

MCT CONSTITUTION REFORM CONVENTION
HOSTED BY LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE
Northern Lights Casino – Training Room
Convention Minutes by Sally Fineday, LL
April 21, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING IN-PERSON

Jolyn Donnell, WE
Louis Johannson, WE
Frank Reese, LL
Bonni Boubieau, WE
Michelle Palomaki, MLB
Tracey Dagen, BF
Valerie Larson, LL
Cheryl Edwards, FDL
Aasha Edwards, FDL
Michaa Aabid, SL
Veronica Skinaway, SL
Darrell Shingobe, EL/SL
Niib Aabid
Angel Stevens, WE
Tracey Dagen, BF
Danielle Smith, ML
Jerry Morgan, LL
Jean Skinaway, SL
Carrie Day, LL
Tiffany Beckman, LL
Michael Smith, LL
Sally Fineday, LL

ZOOM

Patty Straub, WE
Wayne Dupuis, FDL
Birdie Roberts, MLB
Patty Smith
Wally Storbakken, LL
Sandra Borden, GP
Tammey Skinaway
Darren Landgren
Michelle Beeksm, GP
Carol Janick, FDL
Rita Evans, GP

Invocation by Michael Smith, Jr.

Chairman Faron Jackson, Sr. gave a welcome speech and included his reasons for Motioning for Resolution 32-15 to go forth with the Secretarial Election this year. He stated Resolution 32-15 is a start. The removal of the BQ will follow.

Sally Fineday distributed the Leech Lake Provisional Government document. Frank Reese provided a historical accounting of the work of the Local Indian Councils and an attorney who drafted the document. Eli Hunt was to deliver the document to the BIA and, for unknown reasons, did not complete the delivery. The Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Leech Lake Ojibwe lays in limbo until now. The document will be the foundation of the Constitution of the Leech Lake Ojibwe.

Discussion took place. WE made statements of reasons why their Constitution effort failed. LL made statement defining the difference between other Tribe's attempts versus LL. LL was in a state of emergency. Discussion of the Washburn opinion.

Carol Janick, FDL, presented the history of the drafting committee and draft of the Declaration of Alliance. Note, the Civil Rights Act is included. Discussion took place.

MLB handed out the document their Delegation has been working on, entitled "A Preliminary Analysis of the Organization known as the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe."

Lunch break took place.

Proposal for funding of meetings by MCT was presented by Cheryl Edwards. Discussion took place.

Roll Call vote to present the Financial Proposal of \$100,000 to the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC):

BF – yes MLB – yes LL – yes FDL – yes GP – yes WE – yes

A consensus vote, the Proposal will move to the TEC.

BQ recommendation was presented by Cheryl Edwards. Discussion. No vote, continue at the next Convention.

Motion by Louis Johansson to give the TEC notice the Delegations need more time for enrollment question. Discussion took place. Roll call vote took place:

GP – no FDL - no WE – yes BF – yes MLB - yes LL – no

A consensus vote was not achieved.

Reiteration of the recommendation to the TEC by July 1, 2023. If no recommendation comes forth from the Delegations, then Resolution 32-15 will move forward. Discussion took place.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS –

TEC Subcommittee – Cheryl Edwards presented the documents earlier in the day.

Drafting Subcommittee – Review of the By-Laws of the Grand Council Fire was presented by Carol Janick. The draft bylaws will be shared by the Delegations with the citizens of each Band.

Education Subcommittee – working on sovereignty information sheet. Two candidates have asked for Education seating – WE and LL Delegations must officiate those recommended persons with minutes from their meetings.

Survey Subcommittee – no report

Open discussion topic brought up by Niib Aabid to begin writing the Declaration of Alliance in Ojibwe language; including offering a pipe and drum to the MCT/Alliance Organization.

Next meeting will be hosted by MLB on May 19, 2023.