

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
KEWADIN CASINO AND CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
September 25, 2025

This meeting was opened at 2:32 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Kimberly Lee (Z), Isaac McKechnie, Kimberly Hampton (not present for roll call),
Bridgett Sorenson (Z), Aaron Payment, Tyler LaPlaunt (Z), Lana Causley-Smith (Z), Michael
McKerchie, Larry Barbeau (Z), Kimberle Gravelle, Austin Lowes

Absent: Rob McRorie, Shawn Borowicz

Without objection, excuse Director Borowicz and Hampton.
No objection.

**Without objection, waive the rules and add the following Resolution to the agenda,
Acceptance of the 2024 Housing Authority Audit.**
No objection.

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve the agenda as
read.**

Motion carries unanimously.

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-
231, Acceptance of the 2024 Housing Authority Audit.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie
Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby accepts the 2024 Housing Authority Audit, as presented to the
Sault Tribe Audit Committee on September 24, 2025, by Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC.
Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously; Director Hampton not present yet.

**Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution
2025-232, Acceptance of the 2024 Governmental Audit.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie
Tribe of Chippewa Indians, as accepted by the Audit Committee on September 24, 2025, hereby
accepts the 2024 Governmental Audit as presented by their Auditors: Dennis, Gartland, &
Niergarth.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

**Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-
233, Approval of Agreement Between JKL Fiduciary Committee and Sault Ste. Marie Area
Public Schools.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie
Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the agreement between JKL Fiduciary Committee and
Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chairman or his
designee to execute any and all documents to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-234, Health Division – FY25 BEMAR Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Health Division to accept \$1,486,500 of IHS BEMAR Funds.

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

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-235, Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Without objection, waive the reading.

No objection.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, as follows:

Section 1 FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS:

The Board of Directors finds and determines that:

1.1 The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (“Tribe”) is a federally recognized Indian Tribal Government organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934.

1.2 The Tribe wishes to enter into a Tribal Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Agreement (“Agreement”) with the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (“Grantor”) on behalf of the Tribal Health Centers; and

1.3 The Grantor developed the Grant language for all tribe’s and requires a waiver of sovereign immunity and is open to revisiting the language for future grants; and

1.4 In order to enter into the Agreement, the Tribe is required to confirm that the Tribe and all other entities claiming by, through or under the Tribe will not claim sovereign immunity or exclusive Tribal Court jurisdiction with respect to any disputes or causes of action between the Tribe and Grantor that might arise from, or relate to, in any respect, the Agreement, or object to the venue clauses found in the Agreement. All the foregoing are referred to herein as the “Waiver and Consent Obligations”; and

1.5 The Tribe and Grantor are negotiating future language to incorporate into these agreements that would not require a waiver of sovereign immunity; and

1.6 It is in the Tribe’s interest to resolve as stated herein.

Section 2 WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY; CONSENT TO JURISDICTION; GOVERNING LAW

2.1 The Tribe hereby waives its sovereign immunity from suit in favor of Grantor only should an action be commenced under the Agreement referenced above.

This waiver:

Shall terminate upon performance by the Tribe of all of its obligations under the Agreement; and Is granted solely to Grantor; and

Shall extend to inter alia, any judicial or non-judicial action, including, but not limited to, any lawsuit, arbitration, and judicial or non-judicial action to resolve disputes between the Tribe and

Grantor and the assertion of any claim in a court of competent jurisdiction or with any arbitrator or arbitration panel to enforce the obligations under the Agreement; and
Shall be enforceable only in a court of competent jurisdiction, including the Michigan Court of Claims located in Ingham County; and
Shall be enforceable against the assets of the Tribe to the extent necessary to satisfy the Tribe's obligation in the Agreement; and
The Agreement, and other associated documents shall be construed in accordance with and governed by all applicable laws and regulations of governmental bodies with competent jurisdiction, as set forth in such documents.

Section 3. WAIVER OF TRIBAL COURT JURISDICTION

3.1 The Board of Directors waiver the exclusive jurisdiction of the Tribal Court over any action arising under the Agreement. The Board authorized the Tribe to consent to the jurisdiction of any courts with competent jurisdiction, including any courts to which decisions may be appealed, with respect to any controversies arising from this resolution or any of the finance documents, note or Agreement.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

4.1 This waiver shall become effective upon the final execution of the Agreement executed by the Chairman or his designee. Failure or refusal of any individual to execute the Agreement shall render the waivers and consents granted in this resolution to become void immediately. Failure or refusal to execute the Agreement prior to the close of business on January 1, 2026, shall render the waivers and consents granted in this resolution to become void immediately.

Section 5. AUTHORIZATION

5.1 T The CEO of Health Services or his designee is authorized to execute any and all documents to effectuate the forgoing.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to approve Resolution 2025-236, Health Division – State Opioid Response 4 (SOR4).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Health Division's acceptance for the SOR4 Sub-Recipient Funds in the amount of \$160,000.

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

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2025-237, Authorization for Tribal Chair to Negotiate and Execute Agreements Under the CCER MOU with USDA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to negotiate and execute agreements related to this MOU, including any associated funding agreements, to accept funding on behalf of the Tribe and CCER.

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, waive the reading of the rest of the Resolutions and handle them all together.

No objection.

Without objection, assign a different Resolution number to each of them.

No objection.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-238, Authorization to Change Signers with Flagstar Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Flagstar Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-239, Authorization to Change Signers with Sovereign Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Sovereign Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant- Heather Weber

Controller, DCN - Jan Lehenbauer

Accountant - Sydny Hagan

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-240, Authorization to Change Signers with Soo Co-op Credit Union.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Soo Co-Op Credit Union. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant- Julie Hagan

Comptroller- Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant- Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-241, Authorization to Change Signers with Peoples State Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Peoples State Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant- Julie Hagan

Comptroller- Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant- Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-242, Authorization to Change Signers with Nicolet National Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Nicolet National Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-243, Authorization to Change Signers with Huntington Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Huntington Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-244, Authorization to Change Signers with Central Savings Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with Central Savings Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant- Julie Hagan

Comptroller- Lisa Sawruk
Executive Assistant- Heather Weber

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2025-245, Authorization to Change Signers with PNC Bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the CFO or her designee, to prepare and establish the necessary signature cards with PNC Bank. Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories, listed in the attached.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors grants inquiry access to these accounts for obtaining transactional information to the following Finance Department staff:

Senior Accountant- Julie Hagan
Comptroller- Lisa Sawruk
Executive Assistant- Heather Weber

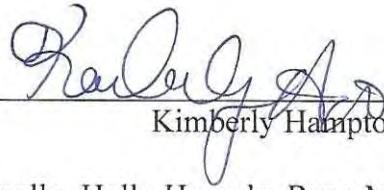
Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, meeting adjourned.

No objection.

Adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Date: 10/14/25

Secretary: 
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Ashlee Mielke, Bill Connolly, Holly Haapala, Ryan Mills, Jessica Dumback (Z), Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Dani Fegan, Elaine Clement (Z), Josh Elliott, Joel Lumsden, Ken Talsma, Trina Ochs