

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



# 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  
March 7, 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 Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, held on February 7, 2023. Motion passed with one abstention from Jenny Rampey.

**MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:**

**Financial Reports**

Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North to approve the Financial Reports for January 2023 as presented. Motion passed.

**Enterprise Reports**

Chief Harper introduced Patrick Browne, CEO of Buffalo Run Casino & Resort. Mr. Browne introduced himself and thanked the council for having him. He then introduced Kathy VanStavern, Manager of the Buffalo Run Hotel, to give her report.

Ms. VanStavern began her report, which included:

***Hotel Updates***

- Updated the Grab-n-Go by adding several new items
- Upgrades completed on the two DKSN rooms which resulted in positive responses from the guests
- Replenished the PAR levels on linens, towels, bathmats, and wash cloths
- Sourcing vendors to get the best price on room amenities and working towards becoming more of a 'green' hotel

SECRETARY  
Jenny Rampey

TREASURER  
Hank Downum

FIRST COUNCILMAN  
Carolyn Ritchey

SECOND COUNCILMAN  
Kara D. North

THIRD COUNCILMAN  
Scott Myers

- Adding more rooms to our presence on Expedia
- Lights have been replaced on the outside trees of the property

### ***Hotel Financials***

- 1% *decrease* in hotel revenue from January 2022 to January 2023, but up 4% YTD
- 1% *decrease* in room revenue from January 2022 to January 2023, but up 4% YTD
- 3% *increase* with Grab-n-Go from January 2022 to January 2023, but up 2% YTD

Ms. VanStavern ended her report by asking the Business Committee if there were any questions. She then introduced Kim Krokoskia, Director of Human Resources for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort.

Ms. Krokoskia gave a brief introduction and began her report, which included:

### ***Career Planning***

- Planning a Career Day for Casino employees in April. A 'Career Planning Worksheet' was given to the BC that the employees will fill out to aide in choosing their Career Path.
- Career Paths are created to retain your best team members, attract top achievers, and to compete with others in our market and be the "employer of choice".
- More explanation was given about the Career Paths and how the Casino will incorporate them within the organization.

Ms. Krokoskia ended her report by asking the Business Committee if there were any questions. She then introduced Mary Jewett, Director of Marketing for Buffalo Run Casino & Resort. Mr. Browne spoke up to state that Ms. Jewett had just been promoted to the Assistant General Manager for the Casino.

Ms. Jewett began her report, which included:

### ***Marketing Updates***

- Introduced a new key software upgrade to the slot machines called "AVENTO". This makes the machines cashless and cardless with 3D graphics and bonus games.
- New technology allows for cashless transactions at the machine including the cashing of paper checks, e-check privileges, and the ability to add bank accounts.
- W2G is another new update. This allows the guest to self-sign-in with a pin#, keeps players on the game by crediting winnings to the game, and is a preferred method by larger players. Buffalo Run Casino would be the first in the area to implement W2G.
- Mr. Browne stated that the current hardware is about 3-5 years outdated and that the Casino was playing 'catch up' from years past.

### ***2023 Direct Mail Changes***

- Electronic flip books: taking the direct mail online.
- Introducing a player portal where players can see their rewards, offers, monthly mailers and more.
- Created an app for phones.
- Fast Pass: This is an eternal program that allows access to reports for mail going out. It pulls information from all files into one place.

Following the Marketing report, Ms. Jewett introduced Angela Gosney, Director of Finance for Buffalo Run Casino and Resort.

Ms. Gosney began her report, which included:

#### ***Slot Financials***

- Coin-In showed an *increase* of 5% from January 2022 to January 2023, and a *decrease* of 9% YTD.
- Slot Win showed a *decrease* of 5% from January 2022 to January 2023, and a decrease of 14% YTD.

#### ***Golf Financials***

- Golf Revenue showed an *increase* of 35% from January 2022 to January 2023, and up 11% YTD
- Golf Rounds showed an *increase* of 48% from January 2022 to January 2023, and up 13% YTD
- Reports show that golf rounds have nearly doubled year over year.

#### ***2023 Casino Distribution***

- Distribution comparing January FY2022 to FY2023 showed a *decrease* of 92%
- YTD Distribution showed a decrease of 85%

In closing, Ms. Gosney asked if there were any questions. *Citizen LeAnne Reeves stated that she was confused about the big loss at the Peoria Ridge Golf Course. She asked if it was subsidized every month or paid all at once. Ms. Reeves stated that she would like to see that amount clearly stated so that it does not look like we are keeping anything from the citizens.*

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

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

- Continue to hold regular Director's meetings
- Leadership Class in Sulphur – Sovereignty and Public Safety. Chief also spoke on a panel with Choctaw/Chickasaw/Muscogee/Cherokee
- Continue to hold interviews for several positions
- Preparation for General Council
- Attended the ITC Board Meeting
- Attended NTHS Board Meeting
- Attended the MAEDS Board Meeting
- Bistro Ribbon Cutting
- Master Planning with Blue River Architects
- BIA Annual Review
- Oklahoma Tribal Legislative Reception in OKC
- OIGA Meeting in OKC
- Hosted Leadership Miami
- Met with the new Miami HS Ag Instructors
- Meeting with Chief Diebold

Chief Harper began staff reports by introducing Jolynn Kaiser, Director of Early Childhood.

Ms. Kaiser began her report with a slideshow that included:

**Where We Were, Last Quarter (Early Childhood):**

- Woodland and Kahne were awarded a 5-Star Level
- Fall Festivities: Pumpkin Patch and Trunk-or-Treat
- Enrollment: 87% enrolled and 50% are Peoria children
- Waitlist was at 115
- Staff Professional Development
- Family Meetings: Stickball and a Family Feast

**Where We Are, This Quarter (Early Childhood):**

- 2023-2025 Tribal Preprint Submitted: This is a three year plan that the ECC operates under
- Subsidy policies and procedures updated
- Provider application and claim forms updated
- Enrollment: 89% enrolled and 43% are Peoria children
- Waitlist is currently at 121
- Professional Development: Several Topics Covered
- TPITOS Reliability Certification
- Family Meetings: Ornament Decorating and Body Safety
- Completion of the first Peoria children's book
- First round of TPOT and TPITOS assessments completed

**Where We Are Going, Next Quarter (Early Childhood):**

- Launch a teacher coaching program
- School age program planning
- Read Across America Week
- National CACFP Conference
- Week of the Young Child
- Summer Break

In closing, Ms. Kaiser asked if there were any questions. She then introduced Tracy Coach, Director of Health and Human Services. Ms. Coach began her report with a slideshow, which included:

**Where We Were, Last Quarter (Health and Human Services):**

- Continued project objectives and goals
- Peoria Advantage began its third session of parenting support
- CHR continued transports and providing access to medical treatment to community elders
- PRSS continued to provide transport and assistance to treatment, detox, halfway, and residential care
- Peoria Shield continued advocacy for victims of domestic violence

**Where We Are, This Quarter (Health and Human Services):**

- Continuing project objectives and goals through grants
- Peoria Shield and Advantage coupled to present 'Body Safety' at Woodland Academy to help parents talk to their children about difficult topics
- Academy Open House
- Wellness Project Coordinator submitted the Pathways Grant (new funding partnership with the Oklahoma Healthcare Authority). We will know within two weeks if funding (\$350,000) will be awarded

**Where We Are Going, Next Quarter (Health and Human Services):**

- Family Spirit Parent Gathering begins this month
- Read Across America – outreach at Wilson School this month
- Partnering with area CCDF and ICW to host the 'Week of the Young Child' in April
- Partnering with OKDHS to host 'Completing the Circle', a culture event for foster children
- Peoria Advantage is partnering with Early Childhood to host a project for the month of April, which is Child Abuse Awareness month
- Tribal Elder Care Giver Coalition Conference outreach
- Hiring a Community Health Representative

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution R-03-07-23-A, "Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement Between the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services and the Peoria Tribal Government for Tribal Law Enforcement for the Tribe":** Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-A as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-B, "Resolution Authorizing a Security Agreement – Machinery and Equipment with the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) and UCC Financing Statement":** Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-B as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-C, "Resolution Authorizing the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma a Membership to the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society":** Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-C as presented. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Approval of Banking RFP: Resolutions R-03-07-23-D through R-03-07-23-L**

**Resolution R-03-07-23-D, "Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Casino and Resort Operating Account":** Motion was made by

Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-D as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-E, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Casino and Resort Debit Card Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-E as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-F, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Casino and Resort Payroll Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-F as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-G, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Casino and Resort Receivables Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-G as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-H, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Casino and Resort Reserve Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-H as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-I, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Hotel Operating Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-I as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-J, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Buffalo Run Hotel Payroll Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-J as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-K, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Peoria Ridge Golf Course Operating Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-K as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-L, “Authorization and Signatures with Arvest Bank for a New Account Entitled Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Operating Account”:** Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Hank Downum to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-L as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-03-07-23-M, “Resolution Authorizing a Financing and Security Agreement with IGT”:** Motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to approve Resolution R-03-07-23-M as presented. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Approval of Employee Wage Change Recommendations:** Following the discussion held in Executive Session, motion was made by Hank Downum and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve wage changes as recommended. 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.

*Citizen Jeane Wynn informed the council and staff that the second season of her podcast, “Bloodlines” launches in April.*

*Citizen Wes Farless thanked everyone for all their help with this year’s General Council, Stomp Dance, and Fish Fry.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to move into Executive Session at 7:46 pm. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North to come out of Executive Session at 8:04 pm. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Jenny Rumpsey  
Authorized Signature

4/4/2023  
Date Approved