



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



HOCAK WORAK

Vol. XXXVIII, Issue 1

Hųc wiconį ną wira | First Bear Moon

January 12, 2024



**Ho-Chunk Nation Attorney
General Opinion Regarding
Proposed Amendment to the
Constitution of the Ho-Chunk
Nation**

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**Niioxawani Community Against
Drugs and Alcohol Powwow
Feb. 24**

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Financial Literacy Program Transitions into New Platform

Ardith Van Riper
Editor

On January 1, 2024, the Financial Literacy Program moved into a new and improved online platform. The Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department hosted a launch event at the Tribal Office Building on January 4. Those in attendance were able to experience the new platform and mobile app.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Financial Literacy Program provides an introduction to financial topics that helps prepare Ho-Chunk enrolled high school juniors and graduating seniors, and those enrolled members who have not yet received their trust funds for a successful financial future. The goal of the proactive approach is to empower our enrolled members to make knowledgeable choices with their finances as adults.

Lance Long was the master of ceremonies. The Ho-Chunk Singers rendered honor songs.

Traditional Chief Clayton Winneshiek talked to the creator in the Ho-Chunk language. Then, he said, "We have some people here that are working with our youth that are going to school. We as Ho-

Chunk people, we put our youth in the forefront. This group that put this together, Michelle (Cloud) I want to thank you for asking me to be a part of this."

He went on to say, "We want our youth to succeed. We want them to walk a good road. In this time, in the Ho-Chunk Nation, when our kids finish school they get a large amount of money. What these guys are doing here is looking at our youth and hope they are doing something good, that they are on a good path, that they spend this money wisely."

Then, Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer provided an initial welcome in the Ho-Chunk language. Then, he went on to say, "I want to thank a lot of people, the Education Department under the leadership of Ryan Crain. Michelle (Cloud), as you know, seems to just smash every time she does something and I think it's important to give Michelle a big round of applause for the work that she does."

"I also want to add that when you do things here, you never do it alone. It isn't Michelle by herself, she's got a team of people that she depends on. Whether it is for work or knowledge,

transportation, it's all these little things."

President Greendeer went on to add, "The education that you are receiving to manage your finances is the best we can do today."

Executive Director of Education Ryan Crain was one of the keynote speakers.

Izaak Ortiz, Financial Representative from Northwestern Mutual shared his financial journey.

Joe Saari, Founder and Chairman, Financial Fitness Group expressed some words.

Those in attendance were invited to the cafeteria to experience the new platform and mobile app launch.

The launch concluded with cake and refreshments. The Ho-Chunk Singers rendered the traveling song.



Hoocąk Hit'et'era Naąwą: Ho-Chunk Language in Song

Stevens Point, WI and the surrounding areas are the ancestral lands of the Ho-Chunk Nation. In recognition of an endangered language, the Stevens Point Area Senior High School Concert Choir has been learning a song cycle in the Ho-Chunk language, and will be performing it in a concert scheduled for March 12, 2024 in the SPASH auditorium at 7:30 PM. We are inviting members of the Ho-Chunk Nation and other First Nations of WI to be in attendance.

The Earth Still Speaks an original cross-cultural musical composition in Ho-Chunk and English. SPASH Choir Director and Composer, Luke Adsit, wrote the music and English lyrics for the song cycle and worked closely with Allen Cloud, Ho-Chunk elder. During the fall of 2019, Allen shared invaluable insight about the Ho-Chunk language and culture, which made it possible for the Ho-Chunk language to be incorporated into the song lyrics. It was an amazing learning experience to work through words and translations because of

the differences between English and Ho-Chunk. There are some words in English that simply do not exist in Ho-Chunk. When this happened, Allen worked to find the most similar meaning or idea in Ho-Chunk. This allowed him to draw from his extensive knowledge and understanding of the Ho-Chunk language that he has been hearing and learning since birth.

The song cycle composition project was written in the fall of 2019 and previously taught to students at PJ Jacobs Junior High, though it was unable to be performed due to the pandemic. SPASH Concert Choir's performance will be the first time it is performed for a public audience. The song cycle was the basis for Adsit's master's thesis through the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. Luke Adsit (2020) The Pedagogical Value of Learning a Musical Work in an Endangered Language: Ho-Chunk can be found at MINDS@UW website with the link below. <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1793/80381>

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Want something special placed in the Hockak 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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any address changes or corrections

Latest Class of Challenge Academy Cadets Step into Future

Thomas Beckman BARABOO, Wis. — With a festive holiday atmosphere, the Wisconsin Challenge Academy celebrated the graduation of its 51st class during a Dec. 16 ceremony at Baraboo High School. The graduating class included 98 cadets from 33 counties.

This fall, the Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy celebrated 25 years of helping young adults in jeopardy of not graduating high school learn the values, skills, education and self-discipline to successfully transition to adulthood. The Challenge Academy is a free, voluntary program with two phases — a 22-week residential phase at its Fort McCoy, Wisconsin campus, and a 12-month post-residential phase where cadets, with the guidance of a mentor, puts their action plan into effect.

Vanessa Torres attended the ceremony to celebrate the graduation of her sister, Thanya Torres-Garcia, from the Challenge Academy.

“My sister struggled with motivating herself before enrolling in the Challenge Academy,” Torres said. “I saw a completely different person when she came home for Thanksgiving. Our conversations were open, honest and positive about her new direction in life. I could see that the Challenge Academy was teaching her how to handle obstacles and move forward mentally and physically toward her goals. We are so proud of her.”

Cadets are immersed in a highly structured environment at Fort McCoy. During their residence at the Challenge Academy, cadets work outside their comfort zones to develop their physical and mental capacities, their abilities to work with peers and colleagues, and their skills to resolve challenges and problems.

Cadets typically start their highly structured days at 5:20 a.m. and end at 9 p.m. Outside distractions such as TV, cell phones, video games and the internet are eliminated to help

cadets focus on their academic and personal objectives.

Keynote speaker Chief Master Sgt. of the National Guard Tony Whitehead, senior enlisted advisor to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, encouraged the cadets to embrace their new direction in life.

“You decided that who you were was not who you wanted to be, because you recognized your own potential,” Whitehead said. “You wanted more from life, and it required courage and strength to raise your hand and ask for help. Not many people do that, and I applaud you. Today you are surrounded by family and friends, not only to celebrate your incredible transformation, but to support and encourage you as you begin this next chapter in your life.”


Joni Mathews, Wisconsin Challenge Academy director, added words of encouragement for the families in attendance.

“As your daughters and sons come home to you, think



about how you can create an environment that will help them grow and evolve,” Mathews said. “The Challenge Academy is only the first step in their transformation. They return to you having learned that discipline, integrity, courage and commitment are the foundation to making the right choices in life. Be there to support them when they stumble. Pick them up and let them show you their resilience

and accountability.” Several cadets were recognized during the ceremony for their achievements over the past few months: Overall Physical Fitness, Devin Skenandore-James of Keshana, Wisconsin; Most Improved Physical Fitness, Marissa Silbaugh of Janesville, Wisconsin; Most Responsible Follower, Lane Villareal of Kenosha, *Continued on Page 7*



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK RIVER FALLS
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA
January 15, 2024
6:00 p.m.

District Office
301 N. 4th Street

The Board will convene in Open Session at approximately 6:00 p.m. for the regular monthly meeting. The Board operates under Robert’s Rules of Order for Small Assembly.
Our VISION: In the School District of Black River Falls we create an individualized path to future success for every student through the consistent practices of dedicated educators and meaningful partnerships with families and our community.

The meeting will be livestreamed via the School District YouTube channel. You may click this link to view it: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SDofBRF/live>, or you may go to www.brf.org and open the tab labeled Live Streaming/Live Stream Board Meetings.

6.2 Employment Recommendations

07. Student Success:
All students will increase their achievement and attain annual personal growth goals in order to reach their highest potential.

7.1 Student Success Report
7.2 504 Procedures

08. Finance & Facilities
We ensure efficient, innovative, and effective use of District resources to promote collaboration and inspire excellence in teaching and learning.

8.1 Monthly Expenditures
8.2 Bus Bids
8.3 Policy Committee Board Report
8.3.1 Second Reading of Policies: 443.7 Student Use of Laser Light Devices, 420.1 Student Withdrawal and Dismissal, 443.3 Student Use of Tobacco and Related Products, 771 Use of Copyrighted Materials, 173 Closed Sessions
8.4 Building Maintenance Projects 24-25

09. Reports

9.1 Meeting Minutes
9.2 District Administrators Report
9.3 WASB/Other
9.4 Conference/Workshop Attendance
9.5 School Board Connection Opportunities

10. The School Board will adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (l) (c) for the purpose of discussing Administrative Contract Renewals, Wis. Stats. 19.85 (l) (c).

Roll Call: Mary Jo Rozmenoski____, Mary Jo Radcliffe____, Nick Helstad____, Tom Epps____, Jenette Simonson____, Iftikhar Memon____, Brad Dobbs____

11. Future Agenda Item Identification

12. Adjournment

“This is the initial draft of the agenda sent to the media 10 days prior to the board meeting. Changes may occur to this draft. Please review the most up-to-date copy of the agenda on the District’s web-site at www.brf.org.”

Continued from Page 1
There are four movements of the song cycle with each movement having a different meaning and feeling, yet they are all connected to one another. Just as people are all different yet connected to one another more than we realize. The Earth Still Speaks
I. Hanaxgu we day : Listen (you all) The wind tells a story, you can hear it if you try. It brings the rain and thunder, the life-giving water. Open your heart, open your mind. You will find that if you just listen you will go further than before. And share

what is given without ever taking more. You’re bound to learn some lessons if you just open up the door and listen, just listen. Mother Earth is speaking, listen. (Managre he tete nunk sha na, Hanaxgu we day)
II. Hiperes : Learn. Learn from your elders, and from each other. Learn from nature, knowledge is power. (Wonk shick xha tay-rah jah-goo eye dee shu-nu-rah. Managre hiperes jahwee skate. Hiperes-rah mah schu wa-oo nunk sha na.)
III. Kiruce : Share Share lessons with others.

Share with those in need. Time spent sharing is not lost. (Kiruce Ha-oo-wee Wah-doo geez-ra woh-goo. Woke-oo nah-kay ha nix-jate)
IV. He sto he na zhink scha wete : Unite We are all different. We’re all the same. Stronger together than when we divide.
Unite. (Hanach hee jah wah-oo-nug-wete. Hanach hee kee-skeh wah-oo-nug-wete. Hee-stow hee mice-schunk scha-wete. Hee-stow hee nah-zhink scha-wete.)
The teaching and performance of this cross-cultural musical work will

help students and audience members learn more about Wisconsin First Nations and to recognize that Native American people do exist in our country and community. It will also help students gain language awareness of Ho-Chunk and traditional Native American values, learn what an endangered language is, and how the continuation of that language is progressing. This performance will be very beneficial to people who have little or no knowledge of the Ho-Chunk language and culture, and is meant to bring minds together, strengthen

this and other communities, and help raise enthusiasm and respect for different cultures, in this case the Ho-Chunk. Special thanks to: Allen Cloud, Ho-Chunk elder, Julia Goodbear, and the Ho-Chunk Nation language department. Jon Greendeer, Ho-Chunk President has been invited to give a greeting and welcome. Ho-Chunk singers have also been invited to perform one song of the Ho-Chunk language and one in English. Keep the date: 3/12/24, 7:30 PM, SPASH Auditorium, March High School Choir Concert.

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health




AT-HOME COVID TEST EXPIRATION DATES EXTENDED!

FDA extended expiration dates. Check your lot # to see updated dates.

Scan this QR code for updated expiration dates

Tests from the Health Department are lot #214075 and are extended to 5/1/2024

Call our pharmacies to request COVID-19 home tests
HHCC 715-284-9851
HOW 608-355-1240

HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
 DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Are you looking for a safe way to store your firearms?
 Guns should be stored locked, unloaded, and separate from ammo.

Contact Public Health for a free gun lock and/or cabinet lock.
 715.284.9851
 x35016 or x35042

Or scan the QR code to find a law enforcement agency near you for a free safety kit.





Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

Fentanyl is an opioid that can be safely used to treat severe pain when taken as prescribed by a doctor. When made illegally and added to illicit drugs it becomes dangerous and even fatal. You can check drugs for fentanyl with test strips.

Xylazine or "tranq" is a non-opioid tranquilizer that is also being added to illicit drugs and can result in death.

NARCAN is a nasal spray used to reverse opioid overdose. NARCAN does not work on non-opioid drugs like tranq. When in doubt give NARCAN and call 911.

To request fentanyl test strips and NARCAN call or text the Behavioral Health staff below.

Tomah & Black River Falls
 Randeem Decorah 715.299.4531

Wisconsin Dells
 Dani Miller 608.963.2653

Wittenberg
 Myrna Littlewolf 715.326.5126

All Areas
 Henrietta Funmaker (24/7) 715.299.5172

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be January 19th which will be published on January 26th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

2024 Public Access Lands Atlas Now Available

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced the 2024 Public Access Lands Atlas is now available for purchase.

From state natural areas to state trails, lakeshores to rivers, Wisconsin has a wealth of public lands for everyone to enjoy. Updated every two years, the Public Access Lands Atlas can be purchased from the University of Wisconsin Bookstore for \$104.95.

The Atlas contains 441 maps covering statewide public lands, roads and waterways. These maps make it easy to locate a state park, county forest or lake for a hike, hunting or fishing outing.

Atlas information and maps

can also be accessed by:

- DVD (\$5.95)
- Individual county booklets (\$29.95)
- Downloadable county PDF maps (free)
- Public Access Land online

mapping application (free)

Visit the DNR's Public Access Lands webpage to learn more, download maps or launch the online mapping application.



The 2024 Public Access Lands Atlas is now available for purchase at the University of Wisconsin Bookstore. / Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

January is Radon Awareness Month

Have you had your home tested for radon before? Homes with high levels of radon have been found in every state. In fact, radon levels can vary greatly from home to home; even levels next door can be very different.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas released in rock, soil and water that can build up to dangerous levels inside any home; this means new and old homes, well-sealed and drafty homes, and homes with or without a basement. Radon gas is odorless and invisible and the only way to know if your home has a radon problem is to test for it.

Breathing radon can increase your risk of lung cancer. Radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among people who do not smoke. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer for people who do. The EPA estimates that radon causes more than 20,000 deaths from lung cancer each year in the U.S. If you smoke and your home has a high radon level, your risk of lung cancer can increase even more.

For more information regarding radon, contact the HCN Division of Environmental Health.

Matt Malimanek
 Tribal Air Quality Specialist
 715-284-9851 Ext. 35054



The HCN Division of Environmental Health uses Radon Test-Kits, like the one pictured, to test Tribal Member's Homes

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.

HOCOK WORAK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

• **PHONE:** (800) 472-3089

• **FAX:** (715) 284-7852

EMAIL: newsletter@ho-chunk.com

• **ONLINE:** www.ho-chunknation.com

www.hocakworak.com

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





HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



MEETING NOTICE HEALTH ACCREDITATION BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Eileen Decorah Conference Room

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Virtual Option is also available via WebEx

Please contact Lorinda Bird for Virtual meeting information.

715-284-9851 ext. 35351

Email: Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness
52845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913
Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643

MEETING NOTICE



Trust & Investment Committee

Regular Monthly Meeting

Thursday, January 18th, 2024

4:30pm – 6:30pm

Webex

For call-in Information, email:
CrystalDeschinny@ho-chunk.com

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE



LA CROSSE AREA | THREE RIVERS HOUSE

724 Main Street, La Crosse, WI

MONDAY, January 15th, 2024 6:00PM

IN PERSON

TOMAH AREA | BLUE WING COMMUNITY BUILDING

28370 Epinal Avenue, Tomah, WI

TUESDAY, January 16th, 2024 6:00PM

IN PERSON

BARABOO/WI DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | House of Wellness

S2845 White Eagle Rd, Baraboo, WI

WEDNESDAY, January 17th, 2024 6:00PM

IN PERSON/WebEx

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com (608) 408-0339

REP. KRISTIN K. WHITE EAGLE kristin.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com (608) 477-3007

REP. ROBERT FUNMAKER robert.funmaker@ho-chunk.com (608) 408-7723

LEGISLATIVE AIDE, Damian Thundercloud damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com (800) 294-9343, Ext. 11151

POSTED 1/02/2024



HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTICE FEBRUARY 2, 2023 9:00 A.M.

Ho-Chunk Nation Community Health
W 9850 Airport Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615



Ho-Chunk Nation • Community Health Department



January Foot Clinic

Clip/file nails, dremel as necessary

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Tomah Tribal Aging Unit • 1/16

358 Eos Road, Tomah
(608) 372-5202

Madison Branch Office • 1/23

4724 Tradewinds Pkwy, Madison
(608) 277-9964

La Crosse Three Rivers House • 1/23

724 Main Street, La Crosse
(608) 783-6025

Nekoosa Health Office • 1/25

1021 County Road G, Nekoosa
(715) 886-5444

Wittenberg Tribal Aging Unit • 1/29 & 1/30

W17956 Witt-Birn Townline Road, Wittenberg
(715) 253-2382

Please call local contact to schedule an appointment or for more information.

1/24 MH

DISTRICT 3 AREA MEETING NOTICE



WITTENBERG | MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2024 | 6:00 PM

GREEN BAY | TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024 | 6:00 PM

MADISON | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 | 6:00 PM

WI RAPIDS | THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024 | 5:30 PM

MILWAUKEE | FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2024 | 6:00 PM

FOR WEBEX INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

REP. LAMBERT CLEVELAND lambert.cleveland@ho-chunk.com (715) 896-5166

REP. SARAH LEMIEUX sarah.lemieux@ho-chunk.com (715) 315-8071

REP. SHELBY VISINTIN shelby.visintin@ho-chunk.com (715) 896-9323

AIDE BELLA BLACKDEER isabella.blackdeer@ho-chunk.com (715) 284-9343 x11313




POSTED 12/18/2023


January is National Radon Action Month

Radon is an odorless, radioactive gas that occurs naturally in the ground. This gas can enter buildings through the foundation. Radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Has your home been tested for radon?

For more information on radon and how to get your home tested contact Matthew.Malimanek@ho-chunk.com



Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health



created 1.3.2024RM


HO-CHUNK NATION
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH


HOW DID WE DO?

If you visited us during January...

Let us know how we did by taking the quick survey below!

Including in-person, telephone, and virtual visits or services






Scan me to take the survey online!


For more information, visit us:

Online
health.ho-chunk.com

In-person
Full services available at
Ho-Chunk Health Care Center 715-284-9851
House of Wellness 608-355-1240



WAŽA HIGIRAWI
(WE CARE)



JANUARY 2024

HO-CHUNK NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00AM - 11:45PM
1:00PM - 3:45 PM



SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
PHONE: 715-284-7461 EXT. 35038

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY	2 OPEN BRF	3 WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30AM-12:30PM	4 OPEN BRF	5 OPEN BRF
8 OPEN BRF	9 OPEN BRF	10 WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION FOOD DEMOS WITH ALEX RICHESON 10AM-130PM	11 OPEN BRF	12 WIS. DELLS DELIVERIES OPEN
15 OPEN BRF	16 OPEN BRF	17 TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	18 OPEN BRF	19 LACROSSE PICK-UPS OPEN
22 OPEN BRF	23 OPEN BRF	24 NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	25 SHIPMENT CLOSED	26 OPEN BRF
29 LAST FD PICK UP DAY FOOD DEMO WITH KATHY BRAATEN OPEN BRF	30 INVENTORY CLOSED		28	29

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY FOR TAILGATE DAYS

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
 Division of Public Health

Ask a Question. Save a Life.

QPR GATEKEEPER TRAINING

Virtual Suicide Prevention trainings noon-1

Tuesday, February 6th
 Wednesday, February 14th
 Friday, February 16th
 Monday, February 19th
 Thursday, February 29th

Space is limited to 20 people per session. Registration required.

Email Ronelle.McKernansho-chunk.com
 Call/text 715.896.2570


Created 11.7.23 RM

HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT, _____ For Official Use

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF _____ Amended

Notice to Creditors

Janet Dittmer

NOV 03 2023

 Clerk of Court / Assistant

Case No. PR 23-04

Notice to Newspaper and Personal Representative:

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.

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.

Here is the language that should be published in the newspaper:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF: Janet Dittmer

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, Laure Vita, or the Clerk of Court at P.O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The deadline for filing claims is 2/14/2024. Only those claims so presented may be paid from the estate.

Mary Thunde
 Clerk of Court

Mary Thunde
 Name/Printed or Typed

11/3/2023
 Date

Form completed by: (Name) Laure Vita

Address: 7954 S Olive Ct.
Centennial, CO 80112

Telephone: 720-900-4728 Bar Number (if any)

PR14, 04/18 Notice to Creditors This form shall not be modified. It may be supplemented with additional material. 58 HCC 13, HO-CHUNK NATION PROBATE CODE

NOTICE OF VACANCIES

Veterans Affairs Advisory Board
(VAAB)

District 1: Primary and Alternate

District 2: Primary and Alternate

District 3: Primary and Alternate

District 4: Primary and Alternate

Board members and alternates serve two-year terms and may serve more than one term.

The powers and duties of the Board are as follows:

- A. Advise the Division of Veterans Affairs with planning, development, maintenance, and coordination of veterans programs, which focus on providing the Nations veterans with access to services, benefits, and opportunities available through federal, state, and tribal organizations.
- B. Review and make recommendations to the President and Legislature on matters affecting the Nation's veterans.
- C. Promote the views, needs, and concerns of the veterans in tribal, county, state, and federal policies and decisions.
- D. Provide information and personal support to individual veterans.
- E. Advocate for and report to their respective District veterans.

If you are a veteran interested in serving on the VAAB, please contact the HCN Veterans Affairs office before February 16, 2024. Call 715-284-4563 or 1-800-294-9343 ext. 11353 or e-mail: Myra.Price@ho-chunk.com or Lynette.Hopinkah@ho-chunk.com

HO-CHUNK NATION
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION

Introduction.

On September 16, 2023 the General Council met and passed a resolution for a Secretarial Election.¹ The resolution advances an effort to amend the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation (hereinafter “Constitution”). If passed, the amendment would permit enrollment by persons who were previously enrolled in other Indian Tribes when they were minors, as long as they met all other Ho-Chunk membership blood quantum and DNA requirements. In addition, the amendment would also allow a person to become enrolled if a committee of elders determined other extenuating circumstances² existed.

After the Office of General Council provided the resolution to the Election Board, it was verified that a majority of voters at the General Council voted for the Constitutional Amendment.³ Following approval of Board minutes on November 22, 2023, the Board referred the proposed amendment to the Attorney General for an Opinion relating to the constitutionality and legality of the proposed amendment. Once this Opinion is completed, it is to be posted in the Nation’s newsletter for two consecutive printings, along with the text of the proposed Amendment.⁴

Text of the Proposed Amendment.

The Resolution seeks to amend Article II, Section 1(d) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation by adding the following *italicized and underscored* language:

Beginning the date this amendment is approved, the Ho-Chunk Nation shall no longer consider or accept for enrollment any person who has previously been enrolled as a member of another Tribe (including the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska) unless such person was enrolled in the other tribe as minor and later relinquishes such membership or other extenuating circumstances (as determined by a committee of elders duly appointed as provided by law) exist.

¹ The Ho-Chunk Nation Election Code 2 HCC § 6.21 now refers to this as a Constitutional Election.
² Formal facts or reasons which make one feel it is reasonable to not follow the usual rules.
³ Resolution 09.16.2023 J. The Resolution passed by a vote of Yes – 630, No – 584, Abstain – 163, for a total of 1,377 votes. The quorum number was 1,261.
⁴ Election Code 2 HCC §6. 21.e.(1)

1

Opinion.

1. The proposed amendment was adopted by a quorum of the General Council and was properly certified by the Election Board. It is *procedurally* lawful.
2. The language allowing for a committee of elders to determine what extenuating circumstances might allow for membership creates an authority that conflicts with other existing constitutional provisions. Because it does, the proposed amendment is *flawed* and its constitutionality is *doubtful*.

Discussion.

Constitutions typically are made up of two main parts: the creation of a framework for government, and an establishment of rights.

The framers of the Constitution divided power among the different branches of government (General Council, legislative, executive, and judicial). This framework, known as the separation of powers, ensures that no one person is able to gain absolute power and stand above the law. Each branch of government has some level of control or oversight over the actions of the other branches.

When a proposed amendment to a Constitution is considered/evaluated for lawfulness and constitutionality, attention must be focused on whether or not the words and meaning of the amendment agree with the language and framework of the existing Constitution. The amendment should not harbor competing or contradictory principles to those in the existing Constitution. The proposed law must be understandable and able to be applied predictably and uniformly, not arbitrarily. An amended Constitution must maintain balance, stability, and uniformity for governance.

In my opinion, the language of the proposed amendment, if adopted, would conflict with, and be contradictory to, existing structure and authorities established in the Constitution.

The proposed language would give constitutional authority to a continually changing⁵ “committee” of elders who would determine among themselves what facts or reasons provide a person an excuse from complying with the usual rules governing membership. This decision-making process not only lends itself to unpredictable and arbitrary determinations, but it also conflicts with the existing constitutional authority given to the Legislature to enact laws to govern membership.⁶ And, the committee could make their determinations without being subject to control or oversight by any of the other branches of government. Basically, adopting this language creates the potential that this committee of elders could determine membership criteria outside of written law.

⁵ Over time, the Committee would be expected to change members due to natural aging processes.
⁶ Article II, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

2

As desirous as providing a person the right to change enrollment to the Ho-Chunk Nation as an adult when enrolled in another tribe as a minor may be; approving this type of constitutional change to the framework of government, is ill-advised. An amendment seeking to expand individual rights should not do so at the expense of constitutional checks and balances.

Summary.

If this proposed Amendment consisted only of language providing for the right of a person who was enrolled in another tribe as a minor to be allowed to change enrollment to the Ho-Chunk Nation as an adult, I would be fully behind it. **The first part of the proposed amendment language** “unless such person was enrolled in the other tribe as minor and later relinquishes such membership” would be a lawful, as it would not affect any other person’s rights. And it would be constitutional, as it would not affect any other governmental processes included in the current Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The second part of the proposed amendment language “or other extenuating circumstances (as determined by a committee of elders duly appointed as provided by law) exist” creates the deficiencies discussed above and requires me to point out the constitutional risk of adopting this resolution.

William F. Gardner
William F. Gardner
Attorney General of the Ho-Chunk Nation

Reduce Salt Use This Winter

Salt Pollution Impacts Fresh Water, Health And Infrastructure

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Wisconsin Salt Wise invite the public to learn more about the impacts of road salt on our drinking water and freshwater ecosystems during Winter Salt Awareness Week, Jan. 22-26, 2024.

Winter Salt Awareness Week will include a series of livestreams featuring speakers and topics focused on the actual cost of salt and how to be a freshwater advocate.

Speakers include Hillary Dugan (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Sawyer Bailey (Adirondack Action), Bill Hintz (University of Toledo), Bill Quackenbush (Ho-Chunk Nation), Jeremy Weso (Menominee Nation) and Laura Fey (Western Transportation Institute, Montana State University).

Register in advance or watch afterward on the Wisconsin Salt Wise YouTube Channel.

The Impacts Of Too Much Salt
Although salt keeps Wisconsin roads safe during winter, using more salt than needed comes at a price. In Wisconsin and much of the U.S., chlorides from salt are infiltrating lakes, streams and groundwater. According to Wisconsin Salt Wise, one teaspoon of salt is all it takes to make five gallons of water toxic for freshwater organisms.

The DNR measures chloride levels in Wisconsin rivers over time, monitoring cumulative chloride loading results at 26 of the state’s largest river systems. Recent studies have shown a steep increase in chloride loads. In the early 2000s, the DNR measured about 600,000 tons of chlorides annually. By 2018, that number increased to nearly 800,000 tons per year. Fifty lakes and one stream in Wisconsin have been designated impaired by high salt concentrations.

“All of the 43 long-term trend water quality monitoring sites across Wisconsin are showing increases in chlorides,” said Shannon Haydin, DNR Storm Water Section Manager. “Chlorides persist in the environment forever and cause significant impacts to fish, aquatic life and human health. In Wisconsin, we see evidence of Fresh Water Salinization Syndrome, a condition where our freshwater

becomes more like ocean water in terms of saltiness. Now is the time to make a change and reduce salt use when we can.” These increased chloride loads are partly due to road salting, but chlorides also enter Wisconsin waters because of water softeners and fertilizers. Find out if your softener is salt-wise with this diagnostic tool.

Increased chloride levels, including environmental and economic effects, significantly impact our daily lives. Nationwide, winter salt causes \$5 billion in damage to infrastructure each year, causing corrosion on bridges, roads and other infrastructure. Road salt can also impact pets by causing irritated paws or other health concerns if ingested.

Salt Tips For Wisconsin Residents

Reducing salt use is critical to decreasing chloride loads. Follow these steps to right-size your salt use:

- **Shovel:** Clear walkways and other areas before the snow turns to ice. The more snow removed manually, the less salt you will need and the more effective it will be.
- **Scatter:** When using salt, scatter it so there is space between the grains. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares. If you see oversalting, follow these simple steps to help educate others about salt.
- **Switch:** Salt won’t work when pavement temperatures drop below 15 degrees. Switch to sand for traction or a different ice melter that works at lower temperatures.

Statewide Reduction Efforts
The DNR works to reduce chlorides at the source through permitting programs for municipalities and industries. These measures include tuning or replacing water softeners, identifying significant chloride contributors and finding reductions, process efficiencies or improvements by instituting sewer use ordinances.

Additionally, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation works with Wisconsin counties to reduce road salt application using brine and pre-wetting road surfaces, significantly reducing salt use.

For more information on the DNR’s efforts to monitor chlorides and reduce their effects, visit the DNR’s Salt and Storm Water website.



Over-salting can lead to chloride buildup in lakes, streams and groundwater. / Photo Credit: iStock/Steven White

2024 Winter Wonderland Snowshoe Challenge

Join us each weekend listed below for a self-paced snowshoe hike. Gather up your family and friends to hike the marked course anytime between Friday 10am thru Sunday 4pm.

Each completed course earns you an entry into our grand prize drawing for a pair of snowshoes!!! Event registration and park admission are FREE.

JANUARY 12-14: SKYLINE GOLF COURSE
Starting Location: Golf Course Parking Lot

JANUARY 19-21: WAZEE LAKE
Starting Location: Take right at registration booth, follow signs

FEBRUARY 9-11: LUNDA COMMUNITY PARK
Starting Location: West end of parking lot, closest to pond



BONUS EVENT!
Jackson County Winter Fest
January 27, 5-8pm
Candlelight Snowshoe @ Skyline



For full details and to register, visit:
www.JacksonInAction.org/winterwonderland

Questions? Contact Kathleen at 715-299-0870
In the event of sub-zero temperatures, watch Facebook for date changes.



Partners in Parenting:

Black River Falls area

Specific to parents and grandparents of infant to school-aged children

When:
Wednesday January 17
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Where:
Eileen Decorah Classroom
Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

GUEST SPEAKER:
MYRTLE LONG

Traditional Parenting Practices

Event includes free lunch and raffle!

MUST ATTEND PRESENTATION TO RECEIVE RAFFLE AND INCENTIVES

Please note location change

To sign up for your lunch reservation: Contact

KATHY BRAATEN REGISTERED DIETITIAN PHONE: (715)-284-9851 EXT 35335 KATHY.BRAATEN@HO-CHUNK.COM	BEV BANECK COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PHONE: (715) 284-9851 EXT 35032 CELL: (715) 896-0178
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HO-CHUNK HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HO-CHUNK HEALTH CARE CENTER
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI

Updated 12/23 KB

Continued from Page 2
Wisconsin; Best Supply Assistant, Estrella Martinez Rand of Green Bay, Wisconsin; Best Battle Buddy, Maickol Torres Torres of Madison, Wisconsin; Academic Resilience, Sinnecerie Hayes of Beloit, Wisconsin; Best Archer, John Brooks of Watertown, Wisconsin; and Distinguished Honor Graduate, Allius White Eagle of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

Distinguished Honor Graduate Nathaniel Duran from Beloit, Wisconsin offered words of advice to his fellow graduates.

“We leave the Academy as very different people than we first walked through the doors earlier this year,” Duran said. “We endured some long days together. Each of us will face struggles and adversity in the days ahead, but I am confident that we will chose the harder right rather than the easier wrong because of the lessons we learned together.”

Each graduate of the program earned their high school equivalency diploma (HSED) and a minimum of seven free, fully transferable college credits. In addition, one cadet graduated with 10 college credits, one earned 13 college credits and a third cadet earned 15 college credits.

Upon graduation, every graduate is assigned a mentor who will help each cadet follow their post-graduation plans to achieve education, employment, and life goals.

The Wisconsin Challenge Academy conducts two classes per year — January to June, and July to December. The curriculum, developed by the National Guard Bureau, is based on the experiential learning model and consists of eight core components — academic excellence, physical training, job skills, service to community, health, and hygiene, responsible citizenship, leadership/followership, and life coping skills. Character development is integrated and emphasized throughout the curriculum.

In 1998, the Challenge Academy welcomed 68 cadets into its first residential program at Fort McCoy. Since then, the Challenge Academy has been conducting two sessions a year. To date, more than 4,500 Wisconsin residents have graduated

from the immersive program.

The Wisconsin Challenge Academy is still accepting applications for its 52nd class, which will begin Jan. 24, 2024.

Class 51 graduates come from 33 Wisconsin counties:

Brown (Donovan Davis and Trey Stiles, De Pere; Preston Phillips, Dominic Frechette, Alanna McFarlane, Miguel Flores, David Acevedo-Martinez, Jack Luedke, Vanessa Sanchez, Valeria Baez, Diego Mora Sanchez and Jeremiah Morales, Green Bay)

Calumet (Timothy Hyatt, Brillion) Clark (Precious Funmaker, Merrillan)

Crawford (Reed Jacobsen, Steuben) Dane (Alianna Scott, Deforest; Gavin Barefield, Stoughton; Elizabeth Toquinto, Windsor)

Dodge (Aiden Simpson, Juneau; Matthew Behling, Lowell)

Eau Claire (Arianna Gibson, Eau Claire)

Fond du Lac (Trey Muzquiz and Jordan Tscheschlok, Fond du Lac)

Grant (Cassen Womack, Platteville)

Jackson (Peyton Pettibone, Black River Falls; Jessy VanMeter, Taylor)

Jefferson (Gavin Huffman and Alvaro Zaragoza, Watertown)

Juneau (Daniel Bender, Elroy; Jason Denter, New Lisbon)

Kenosha (Trixia Sevela, Kenosha)

La Crosse (Zachariah Moran, La Crosse; Elsa Huber, Onalaska)

Manitowoc (Mark Brinkman, Manitowoc; Alycia Ullman, Newton)

Marathon (Jaden Garneau, Stratford; Sonya Torrens, Wausau)

Marquette (Adam Tipton, Neshkoro; Kamryn Beaudry, Westfield)

Menominee (Peter Hawpetoss, Keshena)

Milwaukee (Lizbet Palomino Gonzalez, Greenfield; Alexander Wech, Asabi Agoro, Qemora Thompson, Mikhail Meeks, Adriannah Phimmady, Nye'mah Hedrington, Thanya Torres-Garcia, Jeremy Torres Cruz, Jonathan Tun, Yafete Santiago Torres, Jordan Spencer Pratt, Alexis Suarez Davila and Jimmie Evans, Milwaukee)


Monroe (Maryjane Fulton and Kaelen Bonner, Sparta; Antani Evans-Halverson, Tomah)

Outagamie (Ethan Smith-Whitby, Appleton; Sean Hegge, Hortonville)

Portage (Ethan Terry, Plover; Michael Slayton, Damian Palmgren and Ananda Rubenzer, Stevens Point)

Racine (Jade Williams, Noah Anzalone-Thomas and Khalyze Oriz Madrid, Racine; Isabella Concepcion, Waterford)

Rock (Trinity Torres, David Vallin, Jaxon Teague, Nathaniel Duran, Sevastian Torres Bolanos, Mark Anthony Martinez, Betzy Garcia-Hernandez, Adriel Carrera-Montes and Lindsey Barajas, Beloit; Demetrius Cooper, Alexandra Avendano-Velasco, Giovanni Pantoja, Austin Mayo and Jonathan Slaughter,



Insurance Open Enrollment Presentation for 2024


OPEN ENROLLMENT 2024 PRESENTATION
VIRTUAL OPTION - AVAILABLE JANUARY 2, 2024

Open enrollment sessions will be held in January 2024 for the effective date of February 1, 2024 to assist employees with questions, updates or changes. If you are not able to attend an open enrollment session, the open enrollment presentation video will be available as of January 2, 2024 for all employees and spouses who would like to review the 2024 benefit plans on-line on your smartphone, laptop or tablet. **This Open Enrollment is NOT mandatory, so you if do not want to make any changes, you do not need to attend.**

Smart Phone Instructions to Access the Presentation:

- Open your camera on your smart phone
- Put the camera over the QR code below
- A website for brainshark.com will appear
- Touch the yellow tab with brainshark.com and that will take you to the presentation site
- Enter in your first name and last name (required fields)
- Enter in your email address if you have an email account (not required in case you do not have an email account)
- Enter your employee ID (not required since spouses who access will not have an ID number)
- Indicate if you are an employee or a spouse (required field)

QR Code



Laptop or Tablet Instructions to Access the Presentation:

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- Enter in your first name and last name (required fields)
- Enter in your email address if you have an email account (not required in case you do not have an email account)
- Enter your employee ID (not required since spouses who access will not have an ID number)
- Indicate if you are an employee or a spouse (required field)

DON'T MISS OPEN ENROLLMENT!!
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE CHANGES UNTIL JANUARY 2025

Outagamie (Ethan Smith-Whitby, Appleton; Sean Hegge, Hortonville)
Portage (Ethan Terry, Plover; Michael Slayton, Damian Palmgren and Ananda Rubenzer, Stevens Point)
Racine (Jade Williams, Noah Anzalone-Thomas and Khalyze Oriz Madrid, Racine; Isabella Concepcion, Waterford)
Rock (Trinity Torres, David Vallin, Jaxon Teague, Nathaniel Duran, Sevastian Torres Bolanos, Mark Anthony Martinez, Betzy Garcia-Hernandez, Adriel Carrera-Montes and Lindsey Barajas, Beloit; Demetrius Cooper, Alexandra Avendano-Velasco, Giovanni Pantoja, Austin Mayo and Jonathan Slaughter,

Janesville)
St. Croix (Dominik Gillis-Stoddard, Arkdale; Morgan Kohls, Emerald)
Sauk (KayMarie Grant, Baraboo; Lorenzo Dominguez, Wisconsin Dells)
Shawano (Aaliyah Pyatskowitz, Christian Norman and Gunnar Majewski, Shawano)
Vernon (Steven Burrows, Viroqua; Jarren Schroeder, Westby)
Vilas (Braxton Towne, Eagle River)
Washington (Kyle Young, Allenton; Ella Hommel-Schultz, West Bend)
Waukesha (Riley Dunn, Hartland; Noel Untereiner, Pine River)
Winnebago (Lilie Coopman-Schmidt and Brenquan Renfro, Oshkosh).

Marvel Studios spotlights Indigenous antihero in 'Echo'

Audiences will learn more about Maya Lopez's, aka Echo, origin story on Disney+ and Hulu

By Kalle Benallie, Reprint from ICT

Alaqua Cox, Menominee and Mohican Nation, first began her journey as "Maya Lopez" in the TV mini series "Hawkeye" in 2021. It was her first acting gig ever. Now three years later, audiences will see Cox as the main character in Marvel Studios' "Echo" on Jan. 9.

The mini series "Echo" will follow Lopez being pursued by Wilson Fisk's criminal empire, which brings her home to Oklahoma where she must confront her own family and legacy. Native actors like Zahn McClarnon will play her father and Graham Greene, Tantoo Cardinal, Devery Jacobs, Cody Lightning and Chaske Spencer are appearing in the show as well.

Indigenous representation goes beyond behind the camera too with Steven Paul Judd, Kiowa and Choctaw, appearing as a co-writer on the show and Navajo creative Sydney Freeland directing an episode and being an executive producer.

Cox, who is deaf and an amputee, said her resilience began when she went through surgeries and had parents that were able to give her positive reinforcement growing up.

"It helped me become tough, become strong and become resilient. I think that that is a similar trait that I have to Maya and so I'm happy to have that trait I share with her," she said.

It's been revealed that in "Echo" Maya's superpowers will be changed from the original comic stating she has photographic reflexes. Cox said Maya's superpowers will be one of the most unique

in the Marvel cinematic universe.

"I love her superpowers, but I don't want to say exactly what her superpowers are but she's able to connect with specific people, her ancestors — I don't know if I'm supposed to say that but she does — she's able to use her Indigenous culture and that is included a lot with the help of her ancestors, and we have that resilience, and to this day she's able to do that so that's cool to see that," she said.

For her larger role Cox said Disney and Marvel supported her and prepared her by securing her an acting coach and American Sign Language consultant.

Cox said she hopes Indigenous youth will see a cast who look like them and know that they can do anything.

"I hope they'll be proud and happy to be able to see their culture represented authentically and accurately on the screen," she said.

Mature audience only tag

The January release of "Echo" is notably significant because it will debut all five episodes on Disney+ and Hulu, and it will be the first series from Marvel Studios to be rated TV-MA, meaning mature audience only.

Richie Palmer, one of the executive producers on the show, said that "Echo" is a different type of show and it wasn't done to have the first TV-MA rated show but to tell the main character's story without restriction.

"We knew we weren't going to hold back with Maya Lopez. She's a badass character that deserved all the badass-ery and we were

not gonna limit it. Maya Lopez was introduced in an especially dark run of Daredevil comics from the late 90s," Palmer said. "She just brings with her such a traumatic backstory, an emotional backstory that we didn't want to shy away from and to hold any of it back would have done the character a disservice."

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and advisers from IllumiNative also partnered with "Echo" to ensure Choctaw culture, legends and history were portrayed correctly. Palmer credited their partnership with the show's success.

"Our Choctaw partners were awesome and always available to us and were there with us when we were shooting some of the major sequences, were always just a phone call away from even the edit bay with Sydney," he said.

Devery Jacobs, Mohawk, who plays the character "Bonnie" said the opportunity to work on "Echo" was something she ran toward because of the story following an Indigenous superhero, antihero, working with Freeland again and being part of the Marvel cinematic universe. Jacobs recently starred in "Reservation Dogs."

"I hope that for Indigenous audiences watching "Echo" that they get to see just how badass we are and could be, and for non-Native audiences, I hope people take away just the different ways that we can be. There isn't one specific way to be Indigenous," they said.

Chaske Spencer, Fort Peck

Assiniboine and Lakota Sioux, who plays "Henry," said he was on the edge of his seat when Freeland relayed how the story of "Echo" was going to go, who was on the cast and about Cox. "I'm very happy to be part of it and to work with everybody because you got mad talent on this series, mad talent from the top and bottom. I think people are going to be blown away by Alaqua's performance," Spencer said.

American Sign Language

In "Echo," Jacobs and Spencer are tasked with acting using American Sign Language. For Spencer it was a challenge, due to the quick script changes that occur in television and learning how there are different accents and cultures in ASL.

"I definitely had some sleepless nights but it was worth it," he said.

Jacobs noted a sense of responsibility on being hearing actors who are playing characters who are also hearing but use sign language to communicate with someone who is deaf.

"For myself I play a CODA, which is a child of deaf adults, and making sure I appear proficient enough in ASL was really important, definitely stressful but also I think it was a lot of fun. I'm still learning and I wanna keep learning ASL. It opened a door to a community, a culture that's so vibrant and beautiful and also has a lot of Indigenous people within that community itself," she said.

Jacobs added Plains Indian Sign Language will also be featured in "Echo."

Vincent D'Onofrio, who plays the antagonist "Wilson Fisk," is playing the character for the third time from previous work in "Daredevil" and "Hawkeye." He will be appearing as Fisk again in "Daredevil: Born Again," sometime thiD'Onofrio said he enjoys exploring the emotionality of his character Fisk and in "Echo" audiences can expect to see Fisk's emotional relationship with Cox's character be central to the show.

He praised Cox's impressive performance as a newcomer and working with Freeland.s year.

"She's going to go down as one of my favorite directors in my career. She's just so good at what she does, it's just everyday on set was just a pleasure to work with her and learning about this world with Maya through the Native American ancestry," he said. "The Native American actors that were in the show, their

acting and how they felt about the whole thing was quite super interesting and just lovely."

Freeland called the first day of shooting "terrifying and then exhilarating."

"To have the chance to tell a Native Indigenous story on this scope and scale was tremendously exciting but it can also be tremendously daunting, but I think when you actually get to shooting you've tried to prep as humanly as possible so that when you actually get to start shooting hopefully it feels a little more natural," Freeland said.

The show brought Freeland and Indigenous talent that she worked with in the past like Julia Jones, Jana Schmieding, Jacobs and McClarnon together again. She said it's a good feeling in contrast to other projects when she feels like the only person on set.

"The Native community is relatively small so the actors, the directors, the writers, we all kind of know each other, associate with each other and talk to each other on and off set so it was actually a lot of fun and very relaxing to be working with friends," she said.

Freeland hopes that Native audiences not only see a Native American character on screen but a complex, complicated human portrayal of Indigenous people in front of and behind the camera.

"That's one of the things I'm so excited about this series is that we get to tell a story about a character who's a villain and we get to work in all these kinds of shades in gray and incorporate the Native aspects of things. It just creates a great sort of jumping off point for a story," she said.

Some Native humor can also be expected in "Echo" but Freeland said it had to be dialed back a little bit for the show.

Freeland also praised Cox's ability to effortlessly transition from filming a few days on "Hawkeye" to then work on "Echo" for three months. She said it's not something many people can do.

"You have to have a certain type of internal drive and you have to have a certain constitution about you as a person. And I think hearing Alaqua talk about her experience growing up she comes across as a very tough individual and I think her Indigenous upbringing has a lot to do with that," Freeland said.



Adoptee Activist and Author Trace Hentz Announces “THE COUNT 2024,” a New Project to Coincide with the Release of a New History Book “Almost Dead Indians”

GREENFIELD, Mass., Dec. 27, 2023 — Adoptee activist, award-winning journalist and author Trace Hentz, who created the American Indian Adoptees website in 2009, has announced a new project, “THE COUNT 2024.” It will coincide with the release of a new history book, “Almost Dead Indians,” Book 5 in the Lost Children of the Indian Adoption Projects series.

When Hentz moved to Massachusetts in 2004 she began to tirelessly investigate numerous adoption programs, such as the Indian Adoption Projects and ARENA (The Adoption Resource Exchange of America). Both involved moving Native American babies and children across North America into adoptions with non-Native families.

After her 2009 memoir, “One Small Sacrifice” and a second edition, which followed in 2012, Hentz met more adoptees and asked them to write their personal narratives, which resulted in three anthologies: “Two Worlds: Lost Children” (2012), “Called Home: The RoadMap,” (updated second edition, 2016), and “Stolen Generations: Survivors of the Indian Adoption Projects and 60s Scoop” (2016). A poetry collection on the same topic, “In The Veins,” the fourth book in the series, was published in 2017.

“In these closed (sealed) adoptions,

adoptees are unable to access the vital information they need to find their tribal families and communities,” Hentz said. “This new history book, “Almost Dead Indians,” with a lengthy chapter I wrote, titled “Disappeared,” which is about our history, ties in how these government-funded programs were run by churches and charities and were meant to erase children permanently from tribal rolls, making us dead Indians — almost.”

“Most people have heard how the governments of Canada and the United States ran residential boarding schools like the first U.S. school, which was Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania,” Hentz said. “Today, tribes are finding unmarked graves at these schools. I realized after 20 years that we deserve to see the numbers on these various federal and state-run adoption programs. We need “THE COUNT 2024” of Native American and First Nations adoptees to solidify facts and see actual numbers of adoptees in these government-funded projects that crisscrossed the U.S. and Canada.”

“Neither government has been forthcoming and some academics who looked at available reports claim nearly 13,000 children were adopted in the U.S., some by force and some by gunpoint,” Hentz said. “In Canada,

they have already settled a class action lawsuit with adoptees called the Sixties Scoop.”

Hentz recommends the new PBS series “Little Bird” to understand what happened in Canada also happened in the U.S.

“Before first grade, I knew I was adopted, that these people were not my birthparents,” Hentz said. “I wasn’t sure what happened but it took me a lifetime to open my adoption file and finally meet my relatives.” Hentz had a reunion in 1994 with her birthfather Earl Bland in Illinois when she was 38 years old. Since then, she has found her ancestry includes Shawnee and Anishinaabe.

Hentz got the idea of a count when she could not find reliable information. “I set up a new website: <https://thecount2024.blogspot.com>. Native American and First Nations adoptees simply fill out a comment form and I will send them a survey.” She hopes people will share this link and get the word out. “The COUNT” begins January 1, 2024.

Hentz’s new book, “Almost Dead Indians,” will be available soon at Bookshop and Amazon. Visit: www.blueindianbooks.com or <https://blog.americanindianadoptees.com>

About Blue Hand Books:

Blue Hand Books, based in Greenfield, Massachusetts,

on Pocumtuckland, celebrated its 12th anniversary on November 11, 2023. To date, the collective has published 28 book titles. Founder and award-winning journalist Trace Hentz (formerly DeMeyer) embraced and adopted the idea to decolonize book publishing for other Indigenous writers with a collective that supports each writer, helping them to produce a paperback book, providing proofing and editing and allows them to keep 100% of their book royalties. Blue Hand Books was created to be community and a collective for Indigenous authors. For more information, contact: Blue Hand Books, Trace L. Hentz, Publisher, 25 Keegan Lane, Suite 8-C, Greenfield, MA 01301. Phone: (413)772-6996.



Travis Christian DeCora

June 19, 1973 - January 5, 2024

Travis Christian DeCora, 50, (Wągeja Huu, “Comes From Above”) began his journey to be with our Heavenly Father on January 5, 2024. Travis was born in Black River Falls on June 19, 1973, to Dawn Coffey and Daryl DeCora. Born ten days after his mother’s birthday, his life was a belated birthday present to her. He was baptized in the Native American Church in Bluewing on September 5, 1975, by his tega Pierre Decorah Sr. Travis and family then moved to Baraboo, Wisconsin where he attended school.

As a young man, Travis was a standout athlete. He participated in football, basketball, wrestling, and track and field. As an eighth grader, he played on the high school football team and set a middle school record in the shot put. His record stands to this day.

Travis received his GED through Kicking Horse Job Corps, where he made many friends. He and his Kicking Horse Job Corps friends especially enjoyed traveling to Montana for skiing and snowboarding. As an adult, Travis worked in the construction industry and as a dealer for Ho-Chunk Gaming. He was an avid reader and a fan of the Green Bay Packers. He will be remembered for his love of his family and excellent culinary skills, which he learned from his gaga Lorena.

Travis is survived by daughters Tianna and Trinity; his mother Dawn

Decorah; father Daryl DeCora; second father Bruce Decorah; little mom Suzie Coffey; aunt Janet Muir; brother Justin DeCora; sister Eleanor Decorah; several other siblings; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brother Eric Scott Decorah; brother Colt DeCora; grandparents James DeCora, Marceline Gilbertson, Bert Coffey and Lorena Lewis Coffey; great-grandmother Minnie Hopinkah Lewis and great-grandfather Frank Lewis.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16.

Funeral services for Travis will be held Monday, January 8 at the Ho-Chunk District One Community Center, N7261 Warrior Ave, Black River Falls, WI, starting at 10am. Visitation will be held from 9am until the start of services.

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



Denise “Nitzie” P. Cholka

March 31, 1961 - January 4, 2024



Denise “Nitzie” P. Cholka, age 62, passed away at the Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center on January 4, 2024. She was born to Donald and Polly Cholka on March 31, 1961 in Cleveland, Ohio, and then raised in Michigan.

Denise graduated from Bronson High School in 1979. She moved between Michigan and Wisconsin depending on where work took her. Working various jobs doing whatever she could to support her son, Eric. Whether it was factory work or at the casino.

She was a 5’1” stick of dynamite that everyone knew as “Nitzie”. She was a fun, loving woman, and naturally ‘the life of the party’ and had a joke to tell. Denise was kind beyond measure

and always wanting to help where she could, and always putting others before herself. She was always a free spirit; never had one place that she would call home.

She is survived by her son, Eric Everest; brothers, Harry (Veronica) Cholka, Phil Cholka, Steve Cholka, and Don Cholka; sisters, Toni/ Maureen (John) Kachnowski, and Rosemarie Adams; uncles Terry Steindorf and John (Beth) Steindorf; cousin Karena (Dana) Thundercloud; and great niece Raven La Morie; along with many other relatives and friends.

Denise is preceded in death by her infant daughter Deitre Lee Everest; dad, Donald Cholka; brother, Joseph Cholka; grandmother Lavina Davis; along with many other aunts and uncles.

Funeral services for Denise will take place Saturday, January 6, 2024 at the Buswell Funeral Home at 12:00 p.m. Her son, Eric Everest will officiate. Friends and family are invited to visitation from 11:00 a.m. until time of service.

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



NIIOXAWANI COMMUNITY AGAINST DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POWWOW

FEBRUARY 24, 2024 | D1 COMMUNITY CENTER & GYM

GRAND ENTRY AT 1:00 AND 7:00

MC: Matthew Mann

Color Guard: American Legion Post 129 & Ladies Auxiliary

AD: Bobby Blackdeer

Sound: Travis Rave

POWWOW COMMITTEE SPECIALS

Ho-Chunk Applique
Men's Woodland Special
Jingle Dress
Hand Drum Contest during
Dinner Break

HOST DRUMS

IRONMOUND
Black River Falls, WI
BEARHEART
Wisconsin Dells, WI

INVITED DRUMS

SMOKEYTOWN
Zoar, WI
PIPESTONE
Lac Courte Orielles, WI

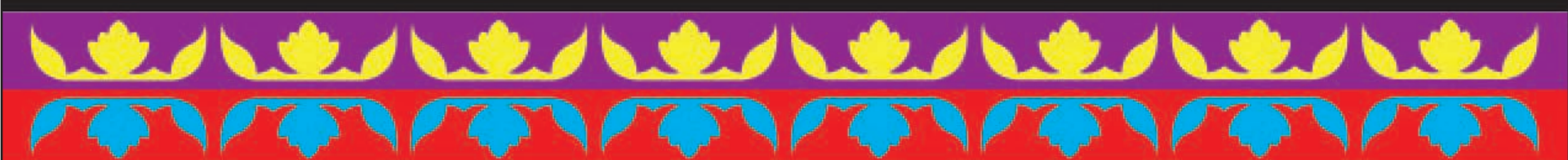
Powwow Committee & the HCN are not responsible for any theft, stranded, or stolen property. Vendors are welcome. Bring your own tables, chairs, etc. Dinner will be served. Powwow: Sponsored by the Ho-Chunk Nation

VENDOR INFORMATION

Dana Deboer: (608) 317-3859

N7261 WARRIOR AVE BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED AT THE EVENT



**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

Call to Order: President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:00 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
- Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P
- Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC (P-10:14)
- Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
- Rep. Danielle DeLong-P
- Rep. Robert Pilot-P
- Rep. Paul Fox-P
- Rep. Brianna Tahdoahnippah-VC
- VC-Video Conference

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

Opening Prayer: President Jon Greendeer offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-December 5, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the December 5, 2023 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections.

Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-3(Rep. Danielle DeLong, Rep. Shelby Visintin, Rep. Phyllis Smoke) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports:

Gaming Commission

A written report was received.

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to accept the Gaming Commission report. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reports:

EDA Update

A written report was received.

Economic Diversification Director Kyle White Eagle was present via video conference and gave a brief update.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to accept the EDA Update. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

HHCDA Quarterly Report

A written report was received.

HHCDA Executive Director Andrea Estebo was present via video conference and gave a brief update.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned the Formula Allocation Plan and how it would impact the transfer of the properties back to the Department of Housing. Executive Director Estebo said she will look into that.

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to accept the HHCDA Quarterly report. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Branch Monthly Reports:

Department of Heritage Preservation

A written report was received.

Department of Natural Resources

A written report was received.

Department of Treasury

A written report was received.

Department of Agriculture

A written report was received.

Department of Business

A written report was received.

Department of Education

A written report was received.

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle would like to know when the tutor program will start and general information regarding the program.

Executive Director of Education (EDOE) Ryan Crain gave an update on the tutor program. Currently there are 11 tutors that have been interviewed and hired. Those hired are going through the process of orientation. There was a great list of talented candidates who applied and were hired. The hiring process can take a few weeks, and with the holiday schedule, orientations are taking a little longer than normal. The tutor program is a little behind schedule, however it should be up and ready for the new semester. The Branch Offices are open for the tutors, schools are flexible, and there are work stations within the Education Department.

EDOE Crain mentioned that the Black River Falls School District has not gotten back to him regarding any action with the incidents of racism at the school. The School District has not been receptive to any suggestions from the Education Department. The Education Department has been meeting with them monthly for over a

year without a lot of movement.

Rep. Danielle DeLong would like to schedule a meeting between Legislature and Education to figure out a plan of action, and to get Department of Public Instruction involved.

Department of Housing

A written report was received.

Department of Labor

A written report was received.

Unfinished Business:

Confirmation of District 2 Election Board Delegate and Alternates

District 2 La Crosse

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to confirm District 2 La Crosse Delegate-Marsha Smith and District 2 La Crosse Alternate-Ethel Funmaker to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District 2 Tomah

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to confirm District 2 Tomah Delegate-Myra Jo Price and District 2 Tomah Alternate-Deana Mitch to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District 2 Baraboo/Dells, Mauston

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to confirm District 2 Baraboo/Dells, Mauston Delegate-Weta Montelongo and District 2 Baraboo/Dells, Mauston Alternate-Barb Funmaker to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Resolution-Support for University of Wisconsin-Madison Earth Partnership

to Apply for National Science Foundation Grant for the Earth Partnership Indigenous Arts and Sciences Initiative and to Collaborate on Grant

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 A**, Support for University of Wisconsin-Madison Earth Partnership to Apply for National Science Foundation Grant for the Earth Partnership Indigenous Arts and Sciences Initiative and to Collaborate on Grant. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Enter into an Affiliation Agreement with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 B**, Authorization for the Health Department to Enter into an Affiliation Agreement with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorizing the Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency to enter into the Child Support Services Agreement with the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Bureau of Child Support

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 C**, Authorizing the Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency to enter into the Child Support Services Agreement with the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Bureau of Child Support. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Hoocak Xatap Hirakara NEW Job Description

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to adopt the Hoocak Xatap Hirakara New Job Description. *Continued on Page 12*

WAÅŠIK WAACEK PRESENTS:

NAACAGS

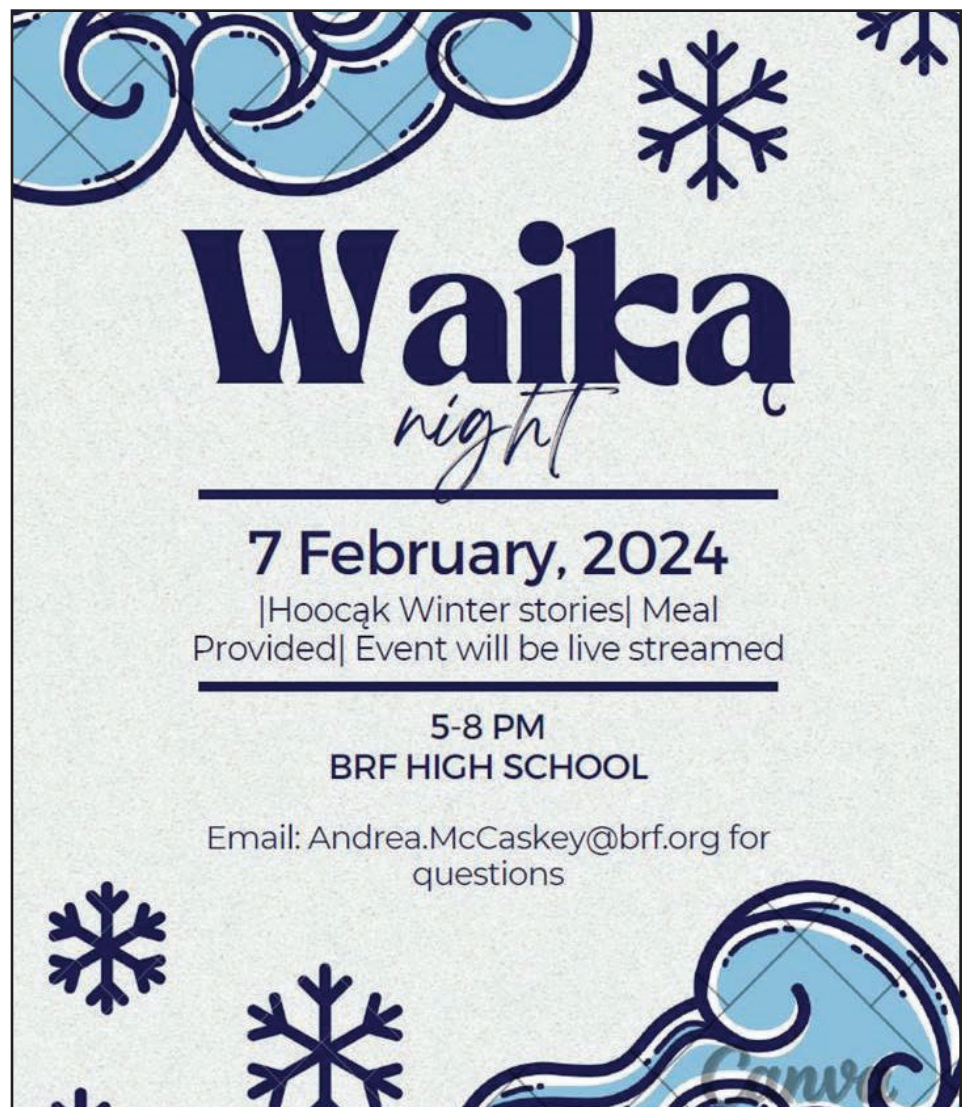
HAAP

ROUND DANCES

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



Waika
night

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

5-8 PM
BRF HIGH SCHOOL

Email: Andrea.McCaskey@brf.org for questions

Continued from Page 11

Description. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. MOTION IS AMENDED to approve the Hoocak Xatap Hiraakara New Job Description. Second concurs. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Rodney Rave is out of the room at 11:00 a.m.

Resolution-Authorizing Family Spirit Program Agreement with Johns Hopkins University

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 D**, Authorizing Family Spirit Program Agreement with Johns Hopkins University. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Rodney Rave returns to the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 12-05-23 L Resolution Addressing and Opposing the Decriminalization of Maaka waakacak (Peyote) and Mescaline

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 E**, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 12-05-23 L Resolution Addressing and Opposing the Decriminalization of Maaka waakacak (Peyote) and Mescaline. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 12-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) MOTION CARRIED.

NOTED FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Rodney Rave abstained as he was out of the room during discussion, and walked back into the room during vote count.

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services 2024 Coordinated Services Teams Initiative Grant

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 F**, Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services 2024 Coordinated Services Teams Initiative Grant. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Paul Fox is out of the room at 11:07 a.m.

Resolution-Cancellation of Lease #4115 on Lot #17 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 G**, Cancellation of Lease #4115 on Lot #17 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Paul Fox returns to the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Rep. Shelby Visintin is out of the room at 11:09 a.m.

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #17 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for Richard Nakai

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 H**, Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #17 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for Richard Nakai. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #18 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for Jessica Nakai

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 I**, Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #18 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for Jessica Nakai. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-1 (Rep. Paul Fox) MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources 2023-2024 Grant Agreement for the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 J**, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources 2023-2024 Grant Agreement for the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP). Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Shelby Visintin returns to the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 08-22-23R Authorization for the Department of Administration to Apply for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 K**, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 08-22-23R Authorization for the Department of Administration to Apply for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Administration to Apply for the Focus on Energy Tribal Nation Energy Plan Funding

MOTION by Rep. Robert Pilot to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 L**, Authorization for the Department of Administration to Apply for the Focus on Energy Tribal Nation Energy Plan Funding. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

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

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 M**, Confirmation of the Ho-

Chunk Nation Department of Administration Board of Directors. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Tribal Lands Lending Act

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 N**, Adoption of Amendments to the Tribal Lands Lending Act. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Water Utility Ordinance

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 O**, Adoption of Amendments to the Water Utility Ordinance. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Dental Benefits

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 P**, Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Dental Benefits. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Vision Benefits

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 Q**, Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Vision Benefits. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Criminal Code, Section 961, out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Robert Pilot to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 R**, Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Criminal Code, Section 961, out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

District Meetings:

D1 Howasa – December 12, 2023

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Connie Radtke to nominate Penny LaMere Smart to the Housing Board for District 1.

D1 Niioxawani – December 13, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Kelly Jo Funmaker to have the Ho-Chunk Nation support/co-host the Wisconsin Summit for Natural Resources Volunteers September 2024 at HCG-WD in the amount of \$6,000. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Nathaniel Longtail, Jr. to give community

support for Twelve Clans to receive Capital Call. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-0 MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Kelly Jo Funmaker to nominate Cari Faye for Housing Board Member for District 1.

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Waverly Bird for Legislature to provide matching funds from their last breakfast fundraiser in the amount of \$915.00 for the end of the year celebration. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Lori Pettibone to have monthly update on the resolution regarding blood quantum from the Enrollment Workgroup.

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to refer to Legislature, Office of General Council and Legislative Legal the MOTION by Lori Pettibone to get an attorney for General Council Office to address resolutions that go through Tribal Courts, as a True Increase and in the next 30 days. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 10-2(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr., Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle)-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) MOTION CARRIED.

D2 Hinukwas– December 11, 2023

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Martha Smith to TABLE the nomination for HHCDA Board of Commissioners for next meeting due to possible candidate not able to attend this month's meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to refer to Legislative Legal and Department of Justice the MOTION by Adam Kruse to start negotiation with the City of La Crosse to obtain a property that would be suitable for a new Branch Office. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to refer to Legislative Legal and Department of Justice the MOTION by Marsha Smith to start negotiation with the City of La Crosse for the transfer of Red Cloud Park into Ho-Chunk ownership. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

D2 Ho'uni Xununik – December 12, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephane Begay to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Debreana Pettibone to request \$10, 0000 from Charitable Contribution payable to Peking Restaurant Family (Jianona Ng). Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-2(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Rodney Rave)-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) MOTION CARRIED.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD:

NOTE: Formula allocation plan needs to be researched for the homes being transferred back to the Department of Housing from HHCDA.

D2 Hoxaikejal/Hogucejal NiZhakisuc – December 13, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Department of Business and Office of the President the MOTION by Cynthia Tack to TABLE Business Department under Unfinished Business. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Barb Funmaker to remove Striving from the agenda.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the next District 2 Area Meeting the MOTION by Cynthia Tack to have Shane Funmaker be the coordinator of the Neeshla Powwow for 2024. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay 12-0-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Cynthia Tack to rescind and restate Resolution 12-05-23L amending Proclamation to Resolution and include mescaline to the resolution opposing decriminalization for Peyote.

D3 Pac cinak – December 11, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to refer to the Finance Commission to support the Wisconsin Summit for Natural Resources Volunteers. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

D3 Tee hoikšek – December 12, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Mary Lopez that Green Bay area supports sponsorship of \$1,300 for the 2024 Spring Softball Clinic. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Pamela Wilber to support the funding for Wisconsin Summit for Natural Resources Volunteers. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Social Services the MOTION by Pamela Wilbur for Sue Greengrass to be on the TAU Elder Advisory Board. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

D3 Tejop – December 13, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Marlys Whiteagle

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12
to support the funding for Tina Browns Wisconsin Summit for Natural Resources Volunteers. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Office of the President and Department of Justice the **MOTION** by Muriel Whiteagle-Lee the for a report as to why we have cashless machines at Ho-Chunk Gaming Madison and what the benefits are of having them. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin.12-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Land Development Team the **MOTION** by Marlys Whiteagle for the Nation to look at land for the purpose of housing within the city limits. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Administration to the **MOTION** by Marlys Whiteagle to install on the northern side of the Teejop Branch Office Building. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Executive Session the **MOTION** by Saresa Ryckman for the Legislature to launch a Legislative Inquiry into the entire tutor program and adhering to the ERA. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Personnel the **MOTION** by Saresa Ryckman for the Department of Personnel to include in their Legislative report each position that were posted open until filled. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Office of the President and Department of Personnel the **MOTION** by Saresa Ryckman to for the Director of Personnel to include in his monthly report to Legislature how many justification he

signed approving a non-Ho-Chunk over a Ho-Chunk. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 10-2(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Stephanie Begay)-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Legislature and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Saresa Ryckman for Legislature to revisit the Executive Director of Personnel and the Executive Director of Education’s credentials to see if they meet the criteria for the job description and monitor performance to this point to make a determination based on their information if the nomination should be rescinded. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 10-2(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Phyllis Smoke)-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tešišik – December 14, 2023

No motions were made.

NOTE FOR THE RECORD:

The District 3 Milwaukee Area Meeting will be moving to Friday evenings starting January 2024.

D3 Cexhaci – December 14, 2023

No motions were made.

D4 Guušgonak – December 11, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Casey Brown to have Legislature support as a co-sponsor for the Wisconsin Summit for Natural Resources Volunteers at Ho-Chunk Gaming in Wisconsin Dells in the amount of \$6,000. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to Legislative Legal to request a resolution and letter of support with the Vice President’s signature for potential adoption at the next Legislative Meeting regarding the **MOTION** by Casey Brown to have the Ho-Chunk Nation support the coalition to recognize Indigenous People’s Day in the State of Illinois. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to refer to Legislative Enrollment Workgroup and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Casey Brown to have Legislature TABLE any redistricting efforts until a NEW Census is created after the work to adhere to the General Council Resolution regarding Enrollment has been fulfilled. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 9-3(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Shelby Visintin)-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D4 Maanico Horuzra – December 14, 2023

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Mark Stroessner to pause any redistricting efforts until a new census is created and until after the work to adhere to the General Council resolution regarding enrollment has been fulfilled.

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. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 11:39 a.m.

The Executive Session recessed for lunch at 12:17 until 1:00 p.m.

Vice President Karena Thundercloud called the Executive Session to order at 1:05 p.m. Quorum was established.

Rep. Robert Pilot is online.

President Jon Greendeer arrives to the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

Rep. Shelby Visintin is online at 2:00 p.m.

Rep. Danielle DeLong is online at 2:30 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 4:38 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consideration-Resolution-Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Committee Establishment and Organization Act of 2011

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to consider Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Committee Establishment and Organization Act of 2011. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to add to the agenda Resolution-Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Committee Establishment and Organization Act of 2011. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Rodney Rave abstained from the vote since he was not in the room during the discussion.

Resolution-Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Committee Establishment and Organization Act of 2011

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 AA**, Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Committee Establishment and Organization Act of 2011 in reference to striking the language in Section 7, and replacing it with “The Legislature delegates to the Commission and advisory role relating to the oversight and administration of the Nation’s investments”. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request Legislative Legal prepare resolution to put out for 45 Day Public Comment the Trust and Investment Committee Establishment Act, and to set

up a review before the next Legislative Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Fund Minors Sub-Trust General Welfare Distribution

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-19-23 BB**, Authorization to Fund Minors Sub-Trust General Welfare Distribution. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

IPS Clarification

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to authorize Legislative Legal and the Treasurer to finalize the proposed amendments to CTF/MTF and IPS and bring back to the Finance Commission on December 28, 2023 for consideration. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Release to Open Session:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to send to Open Session today to have a quick passage consideration for the Trust and Investment Establishment Act for Section 7 of the Act, and then in addition, adding a discussion of placing the Act out for 45 day public comment, and release this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle request that the Legislature add this to the Open Session agenda after obtaining legal advice and releasing this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adjourn to the Legislative Meeting to January 3, 2024 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE REGULAR MEETING TRIBAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI JANUARY 3, 2024

Call to Order: President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

- President Jon Greendeer-P
- Vice President Karena Thundercloud-EX
- Rep. Rodney Rave-P
- Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P
- Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-P
- Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
- Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
- Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P
- Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC (10:02 a.m.)

- Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
- Rep. Danielle DeLong-P
- Rep. Robert Pilot-P
- Rep. Paul Fox-P
- Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-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. Kristin White Eagle. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to move New Business: C. Resolution-Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust &

Investment Establishment and Organization Act of 2011 out for Public Review and Comment; New Business: F. Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evidence for Action Indigenous-Led Solutions to Advance Health Equity and Wellbeing Grant; New Business: G. Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the National Indian Health Board Strong Systems, Stronger Communities Grant; New Business: J. Resolution-Investment and Designation of Emergency Reserve Fund with Baird Investment Advisors after Approval of the Agenda. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Resolution-Authorization

to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust & Investment Establishment and Organization Act of 2011 out for Public Review and Comment

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 A**, Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust & Investment Establishment and Organization Act of 2011 out for Public Review and Comment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** **Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evidence for Action Indigenous-Led Solutions to Advance Health Equity and Wellbeing Grant**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 B**, Authorization for

the Health Department to Apply for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evidence for Action Indigenous-Led Solutions to Advance Health Equity and Wellbeing Grant. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the National Indian Health Board Strong Systems, Stronger Communities Grant

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 C**, Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the National Indian Health Board Strong Systems, Stronger Communities Grant. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Investment and Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

Designation of Emergency Reserve Fund with Baird Investment Advisors

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 D**, Investment and Designation of Emergency Reserve Fund with Baird Investment Advisors. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Kristin White Eagle is excused at 10:14 a.m. to attend a meeting with the Speaker of the State Assembly regarding the Code Talkers Legislation in Madison WI.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-December 19, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the December 19, 2023 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Shelby Visintin is excused at 10:14 a.m. to attend a meeting with the Speaker of the State Assembly regarding the Code Talkers Legislation in Madison WI.

Commission Reports:

Finance Commission-December 28, 2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the December 28, 2023 Finance Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reports:

Enrollment Report

A written report was received.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Enrollment Report. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ho-Chunk Transportation

A written report was received.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to accept the Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority report. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Executive Branch Monthly Reports:

Department of Administration

A written report was received.

Department of Health

A written report was received.

Department of Personnel; Insurance

A written report was received.

Social Services

A written report was received.

Elder Advisory Board

A written report was received.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to accept the Elder Advisory Board minutes. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 9-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Stephanie Begay abstained because her father is a board member.*

Unfinished Business:

No Unfinished Business.

New Business:

Resolution-Per Capita Declaration for February 1, 2024

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 E**, Per Capita Declaration for February 1, 2024. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 9-1(Rep. Paul Fox)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 F**, Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Support for the Designation of the Second Monday in October as a Holiday Known as Indigenous Peoples Day in Cook County, IL and the City of Chicago, IL

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 G**, Support for the Designation of the Second Monday in October as a Holiday Known as Indigenous Peoples Day in Cook County, IL and the City of Chicago, IL. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Support for the Health Department to Pursue a Sub-Award Agreement with the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA)

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 H**, Support for the Health Department to Pursue a Sub-Award Agreement with the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA). Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 10-0-0 **MOTION**

CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization to Place the Proposed Ciira Ružeže (Raze) Ordinance (3 HCC § 66) out for Forty-Five Day Comment Period

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 I**, Authorization to Place the Proposed Ciira Ružeže (Raze) Ordinance (3 HCC § 66) out for Forty-Five Day Comment Period. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Criminal Code, Section 939, out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Robert Pilot to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 J**, Authorization to Place the Ho-Chunk Nation Criminal Code, Section 939, out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **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. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:30 a.m.

Rep. Kristin White Eagle and Rep. Shelby Visintin return to the meeting online at 11:04 a.m.

The Executive Session recessed for lunch at 12:08 p.m.

President Jon Greendeer called

the Executive Session to order at 12:47 p.m. Quorum was established.

Rep. Robert Pilot is online at 12:49 p.m.

Rep. Paul Fox is online at 1:34 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 1:59 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Release to Open Session:

Resolution-Authorization to Increase Employer Matching Percentage to Ho-Chunk Nation 401 (K) Plan-Referred from December 28, 2023 Finance Commission Meeting

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-03-24 K**, Authorization to Increase Employer Matching Percentage to Ho-Chunk Nation 401 (K) Plan. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-1(Rep. Kristin White Eagle) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to January 9, 2024 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, WI. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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



Ho-Chunk Nation

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Tutoring Services
Now Offered!

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.

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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

Apply Here!

We are accepting applications now!

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.

RHYS POCAN

1989 COLD CASE HOMICIDE

Sheboygan Countywide CRIME STOPPERS

877-CUF-THEM

P3 TIPS MOBILE APP

CASH REWARD

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

Empowering Native Entrepreneurs Your Partners in Progress

American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (AICCW)



Since its inception in 1991, AICCW has been pivotal to Wisconsin Indian Country's economic expansion, empowering Native-owned businesses through advocacy, networking, and tailored member services.

- Championing economic and business development statewide.
- Offering access to financial products, services, and networking opportunities.
- Conducting economic development seminars for enriched business acumen.
- Representing Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) in key state initiatives.
- Nurturing Native student leaders via the AICCW Scholarship Program and recognizing and celebrating Native business success.

For more information on AICCW's member services, visit aiccw.org or contact:

Heather Cloud
Executive Director
heather@aiccw.org
920.412.5590

Paul R Smith
Assistant Executive Director
paul@aiccw.org
414.416.3593

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At FACC, we stand beside Wisconsin's entrepreneurs, providing the financial support and technical guidance essential for sustained business growth.

We honor your business by:

- Providing accessible capital through the Revolving Loan Fund and SBA Microloans.
- Offering personalized technical assistance for robust business growth.
- Guiding entrepreneurs from business plan creation to succession planning options.
- Aligning our resources with your goals, our collaborative steps are designed to support the pathway to your success.

For more information on FACC's Business Services, visit faccwi.org or contact:

Bill Beson
Co-Executive Dir./Lending
bill@firstamericancapitalcorp.org
715.358.5882

Gary Mejchar
Co-Executive Dir./Development
gary@firstamericancapitalcorp.org
414.517.1604

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FACC and AICCW unite with a firm purpose to empower Native entrepreneurs in Wisconsin, forging a robust support network that propels businesses toward sustainable growth. Our synergistic approaches amplify our collective impact, paving the way for a brighter economic horizon in Wisconsin Indian Country.

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