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**PEORIA TRIBE**  
**OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA**  
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Miami, Oklahoma 74355

CHIEF  
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF  
Logan Pappenfort

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA**  
**BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 4, 2021**

**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 is out of town.

**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 Kara North to approve the Minutes of April 6, 2021. Motion passed.

**MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:**

***Peoria Ridge Golf Course:***

Patrick Browne, Buffalo Run CEO, introduced Milton Hale, Peoria Ridge Golf Superintendent.

Mr. Hale provided his report in the form of a Power Point presentation and it summarized the activities that are taking place in the Maintenance Department at Peoria Ridge:

- February weather allowed early maintenance to Bermuda grass;
- Repairs completed on Hole #5;
- Mowing has begun on tee boxes;
- Seasonal employee hiring is ongoing;
- Current weather conditions are very favorable for the course.

Mr. Browne then introduced Austin Shipman, Peoria Ridge General Manager. Mr. Shipman continued the Power Point presentation which showcased a television commercial commemorating Peoria Ridge winning the "4-States Finest" award. He continued his presentation by stating that Peoria Ridge had been very busy, completing 10 events during March and April. Mr. Shipman stated that Peoria Ridge will continue to be busy, as there are 13 events scheduled for the month of May. He reported that the last membership event was very well attended and very well received. Mr. Shipman stated the membership continues to grow and is currently at 252 members. In closing, he stated that revenue is up due to the increase in Golf Membership, as well as, sales in Food and Beverage and the Pro Shop.

***Buffalo Run Hotel:***

Mr. Browne introduced Brad Hintz, Buffalo Run Hotel Manager. Mr. Hintz continued the Power Point presentation by directing attention to the screen where photos were displayed showcasing the Hotel's back patio that is now open for guests to use. He then stated he is currently sourcing bids for new laundry equipment. Mr. Hintz also stated he has been working with a vendor to update the current door lock system and that the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor was going to begin replacing drapes. In addition to the drape changes, the suites are being upgraded by adding new and better amenities such as new fridges. In closing, Mr. Hintz stated that room revenue is up.

***Buffalo Run Casino:***

Mr. Browne continued the Power Point presentation by providing a detailed overview of property renovations. He advised the Business Committee that renovations include three Food and Beverage outlets at Buffalo Run Casino: Coleman House, The Trailer Park, and Joe's Outback. The Coleman House is being updated and will be rebranded as Cole Creek. Cole Creek will have a new menu that is fresh and exciting. The back area of the property, which was formerly the Trailer Park and Joe's Outback, will now be rebranded as The Backwoods. This area will consist of a new bar renovated dining, E-gaming and Top Golf suites. In closing, Mr. Browne stated that a new Executive Chef, Clay McKissick, has been hired and is working collaboratively with Chef Chris.

Mr. Browne introduced Donna Smith, Buffalo Run Casino Human Resources Director. Ms. Smith began her report by stating that there is a considerable labor shortage - the current demand for talent is greater than the supply. She stated that this shortage of employees is being felt region wide and all businesses are having to get creative in their recruitment process. In closing, Ms. Smith expanded on a few examples of how Buffalo Run Casino is working to address the labor shortage by offering incentives to current and new employees.

Mr. Browne introduced Ryan Stewart, Buffalo Run Casino Marketing Director. Mr. Stewart began his report by continuing the Power Point presentation to provide a synopsis of Marketing statistics including: value of the average daily player, coin in, and future concerts under contract. In addition to the upcoming events, Mr. Stewart provided a recap of the last event at Buffalo Run Casino - an auto auction. He stated this event was very well attended, and it exceeded the statistics of the previous year. In closing, Mr. Stewart provided a quick report on slot machine performance by stating that the slot financials are significantly higher than the last fiscal year.

To conclude the presentation from Buffalo Run Properties, Mr. Browne provided a brief financial update that was summarized by stating that Buffalo Run Casino will close out the year with distributions surpassing any year that the property has been open. Mr. Browne stated that the property continues to maintain its mission and vision statement goals leading to favorable results. He also stated that the upcoming year is forecasted to be very favorable and that the addition of the contracted entertainment and property renovations will be a great benefit in the revenue for the upcoming year. In closing, Mr. Browne stated that the addition of Chef Clay to the employee roster will be an amazing asset to the new vision of the property and that Chef Clay is providing mentorship to Chef Chris will expand the vision.

## **Financial Reports**

A motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve the Financial Reports for March 2021 as presented. Motion passed.

## **Administrative Program Reports**

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

- Attended monthly meeting of NTHS;
- NEO requested assistance for a community engagement project in which Peoria Tribal staff participated;
- Staff members from the Ranch traveled to Nebraska to look at bulls;
- Made numerous trips to Oklahoma City on Congressional visits;
- Construction continues on projects that are underway;
- Properties previously approved to purchase – update: Miami Academy will be closing in near future and other properties are not feasible right now with current market climate.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No unfinished business

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 4/20/2021 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 05/04/2021 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting.** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Kara North to approve new members recommended for approval by the Enrollment Committee on 04/20/2021. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-A, “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”:** Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-A as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-B, “Placement of Previously Allotted Land of Lykins Family into Trust Status”:** Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-B as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-C, “Placement of Previously Allotted Land of Staton/Peery Family into Trust Status”:** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-C as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-D, “Authorization of Signatures with First National Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Oklahoma for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Casino”:** Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-D as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-E, “Authorization of Signatures with Security Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Oklahoma for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Casino”:** Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-E as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-F, “Authorization of Signatures with First National Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Oklahoma for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Hotel”:** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-F as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-G, “Authorization of Signatures with First National Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Oklahoma for Accounts Entitled Peoria Ridge Golf Course Operating Account”:** Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Isabella Burrell to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-G as presented. Motion passed.

**Appointments to the Peoria Housing Authority Board of Commissioners:** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to appoint Shelby Betsey, Tenant Representative, to the Peoria Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Motion passed.

**Discussion/Approval to Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Personnel Policy:** To be addressed after Executive Session.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-H, “An Authorizing Resolution to Contract with the Bureaus of Indian Affairs for the “Endangered Species Education and Propagation Program and the Production of an Endangered, Threatened, and Culturally Significant Mussel Species for other Concerned Organizations, Sites, or Needs”:** Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-H as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-I, “Directing the Transfer of Management, Operations, And Assets of The Peoria Ridge Golf Course to The Buffalo Run Casino”:** Motion was made by Carolyn Ritchey and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-I as presented. Motion passed.

**Resolution R-05-04-21-J, “Resolution Approving Request for FY2021 Federally Appropriated Attorney Fees on Behalf of the Tar Creek Trustee Council Indian Tribes”:** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-05-04-21-J as presented. Motion passed.

**Approval of FY2022 Tribal Government and Tribal Enterprises Budget Revisions:** Motion was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort to approve FY2022 Tribal Government and Tribal Enterprises Budget Revisions. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Isabella Burrell to move into Executive Session at 7:17 pm.


Motion was made by Logan Pappenfort and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to come out of Executive Session at 9:01 pm.

**Discussion/Approval to Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Personnel Policy:** Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Carolyn Ritchey to table item until June Business Committee meeting. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Isabella Burrell and seconded by Logan Pappenfort. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

  
Authorized Signature

  
Date Approved