



**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
October 6, 2020**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members present, except Hank Downum who called to advise Chief Harper of a health issue.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the Agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve the Minutes of September 1, 2020. Motion passed.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Peoria Ridge Golf Course:

Milton Hale, Peoria Ridge Golf Superintendent, began his report by stating the following:

- The weather has been wonderful and that the course is in excellent condition;
- The “Early Order” program (ordering of chemicals and fertilizers) is being analyzed using the wins and losses of the last year to establish a program for the coming year;
- Aerification was completed on October 5th, started at 6 am and completed at 5:30 pm;
- Equipment leases will end soon, and management is reviewing options for best financial strategy for the operation.

Austin Shipman, Peoria Ridge General Manager, started his report by stating that the month of September was the best month ever recorded for the property. He continued by stating the membership drive is continuing to have immense success and there are 74 new members to date, which is an increase in revenue of \$74,000. Mr. Shipman further stated that the opportunity to generate more revenue by increasing sales in the Bar and Grill as well as the Banquet Room are being discussed with the Management Team. He also stated that the number of rounds and revenue generated in August is the highest it has ever been. In closing, he stated that the majority of tournaments had been cancelled, but the Children’s Miracle Network tournament that was hosted in September turned out to be a great event.

Buffalo Run Hotel:

Kristi Riggs, Buffalo Run Hotel Manager, started her report by providing an update of rooms that had been sold specifically to truck drivers. She stated this is significant to the revenue of the property as that is income that had not been generated previously. Ms. Riggs stated that the occupancy rate is still low, but it is only 300 rooms behind the previous year, and she felt confident that occupancy rate at the end of the year would be comparable to Fiscal Year 2019. In closing, Ms. Riggs advised the Business Committee that Casino leadership has encouraged staff to volunteer in the local community and she had volunteered at GAR Cemetery recently. She further stated that she had assisted in grave restorations while volunteering and would like to share this information with tribal employees.

Buffalo Run Casino:

Patrick Browne, Buffalo Run CEO, started his report by advising the Business Committee of the continued financial growth of Buffalo Run Casino. He further stated that the disbursements to the Tribe are on course to possibly exceed the highest yearly disbursements ever made to the Tribe, noting that there are five months left in the current budget. Mr. Browne stated that the Marketing Department has been doing test mailers, wherein the number of coupons provided to club members has been varied. In analyzing the play of club members, the casino has been able to reinvest in the primary players of the property. As part of this analysis the Marketing Department has been able to cut their budget significantly. In closing, Mr. Browne discussed a personnel change and closed out his report.

Steve Bashore, Buffalo Run Casino General Manager, provided the Business Committee with the following update:

- This year is the 16th Anniversary for Buffalo Run Casino and a promotion celebrating that will begin in October and end in November;
- A Buffalo Run Casino team member meeting was held and it provided updates on numerous items that will affect the staff at the 3 tribal enterprises (Buffalo Run Casino, Buffalo Run Hotel and Peoria Ridge Golf Course).

Financial Reports

A motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to approve the Financial Reports for August 2020 as presented. Motion passed.

Administrative Program Reports

Chief Harper provided a brief synopsis of his printed report stating the following:

- The COVID Application is continuing and closes on October 31st;
- The COVID Application continues to provide increased workflow and traffic in the Enrollment Department;
- Department meetings are ongoing. The Peoria Tribal Housing Authority office was added;
- Numerous employees were recently hired:
 - 3 Grant writers, 2 that are tribal members
 - Ranch Manager
 - Ranch Support Specialist
- The construction projects, Woodland Learning Academy and Peoria Longhouse, are progressing;
- Buffalo Run Casino IT will begin to take over the IT needs of the Tribal offices and Gaming Commission office;

In addition to his written report, he wanted the Business Committee to look at the packet Korie Payton, Marketing Assistant/Graphic Design, had prepared. The packet consisted of numerous wool blanket designs, as well as, name options for the ranch property - including font samples. Ms. Payton provided a short presentation discussing the various projects and requested input or suggestions. In closing, Chief Harper discussed the Children's Christmas party and what the Pandemic has presented as a potential issue in hosting the event. He stated he would like the Business Committee members to provide options and/or ideas as to how to continue with this event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 09/16/2020 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 10/06/2020 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting. Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve new members recommended for approval by the Enrollment Committee on 9/16/2020. Motion passed.

Resolution R-10-06-20-A, "Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll": Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-10-06-20-A as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-10-06-20-B, "Resolution to Submit Oklahoma Historic Preservation Grant Application to the Oklahoma Historical Preservation Society on Behalf of Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, "Collection Preservation Project": Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-10-06-20-B as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-10-06-20-C, "A Resolution Authorizing Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Renew PL 93-638 Self Determination Contracts with Indian Health Service": Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-10-06-20-C as presented. Motion passed.

Appointments to the Peoria Housing Authority Board of Commissioners: Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Tonya Mathews to appoint Cap Ulrey and Alan Goforth the Peoria Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval Lease of Peoria Farm Land: Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to Lease of Peoria Farm Land to Rendel Farms. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval COVID-19 Relief Fund Budget Modification: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approved COVID-19 Relief Fund Budget Modification for BOLT IT. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval of Settlement Agreement with National Indian Gaming Commission SA-19-03: Discussion in Executive Session due to confidentiality.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Tonya Mathews to move into Executive Session at 7:10 pm.

Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded Tonya Mathews to come out of Executive Session at 7:40 pm.

Discussion/Approval of Settlement Agreement with National Indian Gaming Commission SA-19-03: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Settlement Agreement with National Indian Gaming Commission SA-19-03. Motion passed.


PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Kara North and seconded by Isabella Burrell. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.


Authorized Signature


Date Approved