

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
August 18, 2026

This meeting was opened at 5:06 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Bridgett Sorenson, Aaron Payment, Larry Barbeau, Kimberly Lee, Michael McKerchie, Kimberle Gravelle, Sue St. Onge, Ashley Gravelle, Lana Causley-Smith, Cole Goudreau, Rob McRorie (Z), Austin Lowes

Absent: Tyler LaPlaunt

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve the agenda as read.

Without objection, excuse Director LaPlaunt.

No objection.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director St. Onge, to approve 8/4/26 Minutes. Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-243, FY 2027 Budget Document 002 (Schedule B Budgets – No Health Division).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 Budget Document 002 totaling \$12,310,732, of which \$541,121 comes from Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, resolution Continuing Funding Authority – Governmental FY 2027 Schedule B Budgets dies due to lack of support as not needed.

No objection.

Moved by Director K. Gravelle, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-244, Continuing Funding Authority – Health Division FY 2027 Schedule B Budgets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves continuing funding for the attached cost center list for fiscal year 2027, at their 2026 spending levels, for a period not to exceed December 31, 2026.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-245, Broadband Reconnect4 Establishment of FY 2026 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget for Broadband Reconnect4 with Federal USDA Revenue of \$1,074,612.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-246, Sanitation – BE-26-N93 Establishment of FY 2027 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget for Sanitation BE-26-N93 with Federal IHS Revenue of \$500,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-247, Natural Resources Division – EPA Indoor Air Quality Establishment of FY 2027 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget for EPA Indoor Air Quality with Federal EPA Revenue of \$3,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Without objection, approve via unanimous consent.

No objection.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-248, Natural Resources Division – Wildlife Management Institute – White-Nose Syndrome Establishment of FY 2027 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget for Wildlife Management Institute – White-Nose Syndrome with Federal USFWL Revenue of \$14,997.92. No effect on Tribal Support.

Without objection, approve via unanimous consent.

No objection.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-249, Elder Division – Elder Services Meal Additions Establishment of FY 2027 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget for Elder Services Meal Additional with Third Party Revenue of \$234,624.00 and Tribal Support of \$3,500.00.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-250, Buildings – Marquette Community Center FY 2026 And FY 2027 Budget Modifications.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification to Buildings –Marquette Community Center for an increase in Other Revenue of \$67,479.88. This budget is funded by Other Revenue from the Elder Division 1.6%, Education 2.7%, and Tribal Operations 95.7%.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget modification to Buildings – Marquette Community Center for an increase in Other Revenue of \$32,520.00. This budget is funded by Fund Balance 23.5% and Other Revenue from the Elder Division 5%, Education 3%, and Tribal Operations 68.5%.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Goudreau, to approve Resolution 2026-251, ACFS – Lodge of Hope FY 2026 Budget Modification and Establishment of FY 2026 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification to Lodge of Hope (12671) for a decrease in the transfer in from Opioid Settlement Funds \$235,041.79. This budget is funded by Opioid Settlement Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the establishment of a FY 2026 budget for Lodge of Hope (12672) with State of Michigan Revenue of \$160,879.99. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director St. Onge, to approve Resolution 2026-252, Governmental Emergency Conditions Policy.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Payment, to add “or home base” into the ‘Use of Leave Time’ policy section.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to amend carries with Director McKerchie opposing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby adopts the attached Governmental Emergency Conditions Policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby rescinds Resolution 2016-40, and each entity of the Tribe will need to adopt its own Emergency Conditions Policy.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Governmental Emergency Conditions Policy shall be effective immediately.

Motion carries with Director McKerchie opposing.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-253, Health Division – Rural Health Transformation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Health Division’s acceptance for the RHTP Funds in the amount of \$665,878.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legal Department will assist the Health Division in negotiations of the contract with MDHHS.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Health Division CEO, or their designee, to execute all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this resolution.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-254, Health Division – Approving Contract for Automated Comfort Controls Project Gladstone HC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves awarding the contract to Automated Comfort Controls in the amount of \$82,600.00 for the Gladstone Health Condensing Unit Project / AC Units.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legal Department will assist the Health Division in negotiations of the contract with Automated Comfort Controls.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Board of Directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to execute any documents necessary, once approved by the Legal Department, subject

that it does not require additional approval from the Board of Directors under any applicable Tribal laws or policies, to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Motion unanimously.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-255, Sault Tribe Health Division Stand Strong Youth Initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approved and supports the Health Divisions Fiscal year 2026 Primary Substance Use Prevention Service Funding through MDHHS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or their designee, to prepare, submit, negotiate, execute, and administer applications, agreements, certifications, assurances, and other documents necessary to secure and implement PSUPS funding.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors supports the Health Division's continued efforts to pursue federal, state, Tribal, and private funding opportunities that advance healthcare prevention efforts and expand access to services for Tribal Members.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McKerchie, to approve Resolution 2026-256, Authorization to Negotiate/Accept Donation Donaldson Trust Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman or his designee to negotiate and accept the donation on behalf of the Tribe for the Donaldson Trust Property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon successful negotiations, the Board of Directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman or his designee to sign any and all documentation to complete the property donation.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby confers the responsibility of managing the Donaldson Trust Property to the Natural Resources Division to ensure inter-generational stewardship, harvesting and ceremony, and research and education that centers our Anishinaabe knowledges and ways.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director K. Gravelle, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-257, Amending Resolution 2012-245.

Moved by Director K. Gravelle, Supported by Director McKerchie, to remove "through the state of Michigan" and include "duly licensed and insured".

Motion to amend carries unanimously.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby amends Resolution 2012-245 to allow, at cultural events, such as powwows, and at enterprises that fall under the control of any economic arm of the Tribe, by an individual who is duly licensed and insured to perform tattooing, body piercing, and other similar body modification services on tribal lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that tattooing, body piercing, and other similar body modification services shall not be permitted at any residential property on tribal lands or by someone who is not duly licensed and insured to perform these services.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all other terms of Resolution 2012-245 shall remain in effect.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve a Resolution, Authorizing the Creation of The Legislative Attorney Office.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Payment, to Table.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Director McRorie opposing.

Moved by Director A. Gravelle, supported by Director Payment, to approve the date change for the Board of Directors from 10/06/26 to 10/13/26.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Payment, to amend to include the date change for the Board of Directors from 10/20/26 to 10/27/26.

Motion to amend carries unanimously.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve the following Conservation Committee Appointment:

- Jackie Robison, Non-Fisher Member, Appointment, term expiring August 2030

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, meeting adjourned.

No objection.

Adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Date: 9/1/2026

Secretary:


Ashley Gravelle

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Samuel Derusha, Ryan Mills, Joseph Street, Kayla Gutierrez, Damien Hopper, Jessica Dumbach, Holly Haapala, Bill Connolly, Jen Clerc, Mariea Mongene (Z), Scott Brand, Michelle Moore, Dan Doyle, Dani Fegan, Jami Moran, Elaine Clement (Z), Latisha Willette, Officer Anthony Lester, Officer Harrison Thorne, Megan Miller, Laura Fisher, Annie Thibert, Katie Peabody, Ashley Samuelson