

MCT Delegate – White Earth/Shooting Star Casino
July 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Opening – Frank Stech & Drum Group

Patty Straub/WE informed everyone there was a problem with starting the Zoom.

Straub introduced Nancy Beaulieu from the MN 350, while waiting for the technical issues. Ms. Beaulieu quickly provided some information about the entity.

Roll Call: Bois Forte, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Fond du Lac, White Earth and Grand Portage (zoom).

- **Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Organization Presentation.** The MCT Staff was not present at this time.
- **2018 MCT Delegation Selection/Composition.** Straub/WE stated full representation of each band at discussions.
 - Sally Fineday/LL – they don't do things like others; they have 14 members but only 3 at the table.
 - Wayne Dupuis/FDL – they have 6 delegates but encouraged all FDL members to join.
 - Gerry Libby/WE – are there any restrictions (felons) to join the group?
 - response by several – No RestrictionsAt this time, the Zoom was fixed.
- **Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Organization Presentation.** Beth Drost and Fran King Drost provided a brief introduction. She shared information on the departments, services provided and number of employees. Job openings. She is not speaking for the MCT but sharing information of the management of the MCT.

Questions/Statements by Delegation (Drost response is in red)

-Fineday/LL – not getting rid of the MCT, we will align with all allies.

-Libby/WE – Pulling the Secretary of Interior will not be good.

Birdie/ML – Self Determination of each tribe. It is time to change how we govern ourselves. Is what the MCT organization provides, is it serving enough. Sovereignty & Self Determination of tribe.

Annette/WE – Service population? **All 6 tribes. Participants are determined by eligibility requirements (Drost response).**

Edwards/FDL – Advertise to MCT members? **Radio stations, newspapers,**

Donnell/WE – How is administration funded? **The main source is Indirect costs from grants. Not as many operating grants as years ago, it was 10x larger. Self-funding, small operating funds or gift/donations.**

Storbakken/LL – Are the TEC Members employees? Where do the stipend funds come from? **Honorariums/TEC Stipends are paid from the yearly dues from each tribe. Some tribal officials do not accept while others bring their honorarium back to their tribes and put towards other tribal accounts.**

Janick/FDL – Could we have more conversation with the enrollment office at our drafting committee meetings? **Yes, invite them to the meeting,**

Janick/FDL – Who is the Legal Department? Who is Phil Brodeen the legal for? **The legal representative is an outside source with an approved contract by the TEC.**

Fineday/LL – Copy of 1941 base roll? **Depending upon the requested information. Tribal Government must approve. Band information can be provided by approval of the Reservation Tribal Council.**

Straub/WE – Updates for secretarial election? **Updates are provided to the Tribes.**

Shannon Heisler/WE Enrollments – **Address updates with the band and MCT. WE is real time, LL is the only tribe that is not.**

- **Continued - 2018 MCT Delegation Selection/Composition**

Straub provided an introduction. White Earth believes representation for all MCT Members is needed. This is a struggle for every tribe, need to come up with a process that is fair.

Leech Lake, Grand Portage and Mille Lacs share their efforts and struggles to increase their delegation numbers.

Palomaki/ML – Seven-member delegate group. ML issued a statement pertaining to future monthly MCT-Delegate Meetings. (copy attached) Mille Lacs does want to remain on all subcommittee meetings.

Bellecourt/WE – WE wants to ensure safeguards for all tribes, protect all members. The documents must cover & protect all members.

Storbakken/LL – Referred to Bellecourt's words and then explained the alliances. The divisions that are taking place. Remember the Treaties, he explained the Treaty of the ML Reservation.

Mike LaRoque/WE – Work through challenges, stay on task and do not go backwards. Be careful when moving forward.

- **Roles and Responsibilities Draft.**

Edwards provided a draft copy. A PDF copy will be emailed. Share your comments. All Tribes will approve the final copy.

Janick/FDL – Include chat comments in the minutes. Copy is attached.

- **Subcommittee Reports**

Education – Carrie Aspinwall presented Sovereignty Draft. Will be on website. Review and comments to Aspinwall.

- Blood Quantum document is available. Information was shared with all delegates.
- The Educational Outline/Series is approximately 4 hours. The Educational subcommittee members will not be the host at each meeting. Some of the topics are introduction, elder conversations, MCT/Organization, Enrollment, Alliance Document, Band Constitutions, and Traditional Government.

The first draft is tentatively set for August 7, 2023. All reservations verbally agreed to have the information available.

Finance – Sally Fineday informed the group there will be a meeting with Drost and Jeff Brunelle to determine how to distribute the 100,000. Cheryl Edward informed the group there was no line item for the Delegates Funds in the MCT Finance. There should be 9,000.00 remaining.

TEC – Cheryl Edwards reported on the presentation of the Alliance Document with four (4) TEC members present at the July 9, 2023, TEC meeting. It was well received, and the information was added to the Website. Edwards requested a copy of statements made to TEC at the July 10, 2023 meeting.

Drafting – Carol Janick informed the group they are holding weekly meetings. There are several questions pertaining to enrollment. A review of P.L. 280 is taking place.

Survey – Cheryl Edwards stated there have not been any meetings. Only Sybil Gund and Cheryl were present.

Next Meeting will be held August 18, 2023, at Fond du lac.