

DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR, Unit IV

An ongoing issue for our Unit IV area was the closing down of the Escanaba satellite health/community office. The closings also included the Marquette office, which Unit V and Unit IV members utilized for services.

A few months ago, the board of directors approved for a Health Access Ad Hoc Exploratory Group to be formed, which directors Joan Carr-Anderson, Darcy Morrow, and myself were involved including other board members, health staff and the executive director. The committee was tasked to work on re-establishing services that were taken from the rural areas in 2008.

The committee met over several months and identified a list of priorities. At the June 3, St. Ignace board meeting, a motion was made and supported by the board to enact the health access priorities, this consisted of re-openings of Escanaba, Marquette, DeTour and Drummond Island.

The total cost to re-establish these services will be \$15,900 per year. Health staff were directed to find the funding within the Health budget or tribal support and were given the task of looking for suitable office space in those areas. This is a very small/minimal amount to re-establish a presence back in those communities.

I'M VERY HAPPY TO REPORT THAT at the July 9 board meeting, I motioned to approve, and Director Morrow seconded, the resolution approving the Escanaba lease. The board of directors has supported and approved to lease office space in Penstar's office building at 1401 North 26th Street, Escanaba, Mich.

Health staff and Marlene Glaesman, rural clinics health director, will be working on setting up the office space this week. As soon as they get the telephone line installed, Marlene will make sure to put out an announcement. In the meantime if you have any questions, you can call myself or Director Morrow or leave a message for Tara or Diane at the Manistique Health Clinic, (906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043.

The following services will be offered:

- Community Health nursing,
- Community Health technician.
- Medication delivery and pick up services,
- Other available health promotion/disease prevention services,
- Wellness/foot-clinics/ immunizations,
- Access to tribal program applications.

The resolution also authorized the chairman to sign the five-year lease agreement, which expires on July 31, 2018.

Marlene Glaesman also identified office space in the Peninsula Medical Center in Marquette to sub-lease. Marlene will bring the lease forward for board approval when it's ready.

TAP – Tribal Action Plan — We have completed our western end focus groups. Input from the seven-county service areas will be included in the action plan that is being worked on. We have developed a survey and the next step is to get them mailed out to the membership and returned

with your valuable input. Please ensure when all tribal surveys are sent to your household that you complete and return them. It is imperative to ensure that we receive your input and the data collected will help with pushing for expansion of tribal services.

I would like to send a special thank you to Mary Jenerou CPS (Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc., Manistique Outpatient Services) who was the facilitator for our community and professional focus groups held throughout the western end. And thanks to Rita Glyptis who was the focus group recorder and organized these events.

Below is the resolution, Amending Chapter 10: Tribal Election Ordinance Special Advisory Election that will be voted on at tomorrow night's (Aug. 6) board meeting. If approved, it should help alleviate the debacle that happened when Joe McCoy left office.

Amending Ch. 10: Tribal Election Ordinance Special Advisory Elections

WHEREAS, the Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance allows for the conduct of a Special Advisory Election to assist the Board of Directors in filling a vacated seat via appointment; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance contains timelines that prohibit the conduct of a Special Advisory Election if it were to occur six months prior to the Notice of Election for a General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors is of the opinion that the six month timeframe is too stringent and has tasked the Election Committee with calculating a new timeline that allows for the conduct of a Special Advisory Election as close in time to a Notice of Election for a General Election as can reasonably be had; and

WHEREAS, the Election Committee has studied the request and recommends a new time line that requires the Notice of Election for a Special Advisory Election to be given no earlier than sixty-five days before a Notice of Election for a General Election which in turn requires the counting of ballots of a Special Advisory Election to occur no later than the day before the Notice of Election for a General Election; and

WHEREAS, this recommendation is made with the understanding that a Special Advisory Election conducted pursuant to a sixty five day timeline will: (a) not have a primary; (b) voter registration will close upon the Notice of Election or near immediately thereafter; (c) the possibility exist that a potential candidate's background check will not be completed in time for inclusion on the ballot; and (d) the timelines for the conduct of a Special Advisory Election will not be set by law but rather by the Election Committee and will be published in the Election Notice and will be subject to change pending unforeseen circumstances brought on by the condensed timeline.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors accepts the Election Committee's recommendation and adopts Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance, Subchapter II in its entirety as attached.

Attachment:

Subchapter II: Special Advisory Elections

10.201 Purpose and Authority. Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution provides that the Board of Directors shall, by majority vote, fill vacancies on the Board of Directors by appointment of a voting Member to fill the unexpired term of the departed official. The Board of Directors has determined to conduct Special Advisory Elections to assist it in performing its responsibilities under Article VI. The results of any Special Advisory Election conducted pursuant to this Subchapter are advisory only and are not binding on the Board of Directors. The purpose of this Subchapter is to establish procedures for conducting Special Advisory Elections. The regulations and procedures contained in this Chapter shall be administered in such a way as to accomplish this purpose and intent. 10.202 Scope.

This Subchapter shall govern Special Advisory Elections for the Board of Directors conducted by the Board of Directors to assist it in filling vacant Board seats.

10.203 Notice.

The Election Committee shall

be noticed of a vacancy on the Board of Directors by:

(1) the Board of Directors providing written notice to the Election Committee; or

(2) upon the Election Committee appearing before the Board of Directors being informed there is a vacancy. 10.204 Date of Election.

The date of the election shall not be earlier than sixty-five (65) days after the Election Announcement for the Special Advisory Election. No Special Advisory Election shall be held if the election date shall be later than the Election Announcement for the next general election. 10.205 Election Announcement.

Upon notice of a vacancy the Election Committee shall within three (3) business days prepare and post at each tribal office an Election Announcement which shall explain the purpose of the Special Advisory Election, give date of election, the manner by which the Vote is to be taken, the office to be filled, the procedures for the nomination of Candidates, the time limit for each stage of the election procedure and the voting requirements for the elections. It shall provide information on the election to eligible voters, and shall also publicize the election information throughout the election unit affected.

Election Rules.
All other Sections of this
Chapter are applicable to Special
Advisory Elections except as
specifically indicated in this
Subchapter. The timelines found
in this Chapter relating to general elections are not applicable to
a Special Advisory Election. The

10.206 Applicability of General

in this Chapter relating to general elections are not applicable to a Special Advisory Election. The timelines for a Special Advisory Election shall be determined by the Election Committee in such a way as to accomplish the purpose and intent of this Subchapter and shall be published within the Election Notice. 10.207 Primary.

There shall be no primary for a Special Advisory Election. 10.208 Appointment.

- (1) The Board of Directors is not prohibited from filling a vacancy prior to the certification of the Special Advisory Election.
- (2) The Board of Directors is not prohibited from filling a vacancy with an individual who did not participate in the Special Advisory Election.
- (3) The Board of Directors is not required to appoint the individual who received the most votes in the Special Advisory Election.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (906) 322-3819 or 341-6783.

Thank you,

Denise Chase, vice chair