

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
KEWADIN CASINOS CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
July 7, 2026

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

Present: Lana Causley-Smith, Rob McRorie, Larry Barbeau, Ashley Gravelle, Kimberly Lee, Bridgett Sorenson, Aaron Payment, Sure St. Onge, Cole Goudreau, Kimberle Gravelle, Tyler LaPlaunt, Austin Lowes

Absent: Michael McKerchie

Without objection, excuse Director McKerchie's absence.

No objection.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Barbeau, to add the following 8 Bank Resolutions to the beginning of the agenda under Resolutions and the Appointment of Chairman Lowes as the Chairman of JKLFC under New Business:

- **Authorization to Change Signers with Central Savings Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Flagstar Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Huntington Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Nicolet Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Peoples State Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with PNC Bank**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Soo Co-Op Credit Union**
- **Authorization to Change Signers with Sovereign Bank**
- **Appoint Chairman Lowes as Chair of JKLFC**

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

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

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director McRorie, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve 6/16/26 Minutes.

Motion carries with Directors' A. Gravelle and LaPlaunt abstaining.

Without objection, handle change of signer's resolutions together and assign individual resolution numbers.

No objection.

Moved by Director Sorenson, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolutions 2026-177 through 2026-184 together.

Without objection, waive readings of resolutions.

No objection.

Resolution 2026-177, Authorization to Change Signers with Central Savings Bank.

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

Resolution 2026-178, Authorization to Change Signers with Flagstar Bank.

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.

Austin Lowes Holly Haapala Jessica Dumback

Tyler LaPlaunt Mike McKerchie Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Resolution 2026-179, Authorization to Change Signers with Huntington Bank.

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.

Austin Lowes Holly Haapala Jessica Dumback

Tyler LaPlaunt Mike McKerchie Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Resolution 2026-180, Authorization to Change Signers with Nicolet Bank.

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 Bank.

Austin Lowes Holly Haapala Jessica Dumback

Tyler LaPlaunt Mike McKerchie Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Resolution 2026-181, Authorization to Change Signers with Peoples State Bank.

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.

Austin Lowes	Holly Haapala	Jessica Dumback
Tyler LaPlaunt	Mike McKerchie	Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Lisa Sawruk - Comptroller

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Resolution 2026-182, Authorization to Change Signers with PNC Bank.

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.

Austin Lowes	Holly Haapala	Jessica Dumback
Tyler LaPlaunt	Mike McKerchie	Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Senior Accountant - Julie Hagan

Comptroller - Lisa Sawruk

Executive Assistant - Heather Weber

Resolution 2026-183, Authorization to Change Signers with Soo Co-Op Credit Union.

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

Resolution 2026-184, Authorization to Change Signers with Sovereign Bank.

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.

Austin Lowes	Holly Haapala	Jessica Dumback
Tyler LaPlaunt	Mike McKerchie	Ashley Gravelle

Said accounts will require the signatures of two of the signatories.

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

Controller, DCN - Jan Lehenbauer

Accountant - Sydney Hagan
Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-185, ACFS Division – USDA FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 USDA for a change to the personnel page and a reallocation of expenses. No effect on Tribal Support.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2026-186, Big Bear – Administration FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 Administration for changes to the personnel page. No effect on Tribal Support.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-187, Enrollment FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 Enrollment for a decrease in Tribal Support of \$66,758.49 and an increase in Other Revenue of \$21,000.00.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director LaPlaunt, supported by Director Barbeau, to approve Resolution 2026-188, Governmental – National Telecom and Information Administration 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 establishment of a FY 2027 budget for National Telecom and Information Administration with Federal DOC Revenue of \$500,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2026-189, Health Division – Purchased Referred Care (PRC) FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 PRC for changes to the personnel page and a reallocation of expenses. This budget is funded by Federal IHS and 3rd Party Revenue.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2026-190, Internal Services – Human Resources FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 Human Resources for an increase in Tribal Support of \$20,088.30 for space costs.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director McRorie, to approve Resolution 2026-191, JKL School Fiduciary and Interest FY 2026 Budget Modification.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby waives resolution #2024-205, Governmental Budget Policy, for the prohibition of budget modifications or establishment of new budgets after a cost center's fiscal year end

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 JKL School Fiduciary for a decrease in Federal BIA Revenue of \$200,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget modification to JKL School Interest for the use of Fund Balance of \$200,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-192, Law Enforcement – Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant 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 for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant with Federal DOJ Revenue of \$67,664.37. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-193, Natural Resources Division – GLRI Adaptive Management Wolf 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 establishment of a FY 2027 budget GLRI Adaptive Management Wolf with Federal BIA Revenue of \$1,003.08. No effect on Tribal Support.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-194, Natural Resources Division – Nunn's Creek Rehab Hatchery FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 Nunn's Creek Rehab Hatchery for an increase in Federal BIA Revenue of \$135,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-195, BIA FY 2026 Budget Modification.

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 BIA for the use of \$200,000.00 in BIA fund balance for consulting/contracting. No effect on Tribal Support.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-196, NRD Application to Apply for 2026 USFWS TWG.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors approves the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$200,000 across a three-year project period in USFWS TWG 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 McRorie, to approve Resolution 2026-197, NRD Application to US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$100,000 in USFWS Aquatic Invasive Species 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 LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-198, NRD Application to Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Funding Opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$500,000 in Robert Wood Johnson Foundation from Insight to Action: Health Equity Research that Meets This Moment funding in partnership with UM.

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 Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-199, Amending Resolution 2007-96 – Establishing Educational Assistance Scholarships for Tribal Members with Special Educational Needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the annual expenditure of \$2,000 from the YEA cost center 2080 to be awarded annually in equal amounts of \$1,000 to two eligible Tribal Members ages 17 or under with special needs and \$2,000 from the Higher Education cost center 2060 to be awarded annually in equal amounts of \$1,000 to two eligible Tribal Members ages 18 or over with special needs.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately and rescind Resolution 2007-96 Establishment of Educational Assistance Award for Members with Special Educational Needs.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-200, Awarding RFP #26-022 to Great Lakes Roofing.

Without objection, make clerical error correction from RPF to RFP.

No objection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby awards RFP #26-022 to Great Lakes Roofing for \$265,000 funded by Facilities Management Fund Balance Company 860

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Legal Department will work with Facilities Management to negotiate a contract with Great Lakes Roofing for the roof replacement project.

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 Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-201, Authorize Family Violence Prevention and Services Application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes application to the Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services for Family Violence Prevention and Services formula funding for FY 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Austin Lowes, Tribal Chairman, is hereby authorized to submit said proposal to the Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services, to negotiate, execute, and amend any documents resulting therefrom on the Tribe's behalf.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-202, OVW Fiscal Year 2026 Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes an application for funding from the OVW Fiscal Year 2026 Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Austin Lowes, Tribal Chairman, is hereby authorized to submit said proposal to the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, to negotiate, execute, and amend any documents resulting therefrom on the Tribe's behalf.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Payment, to approve Resolution 2026-203, Michigan Indian Elders Association Tribal Elder Appointments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby moves Dianne Compo from the Alternate to Delegate, and appoints Lou Anne Bush to the Alternate seat to represent the Elders of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, both for the remainder of the two-year period, expiring in June 2027, and will exercise the duties of the delegate and alternate as outlined in the MIEA bylaws.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Causley-Smith, to approve Resolution 2026-204, Elder Ramp Program Policy Update.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians approves the attached updated Elder Ramp Program policy.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-205, Acceptance of the 2025 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 2025 Housing Authority Audit, as presented to the Sault Tribe Audit Committee on June 18, 2026, by Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director K. Gravelle, to approve Resolution 2026-206, Authorization to Apply HUD Continuum of Care Builds (CoC Builds) Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Sault Tribe Housing Authority Director, 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 LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-207, Adopting Amended Tribal Code Chapter 90: Housing Authority Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby adopts the attached amended Tribal Code Chapter 90: Housing Authority Ordinance, absorbing the Utility Authority into the Housing Authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Governmental CFO and Housing Director are authorized to perform any administrative budget modification necessary to move any outstanding Utility Authority funds to the Housing Authority.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the terms of this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to approve Resolution 2026-208, Rescinding Tribal Code Chapter 92: Utility Authority Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors hereby rescinds Tribal Code Chapter 92: Utility Authority Ordinance.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the terms of this Resolution shall be effective immediately

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to accept the following Committee Re-Appointments and Resignation:

1. Dianne Compo, Unit 1 Elder Subcommittee, Re-Appointment, Regular Member, term expiring July 2030
2. Lou Anne Bush, Unit 1 Elder Subcommittee, Re-Appointment, Regular Member, term expiring July 2030
3. Shirley Van Alstine, Unit 1 Elder Subcommittee, Resignation, Regular Member, term set to expire August 2026

4. Thomas Tufnell, Unit 4 Manistique Elder Subcommittee, Re-Appointment, Regular Member, term expiring July 2030
5. Lou Anne Bush, Elder Advisory Committee, Re-Appointment, Unit 1, Regular Member, term expiring July 2030
6. Thomas Tufnell, Health Board, Re-Appointment, Regular Member, term expiring July 2030
7. David Frazier, Jr., Conservation Committee, Re-Appointment, Fisher/Commercial Seat, term expiring July 2030

Motion carries unanimously.

Moved by Director Payment, supported by Director LaPlaunt, to appoint Chairman Lowes as Chair of JKLFC.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carries with Directors' Goudreau, McRorie, Barbeau, Lee, LaPlaunt, Payment, St. Onge approving; Directors' K. Gravelle, Causley-Smith, Sorenson, and A. Gravelle opposing.

Moved by Director Barbeau, supported by Director Payment, to appoint the following individuals to the Secretarial Election Board:

Unit 1: Carolyn Dale

Unit 2: Jacquelyn Minton

Unit 3: Colleen Utter

Unit 4: Timothy J. Derwin

Unit 5: Taylor Spade

At-Large (2): Clarence Hudak, Emily Smith

Motion carries unanimously.

Without objection, meeting adjourned.

No objection.

Adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Date: 7/21/26

Secretary: 
Ashley Gravelle

Others Present: Lona Stewart, Samuel Derusha, Joshua Elliot, Joseph Street, Damien Hopper, Jessica Dumback, Holly Haapala, Bill Connolly, Michelle Moore, Gerard Sagassige, Jen Clerc (Z), Elaine Clement (Z), Mariea Mongene (Z), Sheryl McKerchie, Tammy Graham, Julie Salo, Larry Jacques, Joel Lumsden, Ashley Samuelson, Bob Marchand, Dani Fegan, Jeff Holt, Jami Moran, Katie Peabody, Tonya Robbins, Kayla Guterrez