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PEORIA TRIBE
OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
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CHIEF
Rosanna Dobbs

SECOND CHIEF
Vacant

**PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETING
January 7, 2024**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION:

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Secretary Jenny Rampey declared a quorum with 5 members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Scott Myers made a motion and was seconded by Nicholas Hargrove to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Nicholas Hargrove amended the minutes. Nicholas Hargrove made a motion and was seconded by Jason Dollarhide to approve the amended Minutes of the Regular Meeting, held on December 3, 2024. Motion passed.

MONTHLY TRIBAL/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Financial Reports

Jason Dollarhide made a motion and was seconded by Scott Myers to approve the Financial Reports for November 2024 as presented. Motion passed.

Enterprise Reports

Chief Dobbs introduced Mary Jewett; General Manager of Buffalo Run Casino & Resort. Ms. Jewett introduced herself and thanked the committee for having her.

Ms. Jewett began her report, which included November Highlights. Ms. Jewett provided a presentation that included slots, food and beverages, hotel, and casino financials.

Ms. Jewett stated that the casino has a total of two hundred and one employees, one hundred thirty-nine are full-time and sixty-two are part-time, forty-eight of the two hundred and one are tribal: Cherokee, Wyandotte, Creek, Seneca Cayuga, Shawnee, Osage Ottawa, Quapaw, Potawatomi, Navajo, Miami, Delaware, and three Peoria. Ms. Jewett stated that at last year's

Team Member Gala, they recognized five, ten, fifteen, twenty, and twenty-five-year employees. Ms. Jewett stated that they recognized the employee Rockstars. These Rockstars are voted for by doing outstanding work. First place was David Whitecrow and second place was Dawn Freeman, who has been with us fifteen years. We have Ryan with creative and the Manager of the year Tracy, who has been with us for almost a year.

Ms. Jewett said they are trying to go cashless at the Hotel, Gift Shop, and Truckers Lounge. The more Google Pay, tap pay we do then we do not have to pay credit card fees. We are trying to incorporate this more; we have always had it.

The Christmas Buffet served five hundred thirty-three buffets. DoorDash has been operational for one month, Ms. Jewett provided sales, total orders, and average ticket price. The most popular order was two meats with two sides for twelve dollars. Ms. Jewett stated that they have DoorDash on a T-sign out front for them to park and come in to pick up the order. Ms. Jewett stated that they have only received one complaint so far, which was an item missing from the order.

Ms. Jewett gave an update on operations. When the showplace opened in January 1, 2024, the table games were in front of the showplace. When you have fourteen hundred people coming out of the showplace and right into the table games it creates an inconvenience for the players. We temporarily moved the table games into the back room. A month ago, we moved the table games back out on the floor. Ms. Jewett stated the casino app has been live for two weeks. We have had thirty-four downloads. The app shows all events, hotel offerings, top golf, and golf course. We rolled out the gift cards and so far, we have sold fifteen. The gift cards are Visa with our design on them. Ms. Jewett gave an update on Entertainment. We had the mix martial arts that sold out. This event increased food and beverage sales. Upcoming entertainment is:

- Randy Rogers January 18th
- Molly Hatchet February 1st
- BlackHawk February 22nd
- Hunter Hayes March 29th

Ms. Jewett stated that on New Year's Eve, the casino beat numbers prior to covid numbers this year. Ms. Jewett stated that since there is buzz on the street, she would like to address these issues. Ms. Jewett stated that if you steal from the casino, if you do not show up to work, if you do drugs, and if you sleep on the job you cannot work for the casino. Ms. Jewett also addressed the buzz about incorporating tips with food and beverages and every department, with managers and supervisors, this is not accurate. The slot department has always split tips and those are dual rates for everyone in that department. Tables games keep their own tips except for craps. Craps and player pool contribute seven and a half percent from regular dealers, which everything is auditable, and this goes into the craps pool for when times are slow. EBS used to keep their tips, but they do not since we have had a theft in EBS. After eighty hours all the tips go together and then that takes away the risk of anyone wanting to steal. Security does not take tips, this ended about six months ago due to the security supervisor stealing two to three hundred dollars in tips. We pay event staff a one hundred dollar flat fee. They usually work two to three hours. Two hours is fifty an hour, three hours is thirty-three an hour. The event staff helps with concerts, boxing events, and sometimes our Christmas buffets. We learned that at a couple of our player parties, we were paying a couple of event staff two hundred and fifty dollars for an hour and a

half. The player appreciation parties are internal parties which we have managers and supervisors who work most of them. We do have a great event staff that works for about an hour and a half, and we do not tip for this. If we do an external event there is an eighteen percent gratuity, we split those tips with whoever works at that event. Restaurants and Coal Creek servers, cocktail waitresses, and bartenders all keep their own tips. Bistro and Backwoods do split amongst eighty hours. No managers, supervisors or upper managers get any tips.

Bryce Washington introduced himself as the new Tribal Administrator. Mr. Washington stated that he has been Tribal Administrator for three weeks. His dad was Choctaw and mother Eastern Shawnee. Mr. Washington grew up on the Navaro reservation in Arizona. We moved back to Oklahoma and have lived in this area for about twenty-five years. What Mr. Washinton discovered in the three weeks he has worked here is that you guys have got a powerful tribe. Mr. Washington believes you should be proud of the staff because they have passion. Mr. Washington stated that he is going to have quarterly meetings and at these meetings we should know something about the Peoria Tribe. The Cultural Department will put on a presentation at every quarterly meeting. Mr. Washington stated that he looks forward to meeting everyone and thanked them for having him.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion/Approval of Budget Modifications: A motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Kara North to approve Budget Modifications. Motion carried by a vote of 5 for and 1 opposed, Nicholas Hargrove.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Members Recommended for Approval by the Enrollment Committee on 12/19/24 Tentatively to be Approved by the Business Committee on 01/07/25 or at the Next Regularly Scheduled or Special Meeting: Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Nicholas Hargrove to approve New Members. Motion Passed.

R-01-07-25-A “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”: Motion was made by Nicholas Hargrove and seconded by Scott Myers to approve Resolution R-01-07-25-A as presented. Motion Passed.

R-01-07-25-B “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Casino” Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Kara North to approve R-01-07-25-B as presented. Motion passed.

R-01-07-25-C “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank for Accounts Entitled Buffalo Run Hotel” Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Kara North to approve R-01-07-25-C as presented. Motion passed.

R-01-07-25-D “Authorization for Signatures with Arvest Bank Allowing the use of Purchasing Cards, ePayables, and All Merchant Services with Buffalo Run Casino and Resort” Motion was made by Nicholas Hargrove and seconded by Scott Myers to approve R-01-07-25-D as presented. Motion passed.

R-01-07-25-E “Authorization Adding Representative as Corporate Admin., Remote Deposit Admin., & Positive Pay Contact on Behalf of the Peoria Tribe of Indians for Accounts at Arvest Bank” Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Nicholas Hargrove to approve R-01-07-25-E as presented. Motion passed.

R-01-07-25-F “Authorization Adding Representative as Corporate Admin. on Behalf of Peoria Tribe of Indians for Accounts at First National Bank” Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Kara North to approve R-01-07-25-F as presented. Motion passed.

Discussion/Approval of Donations: Donation to Friends of the Miami Public Library in the amount of \$1,000. Motion was made by Kara North and seconded by Scott Myers to approve donations. Motion carried by a vote of 4 for and 1 opposed Nicholas Hargrove.

Discussion/Approval of Employee Wage Change Recommendations (was held in Executive Session): Motion was made by Nicholas Hargrove and seconded by Scott Myers to approve wage changes as recommended by H.R. in Executive Session. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chief Dobbs 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 Isabella Clifford:

Ms. Clifford asked the Business Committee to please reconsider live-streaming or posting our meetings so citizens can know what is going on, so they can know their leaders, and can see what you are doing, since the meetings that are posted do not tell you anything and a lot of us cannot come. The citizens are hungry and yearning for more information.

Citizen Anna Johnson:

Ms. Johnson stated that she is an elder of the tribe. She just found out this afternoon that our Chief has been changed. She would like some information about that and what happened. Ms. Johnson was told today that when I called the office that it was alleged accusations and I was not given any information if they were proven. She would like information about what is going on here. How can this committee do this on its own. Do we as tribal members not have any say in this? We vote him in correct, so I think we should be aware of what is going on here. I did not know anything until this afternoon. I am not on Facebook if that is how you are communicating with one another.

First Councilman Nicholas Hargrove:

Mr. Hargrove stated that the Business Committee would approve the minutes from the meeting yesterday and all that information will be available. No one here is trying to hide anything. We

read all the statements and everything in the meeting. If you were unable to come that is unfortunate but that information will come out. The Business Committee is entitled to do what we did per the constitution and removal ordinances. I think I can speak for everyone here when I say we did this because we believe it was the right decision. A notice was sent in the newspaper of general circulation of the meeting. Mr. Hargrove said that in the last month's minutes someone was asking about the lawsuit and asking for more information. I would like to say as of now we lost the supreme court case, and it was said that filing and just sitting and waiting isn't going to cost that much money. I would say between then and now we have paid the attorney one hundred and fifty-one thousand, one hundred and eleven dollars and forty-three cents and that is sitting around waiting for that to be rejected by the supreme court. Mr. Hargrove clarified that he was not laughing at Ms. Reeves but at the term she used.

Citizen LeAnne Reeves:

Ms. Reeves stated that Nick Hargrove has already posted that on the community page on Facebook. Ms. Reeves clarified that the letter that went to Chief Harper has been posted on an unofficial page, so the information has already been distributed. I don't understand why this citizen isn't privy to any information.

Secretary Jason Dollarhide:

Mr. Dollarhide stated that there isn't any issue in giving a citizen the notice that was given to Chief Harper and just like Nick was saying we have no problem giving out that information but there are a couple of charges with information that need to be redacted before it can be released to the public. Once the minutes are approved, we will send out all of the documentation. The citizens have a right to that. Mr. Dollarhide thinks that it is very wise to get a letter with information on the litigation out to citizens. We are currently at five point five with no return.

Citizen Korie Payton:

Ms. Payton stated that she appreciated everything that Chief Harper has done for the tribe and us since he started his tenure period. I have seen so many programs grow and have benefited myself as a citizen and employer. I have also seen other citizens who have grown and been mentored by this Business Committee and Chief Harper throughout. I also have heard from many employees about the good things that have come from working for Peoria Tribe under Chief Harper's Administration, so I just want to thank him for that. The second thing I wanted to bring up was the issue of respect within public comment in speaking to each other and I thought that Nick Hargrove response to Ms. LeAnne was disrespectful to laugh in her face, that is an elder who is defending citizenship and the rights within that. It is a little ridiculous for you to just sit and laugh when we have serious concerns. I heard from many people who didn't even know what yesterday's meeting was going to be about. It said the removal of an elected official that didn't give the information to know what was going on, there was so much going on behind the scenes for citizens to what's important if were not being up front with the information. How are citizens to know when to show up, when we all have lives outside of this. We need to come here and know exactly what is going on that also goes into adding things to the agenda last minute. Ms. Payton stated that Tonya Mathews requested a letter be sent out about the status of the litigation months ago and I did not see anything in my mailbox. This was requested months ago it is in the minutes. Tonya requested this on March 5, 2024.

Chief Rosann Dobbs:

Ms. Dobbs stated that McBride is scheduled for February. This is because of the referendum that will be placed on the ballot for General Council for citizens to vote on the lawsuit. McBride will give citizens an update in February. There is a lot of complexity with little cases.

Citizen Larry Lawrence:

Mr. Lawrence stated that the Oklahoma Supreme Court has a website, OSCN.net. Everything filed by the lawyers on both sides and every case is on that website. Any of us can look it up and I have looked it up. There is an enormous amount of paper, but you can see all the information in the court cases and how the rulings are. The best one I found that explains what happened is the case in Pottawatomie County which is on appeal, and we have one in Ottawa County that is waiting to get started. When the case moved from Pottawatomie County to Ottawa County, they reviewed how we got there. If you are not a lawyer some of it is hard to understand but it does have things like the letters from the Gaming Commission. It is overkill since there is so much information but it is better than nothing, it is the opposite of nothing. The first case that was filed and the one that is on appeal are hard to find now it is allegedly closed and must have a case number to find. Our discovery on the first one has a list of seventeen exhibits that go with it but there is a two-hundred-page limit, but it only lists the first seven. We need to get our lawyer to rectify that since it has been wrong the whole time. If you would like to go all the way back to the first day you can do that. I have asked for a portal before to get the information to citizens. The portal would require citizens to sign into so when information is released you must be a tribal member to get it. I am certain that DeMaris is working on this. We do not want to publish our casino financials so that Downstream and everyone else can see how we are doing. I will be able to get you the number of the case that is on appeal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Jason Dollarhide and seconded by Scott Myers to move into Executive Session at 6:55 p.m. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Scott Myers and seconded by Jenny Rampey to come out of Executive Session at 8:25 pm. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Nicholas Hargrove and seconded by Jenny Rampey. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.


Authorized Signature


Date Approved