



RAINY RIVER FIRST NATIONS Chief & Council Business Meeting
January 12th, 2024
Boardroom
9:07AM - 3:34PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Karen Oster-Bombay

Councillor Cassandra Kaysaywaysemat

Councillor Dorothy Huitikka

Tim Grover

Wayne Strachan

Councillor Kim Detweiler

Councillor Robert Bombay

REGRETS: Chief Marcel Medicine-Horton

OTHER:

Alex Larson, Minute taker

Opening

9:07AM: Meeting was opened.

Review of Minutes at 9:10 AM

Review of Agenda

Revised of Action Items:

ACTION # 2024-01-12-001

Community wellness events calendar will be added to the newsletter.

T. Grover

ACTION # 2024-01-12-002

Need to have C. McMahon get the televisions in Admin building functioning as to their intended purpose.

W. Strachan

ACTION # 2024-01-12-003

Supervisors have been reporting which staff members are not at work to MOA. Payworks helping manage.

W. Strachan

ACTION # 2024-01-12-004

Program managers are aware when offering "first come, first serve" option to band members [regarding programs] to give 24hrs notice.

All Program Managers

ACTION # 2024-01-12-005

K. Kellar would prefer to have a coordinator rather than an assistant. A Public Works Coordinator job has been posted.

W. Strachan

ACTION # 2024-01-12-006

A job description for Health Director made. Job posted along with 5 others in the local paper week of Jan 15th, 2024.

C. McNab

ACTION # 2024-01-12-007

C. McNab continues work on Job Description to hire Elders Coordinator.

C. McNab

ACTION # 2024-01-12-008

Find out date and time for next Grand Council Treaty 3 Meeting.

A. Larson

ACTION # 2024-01-12-009

Add the recycling information to the next newsletter.

T. Grover

ACTION # 2024-01-12-010

Post respectful workplace flyer throughout the Administration Office.

W. Strachan

ACTION # 2024-01-12-011

Letter of support for S. Spears re: Residential Home.

W. Strachan

ACTION # 2024-01-12-012

Letter from M. Medicine Horton to members asking for time as we take care dealing with issues and initiatives.

A. Larson

ACTION # 2024-01-12-013

Reach out to developer of RRFN App for an update.

T. Grover

Discussion:

Opening meeting by W. Strachan

Review of minutes – Council, MOA and both EA’s all review minutes. Directions for revision were given to T. Grover, changes made. Minutes accepted.

MOTION # 2024-01-12-001
Minutes accepted with revisions.

Moved by: K. Oster-Bombay
Seconded by: D. Huitikka

ALL IN FAVOUR/PASSED

Review of Action items done. All active or discussed items were updated per discussion and added to January 12th, 2024, meeting minutes.

Review of agenda – accepted with the addition of items 23. Buying Local, 24. RRFN App, 25. RRFN Strategic Planning, 26. RRFN Audit, 27. Jordans Principle, 28. Trust and 29. CCP.

MOTION # 2024-01-12-002

Accept Agenda with addition of items: 23. Buying Local, 24. RRFN App. 25. RRFN Strategic Planning, 26. RRFN Audit, 27. Jordans Principle, 28. Trust and 29. CCP.

Moved by: K. Oster-Bombay
Seconded by: D. Huitikka

ALL IN FAVOUR/PASSED

K. Detweiler joins meeting at 9:29 AM

R. Kellar from the mounds joins the meeting at 10:09 AM.

She shares tobacco and hands out typed details presentation for each attendee.

Seeks funding approval for funding re: Renovations, culture coordinator and new signage (D. Huitikka suggests digital sign). Discussion on construction cost quotes and estimates. Need to re-key the mounds as they are only able to find 8 out of 16 keys.

Need to recruit staff for spring and summer 2024

Conversation continues regarding retrieving historical items from the Royal Ontario Museum and Glenbow Museum in Calgary. R. Kellar says the need for a culture coordinator will mainly be their expertise in; historical item retrieval, liaison between the mounds/chief and council/3rd party organizations.

R. Kellar asks if maintaining a relationship with Parks Canada is worth it. D. Huitikka says it could be beneficial to look at being designated as a World Heritage Site instead. R. Kellar will investigate this for RRFN.

The group discussed seeing the items held in the c-can at GCT3 in Kenora. There is an upcoming GCT3 meeting. A. Larson will look into the dates and make sure M. Medicine Horton is on the list to attend and he will ask to see the items in the c-can.

Sunset County Metis has asked for permission to have a permanent display at the mounds. Contacts for this must be drawn up and reviewed/approved by Chief and Council prior.

A. Larson left at 11:45 AM to pick up lunch – T. Grover took minutes from 11:45 AM – 12:20 PM

Break for lunch from 12:21 PM to 1:03 PM

K. Detweiler has concerns regarding a conflict of interest with 2 boards: Land Claims Trustees and Ziibi. There are 2 board members making decisions for both. Suggests board members volunteering vs. vote appointed. BCR 09-01-24-001 not signed because of this.

Email received from S. Spears seeking RRFN support re: licensing staff model home in Chappel (First Nations Youth 15 – 17 for temp placement and support alongside residential worker). W. Strachan will draft a letter on behalf of Chief and Council

W. Strachan provides an MOA update dated January 11th, 2024. Drug strategy from Wabigoon distributed and Council will review. Grant funding opportunities are in the works and MOA will follow up and escalate if needed. Application for feasibility study is in the works with CN. Flyer shown to Council for approval re: posting in the building to empower staff who are not being treated respectfully by staff, vendors, or any visitor to the band office. Discussion surrounding the tone of members when voicing their concerns at Community Meeting. MOA was not comfortable with the way they were treated at the meeting on January 11th, 2024 and asks if he has authority to step in. Council members agree and mention that the individual chairing the meeting should ask for the behavior to stop, or the person will be asked to leave the meeting.

Members are concerned about the timeframe it is taking to follow through on some of the items discussed at the Listening Ceremony or at Community Meetings. Will send a letter to members about this and ask kindly that we are given the time and patience needed to follow through.

W. Strachan spoke on the recycling guide and collection calendar. We will have blue boxes on site to provide to members. This will be 95% paid for but RRFN is responsible to pick up weekly and take to the current bins for GFL pick up every other week. We are waiting for a hydro layout so we can proceed with getting a compactor. We will put this info in the next newsletter. There is a 65k fund from Urban Systems Management to draft a Waste Management Policy. We have funding approval for a new Waste Management truck.

The RRFN students who attend the Fort Frances High School have had anxiety about the bomb threats this week. The lack of communication from the School Board was not acceptable. There has been an arrest regarding the threats. Will make a memo for the community.

C. Kaysaywaysemat would like to increase the honor role student reward from 50.00 to 250.00 per semester and make the reward trip it conditional on passing your courses.

MOTION # 2024-01-12-04

Increase the honor role student reward from 50.00 to 250.00 per semester.

Moved By: C. Kaysaywaysemat

Seconded By: K. Detweiler

**ALL IN FAVOUR
PASSED**

MOTION # 2024-01-12-05

Make student reward trip conditional on passing your courses.

Moved By: C. Kaysaywaysemat

Seconded By: K. Detweiler

**ALL IN FAVOUR
PASSED**

C. Kaysaywaysemat would like to ensure the kids allowances are in on time.

C. Kaysaywaysemat suggests regular portfolio specific meetings to keep Chief and Council better in the loop with ongoing things.

Need to have meeting set up for the status of the Membership Code and get the original copy that was posted on the RRFN website. Issues with applications getting lost or forgotten.

D. Huitikka shares Facebook page for RRFN members to know what's happening around Winnipeg area.

Having staffing issues with the Transitional Home. Have 4 full-time but there is no sick/vacation coverage. R. Bombay has been called to assist. We are posting casual positions on the paper and may discuss hourly premiums or other incentives.

The RRFN app is still in progress. T. Grover will reach out to the development coordinator for an update. We were told all that was needed was a utility bill and are still waiting.

Need to set up a meeting with M. Wakely re: Strategic Planning.

The RRFN Audit has been done. There has been a lack of communication regarding the outcomes.

It is important that we buy local as often as possible. Support those who support us.

W. Strachan tells the group he will be away (but reachable by phone) January 15th – 17th.

D. Judson is the Lawyer who was paid to review the Membership Code. Still need a copy of his report. W. Strachan to book meeting to review code with Lawyer.

Need finish going through the Election Code. Will have a meeting booked.

K. Detweiler Asks for a halt on new initiatives until we have the current load under control. A tracking sheet will be made to assist with accountability by A. Larson.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM

MOTION # 2024-01-12-06
Adjourn Meeting at: 3:34 PM


Moved By: K. Oster-Bombay
Seconded By: D. Huitikka

ALL IN FAVOUR
PASSED


Meeting adjourned @ 3:34 PM

The minutes dated January 12th, 2024, have been reviewed and approved at a duly convened meeting dated: January 31st, 2024.


Date signed: January 31st, 2024.



Chief Marcel Medicine-Horton



Councillor Kim Detweiler



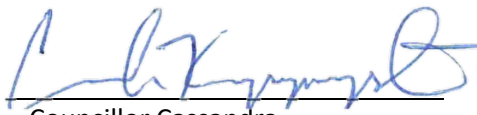
Councillor Karen Oster-
Bombay



Councillor Dorothy Huitikka



Councillor Robert Bombay



Councillor Cassandra
Kaysaywaysemat