



# MATACHEWAN FIRST NATION

Box 160, Matachewan ON P0K 1M0

Date and Time	Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 6:00 PM
Location	Log Building
Chairperson	Tommy Fox
Council Present	Tommy Fox, Elenore Hendrix, Melanie Boucher, Mary Batisse, Alex (Sonny) Batisse
Council Regrets	Real Boucher
Council on Zoom	Andy Buffalo, Lilianne Jobson, Clara Hanson
Recorder	Joshua Birimcombe – Director of Finance and Administration (DoFA)
Staff	Meegen Nahwegezhic, Brianne Doyle, Brittney Smart, Amanda Julien, Elaine Daley
Guest(s)	Angel Larkman, Janet Gilbert, Alfred Groulx, Marilyn Groulx, Tristan Flood, Phoenix Sutherland

## Item #1 – Opening Regards/Prayer

Lead(s):	Tommy Fox
Outcome:	Prayer said

## Item #2 – Call to Order

Lead(s):	Tommy Fox
Discussion:	That Chief and Council duly convene this Regular Meeting of Chief and Council held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 7:15 PM.

## Item #3 – Approval of Agenda

Lead(s):	Tommy Fox
Discussion:	That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Chief and Council held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, be approved as circulated with the change of moving item 5-d/5-e to In-Camera
Outcome:	<b>MOTION #2025-04-29-01</b> MOTION MOTIONED by Mary Batisse SECONDED by Elenore Hendrix All in Favour MOTION CARRIED

## Item #4– Acceptance of Minutes and Recommendations

Lead(s):	Tommy Fox
Discussion:	That Chief and Council approve the minutes of the Regular In-Camera Meeting of Chief and Council held on Thursday, April 3, 2025
Outcome:	<b>MOTION #2025-04-29-02</b> MOTIONED by Clara Hanson SECONDED by Melanie Boucher

	All in Favour MOTION CARRIED
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Item #5 – Director of Finance and Administration Updates and Discussion	
Lead(s):	Joshua Birimcombe
Discussion:	<p><b>ITEM- 5b</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BCR agreement between Hydro One and MFN Hydro One sent a 0\$ contract to get the work completed. Circulated and approved.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>ITEM- 5c</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Circulated draft version of 2022 &amp; 2023 Audit, to be reviewed.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>ITEM- 5f</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Circulated draft of Work from Home policy, looking for approval or rejection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Chief Sonny doesn't have issues, wants monitoring for employees when WFH.</li> <li>ii. Clara Hanson adds, why we have staff WFH when the new band office is in motion. Difficult to monitor.</li> <li>iii. Elenore Hendrix doesn't support WFH, cost analysis on all individual staff with salary increases, office closures. Staff need to be in the office.</li> <li>iv. Tommy Fox adds, the confidentiality that is leaving the First Nation when employees WFH. Possibility of breach of confidentiality.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.</p>
	<p><b>ITEM 5g</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request for \$100,000 this year for 2025 Powwow donation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o ISC funding/surplus funds that can go towards traditional events, not from band funds.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Outcome:	<p><b>MOTION #2025-04-29-03</b>  MOTIONED by Elenore Hendrix  SECONDED by Alex Batisse  All in Favour  MOTION CARRIED</p>
	<p><b>ITEM 5h</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Change the meeting schedule to alternate from Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li> <li>- The Community Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 24, 2025, luncheon at 12, meeting will start at 1.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>ITEM 5i</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Governance and Administration Code has been circulated, wanting to invite OKT Law for presentation and answer any questions at community meeting on May 24, 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Elenore asks if any questionnaire went out with the document.</li> <li>ii. Clara agrees to invite OKT Law.</li> <li>iii. Sonny adds that with the code we need something in place because we are limited to making bylaws and making things strict, it's been on the go since 2010. We need infrastructure.</li> <li>iv. Elenore states there are two copies going around, the first one went out to the membership for feedback, later another document came to the table and was ready to go out but wasn't.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>DoFA is reviewing documents to be brought forward.</p>

Item #6 – Staff Updates and Discussions	
Lead(s):	n/a
Discussion:	n/a
Outcome:	n/a

Item #7 – Councillor Updates and Discussions	
Lead(s):	Elenore Hendrix
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would like an update on the New Band Office. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o DoFA- Since the last Community Consultation there have been a lot of questions from community members as well as Chief and Council. Colliers sent answers to all questions and concerns.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Clara believes it was put on hold due to unanswered questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o DoFA will resend documents that have all follow-ups from Colliers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Melanie is concerned with water leaking in the IT Room at the current band office</li> <li>- Clara is concerned with the mold issue.</li> <li>- The chief doesn't want to delay construction any longer.</li> <li>- Tommy suggested sending all previous documents to new Councillors for review.</li> <li>- Andy wants the process to start. With fire hazards, mold, leaks, stair issues.</li> </ul>
Outcome:	<b>MOTION #2024-04-29-05</b> MOTION To move forward with new band office. MOTIONED by Elenore Hendrix SECONDED by Andy Buffalo All in Favour MOTION CARRIED

Item #7 – Councillor Updates and Discussions	
Lead(s):	Melanie Boucher
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MFN Baseball Team</li> <li>- Second Generation Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Wants to investigate second generation status</li> <li>o Tommy Fox says we can give anyone a status card, but Service Canada will not recognize them as status.</li> <li>o The chief says that we are still fighting with the government for it, hoping to get movement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Annual Youth Sports Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Request for \$500 Annual Fund for sports registration fees for children under the age of 18.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Item #8 – Community Member Updates and Discussions	
Lead(s):	Angel Larkman
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As per the letter she sent to chief and council, in an email, she is a big component of making sure we include our own traditions and practices in the ways we do things, thinks we are still being led by the "white peoples"</li> <li>- Why we can't take an extra day off to respect the death of a community member.</li> <li>- Would like Driving Lessons to be included in the Recreational Funds.</li> <li>- Angel would like to be included and help the community as a lawyer.</li> <li>- Need more policies/guidelines in place.</li> </ul>

- Clara clarifies there are policy updates in the process of HR, social media, housing etc. Once they are complete, they will be posted for all to see.
- A Recreational Fund Application was submitted for driving lessons and was rejected. Angel is asking for reconsideration.
  - Sonny: driving lessons are personal and not recreational.
  - Charlie: driving is a privilege not recreational.

**IN CAMERA – XX:XX PM**