



Matachewan First Nation Chief and Council Meeting MINUTES

Date and Time	Tuesday, June 20, 2023 @ 6:00 pm
Location	Log Building and Zoom
Chairperson	Tom Fox
Members Present	Jason Batisse, Clara Hanson, Eleanor Hendrix, Stan Fox, Tom Fox, Chelsea Daley, Adrian Boucher; Melanie Boucher
Members Regrets	Lulu Jobson, Rachel Batisse
Members on Zoom	n/a
Recorder	Marilyn Groulx (Band Manager) and Delta Flood (Minute Taker)
Staff	Carrie Bouchard, Donna Landry, Velma Stanger
Guest(s)	Keepers of the Circle: Bertha Cormier, Khulud Baig, Hayden Fox Night Owl: Nathan Towsley
Related Documents/Reports	

Item #1 – Welcome and Call to Order	
Lead(s):	Tom Fox
Discussion:	Prayer by Dorothy Larkman
Outcome:	Meeting opened at 6:16 pm

Item #2 – Presentation by Keepers of the Circle	
Lead(s):	Bertha Cormier, Khulud Baig, Hayden Fox
Discussion:	<p>Left a document with overview of services. Went over Exploring Land Trust Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can share some more examples in follow up email. • Keepers would like to support communities to have their own land trusts (guide and support only – not any ownership). • They are looking to have a majority of women owners. • They do not need C&C approval, but wanted to extend an invitation to C&C. <p>Bertha would like to bring the presentation to the community with a feast and will leave it up to C&C. (It was suggested to give the information out prior to meeting so members would understand what it was about if it goes ahead.)</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Item #3 – Family Trip	
Lead(s):	Family Well-Being/Recreation Worker &
Discussion:	<p>Councilor Clara Hanson suggested to keep list of applicants and attendees so those who applied but couldn't go this year get first chance next year with On-Reserve members getting priority. There was confusion regarding the number of trips this year: there will be one Family Trip and one Elder's Trip 30 rooms were booked for families and two for the bus driver and chaperones. Suggestion was made to have families bunk together, however almost all rooms are at full capacity. One chaperone will be riding home on the bus, and one chaperone is driving down in band-owned vehicle to ensure insurance liability is covered for emergency reasons.</p>

	<p>Cost will be taken out of the Family Well Being and Band Rep Prevention budgets. Some can come out of Choose Life if necessary.</p> <p>C&C would like to have all health staff to present regarding future trips.</p> <p>Request to have a meal plan paid for all attendees bringing budget to almost \$80,000.</p>
Outcome:	<p>MOTION #2023-06-01</p> <p>MOTION to include the meal plan within a budget of \$80,000 for the Family Trip</p> <p>MOTIONED by Elenore Hendrix</p> <p>SECONDED by Melanie Boucher</p> <p>All in Favour.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>

Break until 7:32pm

(Angel Larkman suggested during the break to offer tobacco prior to asking an elder to say a prayer in the future.)

Item #4 – Education Budget	
Lead(s):	Education Officer
Discussion:	<p>It was requested to look into increasing living allowance to a maximum of \$1,500.</p> <p>Spreadsheets were given to C&C with changes and how it would affect budget.</p> <p>C&C would like to see changes reflected in policy. Education Officer to return with more concrete numbers regarding bump-up to individuals as well as those with dependents. (Current year there are no students with dependents.)</p> <p>We are on last year of core funding so Education Officer will do research and see about increasing funding due to cost of living for next 5-year term.</p> <p>Money from RRS is available but no funds have been assessed.</p>
Outcome:	Education Officer will return with changes at next meeting.

Item #5 – Website Presentation	
Lead(s):	Nathan Towsley with Night Owl
Discussion:	<p>Night Owl clients include Wabun Tribal Council and Blue Heron Environmental.</p> <p>Nathan stated that the type of website we have stopped being supported in 2015, especially the ability to see the page properly on cell phones and tablets.</p> <p>It is possible to have a chat option that would only be between a band member and dedicated staff member (not like Facebook for e.g.). Members would sign in with their Status Cards. It is a recorded chat log; however, someone would have to be responsible for being available and be able to answer any questions.</p> <p>There can be a secure, password protected section to post BCRs, meeting videos, etc.</p> <p>He can create various levels of access: admin users, owner status, editor status.</p> <p>Templates for publishing things like job postings can be created for a more uniform look.</p> <p>He would be willing to include the cost of training for 1-2 employees within the original quote amount. He would be available to do monthly background maintenance (updating, keeping up with technology) for up to 4hrs/mo.</p> <p>We could get tracking information to see how many people look at what information.</p> <p>He has digitized our logo and will send it to Marilyn for consideration of adopting.</p>
Outcome:	C&C to consider quote and may have further discussions.

Break until 8:27pm

Item #6 – Survey Line Flag positions	
Lead(s):	Band Member
Discussion:	Band Member noticed that the flags near the border of MFN crossing the MFN Road seems to be in the wrong place and was wondering if the gov't is trying to take land away from us. The path that was cut out in the past was further South than the current markers. Chief & Councilors stated they will have a look. Tommy stated he will contact MNR and our Lands & Resources. Chief suggested to look at having someone recut the boundaries.
Outcome:	N/A

Item #7 – Harassment/Social Media policies for signing	
Lead(s):	Band Manager
Discussion:	Not all Council members have finished reading the documents. Council would like to go over it together and will try during the retreat. If not, Receptionist will coordinate a meeting for them prior to the next C&C meeting so the documents can be finalized.
Outcome:	N/A

Item #8 – Audit	
Lead(s):	Chief Jason Batisse
Discussion:	Need to get the audit done as soon as possible and we will need to pay someone to do it. Band Manager has an email from Wabun regarding updating audit which she read aloud stating that our regular auditors are short-staffed, as are everywhere else. We are struggling and doing the best we can to get them done. ISC is not holding core funds at this time. OFNLP is holding money until the audits are completed, but not removing our ability to receive funds accrued after. Chief would like to our RRS funds to pay to have this done.
Outcome:	MOTION #2023-06-02 MOTION to get the first available company to complete the audits as soon as possible. MOTIONED by Melanie Boucher SECONDED by Clara Hanson All in Favour. MOTION CARRIED

Item #9 – Agnico Eagle (AE) Reconciliation Plan & Mining Update	
Lead(s):	Stan Fox
Discussion:	AE is putting together a Reconciliation Action Plan for their company as they understand there are a lot of gaps to impacts to First Nations and will be having focus groups with their employees on what reconciliation means to them. They would also like to reach out to our Elders to meet with them or even go out on the land with them to understand our cultural ways. Hayleigh King from Creative Fire will be coming to MFN to meet with the Community and find a plan to make the Reconciliation Plan work. AE mgmt. team stated it's a journey, not a one-off/fluff piece. Councilors would like to have copies of Exploration Agreements sent to them. <i>Other Mining updates:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KL Gold will be creating a Fish Habitat Compensation pond connected to the South of Kinross Pond.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries Ontario and Environment Canada will be coming up to have a meeting regarding the plans. • Chief was concerned as these habitat compensation plans are never the same, however it was mentioned that Kinross Pond was a HC and seems to be working. • Councilor stated that MFN's biggest problem is that we don't have our own Environmentalist to look these plans over. • Discussed difference between Exploration Agreements, Advanced Exploration Agreements and IBAs. • Astin Minerals will be starting a mine on Pine Street S in Timmins. They are still drilling but getting ready for next phase. • Canada Nickle has been keeping things cleaned up where they were drilling and will work with MFNLP to reclaim the roads made. • Northern Sun has taken over Liberty Mills and will be taking over the Go West project. The IBA will start up again once that happens. • Stan is to send an invite to Goldcorp to come to do an update. • It was suggested to have the newer Councilors attend mining TLE meetings to learn more, and that Jason and Stan can work on that as they have the Mining Portfolio.
Outcome:	N/A

Item #10 – Forestry Update	
Lead(s):	Tom Fox
Discussion:	<p>Tom had a meeting in Timmins with MNR and proponents to discuss clear cut harvest methods and how they are not working.</p> <p>Would like to see an Environmental Study. Gov't committed to starting a study after some negotiations and will be looking for archived environmental information to send MFN.</p> <p>It seems the Gov't is trying to block conversations between MFN and harvesting companies (who seem to want to do better as well).</p> <p>AE is willing to put a budget together to help MFN with an environmental study.</p> <p>Council member suggested reaching out to a band member who has been working in forestry for the last 20 years and Tom has been trying but schedules haven't been matching up.</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Break until 8:29pm

Item #11 – Bus Runs	
Lead(s):	Bus Driver
Discussion:	<p>Some members wanted to see if a run could be made for the younger students going to Elk Lake Public School.</p> <p>It is not feasible due to time constraints unless a 2nd bus and driver were available.</p> <p>Still need back up drivers as we only have one driver.</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Item #12 – IT Support Quote	
Lead(s):	Band Manager
Discussion:	<p>Received a quote from a company suggested by Wabun Tribal Council which they are using to provide IT Support and upgrade the equipment. They would be dedicated to our IT maintenance and issues.</p> <p>Our current IT is very unreliable and our system is outdated and wearing down.</p> <p>Fees would be \$2,375/month including the new equipment for a term of one year. Contract can be revisited after the year.</p> <p>Councilors would like to see 3 quotes for everything in the future, but understands this is a time-sensitive issue as well as the other companies approached would not travel to MFN as needed.</p>
Outcome:	<p>MOTION #2023-06-03</p> <p>MOTION to move forward with Great White North as our IT Specialist.</p> <p>MOTIONED by Chelsea Daley</p> <p>SECONDED by Jason Batisse</p> <p>All in Favour.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>

Item #13 – Review of Minutes	
Lead(s):	Band Manager
Discussion:	Reviewed minutes from May 9, 2023 and May 30, 2023.
Outcome:	<p>MOTION #2023-06-04</p> <p>MOTION to move adopt the minutes from May 9, 2023 and May 30, 2023.</p> <p>MOTIONED by Jason Batisse</p> <p>SECONDED by Melanie Boucher</p> <p>All in Favour.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>

Break at 9:57pm

IN CAMERA