

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
December 7, 2021**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

Chief Craig Harper called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Carolyn Ritchey gave the Invocation. Following the Invocation, newly elected Second Chief Rosanna Dobbs was sworn in for office.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve the agenda as amended – changing Item E. to “Resolution R-12-07-21-D – ‘Authorization and Signatures with IBC Bank Entitled Peoria Tribal Enterprises’”. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the Minutes of the Business Committee Meeting held on November 2, 2021. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION OF FY 2021 AUDITS:

Austin Kinsey, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, introduced Ryan Harris with Rose Rock CPA’s. It was also noted that all members of the Audit Committee: Michael Lewis, Kendra Robinson, and Zachary Goforth were in attendance as well. Mr. Harris began his presentation by stating that all audits for FY 2021 were “clean”. After providing an overview of the audits, Mr. Harris then thanked the staff of the Peoria Tribe for providing all needed documents in a timely manner, especially during COVID where information had to be sent digitally. He finished by stating that this was the second year in a row with no audit findings. Following his report, Chief Harper requested comments from the Audit Committee. Mr. Lewis stated that everyone spent a lot of time on the audits and that he agreed that everything was handled professionally. Ms. Robinson and Mr. Goforth did not have any comments.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Financial Reports

Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the Financial Reports for October 2021 as presented. Motion passed.

Enterprise Reports

Patrick Browne, CEO of Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began his report by providing an overview of the financial reports for the last six months - ending in October 2021. He then

stated that the Buffalo Run Casino participated in the “Route 66 Christmas Parade” for the first time with a float and won first place for “Best Float”. Mr. Browne then introduced Milton Hale and Austin Shipman, both with Peoria Ridge Golf Course.

Milton Hale, Superintendent of Peoria Ridge Golf Course, began his report by providing an overview of his maintenance report for Peoria Ridge Golf Course. He stated that planning for winterization had begun, which included the following projects:

- Downsized to a winter crew
- Removed all dead trees, will grind tree stumps
- Tree trimming and removal.
- Repairs to equipment to prepare for next season
- Roped off areas in Fairways to keep cart traffic off

Mr. Hale finished his report by thanking his maintenance crew for their hard work and extra hours put in this past season to make the course look so great. In closing, Mr. Hale introduced Austin Shipman, Manager of Peoria Ridge Golf Course.

Austin Shipman, Manager of Peoria Ridge Golf Course, began his report by informing the Business Committee that the Clubhouse will have new Winter hours soon and will be closed on Mondays. He then stated that upgrades have been made to the Pro Shop Bar & Grill, per member requests. He also stated that they have held many holiday events thus far, and more coming up. Mr. Shipman also stated that all 2022 inventory has been preordered. He further stated that for the month of October, there was a revenue gain on the golf side but golf rounds were slightly down from this time last year. Following his report, Mr. Shipman then proceeded to introduce Mr. Nate Dowling, Director of IT/Surveillance/Security for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort.

Nate Dowling, Director of IT/Surveillance/Security for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began his report by informing the Business Committee that the casino has replaced the old security cameras at the Tribal office with new HD cameras. He further stated that his team is also installing a card access security system, but to finish up that project, they are waiting on a part to come in. Mr. Dowling then stated they are finishing up installing cameras at the new Community Center as well as new phones being installed at a few of the Tribal properties along with other upgrades. He further stated that his team is 95% complete on a full audio system upgrade on the casino floor and were also waiting on one part to finish that project. He then stated that the server room was recently cleaned up and organized then proceeded to show a before and after picture of the cleanup project. In closing his report, Mr. Dowling stated that they are working on a full phone system upgrade at the Tribal offices – which should take place within the next couple of weeks; new licensing software should begin after the first of the year; Table Games surveillance system upgrade would be happening soon; and that HID card access is being upgraded throughout the properties.

Patrick Browne, CEO of Buffalo Run Casino added to Nate’s report stating he has spoken on capital investments with a high focus on reinvesting back into the business. He stated that Buffalo Run Casino & Resort was outdated but many improvements have been made, including the recent renovation in the Backwoods Bar area. He further stated that

improvements are coming in the Showplace as well, beginning with new carpet being installed the following week. He then added that renovations for the Showplace will be the next big project. He stated that a few of the renovations will include adding bleachers and relocating the bar to allow more people in for concerts and to help with the flow. He ended his report by stating that there has been continued growth over the last two years.

Donna Smith, Director of Human Resources with Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, introduced herself to the Business Committee and began to give her report. She stated that the casino has a new 401K provider for 2022 that offers better benefit options for the employees. She then stated that long-time HR employee, Phyllis Sizemore, will be retiring after 17 years. She further stated that over the past 24 months, there have been 107 internal promotions or internal transfers as the employees grow. She ended her report by stating that there is a leadership development training scheduled for 12/20/21 and that Employee Christmas parties were scheduled for the following week. Ms. Smith then introduced David Murphy, Director of Food and Beverage.

David Murphy, Director of Food and Beverage, began his report by stating that the concrete slab has been poured at Buffalo Run Casino & Resort for the industrial smoker. He stated that the Holiday season has been very busy and that they have had a record number of events thus far. He then stated that Thanksgiving Lunch/Dinner was a HUGE success – serving over 400 people! He further stated that he is now planning a Christmas buffet. Mr. Murphy ended his report by stating that all beef that is on any of our menus is Peoria Beef. Mr. Murphy then introduced Angela Dahl, Director of Finance for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort.

Angela Dahl, Director of Finance for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort, began her report by stating that Slots were up 6% in coin-in for the month/21% YTD and that there was not much of a change in slot-wins. She then stated that the hotel revenue is up 24% for the month/55% YTD and the hotel grab-n-go is up 67% YTD. Ms. Dahl finished her report by stating that there was an increase in YTD for Tribal Distribution.

Chief Craig Harper began his Administrative Report by stating that the Peoria citizen count was now 3,636. He reported that regarding ARPA funding, the Accounting Department had processed 2,099 requisitions for payment and had processed 1,846 checks to date. Chief Harper provided a summary of his written report, highlighting the following:

- The staff has been working very diligently on the annual Children’s Christmas party
- Community Center is near completion
- Met with Tribal Member, Cassie McCoy, and Jacque Secondine-Hensley, Director of the Office of American Indian Medicine and Sciences at OSU for a review of their program
- Project for Hwy 69 & 10 is approximately one year away
- Plans to meet with the owner of land where an old Peoria family cemetery is placed
- Met with Michael Bearden, Director of School of Dance at OU to discuss plans for the 2022 “Five Moons Dance Festival”

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 11/18/2021 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 12/07/2021 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Hank Downum to approve new members recommended for approval by the Enrollment Committee on 12/07/2021. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-A, “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”: Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-A as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-B, “Authorization and Signatures with Atlantic Coastal Life Insurance Company for New Annuity Accounts”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-B as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-C, “Authorization and Signatures with Sentinel Security Life Insurance Company for New Annuity Accounts”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-C as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-D, “Authorization and Signatures with IBC Bank Entitled Peoria Tribal Enterprises”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-D as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-E, “Authorization and Signatures with IBC Bank of Miami, Oklahoma for Accounts Entitled BIA Funds Account and Grant Funds Account”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-E as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-F, “Authorization for Signatures for Arvest Wealth Management Account”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-F as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-G, “Authorization for Signatures with Priority Income Fund”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-G as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-H, “Authorization for Signatures with Grand Savings Bank Credit Card Account”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-H as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-I, “Authorization for Signatures with Security Bank and Trust of Miami, Oklahoma Entitled Peoria Tribe Early Childhood”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-I as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-K, “Authorization for Signatures with IBC Bank Entitled Peoria Tribal Payroll Account”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-K as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-L, “Authorization for Signatures on Accounts at First National Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Oklahoma”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-L as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-M, “Authorization and Signatures with Western United Insurance Company for New Annuity Accounts”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-M as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-O, “Authorization and Signatures with Bankers Life Insurance Company for Annuity Accounts”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-O as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-P, “Authorization and Signatures with Liberty Bankers Life for Investment Account”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-P as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-Q, “Authorization for Signatures with Grand Savings Bank for Certificate of Deposit Accounts”: Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-Q as presented. Motion passed.

Resolution R-12-07-21-R, “Establishing NIGA Tribal Membership for 2022”: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-12-07-21-R as presented. Motion passed.

Reappointment to Peoria Tribal Gaming Commission for 2022 (Bud Ellis): Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to reappoint Bud Ellis to the Peoria Tribal Gaming Commission for 2022 as presented. Tonya Mathews abstained. Motion Passed.

Appointment to the Peoria Tribal Tax Commission (Second Chief, Rosanna Dobbs): Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Isabella Burrell to appoint Second Chief, Rosanna Dobbs to the Peoria Tribal Tax Commission as presented. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval to Proceed with Christmas Bonuses to Tribal Department Staff: Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to proceed with Christmas Bonuses to Tribal Department Staff as presented in Executive Session. Tonya Mathews abstained. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval of Employee Wage Change Recommendations: Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve the employee wage changes as presented in Executive Session. Tonya Mathews abstained. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chief Harper began public statements by stating that he would like to go around the room, so each citizen can address the Business Committee or ask questions.

- Tribal citizen, Roberta Lindsley, thanked the Tribe and the Business Committee for all of their hard work.

- Tribal citizen, Shannon Buckingham, thanked Patrick Browne for having Zoom! set up at the casino/hotel for meetings. She stated that it was a success.
- Tribal citizen, Nick Hargrove, asked for an update on Zoom! for the Business Committee meetings. Kori Payton, Marketing Assistant/Graphics Designer stated that she is waiting on one more bid to come through from the casino. The bid should be back within a week, and per the bylaws, there must be three bids before proceeding.
- Tribal citizen, Michael Lewis, stated the was very proud of the Business Committee over the last year and thanked them for their service to the Tribe.
- Tribal citizen, Tabitha Sixkiller, spoke up and asked about the bison from Yellowstone Park and why Peoria citizens couldn't pay for processing of the bison for the meat? Chief Harper stated that he has been in contact with the Intertribal Buffalo Council and the Senate regarding this. There is money allotted for tribes to house and feed the bison, but the bison in Yellowstone are specifically monitored and tested for multiple years before they are deemed safe and Brucellosis free and able to transport. Those specific bison are for herd development and must be used as such. Ms. Sixkiller then asked about lifetime hunting and fishing licenses and if the Peoria Tribe will ever offer that? Chief Harper replied that the current Governor is not signing off on anything additional at this time and that he expects the Lifetime Hunting & Fishing licenses currently in place with other Tribes will be renewed – per conversations amongst other Tribal leaders.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to move into Executive Session at 7:05 pm.

Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to come out of Executive Session at 7:52 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.


 Authorized Signature

1/4/22
 Date Approved