

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas

SPECIAL JOINT COUNCIL MEETING WITH RED CLIFF BUSINESS BOARD

December 3, 2010
10:00 a.m. Bingo Hall

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Rose Soulier, Tribal Chairperson.

ROLL CALL:

Rose Soulier, Present

Marvin Defoe, Present

Laura J. Gordon, Present

Dennis Soulier, Absent

Mike Gurnoe, Present

Larry Deragon, Present

Jeanne Gordon, Present

Ray DePerry, Absent

Jim Pete, Present (10:50 am)

Quorum

In attendance: David Ujke, Tribal Attorney, Joe Bresette. Housing Director, Business Board: Gerald DePerry, Jeff Gordon, Gary Gerber, Thomas J. Gordon, Brian Peirson, Randy Hella, Mark Bugher by Conference Call. Absent: Myron Schuster and Ray DePerry. Marvin Defoe (Chairman of Board) and Ray DePerry are part of the Board representing the Council.

Marvin Defoe called the Business Board to order and roll call was taken by Jeanne Gordon.

OPENING CEREMONY

Opening ceremony performed by Frank Montano.

AGENDA

Mike Gurnoe moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

OVERVIEW OF MEETING

Marvin thanked everyone in this Joint Session of the Tribal Council and Business Board with results towards a focus and setting priorities for economic development.

Randy Hella presented a power point presentation: On the Goals, Mission Statement and Organization of the Business Committee; Demographic Background on the Reservation with acres, Tribal enrollment, number of youth, employment, unemployed; Current Projects on the Casino and campground with its expansion, future use of existing Casino and new business opportunities across Hwy. 13, acquisition of land from Church;

Potential new developments such as a Comprehensive Computer Consulting, New Community Heath Center, Old Globe Reclaimed Wood Company, Tribal role in economic development and the potential of new developments such as a strip mall, and acquisition for future development etc;

Business Board considerations on Funding, Staffing of operations and funding of projects.

Marvin informed the Board that an assessment will be done on the existing casino to check the structure. Jeff commented on the office/shower building was moved off grounds of the campground and a new one will have to be built. A request went into Shakopee for a loan to start work on the marina, dredging is one of the major issues that have to be done.

Tribal Chairperson Rose Soulier stated she would like to get the local governments together to discuss a cell tower and that it may not be on Tribal Land. Communication with cell phones is sporadic on the Reservation, some area's can not get usage at all.

Joe Bresette stated a draft was done by the UW architect students on the strip mall and a rough design for the new pow-wow grounds. He also stated there is a need to attract outside entities.

Discussion held on Hwy. 13 improvements and the need to clean up along that corridor. Land acquisition especially along the highway for economic purposes is important to have and discussion on what some of the other Tribes have done with land around their casino's. Once the new Casino is established it will be a destination. Tribal Chairperson Rose Soulier also informed the Board about the Frog Bay National Park (80 acres) which will be open to the public.

Brian Pierson stated a source to look at is the CDFI of the Treasury Department for technical assistance funding. A Corporate entity needs to be established separate from politics and need to apply legal infrastructure, by-laws, financing ect. This needs to get started within in the next few months, so it's already in place when seeking funding.

Brian suggested establishing an Ojibwe Museum Interpretive Center with description of Red Cliff, the historical significance Chief Buffalo had in the 17th century etc. Brian is interested in this project. People would come to the museum to learn about Red Cliff. The Tribe could have a Lake Superior Gaming Cruise tour with stops here in Red Cliff. Mark Bugher stated he agrees with Brian to start on this infrastructure and that there are a lot of skills to draw from on this Board, he is willing to do that. He couldn't be here in person for this meeting but he plans to be at the meeting in January. Tommy Jo Gordon suggested splitting up and doing portions of it.

Larry Deragon moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mike Gurnoe. Motion carried. Adjourned:
12:10 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:



Kathy Hanson
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Laura J. Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council