

# KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY

Keweenaw Bay Tribal Center  
16429 Beartown Road  
Baraga, Michigan 49908  
Phone (906) 353-6623  
Fax (906) 353-7540

2022 TRIBAL COUNCIL

KIM KLOPSTEIN, President  
SUSAN J. LAFERNIER, Vice President  
TONI J. MINTON, Secretary  
DON MESSER, Assistant Secretary  
RANDALL R. HAATAJA, Treasurer

DOREEN G. BLAKER  
ROBERT "R.D." CURTIS, JR.  
EDDY EDWARDS  
SUE ELLEN ELMBLAD  
ELIZABETH "LIZ" JULIO  
GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR.  
RODNEY LOONSFOOT

**MINUTES**  
**KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NIIWIN AKEAA CENTER/COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 112**  
**111 BEARTOWN ROAD, BARAGA, MI 49908**  
**WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 31, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.**

**APPROVED**

- A. Date: August 31, 2022
- B. Call to Order: President Klopstein called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.
- C. Invocation: Ojibwa Prayer by Elizabeth "Liz" Julio
- D. Roll Call: Present: Kim Klopstein, President (left at 2:38 p.m.)  
Susan J. LaFernier, Vice President  
Toni J. Minton, Secretary (left at 12:32 p.m.)  
Don Messer, Assistant Secretary  
Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer  
Doreen G. Blaker  
Eddy Edwards  
Sue Ellen Elmland  
Elizabeth "Liz" Julio (left at 2:54 p.m.)  
Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr. (left at 2:45 p.m.)  
Rodney Loonsfoot
- Absent: Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.

OCT 26 2022

KBIC PRESIDENT'S OFFICE  
SIGNATURE: PK

E. Declaration of Quorum: President Klopstein declared a quorum present and proceeded with the order of business.

F. Approval of Agenda: August 31, 2022

Additions: New Business: 2. b. Kim Klopstein, President – LaCourt Bottled Gas Service Agreement  
6. Rodney Loonsfoot – Harvest Feast Discussion

Deletions: New Business: 5. Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Cannabis Developer – Weekly Update

**MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE CHANGES. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

G. For Your Information:

1. Thank You from the Baraga County Chamber of Commerce – 2022/2023 Membership
2. Phone Poll – August 24, 2022 – Eagle Radio Building Furnace/Air Conditioner Emergency Replacement – Sole Bid from Northern Heating & Plumbing for \$12,909.00. All In Favor
3. 2022 Primary Election Timeline – November 5, 2022 Primary Election
4. 2022 General Election Timeline – December 17, 2022 General Election

H. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

1. May 18, 2022

**MOTION MADE BY DON MESSER TO APPROVE THE MAY 18, 2022 MEETING MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY ELIZABETH "LIZ" JULIO. NINE IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 1 (Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), ABSENT – 1 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

2. May 31, 2022

**MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO APPROVE THE MAY 31, 2022 MEETING MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. SIX IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 4 (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), ABSENT – 1 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION MADE BY GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR. TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:13 A.M. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. TEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Elizabeth "Liz" Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

I. Closed Business:

1. Kevin Carlisle, Tribal Attorney –
  - a. Josh Clause//Skip Durocher – Land Claims Update/Other
  - b. Weekly Update

**Break: 9:46 a.m. – 9:57 a.m.**

2. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO/Hope Laramore, Personnel Director – Clarification on the June 22, 2022 Motion regarding the Hiring Grid for Compensation Determination and approval of up to \$1.50 increase proposal for those that are below the new grid rates. The motion stated: “with the \$1.50 increase”. Discussion

**Lunch: 12:32 a.m. – 1:35 p.m.** – Toni J. Minton left/Eddy Edwards returned at 1:38 p.m./ Randall R. Haataja returned at 1:44 p.m.

- c. 1:44 p.m. Assistant Tribal Attorney Interview – Elizabeth Morrisseau (via Zoom)

**Kim Klopstein left at 2:38 p.m./Vice President Susan J. LaFernier chaired the meeting. Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr. left at 2:45 p.m./Elizabeth “Liz” Julio left at 2:54 p.m.**

**MOTION MADE BY DON MESSER TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION AT 3:04 P.M. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

J. Old Business:

1. Mike Lahti, NRD Administrative Specialist – Amended Bids for unprocessed Wild Rice Seed for Restoration – Jeremy Londo increased his bid from \$6.50 to \$7.00-\$9.00 per pound. Also, Conrad St. John was added for the same price due to the rice not being ready for harvesting now in Minnesota for the Manoomin Camp this weekend.

**MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF CONRAD ST. JOHN TO THE WILD RICE VENDORS FOR 200-500 POUNDS FOR THE WILD RICE CAMP AND CONTINUE WITH DYNAMITE HILL FARMS JERRY JONDREAU FIRST AND JEREMY LONDO’S AMENDED BID SECOND FOR RESTORATION AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT.**

**SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

K. New Business:

1. Doreen G. Blaker, Housing Director –
  - a. Housing Office Blinds Bids – Rolling window shades for the Housing Office windows for \$16,237.00. ARP IHBG Recovery Funds.

**MOTION MADE BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA TO APPROVE THE BID FROM CREATIVE INTERIORS FOR HOUSING OFFICE BLINDS FOR \$16,237.00 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

- b. Zeba Hall Generator Sole Bid – Bay Electric was the sole bid to install a new 24 KW Kohler generator on a new concrete pad for \$17,000.00. ARP IHBG Recovery Funds

**MOTION MADE BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA TO APPROVE THE BID FROM BAY ELECTRIC FOR \$17,000.00 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY SUE ELLEN ELMLAD. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

2. Kim Klopstein, President (presented by Vice President Susan J. LaFernier) –
  - a. Powwow Committee (5 Seats-7 Applicants) terms ending August 2025

**MOTION MADE BY SUE ELLEN ELMLAD TO APPROVE CARLA KYLLONEN, TINA MURRAY, GABRIELLE PICCIANO, CHRISTINE AWONOHOPAY AND RAISTLIN AWONOHOPAY TO THE POWWOW COMMITTEE AS PRESENTED, SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmlad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

- b. LaCourt Bottled Gas Service Agreement for heating and other purposes for residential and commercial properties associated with KBIC - \$2.00 per gallon, if the wholesale price decreases, KBIC's price per gallon will also decrease proportionately. Effective date is November 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023.

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO APPROVE THE SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LACOURT BOTTLED GAS AND KBIC AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Cynthia “CJ” Thierry, Business Director (Not Present) – Weekly Update

4. Don Messer, Ojibwa Casinos General Manager –

- a. Tier II Services Agreement with Arens Construction, Inc. – Remove and dispose of all existing asphalt in the parking lot surrounding the KBIC Health System facility at 103 W. Eastern Ave., L’Anse, regrade that same area for proper drainage, provide the stable base, and provide asphalt paving for the same area for \$20,000.00 by November 1, 2022 (weather permitting)

**MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE TIER II SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARENS CONSTRUCTION, INC. AND KBIC FOR \$20,000.00 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY EDDY EDWARDS. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

- b. Tier III Services Agreement with Arens Superior Paving, LLC – Remove and dispose of all existing asphalt in the parking lot surrounding the Ojibwa Casino Baraga, Tribal Center, and all RV parking areas in the vicinity of the Ojibwa Casino Baraga, regrade that same area for proper drainage, provide the stable base, and provide asphalt paving for the same area for \$718,000.00 by November 1, 2022 (weather permitting)

**MOTION MADE BY EDDY EDWARDS TO APPROVE THE TIER III SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARENS SUPERIOR PAVING, LLC AND KBIC FOR \$718,000.00 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

- c. Weekly Update: COVID update, Slots, Renovations Update, Employee Reports, The Pressbox is reopening on September 30<sup>th</sup> with a band booked on the new stage.
4. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO (not present) – Weekly Written Update: COVID, Employee Reports, Department Updates
5. Rodney Loonsfoot – Harvest Feast Discussion – Consensus of Council to help with the feast that will be held on October 1, 2022 at the Zeba Hall. Council and the Racial Justice Coalition will provide the main dishes and the Community will be invited to bring side dishes.

**MOTION MADE BY SUE ELLEN ELMBLAD TO FREEZE THE UP TO \$1.50 INCREASE COMPENSATION UNTIL FURTHER REVIEW FROM THE CEO IN REGARDS TO HOW THE NEW CHART IS BEING IMPLEMENTED, FREEZE THE RECLASSIFICATIONS AT THIS TIME AND BRING BACK NEXT PAYROLL. SUPPORTED BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

L. Adjournment:

**MOTION MADE BY SUE ELLEN ELMBLAD TO ADJOURN AT 3:27 P.M. SUPPORTED BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA. SIX IN FAVOR (Don Messer, Randall R. Haataja, Doreen G. Blaker, Eddy Edwards, Sue Ellen Elmblad, Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED – 0, ABSTAINING – 0, ABSENT – 5 (Kim Klopstein, Toni J. Minton, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Elizabeth “Liz” Julio, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.) MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Roe  
CEO/President's Administrative Specialist

**AGENDA**  
**KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NIIWIN AKEAA CENTER/COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 112**  
**111 BEARTOWN ROAD, BARAGA, MI 49908**  
**WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 31, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.**

A. Date: August 31, 2022

B. Call to Order:

C. Invocation: Ojibwa Prayer by Elizabeth “Liz” Julio

D. Roll Call:

- \_\_\_ Kim Klopstein, President
- \_\_\_ Susan J. LaFernier, Vice President
- \_\_\_ Toni J. Minton, Secretary
- \_\_\_ Don Messer, Assistant Secretary
- \_\_\_ Randall R. Haataja, Treasurer
- \_\_\_ Doreen G. Blaker
- \_\_\_ Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.
- \_\_\_ Eddy Edwards
- \_\_\_ Sue Ellen Elmblad
- \_\_\_ Elizabeth “Liz” Julio
- \_\_\_ Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.
- \_\_\_ Rodney Loonsfoot

E. Declaration of Quorum:

F. Approval of Agenda: August 31, 2022

G. For Your Information:

1. Thank You from Baraga County Chamber of Commerce – 2022/2023 Membership
2. Phone Poll – 8-24-2022 – Eagle Radio Furnace/Air Conditioner Replacement
3. 2022 Primary Election Timelines
4. 2022 General Election Timelines

H. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

1. May 18, 2022
2. May 31, 2022

I. Closed Business:

1. Kevin Carlisle, Tribal Attorney –
  - a. **Josh Clause – Land Claims Update (9:15 a.m.)**



- b. Weekly Update
  - c. **Attorney Interview – 1:30 p.m.**
- 2. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO/Hope Laramore, Personnel Director – Clarification on Compensation Structure Motion on June 22, 2022

J. Old Business:

- 1. Mike Lahti, NRD Administrative Specialist – Amended Bids for Wild Rice Seed for Restoration

K. New Business:

- 1. Doreen G. Blaker, Housing Director –
  - a. Housing Office Blinds Bids
  - b. Zeba Hall Generator Bids
- 2. Kim Klopstein, President – Powwow Committee Applicants (5 Seats, 7 Applicants)
- 3. Cynthia “CJ” Thierry, Business Director – Weekly Update
- 4. Don Messer, Ojibwa Casinos General Manager –
  - a. Tier II Services Agreement Arens Construction, Inc. – Paving Parking Lot at 103 W. Eastern Ave.
  - b. Tier III Services Agreement Arens Superior Paving – Paving Baraga Ojibwa Casino Parking Lots and RV Sites
  - c. Weekly Update
- 5. Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Cannabis Developer- Weekly Update
- 6. Brigitte LaPointe-Dunham, CEO – Weekly Update

L. Adjournment: