



# *Rainy River First Nations*

<b>Business Meeting Agenda and Minutes</b>
<b>Location:</b> Rainy River First Nations Board Room
<b>Date and Time:</b> July 3, 2025, 9:00 am- 4:30 pm
<b>Council and Staff Attendees:</b> Marcel Medicine-Horton (Chief), Wayne Strachan (MOA), Dorothy Huitikka (Councilor), Kim Detweiler (Councilor), Robert Bombay (Councilor), Karen Oster-Bombay (Councilor), Tim Grover (EA, Minute taker).
<b>Regrets:</b> N/A
<b>Chairperson:</b> Wayne Strachan (MOA)
<b>Minute Taker:</b> Tim Grover (EA)

<b>Smudge Board room and open meeting: Meeting starts @ 9:30 with smudge</b>
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Agenda Item	Notes	Action	Motion
1). Opening, review minutes from previous meeting and review current Agenda	No minutes for review-TABLED		Motion: 07-03-2025-001 Pass minutes with revisions Moved by: R. Bombay Second by: D. Huitikka Passed by quorum
2). Wayne a). Education	a). Multiple BCR's are signed for Ed. Dept. H. Mosbeck needs to write a letter to Council regarding the financial amounts being asked for on some of the BCR's.	Action: 07-03-2025-001 Forward video of D. Sinclair to K. Detweiler L. Hyatt	Motion: 07-03-2025-002 Approve Education Policy Change to two tiered eligibility structure Moved by: D. Huitikka Second by: K. Oster-Bombay All in favour/Passed
3). Tim a). Signing Authority BCR b). Voyagers Conservancy Stipend Agreement	a). The BCR deals with giving signing authority to the MOA or CFO in times of emergency. The BCR has passed and is signed. b). The agreement is signed by D. Huitikka and R. Bombay. The stipends will return to the Nation.		
4). Animal Control Officer <i>K. Kellar joins @ 2:50 pm to discuss</i>	Public works is working on getting him a cell phone for work. D. Medicine has plans for building a shelter loosely based off of K. Oster's suggestions. Dog tags are being ordered along with the documentation needed. Also, a laptop will be distributed to him.	Action: 07-03-2025-002 Look into any training opportunities for the Animal Control Officer W. Strachan	

<p>Meet with Josh Liebermann 11:00 am <b>In-Camera</b> <i>J. Liebermann joins @ 11:00 am</i> <i>A. Larson joins @ 11:00am</i></p>	<p>Josh Lieberman introduced himself as the new lawyer from Fillmore Riley, taking over the file from Meghan Layman.</p> <p>Josh outlined the agenda: to review the history of the matter, discuss current status, and obtain direction from Chief and Council on next steps.</p> <p>A settlement amount of \$5,000 each was proposed for the parties involved.</p> <p>Josh advised that any communication of this offer would be marked "without prejudice", which means it is not considered an admission of liability.</p> <p>He noted that while "without prejudice" generally protects communications in court, a tribunal or administrative decision may still consider the content.</p> <p>The offer will clearly state that it is a good faith effort to resolve the matter.</p> <p>Josh requested confirmation of the length of employment for the individuals involved in the dispute.</p> <p>W. Strachan agreed to gather and provide this information via email.</p> <p>Josh will be out of the country July 12 – 26, 2025 and unavailable by email during this time.</p> <p>His plan is to send out the settlement offers early next week (prior to July 11).</p> <p>Responses to the offer will be requested by July 20, after which further action will be taken.</p>	<p>Action: 07-03-2025-003</p> <p>Find out how long B. Wilson was employed as an call center operator.</p> <p>W. Strachan</p>	
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	<p>Josh Strachan to confirm the length of employment for both individuals and follow up with Josh via email.</p> <p>Josh to prepare and send the settlement offers before leaving on July 1.</p> <p>Await responses to the offers by July 28, with further updates upon Josh's return.</p> <p>Meeting concluded at 11:48 PM with all parties in agreement on the next steps.</p>		
<p>3). <b>I In-Camera</b> <i>In-camera starts @ 11:51 am</i> <i>K. Oster-Bombay declares conflict and leaves @ 11:51 am</i> <i>M. Medicine-Horton declares Conflict and leaves @ 11:51 am</i></p>	<p><b>1. Conflict of Interest and Attendees</b></p> <p>A. Larson requested any declarations of conflict of interest regarding the discussion of a complaint brought forward by Chief Marcel against Kim.</p> <p>It was agreed that the matter would be discussed privately with Robert and Dorothy before bringing the others back in.</p> <p><b>2. Complaint Discussion</b></p> <p>A. Larson confirmed that the memo related to the complaint will not be released.</p> <p>Concern was raised about the nature of the complaint with Kim stating:</p> <p>She believes this is a political attack involving Chief Marcel and another individual.</p> <p>She wants to obtain a copy of the complaint letter to understand the accusations.</p> <p>Kim expressed concern that further political actions may follow.</p>		

<p>K. Oster-Bombay joins @ 12:28 pm</p> <p>M. Medicine-Horton joins@ 12:28 pm</p>	<p><b>3. Redacted Complaint Letter</b></p> <p>A. Larson clarified that if approved by Robert and Dorothy, he will prepare a redacted version of the complaint for Kim.</p> <p>Redactions will remove names and identifying details to protect the privacy of individuals mentioned.</p> <p>Robert and Dorothy agreed to allow this, and A. Larson committed to providing the redacted version by tomorrow.</p> <p><b>4. Communication of Complaint</b></p> <p>Kim stated she had been under the impression she was not allowed to discuss the matter with anyone.</p> <p>She confirmed that due to personal stress, she will share the information with her family.</p> <p>A. Larson acknowledged this &amp; Noted and heard.</p> <p>A. Larson asked if any other issues required discussion before Marcel and Karen were to be brought back in.</p> <p>The session concluded around 12:28 PM with arrangements for lunch mentioned.</p>		
<p>4). Dorothy</p> <p>a). An update on what is being done for the off-reserve elders.</p> <p>b). Have arrangements been made for the elders who RRFN has bought the Costco cards?</p>	<p><b>a).</b> D. Huitikka raised the topic of support and activities for off-reserve members, referencing the \$50 Cloverleaf program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Off-reserve members are eligible but must:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Call Danica for coordination.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Action: 07-03-2025-004</p> <p>Ask D. Medicine if she has a list of the elders being served under her Programs</p> <p>W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-005</p>	

c). Have we got any reports on what programs the Elders Coordinator has run?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Pick up the support in person, as mail-outs are not being offered.</li><li>○ Sign off to confirm receipt.</li></ul> <p><b>b) D. Huitikka mentioned activities such as <b>two fishing trips, sewing classes</b>, and a <b>supper event at Northwest Bay</b>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Other activities included <b>workshops on smoking and food preservation</b>.</li><li>• D. Huitikka expressed that greater promotion of these events could increase elder participation, especially for on-reserve elders.</li><li>• Discussion noted that newsletters and digital communication (e.g., One Feather) are not reaching all members, especially those who:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Are not computer literate.</li><li>○ Lack internet or cell phone access.</li></ul></li><li>• Tim questioned if newsletters were still being sent out via One Feather, as recent mailings seemed sporadic.</li><li>• K. Detweiler suggested leveraging Gwen’s database of members to identify elders/seniors.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Gwen could send letters to members who have opted in for communications regarding community events.</li><li>○ Denessa could draft the communication with Gwen managing distribution.</li></ul></li><li>• The group agreed this may be the best way to reach more elders, particularly those off-reserve.</li></ul>	<p>Get D. Medicine to start turning in her monthly reports W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-006 Ask Membership Registrar for an off-reserve elders list to engage in elder program W. Strachan</p>	
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Discussion with JFK Law Firm <i>Bryce Lansdell joins @ 1:30pm</i>	<b>Bill 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emails have been drafted to send to all treaty Three communities as well as Ogichidaa Francis and Ogichidaa-Kwe</li><li>• A meeting will be set up to discuss with T3PS</li><li>• A notification will be drafted and sent to Rickford</li></ul> <b>Treaty Annuities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RRFN wants to participate in the lawsuit</li><li>• JFK is pursuing Rep action which allows for representing the nation.</li></ul>	<div>Action: 07-03-2025-007 Get a copy of RRFN Land code to Bryce Lansdell T. Grover  <u>Action: 07-03-2025-008</u> Send Letters regarding Bill 5 to Ogichidaa and Ogichidaa-kwe mailed out. Send all others Monday July 7, 2025 T. Grover  Action: 07-03-2025-009 Talk with D. Medicine about the Elders Group and see if rumours are true about certain member taking over. W, Strachan</div>	

<p>5). Karen</p> <p>a) Planning of Bill 5 protest</p> <p>b). Shower/laundry building</p> <p>c). Landfill - members, organization</p> <p>d). Maintenance crew / Students</p> <p>e). Elders group</p> <p>f). Housing</p>	<p>a). TABLED</p> <p>b). The building needs a foundation built and will be set up at the north side of the pow wow grounds</p> <p>c). K. Oster-Bombay requesting signage saying only for RRFN members. Maybe leave a key at the Junction and let members know.</p> <p>d). Regarding the brush cutting Hydro did, K. Oster-Bombay suggests having the summer students clean it up and bill Hydro for the clean up.</p> <p>e). W. Strachan will have a discussion with D. Medicine regarding the elders group.</p> <p>f). Regarding the C Brown allocation, Chief Medicine-Horton says she comes home on the weekends. J. Petrimont will be moved out in 2 weeks.</p>		
<p>6). Kim</p> <p>a). Baseball Field Project</p> <p>b). Bill 5 Updates</p> <p>c). A.B. Meeting Debrief (Housing)</p> <p><b>TABLED</b></p> <p>d). ACSPI Revised Budget</p> <p>e). 2025/26 Program Budgets</p> <p>f). Job/Program Fair</p> <p>g). Committees TOR Review</p> <p>h). Annual PAs (Employees)</p> <p>i). Annual C&amp;C Evaluation</p> <p>j). 2025 Nomination/Election process</p> <p>k). Urban Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Finalized Strategic Plan</li> </ul> <p><b>C&amp;C Transition Package</b></p>	<p><b>a).</b> K. Detweiler inquired about the status of the baseball field project, noting it was discussed in February but has not yet progressed. K. Kellar indicated that no significant progress has been made to date. Responsibility for the project is with A. Jack, though K. Kellar is unsure of the current status.</p> <p><b>b).</b> Discussion briefly touched on legal matters related to <b>Bill 5 and annuities</b>. Documents have been sent to JFK Law, including a signed <b>BCR (Band Council Resolution)</b>. A template provided by JFK was utilized for the submission.</p> <p><b>c).</b> TABLED</p> <p><b>d, e).</b> All budgets have been sent to J. Amar</p> <p><b>f).</b> P. Morriseau and T. Oshie-Horton will be brought into meeting to discuss Program fair.</p>	<p>Action: 07-03-2025-010</p> <p>Get app done for lights at ballfield</p> <p>W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-011</p> <p>Speak with J. Amar about the Program Managers budgets</p> <p>W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-012</p> <p>Speak with P. Morriseau and T. Oshie-Horton about developing Program Fair.</p> <p>W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-013</p>	



	<p><b>g).</b> A list is being compiled and gathered for the next term coming in.</p> <p><b>h).</b> The PA process is being reviewed and will be sent out to each department manager for next steps</p> <p><b>i).</b> K. Detweiler asked about scheduling the annual C&amp;C self-evaluation, which was conducted last summer. T. Grover confirmed he can send out the necessary paperwork and will make this an action item.</p> <p><b>j).</b> K. Detweiler asked about the election process timeline and whether steps have started. W. Strachan confirmed he has spoken with Connie Kress, who is reviewing the governance policy and election code to determine the next required steps. tatus: Process review has already begun.</p> <p><b>k).</b> K. Detweiler asked about finalizing the Urban Systems strategic plan. W. Strachan will contact M. Wakely to follow up on the plan’s completion.</p> <p><b>l).</b> Kim raised the need to develop the transition package for the next Chief and Council, a task Urban Systems was to assist with. W. Strachan confirmed that this item will be discussed with Mike early next week alongside the strategic plan.</p>	<p>Send self-evaluation papers to C&amp;C for annual evaluation T. Grover</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-014 Get in touch with M. Wakely about Strategic Plan and C&amp;C Transition Package W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-015 In-Camera [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-016 Look into the possibility of CCP purchasing the W. Wilson house just east of Admin Building W. Strachan</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-017 Have the D. Quagon house inspected K. Kellar</p> <p>Action: 07-03-2025-017</p>	
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		Send self-evaluation package to Chief and Council T. Grover	
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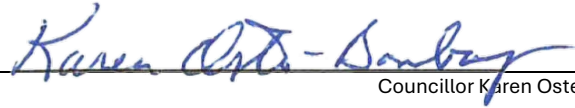
Meeting adjourned @ 4:30pm

The minutes dated: \_\_\_\_July 3\_\_\_\_, 2025, have been reviewed and approved at a duly convened meeting dated: \_\_\_\_July 31\_\_\_\_, 2025  
Date signed: \_\_\_\_July 31\_\_\_\_, 2025

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Chief Marcel Medicine-Horton



Councillor Kim Detweiler



Councillor Karen Oster-  
Bombay



Councillor Dorothy Huitikka



Councillor Robert Bombay