

# KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY

## 2022 TRIBAL COUNCIL

KIM KLOPSTEIN, President  
SUSAN J. LAFERNIER, Vice President  
TONI J. MINTON, Secretary  
DON MESSER, Assistant Secretary  
RANDALL R. HAATAJA, Treasurer

**Keweenaw Bay Tribal Center**  
**16429 Beartown Road**  
**Baraga, Michigan 49908**  
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DOREEN G. BLAKER  
ROBERT "R.D." CURTIS, JR.  
EDDY EDWARDS  
SUE ELLEN ELMBLAD  
ELIZABETH "LIZ" JULIO  
GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR.  
RODNEY LOONSFOOT

**MINUTES**  
**KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NIIWIN AKEAA CENTER/COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 112**  
**111 BEARTOWN ROAD, BARAGA, MI 49908**  
**WEDNESDAY – JUNE 22, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.**

- A. Date: June 22, 2022
- B. Call to Order: President Klopstein called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
- C. Invocation: Ojibwa Prayer by Elizabeth "Liz" Julio
- D. Roll Call: Present: Kim Klopstein, President  
Susan J. LaFernier, Vice President  
Toni J. Minton, Secretary (arrived at 9:06 a.m.)  
Don Messer, Assistant Secretary  
Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer  
Doreen G. Blaker  
Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. (left at 11:49 a.m.)  
Eddy Edwards  
Elizabeth "Liz" Julio  
Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.  
Rodney Loonsfoot
- Absent: Sue Ellen Elmlblad

**APPROVED**

SEP 21 2022

KBIC PRESIDENT'S OFFICE  
SIGNATURE: 

E. Declaration of Quorum: President Klopstein declared a quorum present and proceeded with order of business.

F. Approval of Agenda: June 22, 2022

Additions: New Business: 5. b. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO – Updated Governmental Organizational Chart

Closed Session: 3. Rodney Loonsfoot – Midway Rental Discussion

**Toni J. Minton arrived at 9:06 a.m.**

**MOTION MADE BY DON MESSER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH CHANGES. SUPPORTED BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

G. For Your Information:

1. Thank You from Bay Cliff – 2% Distribution
2. Thank You from the Carl W. Mantila Family

H. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. March 1, 2022

**MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPROVE THE MARCH 1, 2022 MEETING MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY ELIZABETH "LIZ" JULIO. NINE IN FAVOR (Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 1 (Susan J. LaFernier), ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

2. March 2, 2022

Page 1: Add Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr. to the roll call

Page 3 Motion for Closed Session: Toni J. Minton was NOT absent and Robert RD Curtis, Jr. was absent

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2, 2022 MEETING MINUTES WITH THE CHANGES. SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

I. Recognize Delegation/Individuals:

1. Matthew Furyk, 38<sup>th</sup> District State Senate

Mr. Furyk introduced himself as a candidate for the 38<sup>th</sup> District State Senate. He lives in Marquette but is from the Spread Eagle, Wisconsin area.

J. Old Business:

1. Jlyn Jorgeson, Assistant Tribal Attorney/Prosecutor – Resolution KB-043-2022 Senior Assistance Program: changed VI. A. Eligibility. The one-time payment to annual payment and removed VIII. Disputes as to Eligibility

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO INCREASE THE ONE-TIME PAYMENT TO \$750.00 AND APPROVE RESOLUTION KB-043-2022 SENIOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 3 (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker), ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

Susan J. LaFernier stated: The resolution wording needs to be clarified.

Doreen G. Blaker stated: “I have not seen one financial in front of me that justifies this. We approved this in 2021, minus two people here, and that was the amount we approved. Bring me some financials that shows me how we are justifying this and I will be fine with this.”

2. Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer – Donation Request (Carole Heckroth) – to help pay for her daughter’s funeral (Tribal descendant)

**MOTION MADE BY SUSAN J. LAFERNIER TO TABLE THIS DONATION REQUEST UNTIL A POLICY IS WRITTEN. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Jennifer Misegan, Assistant CEO – Hiring Grid for Compensation Determination and approval for the up to \$1.50 increase proposal for those employees that are below the new grid rates

EDDY EDWARDS MOTIONED TO TABLE UNTIL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS ARE CONDUCTED AS PART OF THE PROCESS.

THE MOTION DIED DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT.

The CEO and Assistant CEO stated that the training for performance reviews will be held on July 14, 15, 2022

**MOTION MADE BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TO APPROVE THE HIRING GRID FOR COMPENSATION DETERMINATION WITH THE \$1.50 INCREASE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 1**

**(Eddy Edwards), ABSTAINING – 1 (Elizabeth “Liz” Julio), ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

**K. New Business:**

1. Elizabeth Mayo, Assistant Health Administrator/Rob Mayo, DPW HVAC – Bid from Upper Hand Window Company (Marquette) for the L’Anse Clinic Window Replacement Project for \$43,626.00

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO APPROVE THE UPPER HAND WINDOW COMPANY FOR \$43,626.00 FOR THE L’ANSE CLINIC WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

2. Jlyn Jorgenson, Assistant Tribal Attorney/Prosecutor –

- a. Brenda Turunen “Ma Hog Farm” Treaty Rights Farming License Renewal Request - June 22, 2022-June 22, 2027

**MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE MA HOG FARM TREATY RIGHTS FARMING LICENSE RENEWAL REQUEST AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY SUSAN J. LAFERNIER. NINE IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 1 (Eddy Edwards), ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

- b. Treaty Rights Letter to Senator Debbie Stabenow and Senator Gary Peters Re: Federal Wilderness Designation Packet for support to designate four areas in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula as federal wilderness areas and to request that they introduce legislation to achieve this goal

**MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE TREATY RIGHTS LETTER CONCERNING THE FEDERAL WILDERNESS DESIGNATION PACKET TO PROTECT OUR TREATY RIGHTS IN THESE AREAS AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

**Break: 9:48 a.m. – 10:03 a.m.**

3. Don Messer, Ojibwa Casinos General Manager - Weekly Update: COVID, IGaming, Slots, Renovation Updates, Campground, Transfer Station, Pines, and Employee Reports
4. Gary Loonsfoot, Jr., Cannabis Director - Weekly Update on Crystal Falls, Marquette, "Mashkiki", Negaunee, and On-Reservation
5. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO –
  - a. Updated Governmental Department Organizational Chart – added the Assistant CEO, Administrative Specialist and Marketing/Communications

**MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

- b. Weekly Update: COVID, Hire Reports, Department Updates

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:17 A.M. SUPPORTED BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

L. Closed Session:

1. Kevin Carlisle, Tribal Attorney – Weekly Update
2. Kim Klopstein, President – Personnel Discussion-Business Director Position Description/Proposed Cannabis Director/Manager
3. Rodney Loonsfoot – Midway Rental Discussion

**Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. left at 11:49 a.m.**

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION AT 11:50 A.M. SUPPORTED BY DON MESSER. NINE IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 2 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION MADE BY DON MESSER TO REMOVE THE CANNABIS BUSINESS FROM THE BUSINESS DIRECTOR POSITION. SUPPORTED BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA. SIX IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio), OPPOSED – 2 (Eddy Edwards, Rodney Loonsfoot), ABSTAINING – 1 (Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), ABSENT – 2 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

M. Adjournment:

**MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO ADJOURN AT 11:52 A.M. SUPPORTED BY EDDY EDWARDS. NINE IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 2 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Sue Ellen Elmblad) MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Robin Roe  
CEO/President’s Administrative Specialist