

MCT Constitution Reform Delegate Meeting-MINUTES
Hosted by White Earth – Friday, July 15, 2022 9:00-3:00

Present: White Earth, Leech Lake, Bois Forte, Fond du Lac.
Mille Lacs and Grand Portage joined meeting later.

Meeting began at 9:15.

Welcome to the MCT Delegate group was given by White Earth Tribal Council Members; Mike LaRoque, Eugene Sommer, Cheryl Jackson and Mike Fairbanks.

Invocation was provided by Raymond Bellecourt, White Earth Delegate.

Reservation Delegate Roll Call – All 6 reservations are present.

Referendum Vote Update-Ballot counting on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at the MCT in Cass Lake, the agenda has that topic listed on the agenda which additional information update will be discussed .

The group reviewed and discussed the MCT Delegate Purpose/Role & Responsibilities:

Meeting type – each reservation will decide the type of meeting but to keep in mind that some of our members watch the meetings on Zoom. The group would like delegates to RSVP as far in advance as possible – for meeting planning purposes.

Number of Delegates Representing their respective Reservations – discussion was held, this will be discussed and decided at the next meeting, some of the smaller reservations have difficulty in meeting the 10 delegates per reservation-but they do keep their members informed.

Delegate Role/Responsibility – is to represent our members, to be a voice for them.

Number of votes per reservation – this will be discussed and established at the next meeting.

Consensus Voting – Celeste Cloud presented a powerpoint presentation on this topic.

Super Majority – define how to reach a “super majority” (percentage??), will be decided at the next meeting.

The MCT Constitution Reform Subcommittee Roles & Responsibilities- it was discussed that each reservation have at least 1 delegate with 1 alternate sit on Education, Finance, Drafting, Survey, TEC, Facilitation. Establish and publish the subcommittee members and include day/time of each subcommittee meeting to all reservation contact also a monthly report should be given at MCT Constitution Delegate meeting.

A vote was held and it was by consensus that a Public Relations/Media Subcommittee be added, the group will decide who will sit on the subcommittee and the role/responsibility of the Public Relations/Media Subcommittee at the August 2022 meeting.

Discussion on Public Relations/Media Subcommittee-after discussion this topic will be discussed at the next meeting. This subcommittee could be the point of contact for our MCT Delegate Group, prepare articles for newsletter/social media for our work. This would not be their personal opinion but the approved opinion of the MCT Delegate group.

TEC Referendum Discussion/Q&A/Information – The TEC subcommittee did meet with the TEC and assisted in developing the questions for the referendum. The ballot counting will be on July 20th, all delegates are invited to assist or just observe.

A discussion was held regarding the cut-off/acceptance date to allow ballots – it was voted on that the ballot must be postmarked no later than Friday, July 15, 2022.

There was discussion regarding the issues/problems with the ballot (no current address, return of the ballot-the mailing lag time, no printed name or membership # to verify ballot).

Project Plan – some of the reservations have completed their project plan, some are updating the information and some have not started on their plan. This will be discussed at the August 2022 meeting.

Subcommittee Reports –

TEC – Sally, Cheryl and Millie updated the TEC about our group and what we are doing.

FINANCE – Sally, Bush grant is almost finished and will be shared next month (August 2022).

EDUCATION- Celeste, discussion on “Rights of Nature”, Project Plan reviews & Surveys.

SURVEY- No recent meeting.

DRAFTING- Michaa, “Alliance” document is still being worked on, there will be education/discussion on the White Earth Constitution model and Carol’s draft.

FACILITATION- meetings are held the Tuesday following MCT Delegate meeting.

Open Discussion –

Drafting Subcommittee to present Education on each of the 3 constitution models for all delegates to include a power point and discussion/suggestions for each.

Next MCT Constitution Reform Convention meeting will be hosted by Fond du Lac Delegates on Friday, August 26, 2022. Hotel Reservations can be made under “MCT Constitution Convention”.

Tabled Items to be reviewed in August 2022:

- Public Relations Subcommittee Members/Alternate, & Role
- Number of Delegates per Reservation
- Votes per Reservation
- Define/Establish “Super Majority”
- Project Plan
- Secretary of Interior (Elimination/Discussion/Research this topic)

