization of Tribal Officials to Conduct Business with Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians”: Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-F as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-09-05-23-G, “Appointment of Tribal Representative to Serve on Northeastern Tribal Health System Governing Board”: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-09-05-23-G as presented. Motion passed with one abstention from Kara North.

Appointments for Housing Authority Board: Chief Harper nominated himself as Chairman For the Housing Authority Board. Cap Ulrey was reappointed as the representative for the Ottawa Tribe. Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to nominate Chief Harper as the Chair of the Peoria Housing Authority Board. Motion passed with one abstention from Kara North.

Discussion/Approval of Employee Wage Change Recommendations: Following the discussion held in Executive Session, a motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to approve wage changes as recommended by Human Resources. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chief Harper began “Public Comments” by asking if there were any questions so that each Tribal Citizen had the opportunity to address the Business Committee or ask questions.

Comment from Citizen Charla EchoHawk:

Ms. EchoHawk thanked Hank Downum for attending a full day of the Painted Hides workshop. She also thanked Chief Harper for attending a session and dinner with the guests.

Comment from Citizen Courtney King:

Ms. King began her introduction in the Peoria language. She then gave the message urging our leaders to begin partaking in cultural reclamation. She has spent many hours researching Peoria history but credits most of her learning from the Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, KS. Ms. King deeply appreciates the stomp dances and language classes but wants to know more and dig deeper into the Peoria culture, to feel connected to the Peoria people.

Comment from Citizen Al Goforth:

Mr. Goforth asked about the Powwow grounds and if we were changing directions. Chief Harper stated that there have been electrical issues for years there and that we were currently making improvements to the grounds.

Comment from Citizen Kara North:

Ms. North thanked Jolynn and Kara for the recent training that was held for Woodland Academy parents and that it was very educational. The 'Touchpoints' training was very engaging for the parents and the goal is to keep the family unit intact and to help prevent child abuse.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Kara North to move into Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Kara North to come out of Executive Session at 8:11 pm. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Kara North. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.


Jenny Ramsey
Authorized Signature

10/3/2023
Date Approved