

P (918) 540-2535
F (918) 540-2538



PEORIA TRIBE
OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
118 S. Eight Tribes Trail • P.O. Box 1527
Miami, Oklahoma 74355

CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Logan Pappenfort

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING**

August 3, 2021

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve the Agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2021. Motion passed.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Financial Reports

A motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Hank Downum to approve the Financial Reports for June 2021 as presented. Motion passed.

Enterprise Reports

Patrick Browne, CEO – Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began the reporting for Buffalo Run Casino, Buffalo Run Hotel and Peoria Ridge Golf Course by stating the reports would consist of Enterprise reports, Financial reports and Quarterly reports.

Mr. Browne invited Milton Hale, Peoria Ridge Golf Course Superintendent, to the podium to begin the reporting on Peoria Ridge Golf Course. Mr. Hale stated that the Bermuda grass has reestablished its roots and base, as it was hit hard by the winter kill and suffered in early spring. Mr. Hale also stated that the new member (employee) training is very successful. In closing, he provided a photo collage of various areas around the course that are flourishing due to fertilizer application. Mr. Hale further expounded on the success of the fertilizer application expressing that Mr. Patrick Browne had opted to have the course fertilized versus placing new sod and this had been a successful and economically great decision.

Austin Shipman, Peoria Ridge Golf Course Manager, began his report stating that the late rain of June and the extreme heat of July had affected play on the course. He advised the Business Committee that the membership continues to grow and is currently over 300. Mr. Shipman stated that the initiative to grow membership is ongoing and the current focus is to increase the numbers of female members. He stated that the Marketing team had analyzed the membership and the demographic make-up of the membership showed that the female membership is very minimal. Mr. Shipman stated that this is being addressed by adding more events for the ladies. Regarding the Bar and Grill, Mr. Shipman stated that the menu is being revamped and new items are being added such as fresh fruit cups and salads. He then stated that the largest tournament of the year will be coming up this month. In closing Mr. Shipman stated that golf revenue and golf merchandise revenue were still up.

David Murphy, Director of Food and Beverage at Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began his report by stating that the kitchen at the Casino had received all new equipment replacing equipment that had been there for seventeen years. In addition to the new kitchen equipment, 2 new walk-in coolers have been added. Mr. Murphy stated that the new menu at Coal Creek has been very well received by customers and it is priced to profit not just be an amenity. As part of the new menu and look, the bar area had also received extensive training and changes have been incorporated with the help of a "mixologist." The new drink menu and improved customer service has received extensive attention resulting in positive customer feedback.

Ryan Stewart, Director of Marketing at Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began his report by stating that the property had opened 4 new venues; Coal Creek Restaurant, Backwoods Bar & Grill, Contender Esports, and Top Golf which is quite an accomplishment. The Marketing Department is always watching for key performance indicators and then use that information to build promotions. He provided 2 new commercials that were developed by a new company that brings new ideas and a fresh view.

Mr. Browne introduced Angela Dahl, Director of Finance, and he stated that Ms. Dahl had been with the property for eight years and was really a success story for employee growth and development. He stated that when Angela began her employment, she did not have a degree, but was currently working on her MBA. Ms. Dahl began her report by providing financials on the Hotel and highlighted key areas of financial performance, specifically the addition of the Grab and Go food option. Concluding the Hotel financials, Ms. Dahl transitioned to the Casino financials and provided a brief overview of slot financials, concluding with first quarter highlights.

Peoria Tribal Citizen Axle Farless inquired if he could ask some questions regarding the Casino and the new Esports area. Mr. Farless stated that he had visited the Esports area and he felt that the area needed to be sound proof and that better quality head phones needed to be provided at the stations. Ryan Stewart advised Mr. Farless that the issue of exterior noise is being addressed by sourcing better quality headphones that provide for "noise cancellation." He stated that the issue is finding at hand has been finding 50 identical headphones. Ryan Stewart stated that marketing for both Esports and Top Golf have not been fully executed but plans are in place once staff is fully trained.

Administrative Program Reports

Chief Harper provided a summary of his written report, highlighting the following:

- Coal Creek Restaurant had opened and it had received great community support
- Job openings and interviews are ongoing for numerous positions within the tribe
- July 4th activities were well attended and staff did a great job
- Attended NIGA and RES, both held in Las Vegas

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 7/14/2021 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 08/03/2021 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 07/14/2021. Motion passed.

Resolution R-08-03-21-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-08-03-21-A as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-08-03-21-B, “Resolution R-08-03-21- B, “Authorization and Signatures with Security Bank and Trust of Miami, Oklahoma for a New Account Entitled Peoria Tribe Early Childhood,” Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-08-03-21-A as presented. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval to increase Grand Savings Bank Credit Card limit to \$100,000. Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Hank Downum. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval of Employee evaluations and wage change recommendations: Personnel issue that will be addressed in Executive Session.

ARPA -Housing Improvement Funds Work Plan 2021-2024: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Kara North to approve the ARPA - Housing Improvement Funds Work Plan as proposed. Motion passed.

Resolution R-08-03-21-C, “ARPA – Housing Improvement Funds Program Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Fiscal Years 2021-2024”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Resolution R-08-03-21-C as presented. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peoria citizen Tabitha Sixkiller provided detail on a recent incident where she was stopped for a traffic violation in Fairland, OK and she was asked by the police officer to provide documentation of her tribal membership. She stated she had asked why she would need to provide this documentation and the officer stated it was due to the McGirt ruling and since she was in Cherokee jurisdiction that she would need to provide her tribal identification. Chief Harper stated he would look into this matter by requesting a legal opinion.

Peoria citizen Anna Johnson inquired if tribal citizens can purchase processed beef from the cattle ranch. Chief Harper advised Ms. Johnson that currently citizens are not able to, but it is the long-term goal to be able to offer Peoria grown beef to tribal citizens, specifically by adding a food distribution center at the Campus. He further stated it is his goal to have citizens purchase Peoria grown beef, buffalo, mussels and fish. In addition, he stated the grant writers are currently working on a grant for green houses.

Ms. Johnson inquired about the status of the “Stimulus money.” Chief Harper stated that the US Treasury has not provided the final guidelines, but the money has been received and is sitting in an account drawing interest. He explained that the money received under the CARES funding provided for different guidelines than this current funding and the final guidelines have not been issued.

Second Councilman Isabella Burrell expressed she hoped that the final guidelines provided for the opportunity to distribute financial assistance to all Peoria citizens, as the current “interim” guidelines do not allow for complete distribution to all citizens it is based on their income.

Peoria citizen Brandi Daniels inquired if the Business Committee would consider providing discounts to citizens at Peoria owned business enterprises. Chief Harper stated that Peoria Ridge Golf Course provides complimentary golf to Peoria citizens. Chief Harper stated he will discuss the option of discounts on Food and Beverage at Buffalo Run Casino.

Ms. Daniels also expressed her concern over the lack of childcare assistance to Peoria citizens that do not live within the area. For example, her daughter lives in the Edmond area and is not able to get financial assistance from the tribe. Chief Harper stated that he would have staff contact her and work with her and her daughter on possible options such as assistance from other tribes. The CCDF program is offered by many tribes and is able to provide assistance to any tribal citizen.

Second Chief Logan Pappenfort provided his official resignation to Chief Harper and the Business Committee. He stated that his resignation from the Business Committee is official as of tonight, August 3rd and his last day of employment with the Peoria Tribe will be August 16th. Mr. Pappenfort stated he took his job with the tribe over 6 years ago and it had changed his life for the better, as a citizen and as a man. He further stated leaving is the hardest part of this new opportunity. Chief Harper thanked Logan for his work and his commitment to the Peoria Tribe and, although we will miss Logan, this is an unbelievable opportunity for Logan to continue his work for the Peoria people.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

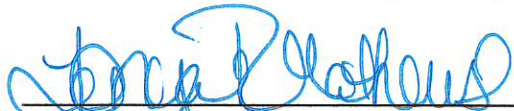
Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to move into Executive Session at 7:32 pm.

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to come out of Executive Session at 8:55 pm.

Discussion/Approval of Employee wage change Recommendation: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the wage change recommendation as presented and discussed in Executive Session. Motion passed with Tonya Mathews and Logan Pappenfort abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Isabella Burrell. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.



Authorized Signature

9/7/2021

Date Approved