

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HESSEL COMMUNITY CENTER
HESSEL, MICHIGAN
November 18, 2025

This meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Austin Lowes.

Present: Kimberly Hampton (Z), Tyler LaPlaunt (Z), Rob McRorie (Z), Kimberly Lee, Isaac McKechnie, Lana Causley-Smith, Larry Barbeau, Bridgett Sorenson (Z), Kimberle Gravelle, Aaron Payment (Z), Shawn Borowicz, Austin Lowes

Absent: Michael McKerchie

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKechnie, to excuse Director McKerchie.

Without objection.

No objection.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve the agenda as read.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve the minutes from 11/04/25.

Without objection, make technical amendment to last Resolution number changing it from 295 to 296.

No objection.

Motion carries with Director Causley-Smith abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2025-297, ACFS – USDA 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 establishment of a FY 2026 budget to USDA with Federal USDA Revenue of \$45,049.51. No effect on Tribal Support.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-298, Governmental – Transit Agreements Establishment FY 2026 Budget.

BE IT 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 Transit Agreements with Federal Department of Transportation Revenue monies of \$350,946.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-299, Health Division – State of Michigan Tribal Opioid Response 4 Medication Assisted Treatment (SOR4) 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 establishment of a FY 2026 budget to SOR4 with Other ITC Revenue monies of \$88,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-300, Health Division – Radiology 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 establishment of a FY 2026 budget to Radiology with Third Party Revenue of \$798,718.51.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2025-301, Application to the Nature Conservancy Whitefish Rehabilitation Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$50,000 in TNC funding.

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

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2025-302, Application to Michigan Coastal Management Program Funding for the Hoban Creek Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$200,000 in Michigan Coastal Management Program funding.

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

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2025-303, Contract with Compass Resource Management for the Great Lakes Manoomin Project.

Without objection, amend to fix the November 31, 2025 dates to November 30, 2025.

No objection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves awarding a professional services contract to Compass Resource Management to perform the Scope of Work for the Great Lakes Manoomin Project, for the period November 10, 2025 – November 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$96,000 for staff fees (with in-region workshop travel to be covered separately by CCER), substantially in the form presented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NRD and CCER are authorized to administer the contract, charge allowable costs to approved budgets and/or grants, and ensure compliance with reporting, audit/records, intellectual property, and other applicable requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Chairman of the Tribe, or their designee, to enter into and execute all documents, contracts, and subcontracts 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 Borowicz, to approve a Resolution, Temporarily Rescinding Schoolcraft County Sheriff 2% Funding.

Moved by Director Hampton, supported by Director Barbeau, to Table.

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Directors' Borowicz, Causley-Smith, Hampton, Payment, McRorie, Barbeau, Sorenson, Lee supporting; Directors' McKechnie, Gravelle, LaPlaunt opposing.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-304, Tribal Liquor License Kewadin Shores Casino.

Without objection, bundle all liquor license resolutions together with separate resolution numbers.

No objection.

Moved by Director McRorie to separate the golf courses.

Motion dies due to lack of support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Shores Casino.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-305, Tribal Liquor License Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-306, Tribal Liquor License Kewadin Casino Manistique.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino Manistique.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-307, Tribal Liquor License Kewadin Casino Hessel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino Hessel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-308, Tribal Liquor License Kewadin Casino Christmas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino Christmas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-309, Tribal Liquor License Midjim Convenience Store Sault Ste. Marie.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class B: Retailer License and Class A: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Midjim Convenience Store, Sault Ste. Marie.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-310, Tribal Liquor License Midjim Convenience Store St. Ignace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class B: Retailer License and Class A: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Midjim Convenience Store, St. Ignace.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-311, Tribal Liquor License White Pine Lodge Convenience Store Christmas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a Class B: Retailer License and Class A: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the White Pine Lodge Convenience Store, Christmas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-312, Tribal Liquor License Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course Sault Ste. Marie.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a CLASS A: Retailer License and CLASS B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course, Sault Ste. Marie.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2025-313, Tribal Liquor License Bear on the Mountain Golf Course Hessel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby issues a CLASS A: Retailer License and CLASS B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Bear on the Mountain Golf Course, Hessel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this license shall be posted and kept in a conspicuous place on the premises.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this license shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Motion carries with Director McRorie opposing; Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2025-314, Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction, Treasury Management, PNC Bank N.A.

Without objection, waive the reading of this Resolution.

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; and

1.2 The Tribe wishes to enter into a Certified Treasury Management Resolution ("Agreement") with PNC Bank, N.A. ("PNC") as negotiated by CFO; and

1.3 PNC will not consent to such agreement without a waiver of sovereign immunity or Tribal Court jurisdiction; and

1.4 In order to induce PNC to enter into an 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 PNC 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 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 PNC 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 PNC; 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 PNC 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 courts in the State of Michigan, the Tribal Court and federal courts in Michigan (including the United States Bankruptcy Court or any arbitrator or arbitration pane); 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 June 1, 2026, shall render the waivers and consents granted in this resolution to become void immediately.

Section 5. AUTHORIZATION

5.1 The Tribal Chairman and Secretary are authorized to execute any and all documents to effectuate the foregoing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Borowicz, to approve Resolution 2025-315, Amending Resolution 2025-39 Waiver of Sovereign Immunity Sacred Path.

Without objection, waive the reading of this Resolution.

No objection.

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

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 Pascua Yaqui Tribe only should an action be commenced under the Agreement.

This waiver:

- i) shall terminate upon performance by the Tribe of all of its obligations under the Agreement; and
- ii) is granted solely to Pascua Yaqui Tribe; and
- iii) 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 Pascua Yaqui Tribe 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
- iv) shall be enforceable only in the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Court, the Superior Court for the State of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona or the Federal District court for the District of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona; and
- v) shall be enforceable against the assets of the Tribe to the extent necessary to satisfy the Tribe's obligation in the Agreement; and
- vi) 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 the the

Pascua Yaqui Tribal Court, the Superior Court for the State of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona or the Federal District court for the District of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona, including any courts to which decisions may be appealed, with respect to any controversies arising from this resolution or the 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.

Section 5. AUTHORIZATION

5.1 The Chairman of the Tribe or his designee is authorized to execute any and all documents to effectuate the forgoing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2025-316, Amending Resolution 2025-225 Organizational Charts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby amends Resolution 2025-225 and approves the additional 90 days for the Tribal Entities to bring back their organization charts for review and approval.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director McRorie, to approve a Resolution, Establishing Wilwalk Cemetery Committee.

Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director McKechnie, to amend to require the committee to meet with the repatriation specialist and language and cultural department.

Motion to amend carries with Director Causley-Smith abstaining.

Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director McKechnie, to amend and strike "enactment of this resolution" and add in "committee getting established."

Motion to amend carries with Director Causley-Smith abstaining.

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

Roll Call Vote: Motion to Table carries with Directors' Sorenson, Lee, Borowicz, Barbeau, LaPlaunt, Hampton, Gravelle, Causley-Smith supporting; Directors' Payment, McKechnie, McRorie opposing.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2025-317, Board Alternate to Child Welfare Committee.

Without objection, amend to add in, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby also approves the reappointment of Director Robert McRorie to the Child Welfare Committee under a new term.

No objection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves Director Michael McKerchie to serve as the Board Liaison Alternative pursuant to Tribal Code 30.1203(6).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby also approves the reappointment of Director Robert McRorie to the Child Welfare Committee under a new term.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to accept Timothy Derwin's resignation from the Unit 4 – Manistique Elder Subcommittee, opening up a seat with a term expiring May 2026.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to accept Sheila Berger, Ernest Demmon, and Lou Ann Dougherty for 3-year terms, expiring November 2028, to the Election Commission and Michael Larson and Latisha Willette for 5-year terms, expiring November 2030, to the Election Commission.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Payment, to appoint Sara Archer to the Unit 2 Housing Commission seat, with a term expiring November 2026.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Gravelle, to Table until the Housing Commission meeting.

Motion to Table carries with Directors' Lee, Hampton, Sorenson, LaPlaunt, Causley-Smith, Barbeau, Gravelle supporting; Directors' McKechnie, McRorie, Payment, Borowicz opposing.

Without objection, adjourn.

No objection.

Adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Date: 12/2/25

Secretary: 
Kimberly Hampton

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Ashlee Mielke, Bill Connolly, Holly Haapala, Ryan Mills, Jessica Dumbuck, Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Michelle Moore, Latisha Willette, Carrie Rodgers(Z), Robert Marchand, Sheryl McKerchie (Z), Dani Fegan, Veronica Beaumont