

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
KEWADIN CASINO AND CONVENTION CENTER
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN**

February 3, 2026

5:00 P.M.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. INVOCATION: Prayer, Smudging
- IV. MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION
- V. PRESENTATION:
- VI. MINUTES: 1/6/26, 1/20/26
- VII. RESOLUTIONS: Nunn's Creek Rehab Establish FY26 Budget
GLRI Monitor/Restore Establish FY26 Budget
Black Tern and Mudpuppy Establish FY26 Budget
Health Division FY26 Budget Document
Accept 2026 Public Health Emergency Prep
Approve Data Share Agreement – U of M
Application 2026 BIA Circle of Flight
Application 2026 BIA Great Lakes Restoration
Contract UM-SEAS – Hemiboreal Project
Establish FY26 Enrollment Budget
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS Committee Appointment/Resignation/Removal
Board Concerns
- IX. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. RECONVENE AND REAFFIRM
- XI. ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NO: _____

**NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION –
NUNN’S CREEK REHAB HATCHERY
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 Nunn’s Creek Rehab Hatchery with Federal BIA Revenue of \$123,000.00. No effect on Tribal Support.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION –
GLRI MONITORING & RESTORATION OF ST. MARY'S RIVER
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 GLRI Monitoring & Restoration of St. Mary's River with Federal BIA Revenue of \$242,995.80. No effect on Tribal Support.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION –
BLACK TERN AND MUDPUPPY

AMEND RESOLUTION #2025-248 AND APPROVE FY 2026 BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby amends Resolution #2025-248 to correct the date pattern from January through December to October through September to follow the grant dates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby authorizes the Governmental CFO and Budget Department to perform any administrative budget modification necessary to carry out the intent of Amending Resolution 2025-248.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians hereby approves the FY 2026 budget for Black Tern and Mudpuppy with Federal US Fish and Wildlife Service Revenue of \$81,804.27. No effect on Tribal Support.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

FY 2026 BUDGET DOCUMENT – 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 for the Health Division totaling \$70,373,399.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

**HEALTH DIVISION – PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
(PHEP) 2026 ACCEPTANCE**

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Health Division's mission is to provide high quality, patient-centered health care that is responsive, courteous, and sensitive to individual, family, community, and cultural needs with an emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion; and

WHEREAS, the Division Emergency Preparedness and Response (DEPR) through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has provided a funding opportunity through the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP); and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has received PHEP funding to help support and promote coordination and collaboration for Tribal Nations to effectively meet all preparedness and response capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe Health Division continues to receive annual PHEP funding to improve their Emergency Preparedness Plan across all Health Division sites creating a safe environment for patients, vendors, and team members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors authorizes the Health Division's acceptance for the PHEP Grant Agreement Funds in the amount of \$219,944.

BE IT FINALLY 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.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

**APPROVING DATA SHARING AGREEMENT – UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN**

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ("Tribe") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Health Division and University of Michigan School of Social Work wish to enter into an agreement to mutually exchange data for the use in mutually beneficial research activities that aim to understand and improve the health of tribal members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors approves the Data Sharing Agreement between the Tribe and the University of Michigan School of Social Work on behalf of the Tribe's Health Division.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Health Division CEO, or their designee, to execute any and all documents to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

APPLICATION TO 2026 BIA CIRCLE OF FLIGHT

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is to provide for the perpetuation of our way of life and the welfare and prosperity of our people, to preserve our right to self-government, and protect our property and resources as ordained by the establishment of our constitution and bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Natural Resources Division, Gidayaangwaami'idimin Ezhi-inawendiyang, is responsible for supporting the Tribe's stewardship of 1836 Treaty Ceded Territory lands, waters, and non-human relatives; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Division (NRD) seeks to apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Circle of Flight funding to support wetland and wildlife stewardship efforts within the 1836 Ceded Territory in alignment with existing initiatives and the NRD Strategic Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$100,000 in BIA Circle of Flight 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.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

APPLICATION TO 2026 BIA GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is to provide for the perpetuation of our way of life and the welfare and prosperity of our people, to preserve our right to self-government, and protect our property and resources as ordained by the establishment of our constitution and bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Natural Resources Division, Gidayaangwaami'idimin Ezhi-inawendiyang, is responsible for supporting the Tribe's stewardship of 1836 Treaty Ceded Territory lands, waters, and non-human relatives; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Division (NRD) seeks to apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding to support capacity building and environmental, wildlife, fisheries, and research efforts within the 1836 Ceded Territory in alignment with existing initiatives and the NRD Strategic Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Natural Resources Division to apply for up to \$4,500,000 in BIA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative 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.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

**CONTRACT WITH UM-SEAS FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT WITH THE
HEMIBOREAL DECISION SUPPORT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (“Tribe”) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe possessing inherent sovereignty and treaty-reserved rights, including rights reserved under the Treaty of 1836; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has established the Natural Resources Division (NRD), including the Consortium for Cooperative Ecological Resilience (CCER), to advance applied research, workforce development, and Anishinaabe-informed stewardship in support of Tribal treaty rights, co-management responsibilities, and long-term ecological resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe has received funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to implement the Hemiboreal Decision Support Project, an initiative designed to develop adaptive, science-based decision-support tools for forest management, wildlife habitat, climate resilience, and culturally significant ecosystems within the 1836 Treaty Ceded Territory; and

WHEREAS, a central objective of the approved USFWS proposal is workforce development, including the training and mentorship of graduate students and early-career scientists, with a specific emphasis on supporting and prioritizing Tribal and other Indigenous graduate students in advanced natural resource, decision-science, and co-management disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability (UM-SEAS) possesses relevant academic and administrative capacity to house and support graduate students and postdoctoral researchers engaged in applied, Tribal-partnered research consistent with the Hemiboreal Decision Support Project; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe proposed to enter into a contract with UM-SEAS to support one Postdoctoral Researcher, one Ph.D. Student, and one Master’s Student who will work in direct collaboration with CCER and the NRD; and

WHEREAS, the total value of the proposed contract shall not exceed \$585,000.00, and the contract term shall run from January of 2026 through December of 2028, consistent with the approved USFWS award period of performance; and

Resolution No: _____

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WHEREAS, the contract will be funded exclusively through the USFWS award to the Tribe for the Hemiboreal Decision Support Project and will not obligate the Tribe beyond the approved grant budget or term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves awarding a professional services contract to UM-SEAS, for the period January 10, 2026 – December 31, 2028, in an amount not to exceed \$585,000.00 to support one Postdoctoral Researcher, one Ph.D. Student, and one Master's Student in furtherance of the Hemiboreal Decision Support Project.

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, IP, and other applicable requirements.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or his designee, to enter into and execute the contract and to sign any and all necessary supporting documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: _____

**GOVERNMENTAL - ENROLLMENT
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 Enrollment with Other Revenue of \$48,000.00 and Tribal Support of \$484,121.53.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2026; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Austin Lowes, Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

Kimberly Hampton, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Sponsor's List

RESOLUTIONS:

Natural Resources Division – Nunn's Creek Rehab Hatchery Establishment of FY 2026 Budget – Jack Tuomikoski, Brandi MacArthur

Natural Resources Division – GLRI Monitoring & Restoration of St. Mary's River Establishment of FY 2026 Budget – Katelyn Schultz, Brandi MacArthur

Natural Resources Division – Black Tern and Mudpuppy Establishment of FY 2026 Budget – Katelyn Schultz, Brandi MacArthur

FY 2026 Budget Document – Health Division – James Benko

Health Division – Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) 2026 Acceptance – James Benko

Approving Data Sharing Agreement – University of Michigan – Joel Lumsden

Application to the 2026 BIA Circle of Flight – Dani Fegan, Brandi MacArthur

Application to 2026 BIA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – Dani Fegan, Brandi MacArthur

Contract with UM-SEAS for Academic Support with the Hemiboreal Decision Support Project – Eric Clark, Dani Fegan

Governmental – Enrollment Establishment of FY 2026 Budget – Director Gravelle

NEW BUSINESS:

Committee Appointment/Resignation/Removal – Enrollment Committee - Appointment, Child Welfare Committee – Resignation and Removal

Board Concerns

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Board of Directors**
FROM: **Lona Stewart, Board Administrator**
DATE: **January 29, 2026**
RE: **Workshop Agenda for February 3, 2026**

AGENDA

10:00
Executives/Legal/Human Resources (CLOSED)

10:45
Lansing Meeting Location

11:00
Proposed Constitution Amendment Discussion

12:00 – 1:00
Lunch Break

1:00
Proposed Constitution Amendment Discussion

4:00
Agenda Review

5:00
Board of Directors Regular Meeting