



University of Wisconsin will offer free tuition for Indigenous students

By Madison365 Staff
Reprint from Madison365

Beginning in the fall of 2024, the University of Wisconsin–Madison will offer financial support to cover the full cost of pursuing an undergraduate degree for Wisconsin residents who are enrolled members of federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribes, Chancellor Jennifer L. Mnookin announced Monday.

The commitment covers not only tuition and fees but also housing, meals, books and other educational expenses.

Additionally, a five-year pilot program will cover in-state tuition and fees for students pursuing a J.D. (law) or M.D. (medical) degree who are Wisconsin residents and enrolled members of federally recognized Wisconsin tribes.

Together, the two new initiatives will be called the Wisconsin Tribal Educational Promise program. University officials said in a press release that the program will not rely on taxpayer funding, but will be supported by “other institutional resources, such as private donations.”

“As a university, we are deeply committed to a future of mutual

respect and cooperation with the American Indian tribes in Wisconsin,” Mnookin said in a statement. “This program is another tangible, meaningful step in that direction.”

As university leaders developed the initiatives over the past year, they consulted with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, a consortium that includes the tribal chairperson or president of each of the 11 federally recognized American Indian tribes in Wisconsin. Mnookin met with council members three times to discuss the proposed program, and changes were made based on those conversations. In October, the council unanimously voted to support the Wisconsin Tribal Educational Promise program.

“The creation of this program marks a significant step in the partnership between the American Indian tribes in Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin–Madison,” Shannon Holsey, president of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians and chairwoman of the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, said in a statement. “While several other states have programs with similar goals, we are not aware of another effort that goes this far financially to help Native

students afford higher education. This program sends a strong message that our students are important to the state’s flagship university.”

The Wisconsin Tribal Educational Promise program is not based on financial need; financial support will be awarded regardless of family income. When it

begins next fall, the program will cover those already on campus, as well as those new to campus. Any currently enrolled students at that time who qualify — undergraduates, J.D. students and M.D. students — will receive the program’s financial support.

Continued on Page 6



Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer speaks at the Wisconsin Tribal Educational Promise announcement. *Photo courtesy University of Wisconsin.*



Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians President Shannon Holsey speaks at the Wisconsin Tribal Educational Promise announcement. *Photo courtesy University of Wisconsin.*

Paper industry growth provides options for Native-owned businesses and Tribal enterprises

December 18, 2023
For more information, please contact:
Michelle Dejno at
O'Connor Connective
920-288-2980
or michelle@
oconnorconnective.com
NEWS RELEASE
(Hales Corners, WI) — From logging trees and creating pulp to manufacturing and

converting paper into thousands of products, Wisconsin’s forest industry plays a large role in the state’s economy, generating \$23.4 billion annually in output and employing more than 50,000 people, according to a 2023 study conducted by the Wisconsin Paper Council and the University of Wisconsin.

Wisconsin’s Native population plays a vital role in the state’s paper industry from Tribes using sustainable practices in their logging businesses and entities like Menominee Tribal Enterprises (MTE) manufacturing lumber and forest products, to Native-

owned companies that transport lumber, pulp, paper and converted goods. Paper-converted goods include everything from toilet paper and facial wipes to food packaging and disposable medical gowns.

MTE manages a 235,000-acre forest and its wood has been used to create the basketball courts at Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee and the Oshkosh Arena, among others. Just over a year ago, MTE received a \$5 million federal grant through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to rebuild its sawmill in Neopit, which

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Want something special placed in the Hocak Worak? Limited space is available so send your request in early. Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.

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Gaga Basketball Tournament Results

On Saturday, December 16, the Ho-Chunk Nation Tomah Community Center & Fitness Center hosted a four team single elimination Gaga Basketball Tournament. Doors opened at 11:00 a.m. There were food sales in the cafeteria, a silent auction, vendor and concessions in the gym.



First Place – Gaga's Sacred Secret - \$300 & trophy



Best Dressed Winner at Gaga Basketball – Bryson Funmaker \$60



MVP at Gaga Basketball with 55 points – David Cleveland \$100 & trophy

Native Food for Life Online is a whole-food, plant-based program especially for Native Americans.

Evening Class!
at 5:30 PM

NATIVE FOOD FOR LIFE ONLINE

•••• Winter 2024 Schedule ••••

- Prevent and Reverse Diabetes January 11
- The Power of the Plate January 18
- The Magic 8 Indigenous Foods January 25
- Meet the Power Plate! February 1
- A Tale of Two Sisters February 8
- Putting It All Together February 15
- Virtual Potluck: Plant-Based Recipes February 29

Participants can choose a completely plant-based diet, or just work toward including more unprocessed plant foods in their diets.

Classes are held via WebEx from 5:30 pm-6:45 on the dates listed above.
If you would like to sign up for the classes, please contact one of the Health & Wellness Recruiters at 1.888.685.4422, ext. 35068 or 35039
If you have any questions about the program, please contact Kathy Braaten, Registered Dietitian, at 1.888.685.4422 ext. 35335.

Health and Wellness Division/Updated 12/23KB

MEMO

HO-CHUNK NATION
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

On November 6, 2023 the Department of Health experienced broad internet and phone failure across all of its clinical and satellite locations. The Health Information Systems (HIS) Division within the Department of Health identified a core switch failure-HIS notified the Office of the President (OOP) and the Tribal Office Building (TOB) Information Technology (IT) Division. HIS is working alongside OOP and the HIS were able to mitigate the interruption to medical services and minimize the potential negative impacts of health services to community members.

IT was able to have all Health internet connections and phone services fully operational on Monday, November 13. In conjunction with third party cybersecurity vendors, it was determined that the core switch failure was the direct result of a malicious attack of the Department of Health's servers. At this time after long hours and dedicated diligence by our IT teams (both internal and external), the Nation's systems are safe and secure.

Due to the nature of this incident, there is limited information that can be released at this time to protect the integrity of any possible ongoing investigations related to the matter. We can confirm that no Personally Identifiable Information or other data has been compromised as a result of this incident. We are working closely with law enforcement, courts, and our third party cybersecurity vendors to investigate how this incident occurred and place further safeguards so no further attacks can be replicated.

The President has reassigned the reporting structure of Health's HIS Division under the Department of Administration IT Division to implement and deploy uniform cybersecurity controls. Cybersecurity is one of the largest growing concerns in Indian Country affecting government, business, and health management systems.

For this reason, it's imperative that when your systems' administration issues protective protocols, they are clearly followed. Restricting third party applications, unauthorized use of proprietary admin passwords/credentials, and downloading or clicking on untrusted sources are not only against policy but increase the Nation's vulnerability to both internal and external attacks.

A huge thank you goes out to those that have worked nights and weekends over the course of the last 30 days to stabilize our power systems, secure our protected data safely, and maintain our critical medical services seamlessly to our community members. Your hard work and dedication is admirable.

Continued from Page 1
was originally constructed in 1905. The project will boost Wisconsin's forest product industry and will create 50 jobs, retain 10 jobs and generate \$2 million in private investment, according to government estimates.

Wisconsin's paper industry — especially its converting industry, which grew 16% in the past five years — continues to grow, providing a prime opportunity for Native entrepreneurs and small businesses to get involved.

"Menominee Tribal Enterprises is committed to growing our partnerships with our logging and trucking contractors. They play a crucial role in helping to

manage our forest, bring material to our mill for processing, and, in some cases, help us deliver the product to our customers," said MTE President Michael A. Skenadore.

Skenadore said three Native-run organizations — Bay Bank, First American Capital Corporation (FACC) and Woodland Financial Partners — make it financially possible for Native contractors and businesses to participate in Wisconsin's forest product industry. "The costs associated with the equipment needs of these hardworking and dedicated contractors are a huge barrier to entering this market. Without the support of these

organizations, the barriers would prove to be too much," he said.

The Oneida Tribe owns Bay Bank, which is headquartered in Green Bay (with a location in Keshena) and is the only tribal-owned bank in Wisconsin. A nonprofit organization, FACC is a Native Community Development Financial Institution certification and a designated SBA Micro lender that provides financing and technical assistance to Native, Tribal and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise businesses and entrepreneurs. Woodland Financial Partners is also a CDFI and provides financing and development services for entrepreneurs and

small business owners who are members of the state's 11 federally recognized tribes.

FACC has worked with several small businesses involved in the state's paper industry. Eagle Feather Trucking LLC in Oneida, for example, turned to FACC to get funding for a newer truck it could use as it transports lumber and other products.

"My favorite part of working with FACC is that they genuinely seem to care," said Linda Jorgenson, owner of Eagle Feather Trucking. As the business looks to the future, "we are hoping FACC will be there to assist us with continued loans and workshops."

First American Capital

Corporation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created by the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (AICCW) in 2002. FACC provides lending and technical assistance to Native, Tribal and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise businesses and entrepreneurs. FACC was the first in Wisconsin to achieve the Native Community Development Financial Institution certification and is a designated SBA Micro lender, the first Native CDFI in the nation to become an SBA Intermediary Lender. For more information about FACC, visit faccwi.org.

WAŦŠIK WAACEK PRESENTS:

NAACAGE HAAP ROUND DANCE

**FEBRUARY 14TH @5-8:30PM BRF
HIGH SCHOOL SAM YOUNG GYM**

Round dance specials and Hand drum contest
Vendors on site and meal provided

Email: Andrea.McCaskey@brf.org for any questions

Troy A. Stumblingbear

August 23, 1993 - December 6, 2024

Troy Anthony Stumblingbear "Huuwa Coonj", age 30, of Black River Falls, WI, passed away on December 6, 2023. He was born August 23, 1993 in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Chavo Stumblingbear and Fawn Smith.

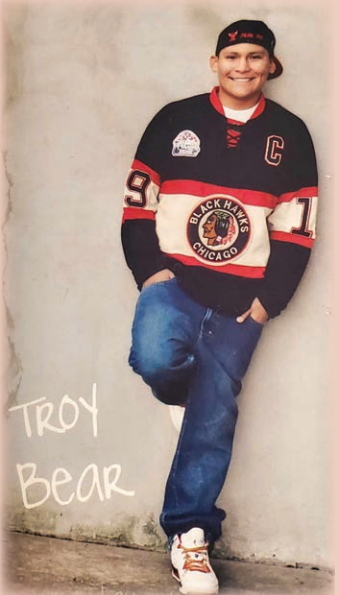
Troy graduated from Black River Falls High School in 2011. He enjoyed spending time with his kids and playing video games. He was always watching sporting events and was a die-hard Chicago sports fan. He had a way with words and used them when composing his music.

Troy is survived by his father Chavo Stumblingbear; his mom, Fawn Smith; children, Talaya, Malcolm, and Luna; sister, Calista Stumblingbear (Damek Walker); grandma Eunice Winneshiek; uncle Robert Smith, and numerous other extended family and relatives.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Aaron Stumblingbear and uncle Tyler Decorah, and other loved ones.

Traditional Native American Services will be at 12:00 p.m. Saturday, December 9, 2023, at the Dells Dam Community Center (W7015 Busch Road, Dells Dam, WI). Clayton Winneshiek will officiate. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Burial will follow at Dells Dam Family Cemetery in Neillsville, WI.

The Buswell Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements, 715-284-2231.



January Elders Birthdays

1. Francis Decorah	18. Roger Houghton, Sr.
Sarah Hernandez	Sidney Lewis
Marlene Huffman	Kimberly Rowley
Karen Johnson	Sherill Worthy
2. Tony Evans	19. Rhonda Funmaker
Shelby Grant	Marlene Peterson
Denise Kearnes	Charlene Steele
Roger Schmitz, Jr.	20. Michael Goze
Algernon Wauqua	Mark Hellerud
Frederick Zensen, Jr.	21. Cheryl Brinegar
4. Steven Bell	22. David Mach
Joni Bradley	Barbara Pierce
David Radtke	23. Michael Day
5. Raena Funmaker	Antoinette Horak
Joann Jones	Pamela Smith
Mark Thundercloud	24. Karna Thundercloud
6. Roy Cassiman	25. Martin Cooper
Robert Funmaker, Jr.	Julia Little Wolf
Penny Lamere Smart	Nela Stacy
Anita Prieur	26. Wilbert Cleveland
7. Phyllis Armendariz	Gary Hall
Barbara Lowe	Stewart Miller
Eunice Winneshiek	Melanie Sainz
8. Ona Garvin	27. Tina Danielski
Bonnie Hanson	Raymond Sprosty
Mark Young	28. Berna Big
10. Melanie Bryant	Thunder-Hindsley
Janice Goldman	Wade Blackdeer
Douglas Greengrass	Anthony Winneshiek
Avery Lonetree	29. Frisk Decorah
Damon Picotte	Cindy Funmaker
11. Yvonne Chojnacki	John Houghton, Jr.
Patricia Filipowicz	Faye Larson
13. Carson West	Eugene Notah
Wendy White Eagle	Rosalie Two Bulls
14. Fred Decorah	30. Barbara Nyhan
Roberta Decorah	Cecelia Rave
Marvin Leonard, Jr.	31. Ethel Funmaker
Susan Moore	Cynthia Holloway
Gary Thundercloud	Kathyleen Lone
Hattie Walker	Tree-Whiterabbit
15. Joanne La Mere	Janice Rice
Rodney Young	Estelle Whitewing
16. Joyce White Eagle	
Sharon Whitebear	
17. Roberta Crowe	

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be January 5th which will be published on January 12th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Waika

night

7 February, 2024
|Hocak Winter stories| Meal Provided| Event will be live streamed

5-8 PM
BRF HIGH SCHOOL

Email: Andrea.McCaskey@brf.org for questions

The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.


Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

HOKAK WORAK NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

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www.hocakworak.com

The Hocak Worak is a member of:
The Native American Journalists Association



WNA
WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

2016
BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARD WINNER

Having Fun at the District 1 Elder Social

On Friday, December 15, the Ho-Chunk Nation District 1 Community Center hosted an Elder Social. Participants enjoyed laughing, food, bingo, and gifts. Thank you to all who made this event happen with good thoughts: Tribal Aging Unit, ones who brought gifts, and donations.



Ho-Chunk Nation Madison Branch Office

Facebook Post, Tuesday, December 19, 2023

Hello Everyone!
We had a great time at our very first PowWow on Saturday, 12.16.2023! Great fun was had by all - good food and good company.

We couldn't have done it without the HCN Legislature, the HCN workers, all of the volunteers, the drum groups, head dancers and everyone else that helped make this event a wonderful success! Thank you!



Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch



Facebook Post, Thursday, December 14, 2023

Pictured are Rep. Stephanie Begay and HCN Executive Director of Education Ryan Crain Sr. as well as members of the Tomah community to present a check for new playground equipment for Wyeville Elementary School. Receiving the check on behalf of Wyeville Elementary School is Principal Tim Gnewikow and Tomah area schools Superintendent Dr. Mike Hanson.



NDN COLLECTIVE RESPONDS TO GRAND GATEWAY HOTEL'S COURT-ORDERED APOLOGY

From the beginning, we have made clear that our actions to hold owners of the Grand Gateway Hotel accountable for their discrimination and violence against Native people is part of a much bigger fight to address the rampant racism in Rapid City.

DECEMBER 14, 2023

Rapid City, SD – Yesterday, NDN Collective received a court-ordered apology letter from the Grand Gateway Hotel. In response, the organization released the following statement:

“While we are glad the court saw Connie Uhre’s statements about refusing to serve Native people as unacceptable, the fact that they had to issue an order for this letter is very telling. We find this so-called apology – which attempts to center Grand

Gateway Hotel as an inclusive business – to be insulting and disingenuous.

“The letter contains an apology for ‘statements made by Connie Uhre,’ yet fails to mention that those statements were actually enforced when multiple Native people were denied a room. It fails to acknowledge the dangerous, dehumanizing, and very public physical assault Connie inflicted on community members.

“The letter tries to reposition

the owners as friends to Native people, despite the fact that a second lawsuit was filed against the Grand Gateway Hotel just a couple months ago for racial discrimination against a Native person visiting from out of town.

“The letter says the owners know the Native community is made up of ‘hardworking individuals,’ to us, this begs the questions – who gets to decide which of us is ‘hardworking,’ and which is a threat? Do Native people have to prove

ourselves as ‘hardworking’ just to get treated with basic human respect – a near impossible task when we’re constantly met with racism? When will Native people get the same benefit of the doubt and dignity as white people in South Dakota?

“From the beginning, we have made clear that our actions to hold owners of the Grand Gateway Hotel accountable for their discrimination and violence against Native people is part of a much bigger fight to address the rampant racism in

Rapid City.

“We will continue to stand up for the rights and safety of the Native community. We encourage the owners of the Grand Gateway Hotel to rethink this letter. We would welcome another apology demonstrating reflection and a desire for real accountability, and containing next steps about how they plan to concretely repair the harm they’ve caused.”

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Natural Resources
Seeking Board of Director Applications

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Natural Resources is seeking candidates to fill Board of Directors vacancies. Per the HCC § 20 the Board of Directors will serve in an advisory capacity only, not as a policy making body. The Board will also be involved in and consulted with strategic planning, development of annual goals and objectives pursuant to the Appropriations and Budget Act.

Interested Parties can review the 1HCC20 Department of Natural Resources Establishment Act for more information related to Board of Director Meetings, Terms and Director roles and responsibilities.

<https://ho-chunknation.com/home/government/legislative/ho-chunk-nation-laws/>

Please mail or email a one-page Letter of Interest and a copy of your resume to:

Brandon Bleuer
Executive Director
Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Natural Resources
PO Box. 677
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Brandon.bleuer@Ho-Chunk.com
715-284-2852

All applications will be reviewed and all applicants will be notified upon selection of Board members. Selected candidates will be subject to Presidential review.

Ho-Chunk Nation
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Starting January 2024

What do we offer?



Tutoring Services offers individualized, small group, and virtual tutoring in-school, after school, and weekends for enrolled Ho-Chunk members in all areas.

Students also receive academic support, summer experiential learning, preparation for post-secondary education, mentorship, and advocacy for enrolled Ho-Chunk students and their families.

Who do you contact?



Apply Here!

Contact a Tutor Specialist at the Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department:

Tutor Services Division email tutor.services@ho-chunk.com

Education Department phone number (715) 284-4915

We are accepting applications now!

Prosperity in Recovery presents...

A New Year's Eve Family
GAME
NIGHT
December 31, 2023

District 1 Community Center
N. 7261 Warrior Ave
Black River Falls, WI 54615

7pm-Midnight

Games! Food! Prizes! Music!

Unsolved Homicide

- On Thursday, August 10th, 1989, Rhys Pocan, a 35-year-old, Native American woman was abducted while walking along National Avenue in the City of Milwaukee around midnight. Rhys was murdered and dismembered. Her head and hands were later located by hunters in Vernon Marsh, which is a public hunting ground, located in Waukesha County. Rhys's torso was found in Nichol's Creek, which is a public hunting ground, located in Sheboygan County.
- Rhys Pocan, lived in the Black River Falls area in the early 1980's. It is believed that people with information about this case and/or involved parties may still have ties to Jackson County.

If you have information as to Rhys's disappearance or death, please contact the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Dept at 920-459-3112 or the Sheboygan Countywide Crime Stoppers

Native Food for Life
Online Diabetes Class

Evening Class!
At 5:30 pm

Starting January 11, a 7-week "plant-based" program with a focus on indigenous foods for Natives to help prevent & manage diabetes. Classes are via WebEx.

Call 1.888.685.4422 ext. 35068 or 35039 to sign up or ask questions.

Past participants said:

- ...I lost weight....
- ...lower blood sugars...
- ...better digestion...
- ...more energy...
- ...feeling better about food choices....
- ...good recipes...
- ...I feel fuller longer...

Sponsored by the HCN Health and Wellness Division

Health & Wellness Division/KB/created 1/22



INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

of Wisconsin Dells

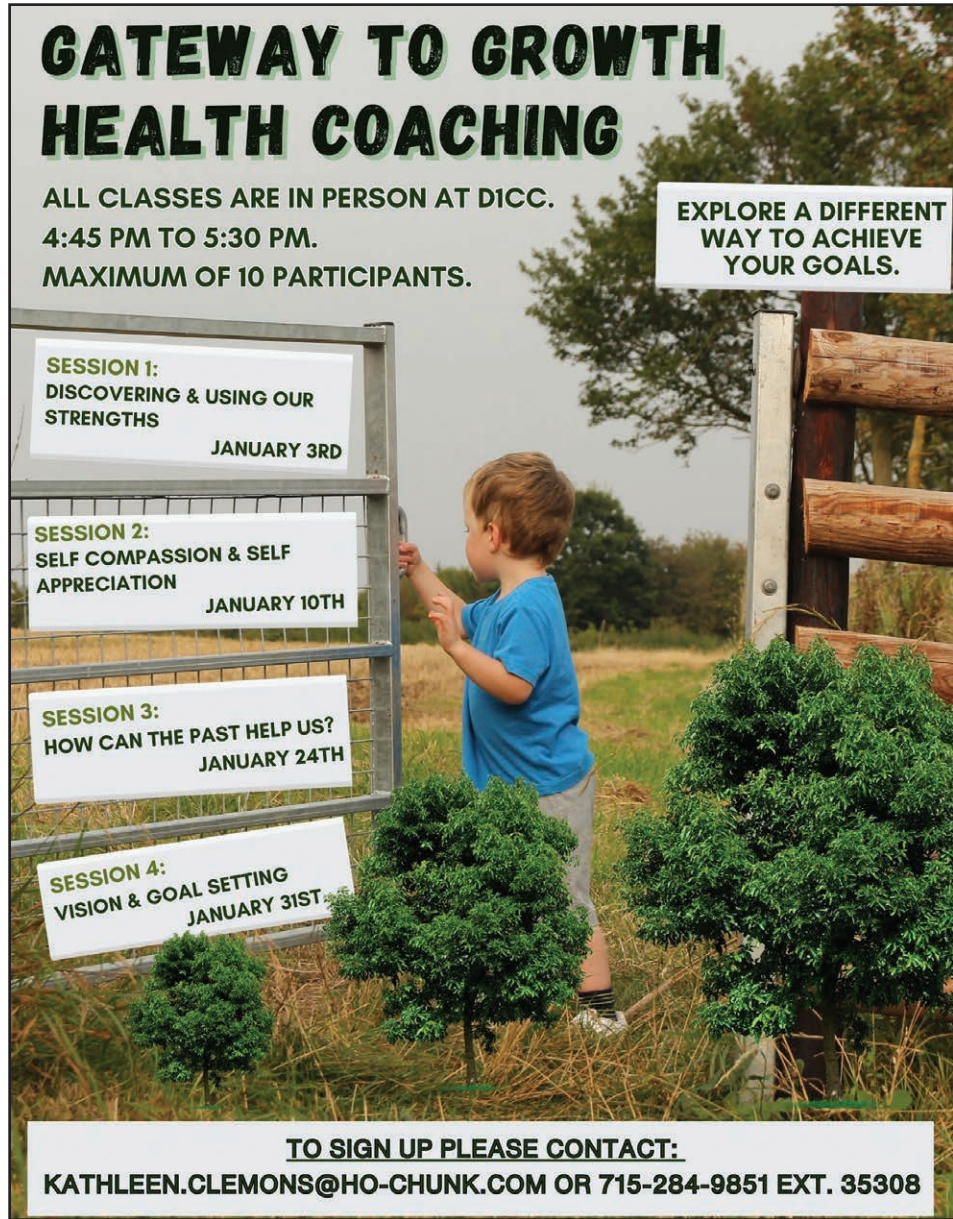
Sunday, December 24th, the Indian Baptist Church of Wisconsin Dells will not have their regular morning worship... although we will be having Christmas Eve services at 5:00 PM. Come all who want to attend Christmas Eve services, paper bag goodies will be given out. Peace!

N460 WI-16 Wisconsin Dells

GATEWAY TO GROWTH HEALTH COACHING

**ALL CLASSES ARE IN PERSON AT DICC.
4:45 PM TO 5:30 PM.
MAXIMUM OF 10 PARTICIPANTS.**

**EXPLORE A DIFFERENT
WAY TO ACHIEVE
YOUR GOALS.**




**SESSION 1:
DISCOVERING & USING OUR
STRENGTHS**
JANUARY 3RD

**SESSION 2:
SELF COMPASSION & SELF
APPRECIATION**
JANUARY 10TH

**SESSION 3:
HOW CAN THE PAST HELP US?**
JANUARY 24TH

**SESSION 4:
VISION & GOAL SETTING**
JANUARY 31ST

**TO SIGN UP PLEASE CONTACT:
KATHLEEN.CLEMONS@HO-CHUNK.COM OR 715-284-9851 EXT. 35308**



Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging
P.O. Box 430, W8825 Decorah Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Notice of Vacancy

The Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Division is currently seeking nominations from the Madison, Milwaukee and La Crosse areas to fill a newly created position on the Elder Advisory Board. Board members are elected to a three year term. Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month.

Interested candidates should contact Lynette Smoke at the Madison Branch office at 608-206-9652 or 608-277-9964 extension 13235, Jeanette Decorah at the Milwaukee Branch office at 414-747-8680 extension 15471, or Paul Sallaway at the La Crosse Branch office at 608-784-3083 extension 35418 or 715-299-0153. Nominations will close on January 12th and elections will be held approximately two weeks after nominations close.

Phone: 715-284-0811 Fax: 715-284-3180



Financial Literacy Program

New Platform and Mobile App Launch

When
Thursday, January 4th,
2024
9:30am-11:30am

Where
Tribal Office Building
Atrium

Who
Students, Families, and
Community Members



Please join the Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department and the Financial Fitness Group as we celebrate the launch of our new and improved platform and mobile app. You will have a chance to experience a hands-on demonstration of the platform and mobile app. Cake and refreshments will be available.

Questions?  (715) 896-2866
Contact Michelle Cloud  michelle.cloud@ho-chunk.com

<p>HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,</p> <p>IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Janet Dittmer</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Case No. <u>PR 23-04</u></p>	<p><small>For Official Use</small></p> <p>FILED IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL / SUPREME COURT</p> <p>NOV 03 2023</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> Clerk of Court / Assistant</p>						
<p>Notice to Newspaper and Personal Representative:</p> <p>The personal representative is responsible for providing the deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate to all known or reasonably ascertainable creditors.</p> <p>This notice shall be published for three (3) consecutive issues; the first publication date must be within 15 days from the date underneath the Clerk of Court's signature.</p> <p>Here is the language that should be published in the newspaper:</p>							
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF: <u>Janet Dittmer</u></p> <p>A Petition for Probate was filed in the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. You have 90 days from the date of the first publication of this notice to present your claims to the personal representative, <u>Laure Vita</u>, or the Clerk of Court at P.O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The deadline for filing claims is <u>2/1/2024</u>. Only those claims so presented may be paid from the estate.</p> </div>							
<p><i>[Signature]</i> Clerk of Court</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> Name/Printed or Typed 11/3/2023 Date</p>							
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Form completed by: (Name) <u>Laure Vita</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Address <u>7954 S Olive Ct. Centennial, CO 80112</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Telephone <u>720-900-4728</u></td> <td>Bar Number (if any)</td> </tr> </table>		Form completed by: (Name) <u>Laure Vita</u>		Address <u>7954 S Olive Ct. Centennial, CO 80112</u>		Telephone <u>720-900-4728</u>	Bar Number (if any)
Form completed by: (Name) <u>Laure Vita</u>							
Address <u>7954 S Olive Ct. Centennial, CO 80112</u>							
Telephone <u>720-900-4728</u>	Bar Number (if any)						
<p>PR14, 04/18 Notice to Creditors This form shall not be modified. It may be supplemented with additional material.</p> <p>SS HCC 13, HO-CHUNK NATION PROBATE CODE</p>							

Continued from Page 1

For undergraduates, the program will provide sufficient financial support, after other scholarships and grants, to meet the estimated cost of attendance, which includes not only tuition and fees but also housing, meals, books and other educational expenses, according to a university press release.

The program will provide four years of support for students who enter as freshmen and two years of support for students who enter as transfer students.

For professional students pursuing a J.D. or M.D. degree, the pilot program will cover the cost of in-state tuition and fees. (Books and living expenses are not included.) Currently, for J.D. students, tuition and fees total \$35,197 annually; for M.D. students, it is \$42,198 annually.

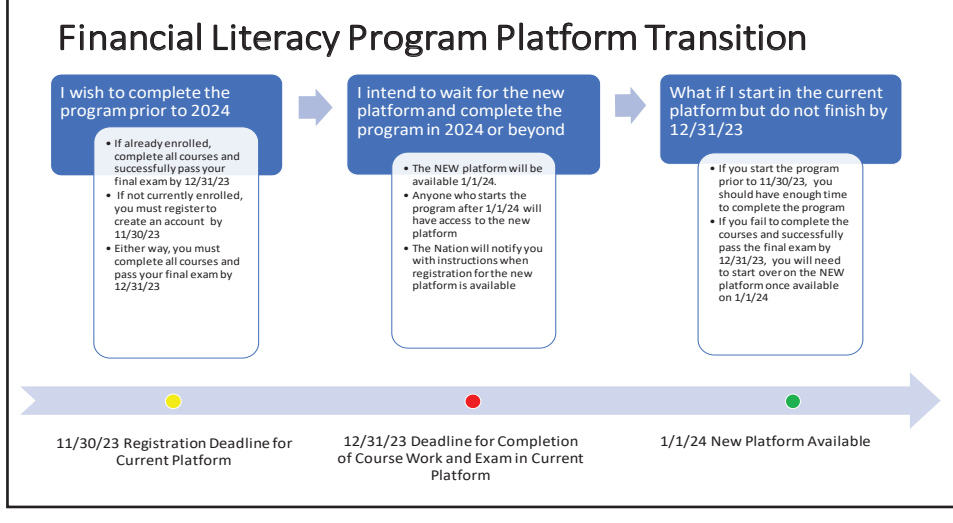
For J.D. students, the program will cover resident tuition for full-time students for three academic years; for M.D. students, the program will cover four years. The program will start in the fall of 2024.

To be eligible for either of the initiatives, a student must be:

- A Wisconsin resident
- Verified as an enrolled member of any one of the 11 federally recognized American Indian Tribes in Wisconsin
- Enrolled at UW–Madison for their first undergraduate degree or for a J.D. or M.D. degree

“At the heart of the Native community is the support and care we have for one another and that we make decisions that will benefit not just ourselves but also the next seven generations,” says Carla Vigue, UW–Madison director of tribal relations. “It is our hope that more Native students will take a second look at UW–Madison and realize that we are not out of reach. And I want Native students to know that, once here, we have support and services that can help them thrive and feel a real sense of belonging at this world-class university.”

Since 2016, a Native Nations working group at UW–Madison has sought to create educational networks, respectful research relationships and culturally responsive engagement programs with the Native nations of Wisconsin. In 2019, the university installed the Our Shared Future heritage marker on Bascom Hill, pledging a shared future of collaboration and innovation with the Ho-Chunk Nation, on whose ancestral land the university sits.



2023 Year in Review

JANUARY

Ho-Chunk Nation participates in Annual Winter Festival at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve

On January 7, the Ho-Chunk Nation held a Snow Snake competition, shared stories and served squash soup at the Winter Festival at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve in Lafarge, Wisconsin.

The annual Winter Festival features outdoor, indoor and ciiporoke activities and educational sessions highlighting the Kickapoo Valley Reserve, which contains 1,200 acres of Ho-Chunk Trust land.

Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department Employees Accepted into LTHD Infection Prevention Pilot Program

On January 4, two Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department Employees, Ronelle McKernan, and Alissa Ginkowski were accepted into the Local and Tribal Health Department (LTHD) Infection Prevention Pilot Program.

This competitive pilot program allows LTHDs to apply for one staff member to work more closely with their Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Prevention Program Regional Infection Preventionist and participate in infection prevention and control (IPC) and HAI trainings, collaborate on outbreak response and on-site visits, and engage in other focused educational opportunities.

Luncheon with Congressman Ron Kind

On Dec. 28, 2022, the Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle and his staff hosted a luncheon with Congressman Ron Kind at the Three Rivers House in La Crosse, WI.

Madison Indigenous arts leader, activist revealed as white

By Robert Chappell, Reprint from Madison 365

Early in 2020, an Indigenous artist urged the owners of a new music venue in town to change its name.

It was called The Winnebago, after the street on which it stands. Many Indigenous people and allies let the owners know that wasn't the best name for a white-owned music venue. One of them was nibiiwakamigkwe, also known as Kay LeClaire, a founding member and co-owner of the queer Indigenous artists' collective giige, and budding leader of Madison's Indigenous arts community.

It took several months, but the venue eventually relented and rebranded as The Burr Oak.

Siga Funmaker Community Center Celebrates 5 Years

The Wittenberg community gathered at the Siga Funmaker Community Center on Dec. 29, 2022, to celebrate the building's five year existence. The building was christened in the name of Georgianna "Siga" Violet Whitewing-Funmaker, Wakejahuiga (Coming from Above) in 2017 but the building name was shortened over the years to Siga Funmaker Community Center.

Indigenous community looks to heal weeks after a "pretendian" is exposed

By Robert Chappell, Reprint from Madison365

Madison's Indigenous and arts communities are working to disentangle themselves from a web left behind by Kay LeClaire, a white woman who has been claiming to be an Indigenous two-spirit person for at least five years.

Since we first reported on LeClaire's deceptions, the story went viral internationally. But much of the public's attention has moved on, leaving artists, Indigenous people, businesses, nonprofit organizations and even government agencies to pick up the pieces.

Missing Tribal Member Found Dead

On January 18, the Ho-Chunk Nation Police Department officially confirmed missing tribal member, Felicia J. Wanna, was tragically found dead.

No February 2023 Per Cap

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature passed Resolution 01-17-23 D by an affirmative vote of 11, one opposed, and zero abstaining. That resolution "does hereby declare that no per capita distribution will be made to the 7,787 eligible tribal members on February 1, 2023."

FEBRUARY

Forgiveness of Ho-Chunk Nation Mortgage and Rental Late Fees Resolution Passes

During a regular meeting of the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature on Feb. 7, Resolution 02-07-23 C passed with an affirmative vote of 11, zero opposed, and one abstaining. The resolution is titled 'Forgiveness of Ho-Chunk Nation Mortgage and Rental Late Fees since the End of the Suspension of Payments during the COVID-19 Pandemic.'

Further information is being released in the investigations related to Felicia J. Wanna

On 1/2/2023 the family of Felicia Wanna called to request a welfare check be completed as they had not seen or heard from Felicia since 12/29/2022. Numerous attempts were made to contact and locate Felicia with no success. An investigation was opened by the Ho-Chunk Police Department and further investigative options were attempted. The investigation was able to determine that on the evening of 12/29/22 Felicia was in the area of the Tomah Wal-Mart. Video footage was obtained from security cameras in the area of the Tomah Wal-Mart and we were able to confirm that Felicia was in that area at 7:20 p.m. Felicia is seen leaving the Tomah Wal-Mart under her own free will. It was also discovered through the investigation that Felicia did not have her vehicle or cell phone with her at that time, as a known party had taken both to La Crosse. Although a number of other sightings were reported, this is the last confirmed sighting of Felicia.

2023 General Primary Election Candidates Answers Two Questions

The Hocak Worak requested all General Primary Election candidates provide answers to two questions. Those questions and their answers are compiled here, grouped in the office they are running for and appear in alphabetical order by first name. Not all candidates submitted answers.

MARCH

Affordable Housing Multifamily Project

Heena Development is working with the Ho-Chunk Nation and HHCDA (Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency) on an affordable

housing multifamily project.

The Ho-Chunk Nation successfully submitted an application in WHEDA's competitive tax credit process, but an award is not guaranteed yet.

The total costs continue to be a moving target. If awarded, there will be a better grasp on the total cost of the financial program of the project, infrastructure, construction, and financing costs.

The project consists of a 40 unit, low income apartment complex located in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

BRFHS Teacher's Aide Resigns after Racist Remarks to a Ho-Chunk Student

A Ho-Chunk student is speaking out after a video circulating on social media has led to a Black River Falls School District Aide publically apologizing and officially resigning.

Black River Falls School District confirms the staff member has resigned.

The video circulating showed the aide, Laura Sahr, saying to student, Naomi Thunder: "I don't care if you get a D minus. You're Native, right? Collect your check. You don't have to give two (expletive) about your future. So, why should I care?"

HHCDA Employee Retires

On February 9, friends and co-workers gathered together at Three Rivers in Lacrosse, Wisconsin to celebrate the retirement of Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA) grants writer, Paul Tyse. Paul was a Vietnam Army Veteran and has been working for the HHCDA for over 20 years.

Marquette University Confers Honorary Degree on Karen Lincoln Michel

On Thursday, Feb. 9, Karen Lincoln Michel received a Doctor of Humane Letters from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during their annual Mission Week. Karen Lincoln Michel is an enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member who built a remarkable career as a writer and reporter, editor, publisher, and currently serves as president of ICT, formerly Indian Country Today. Marquette University, a Catholic, Jesuit University, bestowed the highest honor they as a university can.

Wisconsin Premier All-Native Basketball Tournament Results

From Friday, March 10-12, the annual MM21 basketball tournament was held at the House of Wellness, located in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin's Premier All-Native Basketball tournament is sponsored by the House of Wellness and the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Milwaukee Art Museum features the works of Ho-Chunk Artist

On Friday, February 24, "Native America: In Translation" opened at the Milwaukee Art Museum featuring works by Ho-Chunk artist, Tom Jones including the debut of "Bella Falcon" and a spotlight Sessions video called "Strong Unrelenting Spirits."

Tom Jones is a Professor of Photography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jones is also a co-author on the book People of the Big Voice, Photographs of Ho-Chunk Families by Charles Van Schaick, 1879-1943. He has artwork in the collections of the National Museum of the American Indian, Polaroid Corporation, Sprint Corporation, The Chazen Museum of Art, The Nerman Museum, and Microsoft.

Ho-Chunk Nation General Primary Election 2023 Results

The results of the March 7 General Primary Election Results are as follows: President – Ryan John Crain, Sr.-141, Rita Gardner-81, Conroy R. Greendeer, Jr.-70, Hinu Helgesen Smith-135, Robert J. Mann-145, Michael J. Rave-30, George O. Stacy-85, Robert V. Two Bears-54, Lanette R. Walker-145, Marlon
Continued on Page 8

Paaxge Workshop

Green Bay Branch Office

Brought to you by: HCN Life Skills Program

January 9, 2024 from 10AM-3PM

Instructor: Rita Kingswan



We will have a limited number of seats available! Please call ahead to reserve your spot.

(920)490-2775

Continued from Page 7

White Eagle-77, Jon Greendeer-369, and other write-ins-74. Supreme Court Associate Justice 2 – David J.W. Klausner-1,149, and write-in-36. Trial Court Chief Judge – JoDeen B. Lowe-1,195 and write-in-28. Trial Court Associate Judge 1 – Wendi A. Huling-1,049 and write-in-123. Trial Court Associate Judge 2 – Michelle Greendeer-Rave-1,208 and write-in-46.

District 1 Legislator, Seat 2 – Amanda R. De Cora-97, Ashley Gerdes-95, Ian Keatley Littlejohn-28, Rodney Rave-128, and write-in-77. District 2, Seat 1 – Samantha Day-135, Robert L. Funmaker, Jr.-113, Timothy Gamble-66, Heath Littlejohn-69, Gabrielle Rave-76, and write-in-7. District 3, Seat 1 – Sarah Lemieux-320 and write-in-18. District 3, Seat 3 – Darren Brinegar-184, Saresa Ryckman-139, and write-in-52. District 4, Seat 2 – Paul J. Fox-72 and write-in-35.

APRIL

Winter Basketball Camp at the House of Wellness features Bronson Koenig

The House of Wellness hosted a winter basketball camp on March 25 and 26 for boys and girls ages 10-17 featuring Bronson Koenig and area coaches. The registration was free due to a grant from the Green Bay Packers Foundation. Approximately fifty participants received a free t-shirt.

Ho-Chunk Nation Honors Vietnam Veterans

On Wednesday, March 29, the Ho-Chunk Nation honored those who served in the Vietnam War at Ho-Chunk Gaming- Wisconsin Dells, and the Tribal Office Building.

No May 2023 Per Capita Distribution

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature passed Resolution 04-04-23 B by an affirmative vote of 10 members, two opposed, and zero abstaining. This resolution states, “in light of the unprecedented circumstances, and pursuant to its Constitutional authority, and the Per Capita Distribution Ordinance, does hereby declare that no per capita distribution will be made to the 7,766 eligible tribal members on May 1, 2023.”

Ho-Chunk Lands now Visible on Apple Maps

Drivers now using Apple Maps, an iPhone feature, will be able to navigate through Ho-Chunk tribal lands, and others in Wisconsin and across Indian Country.

The recent iOS update for the navigation application gives information about the hundreds of sovereign Indigenous nations within the U.S. and Canada.

Ho-Chunk Wrestler takes on State Championship title

Eli Komanekin, a Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member recently competed in the WWF Kids Folk style Championships in Madison, Wisconsin.

Eli placed first in the 210 pound bracket for the ages 10 to 11. In the final match of the day he competed against a fellow Ho-Chunk wrestler, Azrael Chavez, of Mauston.

Harry Whitehorse Sculpture at Teejop

Submitted by Deb Whitehorse

This story begins 200 years ago with an acorn that grew into a majestic white oak tree at Teejop. Generations of Ho-Chunk set up summer villages near the tree. Many decades passed, and the city of Madison eventually built a school named in honor of the naturalist Henry David Thoreau next to the giant oak. The teachers and students at Thoreau School came to love the tree and couldn't imagine a time without its big limbs shading their playground. But that day came in 2000 when the tree reached the end of its life, and the school had to remove it for safety reasons. A Thoreau parent contacted Ho-Chunk artist Harry Whitehorse about creating a sculpture from the tree so that it could live on to be a teaching tool about the indigenous people who continue to live at Teejop.

Janice Rice gives Ho-Chunk Culture Presentations across Wisconsin

On Thursday, March 30, Janice Rice gave a presentation; “Walk with Me Among My Homelands: Hear the Echoes of My Ancestors,” at UW-Barron County.

Janice is a Ho-Chunk member Bear Clan and a retired UW-Madison librarian. She discusses Native culture, philosophy, teachings, values and land stewardship across the state of Wisconsin.

Ho-Chunk Nation Neighborhood Investment Fund Update

On Thursday, April 6, Governor Tony Evers and Elmer Moore of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, made multiple stops around the state of Wisconsin, ending their visit at the Ho-Chunk Nation in Black River Falls, discussing the Ho-Chunk Nations Neighborhood Investment Fund.

Executive Director of Housing and Public Work, Tracy Littlejohn; Executive Director of the Ho-Chunk Housing and Development Agency (HHCDA), Neil Whitegull; and District 2 Legislator, Representative Stay Begay, were in attendance on behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Neighborhood Investment fund was received by the Nation in 2021, as part of the COVID-19 relief grant. The grant is valued at nearly \$11 million, and is dedicated to two projects: Ten supportive housing units, and 22 small homes spread across five counties.

MAY

5K Walk/Run Brings Awareness to MMIW

On Friday, May 5, approximately 300 participants gathered near Burns Park in La Crosse, WI, to bring awareness to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) crisis. Indigenous tribes and their supporters in attendance listened to alarming statistics, the mayoral proclamation, the city council resolution, and were invited to visit Indigenous food and merchandise booths and resources booths.

BRF Hearts Spirits Project Unveiling

On May 4, the Nioxawani Naage Waxopini (Black River Falls Heart Spirits) project had an unveiling at the School District of Black River Falls.

The project originated from Cheryl Ring, a Canadian artist, who developed a project called Heart Spirits. She wanted the missing and murdered Indigenous women of Canada to be more than a statistic, and more than an acronym. MMIW has been a recognized day since 2015 in Canada and 2017 in the United States. She developed the project in 2019.

First Nations Acknowledgement Community Event

On April 27, Wisconsin First Nations hosted a community event at the Onalaska High school featuring presentations and a concert by Bill Miller.

Bill Miller is a performer, songwriter, activist, painter, and world-class native flute player. Miller has received three Grammy awards, Native American Music Awards and Association awards, and led Wisconsin's Lacrosse Symphony Orchestra.

Highway Cleanup for Earth Day

On May 2, Ho-Chunk Nation employees and community members cleaned up the Adopt-A-Highway section of Highway 54, east of Black River Falls between the Ho-Chunk Nation government and health offices, to the Andrew Blackhawk Memorial Powwow grounds.

Ho-Chunk Clan Circle Dedication Ceremony at University of Wisconsin-Madison

On May 4, 2023, University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) hosted a dedication ceremony for the Ho-Chunk Clan Circle sculptures located at the UW-Madison campus behind the new Bakke Recreation and Wellbeing Center and looking over Lake Mendota. The sculptures were created by Ho-Chunk artist Ken Lewis.

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells adds electric chargers

On May 17, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells hosted a ribbon cutting for one of Wisconsin's largest and fastest public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations placed at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells. Casino officials, Ho-Chunk Nation President, Marlon White-Eagle, and officials from Alliant Energy, Inertial Electric, and the Baraboo Area Chamber of Commerce were present for the event.

Ho-Chunk Nation and Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs sign MOA on veteran story collections

On May 17, the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum and Culture Center and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs/Wisconsin Veterans Museum hosted the MOA signing in Tomah. Vice president, Karena Thundercloud and Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary, Designee James Bond, were in attendance as they signed a memo of agreement regarding the collection and documentation of Ho-Chunk Nation Veterans.

JUNE

HHCDA Holds Ground Breaking Ceremony for Supportive Housing Ten-Unit Apartment Building

On May 31, the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA) held a ground breaking ceremony for a Young Families Supportive Housing Project that features a ten-unit apartment complex near Black River Falls. Representatives from HHCDA, Ho-Chunk Nation, the State of Wisconsin, Seven Generations Architecture and Engineering, and American Construction participated in the festivity.

McDonough Addresses Veterans Issues during Visit to Tomah VA

U.S Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough and U.S Representative Derrick Van Orden addressed veteran's issues on Monday, June 5 at the Tomah VA.

One of the topics was about the Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which is offering veterans who may have been misdiagnosed by a VA physician, new exams to evaluate whether they qualify for disability benefits.

McDonough addressed veterans who were examined at the Tomah VA for service-related head trauma by Dr. Mary Jo Lanska. Lanska was accused of conducting neurological examinations that were inaccurate or incomplete. The examinations determine whether a veteran is eligible for financial compensation through the VA. The doctor no longer works at the VA.

Ho-Chunk Member Launches New Rotary Club in Florida

Ho-Chunk entrepreneur, Larry Knudsen has launched a new Rotary Club located in Bradenton, Florida called the Rotary Club of Bradenton Social Impact.

Knudsen was president of the Minneapolis, South Rotary Club and achieved a few awards, including fastest growing club in Minnesota, and raised over \$138,000 in two years for food shelves in South Minneapolis.

HCN Museum and the WI Veterans Museum seek out Ho-Chunk Veteran stories

The Ho-Chunk Nation Museum and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum seek out Ho-Chunk Veterans to share their stories after the MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) was signed on May 17, at the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum and Culture Center in Tomah.

Ho-Chunk Nation Secretarial Election Results

The Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board released the June 6 Secretarial Election Certification which states, “We the undersigned Election Officials of the Ho-Chunk Nation do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate accounting of the ballots case in the Secretarial Election held on the 6th day of June 2023. We further certify that in accordance with 2HCC, Section 6.21 f, (1) (a), that said election is declared rejected for failure to achieve the 30% voter participation requirement.”

All-Abilities Stroll Promotes Activity

On Saturday, June 10th, 2023 the All-Abilities Stroll took place at the Ho-Chunk Nation District 1 Community Center. The 1.2 mile walk promoted activity for everyone and raised funds for the All-Abilities Playground.

Before the Stroll, Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls and Ho-Chunk Nation presented a \$25,000 donation for the All-Abilities Playground to be built in Black River Falls in the fall.

Five Local Ho-Chunk Members Travel to Peru

The nonprofit Mundo Esperanza (World Hope) based out of Madison, escorted five local Ho-Chunk tribal members to Cusco, Peru, on Friday June 16.

Mundo Esperanza was founded in 2021 to promote greater awareness of Indigenous communities and sponsor the Madison Cusco Sister City partnership.

The Ho-Chunk tribal members who are traveling include; Bill Quackenbush, HCN tribal historic officer; JoAnn Jones, former HCN president; Linda Hopinka, tribal elder; Kyla Beard, HCN gaming manager; Randall Blackdeer, tribal veteran service officer.

Green Bay Area Hosts End of the School Picnic

There were seventy five in attendance at the End of the School Picnic. The bash took place at Bay Beach Amusement Park on Friday, June 16. Ho-Chunk Nation District 3 tribal members and families were invited to attend.

HELP Ends and General Welfare Payments Begin July 1

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The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature authorized appropriations this month. The \$800 HELP ended with the June 2023 disbursement. Replacing this is the General Welfare Payment of \$900 to all adult tribal members July 1, 2023 through June 2024.

Legislature Issues Recognition Citation to Neil Whitegull

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature honored Wakajaziiga, Neil Whitegull, during their Regular Meeting on June 13 with a rare distinction of a Legislative Recognition Citation. This Citation thanked Neil for his achievements, hard work, sacrifice, dedication, commitment, and long service to the Ho-Chunk people.

Wausau Area Honors Representative Stacy

Submitted by Tricia Zunker
Those at the Wausau area meeting on June 13, honored outgoing Legislative Representative George Stacy for his service.

2023 Graduate Showcase

JULY

Ho-Chunk Nation Oath of Office Ceremony for Recently Elected Officials

The Ho-Chunk Nation held an Oath of Office Ceremony on July 5 at the Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Lower Dells Ballroom. Those officials include: President, Jon Greendeer; District 1, Seat 2, Rodney Rave; District 2, Seat 1, Robert Funmaker, Jr.; District 3, Seat 1, Sarah Lemieux; District 3, Seat 3, Darren Brinegar; District 4, Seat 2, Paul Fox; Supreme Court Associate Justice 2, David J.W. Klauser; Trial Court Chief Judge, Jo Deen B. Lowe; Trial Court Associate Judge 1, Wendi A. Huling; and Trial Court Associate Judge 2, Michelle Greendeer-Rave.

Kijire Naagu Event

This is an update and overview of the Kijire Naagu Event that took place the week of May 15-19, 2023. Let me begin by saying that this event “was held and the results was captivating in the sense that it served as a meaningful purpose.” The Kijire Naagu vision has always been to have a gathering of Hocak Wazooki naga Hicakoro for purpose of teaching, listening, embracing one another, sharing, and learning about our natural ways of healing. I believe that each person that attended specifically chose to partake in this event. Our Almighty Creator has always played a vital part in each of our lives.

Native American Tourism on the rise in Wisconsin

Native American Tourism of Wisconsin (NATOW) hosted its 2023 Conference and Golf Tournament on June 20-22 at the Menominee Casino and Resort. Leaders there discussed Indigenous destination tourism as being on the rise.

New Park Equipment in Black River Falls

The Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency showcased new playground equipment at Sandpillow Park near Black River Falls with a barbecue on Monday, July 10.

Team Wisconsin Brings Home 56 Medals from the 2023 North American Indigenous Games

The 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 15-23, and gathered more than 5,000 athletes, coaches, and team staff from approximately 756 Indigenous Nations. Team Wisconsin returned home with 21 gold medals, 18 silver medals, and 17 bronze medals.

The NAIG hosted competition in 16 sports, 3D archery, athletics, badminton, baseball, basketball, beach volleyball, canoe, kayak, golf, box lacrosse, rifle shooting, soccer, softball, swimming, volleyball, and wrestling.

Team Wisconsin’s athletes hailed from Bad River, Bay Mills (Ojibwe), Chippewa, Forrest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Isaniti Dakota, Lad du Flambeau, Menominee, Oneida, Potawatomi, Red Cliff, Red Lake, Sioux, Stockbridge, Three Affiliated Tribes, and Winnebago.

Ho-Chunk Nation Continues the Process of Revitalizing its Language

The Ho-Chunk Nation conducted a Recording and Review Collection, which is the next step in the process of preserving a language after its initial Rapid Word Collection, when thousands of words are collected from Elder speakers on July 18.

The multi-step process is vital to maintaining the growing and living nature of a language which will then be turned into dictionaries, e-learning platforms, and other time-critical language materials.

AUGUST

Ho-Chunk Nation Holds Swearing-In Ceremony for Gaming Commissioners

On Thursday, July 27, the Ho-Chunk Nation held a swearing in ceremony for the newly selected gaming commissioners. The ceremony took place in the tribal office building near Black River Falls.

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Blessed Ground for New Adolescent Recovery and Wellness Center in Wisconsin

A ground blessing ceremony took place north of Tomahawk in Oneida County’s Town of Cassian on Monday, July 31. The event celebrated the coming together of Wisconsin’s tribal communities and regional partners to create the Adolescent Recovery and Wellness Center.

It’s a project nearly two decades in the making, led by the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC). The center will include a 36-bed residential facility supporting Native youth with living a healthy culturally grounded life.

Scholar and Native Rights Trailblazer Ada Deer Dies at 88

Ada Deer, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, died Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2023. She was the first woman to serve as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the Interior Department and the first woman chair of her tribe. On Nov. 15, 1994, the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution became an official document as it was endorsed by the President of the Ho-Chunk Nation JoAnn Jones, Vice President Wilfrid Cleveland, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Ada Deer, and members of the Ho-Chunk Legislature.

Highlighting Ho-Chunk Language Learners: John Lee

Language is history, language is life, and language is the cultural health of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Fewer than 30 first language or eminent speakers are left.

John Lee, Ho-Chunk Tribal Member, has been learning the Ho-Chunk language ever since he was a child. He was born in Maryland, and later moved

to Wisconsin and grew up in the City of Tomah.

Ho-Chunk Traditional Feast Ceremony Classes Available

Rock Greendeer, member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, is teaching a Ho-Chunk traditional feast ways class located in Tomah, Wisconsin Dells, and Black River Falls.

SEPTEMBER

2023 Address Verifications Should Be in Your Mailbox

The Ho-Chunk Nation 2023 Address Verification Forms (AVFs) from the Office of Enrollment have been mailed out. The annual AVFs are used for election purposes and to determine district residency.

Highlighting Ho-Chunk Language Learners: Randall Blackdeer II

Language is history, language is life, and language is the cultural health of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Fewer than 30 first language or eminent speakers are left.

Randall Blackdeer II (Naatisak), Veterans Service Officer at the Ho-Chunk Nation, started taking an interest in Ho-Chunk language when he was in head start with his teacher Irene Thundercloud.

Labor Day Weekend Fills with Ho-Chunk Nation Activities

The Ho-Chunk Nation (HCN) sponsored multiple outdoor activities that took place in and around Black River Falls over the 2023 Labor Day weekend. The weather ranged from the 90 to 104 degrees.

Neeshla Pow-Wow in Baraboo

The Ho-Chunk Nation hosted the 2023 Neeshla Pow-Wow on Aug. 25, 26, and 27 in Baraboo near the Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells casino.

Removal of District 3 Legislator Darren Brinegar

In a Special Legislative Meeting on Sept. 5, representatives passed Resolution 09-05-23 A. This resolution states, “that the Legislature, pursuant to its Constitutional authority, finds good cause to remove District 3 Legislator Darren Brinegar, under Article IX, Section 3 of the Ho-Chunk Nation; and... that the basis for the Legislature’s finding of good cause is that Rep. Brinegar did not comply with Section 10.e of the Ho-Chunk Nation Code of Ethics as it pertains to his receipt of an honorarium for his participation in the ITTF and simultaneous payment of his pay/salary; and...that the removal of Rep. Brinegar is effective September 6, 2023.”

The Annual Meeting of General Council Reaches Quorum for the First Time in Four Years

The Annual Meeting of the General Council met on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Kalahari Convention Center in Lake Delton, WI. The General Council retains the power to set policy for the Ho-Chunk Nation. The vote quorum of over 1,256 was met a little before 1:00 pm and business was conducted for the first time four years. Quorum is twenty percent of the eligible voters of the Nation. Registration recorded 1,457 members.

Highlighting Ho-Chunk Language Learners: John Stacy

Language is history, language is life, and language is the cultural health of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Fewer than 30 first language or eminent speakers are left.

John Stacy (44) (Coonake Huuk), Executive Administrative Officer, is from Black River Falls where he grew up on the Indian Mission with his parents Waldo and Lee Stacy. He is bear clan and began learning Ho-Chunk in his pre to early teenage years through the Cooka Orville Greendeer’s language camps at the Greendeer homestead.

OCTOBER

3rd Annual Central Wisconsin Indigenous Peoples’ Day Pow Wow & Native American Art Market Returns This Weekend

The Central Wisconsin Indigenous Peoples’ Day Pow Wow & Native American Art Market returns this weekend. The event is hosted by the Central Wisconsin Indigenous Peoples’ Day Committee (CWIPDC), a local non-profit organization. CWIPDC formed in 2019 to organize this annual pow wow in celebration of Indigenous Peoples’ Day, which is the second Monday of October. This event is currently the only Native American event in Marathon County.

Black River Falls Homecoming Parade Displays Tiger Pride

The School District of Black River Falls held their 2023 homecoming parade and festivities during the week of September 22. The students from the high school named Kaylee Youngthunder and Wyatt Madvig as the 2023 homecoming queen and king. Ho-Chunk athletes, students, cheerleaders, and band members joined the march down Main Street to show their Tiger pride. The Waaksik Wacek high school club and BRF Drum had a float.

Highlighting Ho-Chunk Language Learners: Dana Houghton

Language is history, language is life, and language is the cultural health of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Fewer than 30 first language or eminent speakers are left.

Dana Houghton (Ruucgei), Systems Technician, is from Black River Falls where she grew up on the Indian Mission with her parents Anna Taylor and Virgil Pettibone. She is from the pigeon clan and began learning Ho-Chunk from her younger siblings.

Wisconsin Dells musician: Marc LaMere

Paul Arentz- Content Editor/Writer, DriftlessNow.com

With the unofficial end of Summer in the Dells marked by Labor Day, if you went to any number of eating venues during the summer season, there is a good chance you caught musician Marc LaMere jamming out.

Ho-Chunk Nation Special Election – District 3 Results

The Special Election for District 3 from October 5, are as follows: Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-69, Andi Cloud-102, Timothy W. Hanson-12, Saresa Ryckman-39, and Jamie Decorah (write-in)-44.

Black Ash seed collection at Red Cliff

Black ash trees have been used by Hoocaks to weave baskets for generations. Within the last couple years, the Ho-Chunk Nation learned that there are no more usable black ash trees on our tribal lands. At a recent consultation with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Executive Director of Natural Resources Brandon Bleuer discussed the emerald ash borer (EAB) and the lack of the culturally significant resource. While DATCP didn’t have a solution, the Ho-Chunk Nation connected with the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to discuss an effort to collect and store seeds for an eventual reforestation.

Indigenous Peoples’ Day of Sauk County – October 9, 2023

In 1874 Chief Wakajaziga (Yellow Thunder) died near the Wisconsin River

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north of Baraboo. The location was not far from the forty acres he purchased in 1847 to try and avoid being deported again from his homeland. His spouse, Haakejanhejga (Always in the Back), had died a few years earlier, also in her homeland. Their desire and success to live and die in their homeland did not come easy. Decades earlier, after being forcibly deported multiple times, the pair walked back each time from west of the Mississippi to return to the land where their ancestors were buried. This remarkable Ho-Chunk couple and Indigenous connections to the land will be honored this year at Indigenous Peoples' Day of Sauk County 2023.

NOVEMBER

Hoocak (Ho-Chunk)/White Earth Ojibwe artist Christopher Sweet installs mural in Sauk City

Paul Arentz, DriftlessNow.com

The timing couldn't have been better for Hoocak (Ho-Chunk)/White Earth Ojibwe artist Christopher Sweet, as November is National Native American Heritage month.

Last week, the Great Sauk Trail received yet another mural along its route for people to enjoy while recreating. Sweet, who has yet to give a final title to his mural, is leaning towards giving it a name that portrays the connection people have to the land. Another mural made of ceramic tiles titled, "Earth, Sky, Water", was installed on the trail back in October of 2020. Created by Little Eagle Arts Foundation (LEAF), the collaborative effort was intended as a gift of appreciation and in recognition for the generous donation from the Hoocak Nation in finishing the trail.

Native American village found during a construction project in Oshkosh

A road construction project in Oshkosh, Wisconsin has led to the discovery of an ancient Native American village dating back between 900 A.D. and 1600 A.D. City officials say it is the largest discovery of artifacts in the area.

During the removal of the existing road bed, the historic village was found preserved under the roadbed in Menominee Park. Team members from the Cultural Resource Management program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are carefully digging beneath the roadway to preserve the archaeological history.

UW-Madison Unveils New Ho-Chunk Banners

The University of Madison held a celebration at Bascom Hill to unveil new Ho-Chunk Nation banners as part of the Our Shared Future initiative, the University's commitment to respect the tribal sovereignty of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Ho-Chunk Nation Special Election – District 3 Results

The October 27 Legislator-District 3 results are as follows: Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-103 and Andi Cloud - 85.

Clan Mother Event Promotes Ho-Chunk Cultural Teachings

On November 8, 2023, the Waaksik Ho I Pii Hirusja Kii (Preparing One's Self For A Good Life) grant sponsored the Ho-Chunk Nation's Clan Mother Event. The intention of the event was to promote Ho-Chunk cultural teachings to include information on kinships as it relates to family, clans and spiritual names. In addition, the Clan Mothers introduced themselves to include their Ho-Chunk name, which Clan they belonged to and their roles and responsibilities as Clan Mothers.

Fall Harvest Event

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Agriculture hosted the Fall Harvest Event on November 13 at the Neeshla Powwow grounds near Baraboo, Wisc. It was a great collaboration with UW-Madison Rural Partnerships Initiative and the Ho-Chunk Nation Health and Wellness Division.

Ho-Chunk Nation Museum and Cultural Center host Stitched Together: Celebrating Ho-Chunk Applique Opening Reception

The opening reception for the Stitched Together: Celebrating Ho-Chunk Applique took place on November 10 in Tomah, Wisc. The exhibit showcases the hard work and creativity of many Ho-Chunk artists. Ribbon work applique has a long tradition of storytelling.

Swearing-In Ceremony for Legislature District 3, Seat 3, Lambert Cleveland, Jr.

On Wednesday, November 22, the newly elected Representative Lambert Cleveland, Jr. was sworn into office at the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Office Building, near Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

DECEMBER

Chief Justice Todd R. Matha Published Article In Scholarly Law Journal

Chief Justice Todd R. Matha authored "An Unexpected Challenge: The Consequence of a Limited Appellate Caseload" which was published in The Journal of Appellate Practice and Process Winter 2023 issue (Volume 22, Issue 1).

Ho-Chunk win joint Emmy with 'Discover Wisconsin'

"Discover Wisconsin," the nation's longest-running travel and tourism TV series, and longtime partner Ho-Chunk Nation have won an Emmy Award at the 65th Chicago/Midwest Emmy Awards.

Under the category for Outstanding Achievement for Arts/Entertainment Short Form Content, the partners were recognized for their digital short. In the video, "Discover Wisconsin" features Ho-Chunk native artist Truman Lowe and some of his most significant works. Some of his former students and colleagues share their insights and personal experiences working with Lowe. Through their stories, viewers gain a deeper understanding of the profound impact Lowe had on the lives of so many.



HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE REGULAR MEETING TRIBAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Call to Order: President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Jon Greendeer-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. Rodney Rave-P
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P
Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-P
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-P
Vacant
Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
Rep. Danielle DeLong-VC
Rep. Robert Pilot-P
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah-VC
VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 10:03 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Rep. Paul Fox offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 9-0-3(Rep. Shelby Visintin, Rep. Danielle DeLong, Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-November 7, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the November 7, 2023 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Legislative Meeting-November 13, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the November 13, 2023 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports:

Gaming Commission Report

Gaming Commissioner Samantha Day was present via video conference and gave a brief update. A written report was received.

Reports:

EDA Update

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to accept the EDA Update. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Branch Monthly Reports:

Department of Heritage Preservation

A written report was received.

Rep. Stephanie Begay said she had been asking the past two months for an update from Veterans Affairs regarding having an update on the Veteran Affairs Board. President Jon Greendeer said the update would be received before the lunch break.

Department of Justice

A written report was received.

Department of Natural Resources

A written report was received.

Department of Agriculture

A written report was received.

Department of Treasury

A written report was received.

Department of Business

A written report was received.

Department of Education

A written report was received.

Department of Housing

A written report was received.

President Jon Greendeer mentioned there is a plan to schedule a spring symposium with Legislators, Emergency Assistance, Veterans Affairs, Housing, HHCDA, and the Office of the President to look at resources, stream line the costs, and to find out what the Ho-Chunk Nation resources are.

Department of Labor

A written report was received.

Unfinished Business:

No Unfinished Business.

New Business:

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Tribal Aging Unit Advisory Board Establishment and Organization Act

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle mentioned all the work that went into updating the amendments. The amendments had gone out for review for public comments, and Legislature provided opportunities for verbal comments. A document was drafted and redlined, providing all areas representation on the Elder Advisory Board.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 A**, Adoption of Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Tribal Aging Unit Advisory Board Establishment and Organization Act. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 8-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-3(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Stephanie Begay abstained because her father is a member of the TAU Board.

Resolution-Nomination of Representative Rodney Rave to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 B**, Nomination of Representative Rodney Rave to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Second by Rep.

Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 09-26-23K regarding Establishment and Funding of a Restricted Account for the Razing of Abandoned Homes and Structures

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 C**, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 09-26-23K regarding Establishment and Funding of a Restricted Account for the Razing of Abandoned Homes and Structures. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education Head Start Program to Apply for the FY24/25 Head Start Federal Grant Funding

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 D**, Authorization for the Department of Education Head Start Program to Apply for the FY24/25 Head Start Federal Grant Funding. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for a 105(l) Facility Lease Program Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the United States Department of the Interior Fiscal Year 2023/2024

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 E**,

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Authorization for a 105(1) Facility Lease Program Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the United States Department of the Interior Fiscal Year 2023/2024. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Appointment of Dean Brown, Department of Housing Representative to the Wazee Wastewater Commission

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 F**, Appointment of Dean Brown, Department of Housing Representative to the Wazee Wastewater Commission. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Appointment of Willette Greengrass, Department of Treasury Representative to the Wazee Wastewater Commission

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 G**, Appointment of Willette Greengrass, Department of Treasury Representative to the Wazee Wastewater Commission. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Cancellation of Lease #2483 on Lot #26 of Indian Heights #439 T 2104

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 H**, Cancellation of Lease #2483 on Lot #26 of Indian Heights #439 T 2104. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #26 of Indian Heights #439 T 2104 for Christopher Badboy

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 I**, Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #26 of Indian Heights #439 T 2104 for Christopher Badboy. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

2023 White House Tribal Nations Summit, December 6-7, Washington, D.C.

President Jon Greendeer will be attending the 2023 White House Tribal Nations Summit, December 6-7, Washington, D.C.

Red Cloud Park

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned Red Cloud Park has been a discussion of the District 2 La Crosse community for a while. The COVID-19 pandemic had hindered some of the movement in obtaining the transfer from the City of La Crosse to the Ho-Chunk Nation. The District 2 members would like to request the Nation restart negotiations/discussions with the City of La Crosse for the transfer of Red Cloud Park.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to schedule a briefing between the Legislative Branch and Executive Branch

at President Jon Greendeer's determination on who should attend, and for the meeting to occur within the next couple of weeks to set up a strategy for the transfer of Red Cloud Park. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Assistant III NEW Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the Executive Assistant III New Job Description. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-3(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr., Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Rodney Rave)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Heavy Equipment Mechanic-Housing REVISED Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the Revised Heavy Equipment Mechanic-Housing Job Description. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Senior Construction II REVISED Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the Senior Construction II Revised Job Description. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Finance Ordinance

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 J**, Adoption of Amendments to the Finance Ordinance. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Trust and Investment Committee Vacancy

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that there are still two vacancies on the Committee. The Legislature will seek to fill the vacancies once the Trust & Investment Committee provides their recommendations.

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Land Consolidation Code

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 K**, Adoption of Amendments to the Land Consolidation Code. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Confirmation of the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Personnel Board of Directors

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 L**, Confirmation of the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Personnel Board of Directors. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Tribal Transportation Facility Bridge Program

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution**

11-21-23 M, Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Tribal Transportation Facility Bridge Program. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Place the Sewage and Waste Water Use Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 N**, Authorization to Place the Sewage and Waste Water Use Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Place Amendments to the Divorce Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 O**, Authorization to Place Amendments to the Divorce Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Place the Custody and Placement Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 P**, Authorization to Place the Custody and Placement Ordinance out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

FY 22/23 HHCDA Fund Reconciliation for Veteran Supportive Housing and D3 Units

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer FY 22/23 HHCDA Fund Reconciliation for Veteran Supportive Housing and D3 Units request to the Finance Commission. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Acceptance of the Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency Indian Housing Plan for Fiscal Year 2024

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 Q**, Acceptance of the Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency Indian Housing Plan for Fiscal Year 2024. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Green Bay Area Rental Properties

Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Wittenberg Area Rental Properties

Resolution-Cancellation

of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Milwaukee Area Rental Properties

Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Twin Cities Area Rental Properties

Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Green Bay Area Rental Properties Restricted Account

Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Wittenberg Area Rental Properties Restricted Account

Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Milwaukee Area Rental Properties Restricted Account

Rep. Shelby Visintin mentioned there will be a future meeting with Legislators, HHCDA and Department of Housing regarding these properties. The tabled items will be placed back on the agenda after the meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to TABLE New Business:

Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Green Bay Area Rental Properties; Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Milwaukee Area Rental Properties; Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Wittenberg Area Rental Properties; Resolution-Cancellation of Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for Department of Housing Twin Cities Area Rental Properties; Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Green Bay Area Rental Properties Restricted Account; Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Wittenberg Area Rental Properties Restricted Account; Resolution-Closure of the Department of Housing Milwaukee Area Rental Properties Restricted Account. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Agriculture to Partner with the University of Wisconsin to Apply for the Wisconsin Rural Partnerships Institute Pre-Proposal Grant

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 11-21-23 R**, Authorization for the Department of Agriculture to Partner with the University of Wisconsin to Apply for the Wisconsin Rural Partnerships Institute Pre-Proposal Grant. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

DI Howasa – November 14, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Business the **MOTION** by Bruce LaMere to have the elder rates reinstated with prices being \$59.00 per night at all casino/hotel at HCG-Wittenberg, Wisconsin Dells and Black River Falls. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

DI Niioxawani – November 8, 2023

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Kelly Jo Funmaker to request Department of Education staff members attend the next BRF School District Board Meeting to find out with the current situation of our children's education scores.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Business, and Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Maxine Kolner to request \$5,000 to hold a Pow-wow in February 2024 for the BRF Area. The **MOTION** is amended to include the funding be provided by the Department of Business Pepsi Fund. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Housing, and HHCDA the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to have Department of Housing/HHCDA research into providing surveillance camera for tribal members that live within our community lands. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of General Council the **MOTION** by Kelly Jo Funmaker to have the Office of General Council provide the individual cashier, be paid for their service in the next General Council 2024 budget. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Business, Department of Housing, TAU and Treasury the **MOTION** by Rep. Nathaniel Longtail to debar or black list the Olympic Contract Company from the HCN vendor list to do work with the Nation. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Office of the President and Heritage Preservation the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to have Executive Director Clayton Winneshiek address his Enrollment staff to return correspondence with Tribal Members questions and concerns within four hours of the receiving the correspondence. Second by Vice President

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Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

1st Executive Session

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to move to Executive Session. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

President Jon Greendeer recused himself from the Executive Session.

The meeting moved to 1st Executive Session at 11:10 a.m.

Vice President Karena Thundercloud chaired the 1st Executive Session.

The Executive Session recessed for lunch at 11:52 a.m. until 1:20 p.m.

The Vice President called the meeting 1st Executive Session to order at 1:21 p.m. Quorum is established at 1:22 p.m.

Rep. Robert Pilot is online at 1:26 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 2:55 p.m.

President Jon Greendeer returned to chair the meeting.

District Meetings: (Continued)

D2 Hinukwas– November 13, 2023

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn to support the concept of the garden and sculpture proposal provided by the La Crosse International Friendship Indigenous Garden.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board the **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn to nominate and accept Marsha Smith to the Election Board Delegate. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn to nominate and accept Ethel Funmaker as the Alternate for the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Administration and Office of the President the **MOTION** by Melanie Stacy to have an official feasibility report from a licensed contractor for the Three Rivers Building in La Crosse. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Twelve Clans and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Melanie Stacy to look into, if 12 Clans are still allowing shareholders have the ability to proxy their vote. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D2 Ho'uni Xununik –

November 14, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Cannabis Workgroup the **MOTION** by Rebecca Nambo to support the Ho-Chunk Nation continuing exploring cannabis. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board the **MOTION** by Rachel Winneshiek to nominate and accept Myra Jo Price as Delegate to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board the **MOTION** by Roberta Decorah to nominate and accept Deana Mitch as the Alternate Delegate to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Legislative Legal, and for Kijire Naagu to be place on the Legislative agenda regarding the **MOTION** by Roberta Decorah for Legislative Legal to work on a MOU between Kijire Naagu and the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 10-0-2(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Marie Lewis to have matching funds for Head Starts next two fundraisers. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Business the **MOTION** by Roberta Decorah to have someone from the Business Department to attend the next Tomah area meeting. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Administration the **MOTION** by Roberta Decorah to have someone look into the buildings structures upkeep and maintenance located at Whirling Thunder. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Legislative Racism Taskforce and to the next Legislative Session the **MOTION** by Carole Bedeau to have the Legislators look into the MOU with the Black River Falls School District that pertains directly to racism. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 10-0-2(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin

White Eagle to refer to Legislative Racism Taskforce and to the next Legislative Session the **MOTION** by Deana Mitch to have the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature write a letter to the Black River Falls School District for their response specifically stating how they're going to handle the racism within their school district. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Transportation for consideration the **MOTION** by Rep. Deana Mitch to have the Transportation Building named after former employee Patrick Reardon. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include Legislature in the referral. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Stephanie Begay would like it noted, her abstentions were due to motions made by family members.

Vice President Karena Thundercloud is out of the room at 3:07 p.m.

D2 Hoxaikeja/Hoguceja/ Nižhakisuc – November 15, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board the **MOTION** by Cynthia Tack to nominate and accept Weta Montelongo for Election Board Delegate. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Justice and Election Board the **MOTION** by Theresa Day to nominate and accept Barb Funmaker for Alternate for the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to HHCD, Department of Housing and Office of the President the **MOTION** by Theresa Day that methamphetamine residue test be done quarterly with HHCD and Tribal Housing rental properties from the start of the lease to the end of the lease by tenant. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Attorney General, Ho-Chunk Nation Chief of Police and Office of the President the **MOTION** by Cynthia Tack to have all the County police reports that are provided to the Ho-Chunk Nation Chief of Police that pertain to rental properties of HHCD and the Department of Housing be provided to for departments. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Vice President Karena Thundercloud returned to the meeting at 3:11 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Business and Office of the

President the **MOTION** by Lucinda Lonetree to have the EDOB attend the December Area Meeting at the Mauston community building. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Cynthia Tack to have matching funds for the \$2,000 that has already been raised for the Christmas Party payable to Joyce Warner with reconciliation. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Treasury, Office of the President and Community Health the **MOTION** by Roberta Funmaker to have all contract workers be paid on a weekly basis to prevent financial hardship, and for them to have the option for direct deposit. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Pac cinak – November 13, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to HHCD the **MOTION** by Lanette Walker to have HHCD work with Wittenberg area to construct shelter over the fireplace of the Siga Center. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-1(Rep. Phyllis Smoke) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Legislature, Legislative Counsel and Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Lanette Walker to have Office of General Council receive funding and support for an attorney as needed for next fiscal year. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tee hoikšek – November 14, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Enrollment Department and Office of the President the **MOTION** by Elizabeth Crow for enrollment to come to the Green Branch Office for the whole day. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tejop – November 15, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Office of the President and Treasury the **MOTION** by Chelsea Thompson for Treasury to look into upgrading the Rapid Card or vendor adding chip, tap and withdrawal features so it is compatible with the newest technology. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Business Fund and Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Chelsea Thompson requesting funding of \$2,100 for the Holiday Powwow Gathering. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-

White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Health and Department of Social Services the **MOTION** by Chelsea Thompson for Behavioral Health to address funding issue for rehabilitation services for alcoholism. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Cexhaci – November 16, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Business and Department of Agriculture the **MOTION** by Janice Pesek for the RV Park to the Mortenson property across the road from the casino. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Legislative Legal and TAU the **MOTION** by Ona Garvin for TAU to follow the requirements that are in the grant they received and to waive the three bid process. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Office of the President and Heritage Preservation the **MOTION** by Janice Pesek to wait for Heritage Preservation to find land for the Ho-Chunk Nation Cemetery in Nekoosa. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D4 Guušgonak – November 13, 2023

No Motions made.

D4 Maanico Horuzra – November 16, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Rosetta Hunt to donate \$20,000 for the All Nation's Indian Church for building maintenance and upkeep from Charitable Contributions. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 5-7(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle, Rep. Phyllis Smoke, Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Rodney Rave, Rep. Shelby Visintin)-0 **MOTION DEFEATED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Libby Fairchild to have Rev. Marlene Helgemo plaque placed outside the door.

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to Legislature the **MOTION** by Tonia Lowe to have all tribal members be allowed to provide input/ additional comments on Enrollment Code Workgroup regarding the Blood Quantum resolution made at General Council. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. **SECOND IS WITHDRAWN.** Second by Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah 7-4(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Rodney Rave, Rep. *Continued on Page 13*

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Phyllis Smoke)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Sandra Garzon to request \$5,000 for a holiday event from the District 4 Community Improvement Fund for the December 2023 Twin Cities District meeting that will be held at the All Nation's Indian Church. **MOTION** Amended to include reconciliation after the event. Second by Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 5, 2023**

Call to Order: Vice President Karena Thundercloud called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Jon Greendeer-EX
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. Rodney Rave-P
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-EX
Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-P
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P
Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
Rep. Danielle DeLong-EX
Rep. Robert Pilot-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah-VC

VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum:
Quorum is established at 10:01 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Rep. Paul Fox offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

**Legislative Meeting-
November 21, 2023**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the November 21, 2023 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-1(Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports:

**Finance Commission-
December 1, 2023**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the December 1, 2023 Finance Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 10-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin)

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Karen Wauguato request funding in the amount of \$5,830.00 for studying abroad next summer in Japan for culinary arts. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 11-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

2nd Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Intergovernmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal

MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Approval of True Increase to Resolution 06-13-23 X Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation General Council Branch Budget Bill for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 A**, Approval of True Increase to Resolution 06-13-23 X Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation General Council Branch Budget Bill for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Establishment of Legislative Workgroup to Review the Ho-Chunk Nation Revenue Allocation Plan

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 B**, Establishment of Legislative Workgroup to Review the Ho-Chunk Nation Revenue Allocation Plan. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Closure of Road Construction Account

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 C**, Closure of Road Construction Account. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reports:

Enrollment Report

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Enrollment Report. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ho-Chunk Transportation

A written report was received

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to approve the Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority report. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to accept the Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority report. Second concurs. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Branch Monthly Reports:

Department of Administration
A written report was received.

Department of Health
A written report was received.

Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting moved to 2nd Executive Session at 3:28 p.m.

Rep. Stephanie Begay is excused for the remainder of the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open

Hosto Pii Hoci

A written report was received.

Department of Personnel; Insurance

A written report was received.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to request that the Insurance Division prepare an RFP for the 3rd party Insurance Consultant Services, within the next 30 days, to be posted publicly on the Nation's website, and to provide copy to the Legislature. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Department of Social Services
A written report was received.

Elder Advisory Board

A written report was received.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Mary Whitegull to have written report at the next EAB Meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Business the **MOTION** by Nela Stacy to request Robert Mudd to attend the next EAB Meeting regarding the Elder Hotel Rate. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

No Unfinished Business.

New Business:

Resolution-National Congress of American Indians Tribal Membership Delegate-Alternate Designation

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 D**, National Congress of American Indians Tribal Membership Delegate-Alternate Designation. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 07-05-23 B Ho-Chunk Signature Authority

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 E**, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 07-05-23 B, Ho-Chunk Signature Authority. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Appointment of Rep. Rodney Rave to Wisconsin Department of

Session 5:41 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Robert Pilot and Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah were not online during the vote.*

Release to Open Session:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request Legal to reach out to Wisconsin Department of Transportation liaison to inquiry about the dual-language signs on behalf of the Legislature, and release

Transportation Inter-Tribal Taskforce

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 F**, Appointment of Rep. Rodney Rave to Wisconsin Department of Transportation Inter-Tribal Taskforce. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Enter into the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency and the Social Security Administration

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 G**, Authorization to Enter into the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency and the Social Security Administration. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Enter into an Affiliation Agreement with University of Alabama at Birmingham

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 H**, Authorization for the Health Department to Enter into an Affiliation Agreement with University of Alabama at Birmingham. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Family Healing Camp 2024

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 I**, Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Family Healing Camp 2024. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2024 Tribal Priority Allocations

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 J**, Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2024 Tribal Priority Allocations. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consideration of Quick Passage to the Ho-Chunk Nation Employment Relations Act Regarding Supplemental Pay

this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to December 5, 2023 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah was not online during the vote.*

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay for Consideration of Quick Passage to the Ho-Chunk Nation Employment Relations Act Regarding Supplemental Pay. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Quick Passage Procedure to Amend the Ho-Chunk Nation Employment Relations Act Regarding Supplemental Pay

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 K**, Quick Passage Procedure to Amend the Ho-Chunk Nation Employment Relations Act Regarding Supplemental Pay. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Accounting Systems Administrator REVISED Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the Accounting Systems Administrator Revised Job Description. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Utilities Coordinator REVISED Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Robert Pilot to approve the Utilities Coordinator Revised Job Description.

Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include the correction changing Finance Committee to Finance Commission. Second concurs. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Proclamation Addressing and Opposing the Decriminalization of Peyote

Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah mentioned that this resolution is to protect the holy sacrament of peyote. The use of peyote has been healing the Ho-Chunk people for a long time and must be protected.

MOTION by Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 L**, Proclamation Addressing and Opposing the Decriminalization of Peyote. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Police Department to Apply for the Wisconsin 2024 Tribal Law Enforcement Grant Application

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MOTION by Rep. Robert Pilot to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 M**, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Police Department to Apply for the Wisconsin 2024 Tribal Law Enforcement Grant Application. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Registration of Hosto Pii Hoci as a Recovery Residence Facility with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-05-23 N**, Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Registration of Hosto Pii Hoci as a Recovery Residence Facility with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dishwasher REVISED Job Description

Fine Dining Busser NEW Job Description

Fine Dining Host NEW Job Description

Fine Dining Line Cook NEW Job Description

Fine Dining Server NEW Job Description

Fine Dining Sous Chef NEW Job Description

Fine Dining Restaurant Manager NEW Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to approve the Dishwasher Revised Job Description; Fine Dining Busser New Job Description; Fine Dining Host New Job Description; Fine Dining Line Cook New Job Description; Fine Dining Server New Job Description; Fine Dining Sous Chef New Job Description; Fine Dining Restaurant Manager New Job Description. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOU with Kijjire Naagu (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion)

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to request Legislative Legal to work on an MOU with Kijjire Naagu and the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOU with Black River Falls School District that pertains directly to racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion)

Request for Letter to Black River Falls School District for their response on how they will be addressing racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion)

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to TABLE New Business: W. MOU with Black River Falls School District that pertains directly to racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion); New Business: X. Request for Letter to Black River Falls School District for their response on how they will be addressing racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion) until after Executive Session. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

D3 Tešišik – November 16, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Business the MOTION by Hazel Guerrero to bring back the elder discount at our Ho-Chunk hotels like it was before. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Department of Business Pepsi Fund the MOTION by Hazel Guerrero to request \$3,500 for the Christmas Event in Milwaukee from the District 3 Community Improvement Fund. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Kristin White Eagle and Rep. Shelby Visintin were excused for the remainder of the meeting to attend and provide testimony regarding Ho-Chunk Nation World War II Code Talkers Memorial Highway at the State Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin.

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:51 a.m.

The Executive Session recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Vice President Karena Thundercloud called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Quorum is established at 12:31 p.m.

Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. arrived to the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 2:00 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken

in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business: (Continued)

MOU with Black River Falls School District that pertains directly to racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion)

Request for Letter to Black River Falls School District for their response on how they will be addressing racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion)

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to TABLE New Business: W. MOU with Black River Falls School District that pertains directly to racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion); New Business: X. Request for Letter to Black River Falls School District for their response on how they will be addressing racism (November 14, 2023 District 2 Tomah Motion) Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to December 19, 2023 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.



STRONGHEARTS
Native Helpline

Domestic violence is not a Native American tradition

Safe | Confidential | Anonymous | 24/7

For culturally appropriate support and advocacy, call or text **1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)** or chat online at **strongheartshelpline.org**

WIN A SHARE OF \$24,000 CASH & REWARDS PLAY!

CASHING Out 2023

NOW - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
(EXCEPT TUESDAYS)

HOURLY HOT SEAT DRAWINGS | 12PM - 11PM | \$223 REWARDS PLAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

HOURLY HOT SEAT DRAWINGS | 12PM - 8PM | \$223 REWARDS PLAY

GRAND PRIZE DRAWINGS | 9PM - MIDNIGHT | 6 WINNERS EVERY HOUR

3 WINNERS | \$223 REWARDS PLAY | 3 WINNERS | \$2023 CASH

See www.ho-chunkgaming.com/nekoosa for more details.

Happy New Year's 2024 NEW YEARS EVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

FIREWORKS | 6:30PM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | 8PM

FREE PARTY FAVORS | 10:30PM
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

CHAMPAGNE FOUNTAIN | 11AM - MIDNIGHT



HO-CHUNK  GAMING
BLACK RIVER FALLS

Countdown To 2024

DECEMBER 31, 2023

2024 LUCKY SHOT \$5.7K DRAWING | 8PM - 12AM

(2) \$100RP (2) \$250RP (2) \$500 CASH (2) \$1000 CASH (1) \$2024 CASH

NYE BINGO BASH | \$5K CASH DRAWING

(5) \$1000 CASH WINNERS | DOORS OPEN AT 4PM

FREE LIVE MUSIC BY GEN-X JUKEBOX

CASINO STAGE ENTERTAINMENT | 9PM - 1AM