

**Meshakwad Community Center**  
**Friday, January 18, 2019**  
**10am**

**Welcome** – Al Olson, MLB Facilitator

**Invocation** – Brian Matrious

**Ground Rules 10am - 10:15am**

**Delegate Committee Introductions**

Lenny Fineday – Leech Lake (LL)

- Started with a meeting in November, we are currently supported by tribal council. Introduced delegates total 10 present, Sally Fineday is Leech Lakes credentialing delegate. If any other tribe has questions on credentialing she is here!

Lyz Jaakala, Fond Du Lac (FDL)

- Total 9 delegates we are still getting things going, we do have a Facebook that was set up last week to get membership involved,

Mildred Holmes, Boise Forte (BF)

- Currently there 7 total delegates who were officially appointed in December 3 more will be joining by sector or area. We have scheduled meetings unfortunately, government shutdown is having an effect, including series of layoffs. As a matter of fact, only 2 have been on since the beginning.

Beth Drost, Grand Portage (GP)

- We have 10 delegates all of whom were present. Thus far there has been 2 public meetings with fair attendance over the last two Fridays. We also have 1 official alternate still determining on the need of additional alternates.

Eugene Sommers, White Earth (WE)

- Eugene Sommers - Our delegations are all volunteers, we have already had speakers in communities (11 were present).

Mike Davis, Mille Lacs (ML)

- Welcome to all MCT delegations. MLB began regular meetings last month. Mike announces the names of each delegate here today and from their corresponding district. Over the past month we have been working hard with emphasis on today.

**MCT Business/Updates 10:30am**

What are our thoughts for MCT responsibilities, budget? What do we want to ask about financial?

LL – Lenny Fineday

- Understand MCT was not going to be able to get funding until the Government reopens. The priority was that the reservation will take care of their group. Admin leave also provide travel.

Govt shutdown has impact, - they will continue to work and be here. Sally wants to be on the finance committee.

FDL - Janis Fairbanks

- Commented that she had called Gary Frazier asking about funding for 2019. Frazier said he will
- apply to the same source as last year, but did not know whether the application will be funded. A
- current budget request exists to the FDL Reservation Committee to see whether the FDL delegates
- will get funding. Let's make sure we open for anybody who is interested in being on this financial group.

MLB - Al Olson

- Budget committee should come together. Michele to my left, can accumulate a list throughout the meeting.

BF - Mildred Holmes

- Tribal council is currently supporting our efforts. They are tracking their business for them for future budget needs.

GP - XXXX -

- Tribal council is supporting.

White Earth - Jo Lynn

- Expressed interest to be part of the budget committee.

ML - Mick Davis -

- Within our delegation we are working on budgets, the tribe stands behind us in our efforts.

BF - Sidra Starkovich

- Find new funding, self-governance, would like to be on the committee.

BF - Darren Landgren

- After looking back at the notes from our November meeting at Fond Du Lac BIA should pay for the room and light meals only, they will continue to work on travel expenses. Everyone keep your receipts.

MLB - Al - Get a vote from each reservation for finance committee -

### **ROLL CALL**

Leech Lake - Lenny Fineday aye; Fond Du Lac - Janis Fairbanks aye; Boise Forte - Mildred Holmes aye; Grand Portage - Beth D., aye; WE - Jolyn aye; Mille Lacs - Mike Davis aye.

Individuals Identified:

LL - Sally Fineday

FDL - Janis Fairbanks

BF - Sidra Starkovich

GP - Rob Hull

WE - Eugene Summers - later identified Jolyn will take Eugene's place on the committee.

ML - Michele Palomaki was later identified to be on the committee.

FDL - Janis Fairbanks

- Advocated we all need to find and continue searching for funding. There are more money sources out there so let's put the pressure on our own tribes and MCT.

### **Meeting Minutes**

MLB – Al looking for suggestion how we as a delegation want to do minutes, internally each tribe or MCT.

LL – Lenny

- Currently posting on websites and facebook. Whomever is hosting – takes care of meetings. Each delegation has their own recorder.

FDL – Janis-

Should work make sure there is consistency in the format of the minutes. But it is hard for a delegate to fully participate in the meeting and also take notes. We should have somebody separate to do this who will be the main minute taker, with each reservation reviewing those notes for accuracy.

GP –

- More notes the merrier I do them for our group. I also have web experience and can assist other tribes in building social media Darren Landgren.

WE – Collette

- If each host tribes does this – this will put a different spin on the minutes as it will be from their view point?

GP – Jay

- Perhaps we should send our own tribe notes to the host tribe? Do we want a complete list?

ML – Mike –

- The host tribe should do minutes, we will have another set to share when we meet again.

WE –

- Everyone take their own minutes and post them on the MCT Delegate website that will create a library of all tribe's minutes.

GP – Theresa

- If the host tribe types the minutes, it should then be sent to each tribe to allow changes or revisions.

Leech Lake – Lenny

- We should be practical about this – we don't want to have too many hands in. Let's identify a recording secretary for each tribe and they will be the one responsible to review. We simply don't need the extra confusion.

FDL - Janis

- Official recording person for FDL is John Roterman. The main point is we must SHARE. MCT should do the minutes for us, and then delegates review. Format and template are an important issue as we move forward.

BF – MCT should be note taker. They create format.

WE – Each tribe don't forget we should seek help from GP for our social media.

GP –I agree, MCT should do our notes.

MLB – host tribe.

Break 11:05 – 11:15pm

MLB - Al – who will do minutes?

MLB – Michele

- I will follow the format on record from MCT's 9-10-2018 meeting, to continue a precedence already set and if MCT does they will continue to use this format.

FDL- GP – FDL okay with MCT but can we TELL them to do this?

Leech Lake – MCT is not present to this meeting – we can define this.

**NOTE OF RECORD:** LL – Let's be clear about this who will pick the ball back up if it is dropped. Everyone here will have to do this.

LL - Lenny – let's ensure each tribe does review.

Boise Forte offered and will address this request with MCT.

Irene Benjamin – MLB

- Non-delegates present – will you hear us? MLB - Al – tribal members are always welcome to move forward with their identified district delegates. You will get opportunity today during the caucus session.

BF – anybody can talk but delegates will have the vote.

GP

- One week we start our community meetings, is one-week enough time for a host tribe to get the minutes done. We should have future meeting minutes be typed as the meeting is happening. This will be a great aide to the accuracy and relevancy of notes, including timeliness.

MLB – Michele

- No problem should have notes out by Monday and review and revisions should be submitted by end of day Wednesday.

11:45 – Lunch – 1pm

**Caucus 1pm-2pm**

**Determine Priority Topics**

MLB – Al Olson - each tribe will meet with their own audience tribal members to discuss priority topics. 3 will be identified from each tribe when we re-convene.

#### Leech Lake – Lenny Fineday

- #1) Seeking procedures in the convention including an outline of rules, for consistency.
- #2) Consensus as a rule. 5-10 minutes discussion, if no consensus, break from bands into clans. They point out the inequity of the voting body where 75-80% equal one third of the vote.
- #3) Govern ourselves, and to reinstitute the clan system.

#### Fond Du Lac – Wayne Dupuis

- #1) Anishinaabeg Gidizhitaawinaanin....Great Law of the land. Rename – How do we come to agreement and negotiate among one another (tribes)?
- #2) Rights of Members – to include positions and running for office.
- #3) Preamble - to provide guidance and direction to how we relate.

#### Boise Forte –

- #1) Preamble
- #2) Enrollments
- #3) Revise Constitution.

#### Grand Portage

- #1) Preamble – define who we are, how we want to conduct business.
- #2) Communication Structure.
- #3) Revise Constitution references to 2005 and 2007 and the constitution convention will follow notes made from this group who were proactive and provided documentation.

#### White Earth –

- #1) Stay with all bands (follow traditional clans).
- #2) Interpretation of the Constitution – lengthy discussion Article 14 – referendum has never been challenged
- #3) Tribal members – from TEC to RBC – address trespass issues – what about outside organizations such as National Association for Public Defense.

#### Mille Lacs –

- #1) Preamble
- #2) Education/Communication
- #3 Revise/Rewrite

Boise Forte – announced that the next meeting date will be Friday, February 15, 2019. The room rates are \$77. There is a block of 40 rooms under MCT Delegates.

#### MLB – Al Olson –

- Recognized that two reoccurring topics had occurred instead of calling for a vote, it was suggested we take the top 2 #1) Preamble & #2) Communication and Education and go back to our

communities and they would be moved under new business on the next agenda. Since we are still evolving with all communication even amongst the 6 tribes – it is vital that we are able to come back together as a group and share our experiences. Both the challenges and successes will be beneficial, and we won't have to re-create the wheel.

### **Next Agenda Items under New Business/Updates**

- #1 Preamble
- #2 Communication/Education

### Unfinished Business/Update

- MCT to do minutes?

Grand Portage has a host date of May 17, 2018. Room Rate \$60-\$70.

### **Conclusion**

MLB – Al Olson we have completed the agenda and have an *option* to close the meeting. (2:40pm)

East Lake tribal member asked that we stay with the time identified and have open session.

MLB – Al Olson

- In agreement and again clarified this is “all a work in progress” and since this was our first agenda and official gathering – the Q & A section can be carried through on future agendas. There are committed band members here, and some would certainly stay to talk more even after the closing of the meeting.

MLB – Irene Benjamin

- Stated as a tribal member that it would be convenient to have one centralized meeting location for these MCT Delegate meetings.

MLB – Mike Davis – felt it is important that all tribes have an opportunity to host this event.

FDL – once we have finished, we should additionally write in Ojibwe.

??? – let's make sure our meetings stay with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month.

WE

- Perhaps to err on the side of safety, we should choose a more central location for the winter months for our meetings.

WE

- “Consensus” let's make sure all understand that consensus means we are all in agreement with something being brought forward. This term should not be used prior to delegation voting or input.

East Lake – Michaa Aubid

- Preamble, the United is dictating and has defined our statutes and treaties. Let's ensure we move forward effectively.

Dale Greene Jr. – MCT political member – Leech Lake

- The delegates should not be the only voices. There are many issues: boundaries, 2005 MCT revisitation (just one of the 4 times), indigenous status, Article VIII guarantee of due process of law, unfortunately it has taken 30 years to get no-where. Revise and Rewrite lets start over and implement those changes that the current elected will accept. 1865 Authority meetings – voices will be welcomes from Big Sandy, East Lake and remaining reservations in area.

MLB – Curt Kalk

- Preamble – if we rewrite or revise – this is key. In the future one vote from each delegation should move us forward.

White Earth –

- These topics have happened in the past – 15 representations. In addition to holding our people accountable let us not forget about the secretary of Interior. We will have the voice of ALL members committed.

East Lake - Michaa Aubid – moving forward do we do this piece meal?

East Lake - Harvey Goodsky, Jr.

- Addressed delegates and audience in Ojibwe includes disappointment at the lack of Anishinaabemowin spoken and no mention of the UN Declaration of Indigenous Rights. He is scared for his own family – where are we going? In the past we could light a pipe and move decisions forward it was not all political. It makes no sense today the most discussion took place under “budget” (1.5 hours), travel – let's not worry about that Maanidoo will ensure we travel safely to our destinations.

MLB – Irene Benjamin – would like to see a show of hands for one centralized location.

MLB – Al Olson –

- Thanked everyone for their input, and especially the last hearing from the younger generation is important.

MLB – Al Olson – we must move on the vote of a centralized location or rotating -

**ROLL CALL:**

LL –Lenny F rotating; FDL –Liz J rotating; BF Mildred H rotating; GP Beth D– rotating; WE – Eugene S – rotating; ML- Mike D – rotating; Passed by consensus.

White Earth– shout out to Mille Lacs for hosting this meeting.

Audience member– as an urban tribal member – can you add Urban to your rotating schedule? Yes – great idea.

Raffle of 3 donations from Grand Casino.

Meeting adjourned 3:12pm