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PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

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CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Rosanna Dobbs

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
July 2, 2024**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

Chief Harper called the meeting to order, and Jenny Rampey gave the Invocation.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Jenny Rampey declared a quorum with all members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Kara North made a motion and Rosanna Dobbs seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Myers made a motion and was seconded by Kara North to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, held on July 2, 2024. Motion passed.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Financial Reports

Jenny Rampey made a motion and was seconded by Scott Myers to approve the Financial Reports for May 2024 as presented. Motion passed.

Enterprise Reports

Chief Harper introduced Mary Jewett, General Manager of Buffalo Run Casino & Resort. Ms. Jewett introduced herself and thanked the council for having her.

Ms. Jewett began her report, which included May Highlights:

Slot Financials

- **Slot Win** showed a *decrease* of 4.93% (\$114,259) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **YTD** showed a *decrease* of .84% (\$38,587) from May 2024 to May 2025

Hotel Financials

- **Hotel Occupancy** reflected a *decrease* of 15% from May 2024 to May 2025

- **YTD** reflects a *decrease* of 15.42% in occupancy from May 2024 to May 2025
- **Room Revenue** reflected a *decrease* of 6.34% (\$10,252) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **YTD** reflected a *decrease* of 2.85% (\$9,188) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **Hotel Net Income** reflected an *increase loss* of 453% (\$9,249) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **YTD** reflects an *increase* of 122.18% (\$33,291) from May 2024 to May 2025

Golf Financials

- **Golf Revenue** reflected a *decreased loss* of 25.27% (\$31,674) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **YTD** reflected an *increase loss* of 17.48% (\$41,352) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **Golf Net Income** reflected an *increase loss* of 46.21% (\$34,509) from May 2024 to May 2025
- **YTD** reflected an *increase loss* of 30.56% (\$53,568) from May 2024 to May 2025

Food and Beverage

- **Bistro** comparing May FY2024 to FY2025 showed an *increase* of 5.27% (\$4,405)
- **Backwoods** showed a *decrease* of 13.75% (\$6,985)
- **Coal Creek** showed a *decrease* of 17.9% (\$22,985)
- **Main Bar** showed a *decrease* of 14.89% (\$10,869)
- **Backwoods Bar** showed a *decrease* of 12.38% (\$455)
- **Total F&B Sales** showed a *decrease* of 10.87% (\$36,888)

2024 Casino Distribution

- **Casino Distribution** showed a *decrease* of 31.35% (\$158,624) from May 2024 to May 2025 and an overall *decrease* of 32.25% (\$357,254) YTD

Ms. Jewett stated that the net income for all reports will reflect the amount after all bills have been invoiced out. Ms. Jewett notified the Business Committee that a new Golf Manger, John Renslow had been hired. Ms. Jewett proceeded with her presentation on updates at the Casino.

- Hired Robin Gertonson as the Executive Finance Director
 - Ms. Gertonson comes with seven years of Tribal Gaming experience and twenty years of accounting experience
- Hired Brian Smith as the Finance Director. Mr. Smith will start on July 11th

Ms. Jewett showed pictures of four HVAC units that were purchased back in 2005 and need to be replaced. HVAC unit #4 is not working and the other three are working at ten percent. Each unit will cost around \$110,000 to replace. If ordered no later than July 15th would receive a 2024 unit and have in eight weeks. If ordered after July 15th would receive a 2025 unit and have in about twenty weeks. Ms. Jewett stated that at this time the Casino would be purchasing two units. The Business Committee agreed that all four needed to be purchased and Chief Harper will check Property Maintenance funding to help purchase the other two or possibly all four.

Ms. Jewett continued with her presentation of Casino updates:

- New fencing to hide HVAC units

- Will be adding the same fencing onto the HVAC units at the hotel
- Backwoods Bar had the tile redone
- Had a power outage that fried two mini servers and replacement cost was \$9,000
- Coal Creek added Southern Comfort food to their Wednesday Buffett
- Buffalo Run is excited to host the July 4th celebration and they have a backup plan for bad weather
- Currently selling Buffalo Run post cards in Gift Shop
- Now have Visa Cards available with the Buffalo Runs own design
- Promotion area is now available
- Peoria Ridge Golf Course parking lot was redone

Ms. Jewett then proceeded on to the Peoria Tribe and Buffalo Run's Code of Ethics.

- No Stealing, No Drugs, No Alcohol will equal No Job!

Ms. Jewett stated that the Sweet Bar opening will possibly be around July 11th. Ms. Jewett provided pictures of the murals of the Peoria Golf course holes #12, 13 and 17. These murals were installed at Top Golf. Ms. Jewett thanked the committee for having her and asked if there were any questions.

Chief Harper thanked Ms. Jewett and introduced Tracy Coach, Director of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Coach started her presentation with what has been accomplished since July of 2023.

- ICW
 - The Tribe continues to advocate for Peoria children in courts
 - Peoria Tribe is using IVB funding to co-sponsor the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference
 - Peoria ICW director recognized as the "Child Welfare Person of the Year"
 - Created a new CFSP for IVB funding through Children's Bureau
 - Partnered with the Northeastern Child Protection Team to sponsor the Completing the Circle event
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
 - Started year one of the 988 Crisis Response project
 - Hired a therapist, four PRSS, and two Recovery Outreach Specialists
 - Went from serving 30 clients to 70 in recovery program
 - Continued partnership with Miami Police Departments providing training and support to School Resource Officers
 - Applied for funding through
 - Southern Plains Tribal Health Board
 - SAMHSA Tribal Opioid Response
 - Continued BJA and 988
 - Started "Champion Recovery" initiative
- Peoria Shield
 - Serve victims of abuse by intimate partners
 - Applied for Tribal Set Aside Grant
 - Applied for the OVW

- Applied for HHS Grant
- Kristi Walker the Peoria Shield Program Manager was selected to serve as the Region 5 NAV representative
- Peoria Advantage
 - Continued to serve families using the Family Spirit Curriculum
 - Applied for the CBCAP and was awarded
 - Provided Touchpoint Provider training
 - Child Abuse Awareness Campaign
- Peoria Health & Wellness
 - Hired new Wellness Manager, Stacy Lindsly
 - Implemented the first year of the Pathways Project
 - Provide Elders transportation to health and wellness related appointments and activities
- Food Security/Distribution
 - Hired Jeremy Gillespie as Food Security Manager
 - Began remodeling of the Marvins building to house the Peoria Food Distribution Office
 - Began implementation of the Peoria Fresh Project using USDA/LFPA funding
 - Located local producers to provide minimally processed food for the Peoria fresh project
 - Provided this food to income eligible children through the summer
 - Applied for Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country
- Outreach Events
 - “What was she wearing” campaign
 - Camp Bandage
 - Paint the Town Blue
 - Seneca Cayuga Child Abuse Awareness Walk
 - Riverton Career Fair
 - Stalking Walk
 - Completing the Circle
 - Night of Honor
 - Commerce Days
 - Heritage Festival for 2023
 - Spring Caregivers Conference
 - Wyandotte Night Out
 - SIMS to various prom activities in the state

Ms. Coach continued with her presentation on what will come for HHS.

- Peoria Health and Wellness
 - Will be hosting wellness classes for current HHS Clients
 - Implementation of Pathways Project (Year 2)
 - Elder transportation and providing access to healthcare
 - Planning and development of elder activity program
 - Researching wheelchair accessible passenger vehicle
- Food Security/Distribution
 - Summer Food Program

- Implemented the 2nd phase of Peoria Fresh beginning with serving eligible Peoria veterans, elders, and disabled
- Move to new location
- Build the teaching kitchen at the new facility
- Implement the Lifestyle Instructional Nutrition Kitchen project.
- Peoria Advantage
 - Joining with Woodland for Brazelton Touchpoints Training for area frontline providers
 - In-home parenting visitations
 - Implementation of the car seat program
- Peoria Shiel.
 - Implementation of grant goals and objectives for the new projects
 - Serve victims of domestic violence
- Peoria Indian Child Welfare
 - Co-sponsoring of Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference
 - Serving and advocating for Peoria children in the Child Welfare system
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
 - Implementing year two of 988 Crisis Tribal Response
 - Implementation of new Southern Plains and TOR projects
 - Providing peer services
 - Phase two of Champaign Videos will include family

Ms. Coach provided a video of Lauren's Story. Lauren's Story talked about her recovery and how the Peoria Tribe has helped this process along. Ms. Coach concluded her presentation and thanked the Business Committee.

Chief Harper asked Tracy Coach to explain how her team chooses the services that are needed in the community. Ms. Coach stated that her team is very methodical when applying for grants. The Peoria Tribe does not want to just replicate what everyone else is doing but to look for the gaps and try to fill those. Ms. Coach's team has been able to fill those gaps with the domestic violence program, providing emergency services, the peer recovery program and the food distribution program. The food distribution program went further than just giving out food baskets by implementing the summer food program.

Chief Harper reintegrated that the food distribution center will not be pushing out or taking over the Inter-tribal Council Distribution Center at the OP Building. The Peoria Tribe's goal will be a different program that focuses on eligible citizens in the in-between income.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Chief Harper began his Administrative Report for June. The report included the following highlights:

- Met with Peoria Citizens
- Held Leadership Cohort Training for Directors

- Hosted Hamburger Hangout for Employee Appreciation
- Attended Groundbreaking for Peoria Housing Authority. (15 total units- 8-one bedrooms and 7-two bedrooms each with covered carport and storm shelter)
- Attending ITC Board Meetings
- MAEDS Meeting
- Hosted Audit Committee
- Held Enrollment Workshop for Peoria Staff
- Attended Powwow
- Hosted UINO at Buffalo Run
- Continued to meet with Directors and their teams on the Greenhouse, RV park, Food Distribution Center, and Rockdale Projects
- Working on Benches, Car Paths and Bridges
- Architects are working on a new Storage Warehouse Facility
- Installing a Raised Bed Garden at Woodland Academy

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution R-07-02-24-A, “Resolution Approving and Enacting Updates to the Travel Policy of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma”: Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Kara North to approve Resolution R-05-07-24-A with 1 amendment to the Travel Policy presented by Jason Dollarhide. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval to rescind Resolution R-07-02-24-B “Resolution Authorizing Execution and Filing of Articles of Organization for Peoria Lease Holdings, LLC”: Motion was made

by Scott Myers and seconded by Jenny Rampey to approve R-07-02-24-B as presented. Motion Passed.

R-07-02-24-C “Resolution Approving the Operating Agreement of Peoria Lease Holdings, LLC”: Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-07-02-24-C as presented. Motion Passed.

R-07-02-24-D “Resolution Authorizing Submittal of a Fiscal Year 2024 Indian Community Development Block Grant Through the Peoria Housing Authority”: Motion was made by Rosanna Dobbs and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-07-02-24-D as presented. Motion Passed.

Appointment of Enrollment Committee (Kay Harper, Lois Jean Burgess, Larry Myers): Motion was denied appointing Enrollment Committee as presented. A motion was made to **Reappoint Enrollment Committee (Kay Harper, Lois Jena Burgess, Jenny Rampey):** Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to approve reappointment of Enrollment Committee. Motion Carried by a vote of 4 for and 2 Abstentions Jenny Rampey and Scott Myers.

Discussion/Approval of Investment Policies: Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Kara North to approve Investment Policies. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval of Donations: Fairland Volunteer Fire Department \$1,000, National Native American Hall of Fame Quarter Page \$500, Ottawa County Fair Board will send Peoria Tribe Staff Member \$5,000, Route 66 Heritage Festival \$1,000; No Motion was made donations will be tabled.

Discussion/Planning of Powwow Site: Business Committee agreed that the Powwow will be held at the Showplace next year and vendors will be moved closer or under the awning. More discussion on where to hold 2026 Powwow or if changing the time of season to hold Powwow.

Discussion/Approval of Employee Wage Change Recommendations (was held in Executive Session): Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Kara North to approve wage changes as recommended by H.R. in Executive Session. 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 Hank Downum:

Mr. Downum stated that he would like the Powwow to stay at the Powwow grounds but seeing it held at the Casino and the money coming from holding it at the Casino. Holding Powwow at Casino would be the best option.

Citizen LeAnn Reeves:

Ms. Reeves would like to correct misinformation floating about ancestors and their ancient ceremonies at the Powwow. The Powwow is a social event. Clearly some of the drums are sacred but if your relative passed away in 1998 they never saw the Powwow grounds. The other thing about what to do with the Powwow grounds would be to use it for cattle and baling hay. That was the original purpose of the purchase of the Powwow grounds.

Citizen Charla EchoHawk:

Thank you for the Powwow support. Seeing our Business Committee members there and Chief Harper showing up every single day, it made an impact on all the people that drove as far away as Bismark North Dakota. Powwow attendees commented that they were grateful for how cool it was, and everyone had positive comments. All of our staff trusted us with specific time slots and duties for them. We had ushers for the first time this year. Everyone of our staff members stepped up and Raylynn was exceptional. Once she started, she did not stop.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to move into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Rosanna Dobbs to come out of Executive Session at 9:48 pm. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Jenny Rampey. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.


Authorized Signature


Date Approved