

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
June 16, 2026

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

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

Absent: Tyler LaPlaunt

Without objection, excuse Directors' Payment and LaPlaunt absences (Director Payment was on Zoom).

No objection.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director McRorie, to approve 6/2/26 Minutes.
Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Hampton, to approve Resolution 2026-166, Facilities Capital Expenditures FY 2026 Budget Modification.

Moved by Director Gravelle, supported by Director Sorenson, to Amend to remove Greenough and Inland A&B Buildings.

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

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 Facilities Capital Expenditures for an increase of \$510,600. This increase will come from Facilities fund balance.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Causley-Smith, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-167, Health Division – John Hopkins Family Spirit Syphilis Pilot Project 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 John Hopkins Family Spirit's Syphilis Pilot Project with Other Revenue from ITC of \$5,400.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-168, Big Bear Building Operations and Health Division Third – Party Revenue FY 2026 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 Big Bear Building Operations to add the transfer in of funds from Third Party Revenue of \$17,599.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification to Third Party Revenue to transfer out of funds to Big Bear Building Operations in the amount of \$17,599.00.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-169, Governmental – IT Cybersecurity Grant Establishment of FY 2026 And 2027 Budgets.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget for IT Cybersecurity Grant with State of Michigan Revenue of \$37,557.75. No effect on Tribal Support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2027 budget for IT Cybersecurity Grant with State of Michigan Revenue of \$112,673.25. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-170, Health Division – Awarding Cleaning Contract to Hunt's Maintenance & Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves entering into a contract with Hunt's Maintenance & Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors authorizes the Chairman of the Tribe, or their designee, to enter into and execute the contract and any supporting documents to fulfill the intent of this Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-171, Authorizing the Health Division to Apply for Indian Health Service Small Ambulatory Program Funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby approves and supports the Health Division's Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 Small Ambulatory Program (SAP) applications for funding to assist with the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center Annex & Expansion Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors authorizes the Tribal Chairman and/or the Health Division Chief Executive Officer, or their designee, to prepare, submit, negotiate, execute, and administer any applications, agreements, certifications, assurances, or other documents necessary to secure and implement SAP 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 infrastructure improvements and expand access to healthcare services for Tribal Members and eligible beneficiaries.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2026-172, Health Division – Approving Contractor for Flooring Project Manistique 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 JAMA Development, L.L.C. in the amount of \$91,801.48 for the Manistique Health Center flooring project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legal Department will assist the Health Division in negotiations of the contract with JAMA Development, L.L.C.

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 carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-173, Residential Land Lease Modification Joseph Suggitt Sr. and Amy L. Pollard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes its Tribal Chairman and Treasurer to execute the Lease Modification to the land located at Kincheloe, Michigan, to Joseph Suggitt Sr. and Amy L. Pollard, the land being described as:

Township of Kinross, County of Chippewa, State of Michigan
Part of Sec. 29 & S. 1/2 Sec. 20, T 45 N, R 1 W (.18 acres more or less)
Lot 930 Cedar Grove Estates III

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the lease is in furtherance of a Housing program operated in the promotion of the public purpose, and the negotiated rental amount has been determined to be in the best interest of the Tribe and its people, and valuation in accordance with 25 CFR 162.320 is hereby waived.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-174, NRD Application To 2026 BIA Tribal Youth Initiative (TYI) Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors approves the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$50,000 in BIA TYI 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 any and 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 2026-175, NRD Application to Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Fish Hatchery Maintenance Program (FHMP) Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$150,000 in BIA Fish Hatchery Maintenance 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 any and 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 McRorie, supported by Director McKechnie, to approve Resolution 2026-176, Negotiate and Hire Key Employee Chief Judge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Governmental Human Resources Director to negotiate an offer to hire the selected candidate for the position of Chief Judge with negotiated conditions within the parameters discussed at the workshop and as attached.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Director Payment abstaining.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve the appointment of Jeanne Kennedy as an Alternate to the Unit 4 Manistique Elder Subcommittee, term expiring March 2028.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McKechnie, supported by Director Barbeau, to accept the resignation of Wayne Somes from the Cultural Committee, term expiring October 2028.

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, meeting adjourned.

No objection.

Adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Date: 6/9/2026

Secretary: Ashley Gravelle
Ashley Gravelle

Life Saving Award Recipients: Sault Tribe Police Officers' Harrison Thorne, Marissa Skinner, Ryan Lubben, and Kewadin Security Officer Joshua Nainan

Sault Tribe Interns: Sawyer Dowd, Kenedy Hagan, Gabrielle Woodard, Taylor Wheatley, John Daley, Finley Hudecek, Camryn Pederson (Z)

Absent: Kayla Gutierrez

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Samuel Derusha, Ryan Mills, Jessica Dumback, Holly Haapala, Bill Connolly, Andrew Lane, Allen Kerridge, Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Michelle Moore, Derek O'Dell, Gerard Sagassige, Laura Fisher, Helen Wilkins, Jen Clerc (Z), Elaine Clement (Z), Annie Thibert, Stephanie Sprecker, Shawn Tackaberry (Z), Robert Marchand, Dani Fegan, Tammy Graham, Scott Brand, Officer Josh Jezewski, Ashley Samuelson