

KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY

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

2018 TRIBAL COUNCIL

WARREN C. SWARTZ, JR., President
JENNIFER MISEGAN, Vice President
SUSAN J. LAFERNIER, Secretary
TONI J. MINTON, Assistant Secretary
DOREEN G. BLAKER, Treasurer

ROBERT "R.D." CURTIS, JR.
FRED DAKOTA
RANDALL R. HAATAJA
MICHAEL F. LAFERNIER, SR.
GARY F. LOONSFOOT, JR.
RODNEY LOONSFOOT
ELIZABETH D. MAYO

MINUTES
KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BIG BUCKS BINGO HALL
SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 8, 2018 – 9:00 A.M.

APPROVED

DEC 13 2018

- A. Date: September 8, 2018
- B. Call to Order: Vice President Misegan called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.
- C. Invocation: Prayer by Jennifer Misegan, Vice President
- D. Roll Call: Present: Jennifer Misegan, Vice President
Susan J. LaFernier, Secretary
Toni J. Minton, Assistant Secretary
Doreen G. Blaker, Treasurer
Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. (arrived at 9:13 a.m.)
Randall R. Haataja
Michael F. LaFernier, Sr.
Rodney Loonsfoot (left at 10:16 a.m.)
Elizabeth D. Mayo
- Absent: Warren C. Swartz, Jr., President
Fred Dakota
Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.
- E. Declaration of Quorum: Vice President Misegan declared a quorum present and proceeded with the order of business.
- F. Approval of Agenda: September 8, 2018

KBIC PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

SIGNATURE: pl

MOTION MADE BY MICHAEL F. LAFERNIER, SR. TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, FOUR ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

G. For Your Information:

1. A "Thank you" from Liz Nevala, Case Manager of the Salvation Army
2. A "Thank you" from Toni Minton (Fundraiser for her)
3. A "Thank you" from Gary Wadaga, Director of Bay Ambulance (50th Anniversary)
4. A "Thank you" from Jason McCarthy, Planner/Zoning Administrator of Marquette Township

Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr. arrived at 9:13 a.m.

5. A "Thank you" from Julie Seppala, Treasurer of Michigan Tech Fund – Parade of Nations
6. A "Thank you" from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
7. A "Thank you" from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
8. A "Thank you" from Lawrence Molloy, President of the Keweenaw County Historical Society
9. An Invite to a Luncheon at Governor Rick Snyder's Residence Honoring the Twelve Leaders of Michigan's Federally Recognized Indian Tribes on September 27, 2018
10. An Invite to the National Indian Gaming Commission Reflecting on 30 Years of IGRA in Washington DC on October 16, 2018
11. An Invite to the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington DC on November 8, 2018
12. An Invite from the USGS Midwest Region for a Tribal Consultation regarding Research Surveys of the Lake Superior Region
13. Superior Watershed Partnership Monitoring Reports of Eagle Mine's Operations
14. Voigt Intertribal Task Force Meeting Minutes June 7, 2018 Hayward, Wisconsin
15. 2018 General Election December 15, 2018 Timeline

H. Vice President's Report/August 2018 – Verbal Report

MOTION MADE BY TONI J. MINTON TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2018 VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT. SUPPORTED BY MICHAEL F. LAFERNIER, SR. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

I. Secretary's Report/August 2018 – available for your review

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2018 SECRETARY'S REPORT. SUPPORTED BY TONI J. MINTON. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

J. CEO's Report/July-August 2018 – available for your review

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE JULY-AUGUST 2018 CEO'S REPORT. SUPPORTED BY TONI J. MINTON. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFerner, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

K. Department Head Reports/July 2018

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE JULY 2018 DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS. SUPPORTED BY SUSAN J. LAFERNIER. SIX IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Elizabeth D. Mayo), ONE OPPOSED (Michael F. LaFerner, Sr.), ONE ABSTAINING (Rodney Loonsfoot), THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

L. Recognize Scheduled Delegation/Individuals:

1. Bob Wenc, Fundraising Committee Chair of the Parade of Nations - 29th Annual Parade of Nations (Gold sponsorship) September 15, 2018 - Bob came before the Council to say a "thank you" in person for KBIC's support. President Swartz will serve as the Parade Marshal for this year's event.

M. New Business:

1. Thomas Chosa, Director of Fire & Emergency Management - 2009 F-350 Motor Replacement (Long Block) Bid (1) \$17,589.74 (Two other vendors did not bid)

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH D. MAYO TO APPROVE THE BID FROM JBS SALES AND SERVICE, INC. DIESEL REPAIR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,589.74. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFerner, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

2. Danielle Webb, Tribal Attorney/Terri Denomie – KBIC Tribal Head Start Program License to Operate at the Pre-Primary Building (New) August 2018 – August 2019

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPROVE THE NEW BUSINESS LICENSE FOR THE KBIC TRIBAL HEAD START PROGRAM TO OPERATE AT THE PRE-PRIMARY BUILDING. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFerner, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFerner, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

3. Doreen Blaker, Treasurer – Donations/September 2018 (One donation request was moved into Closed Session)

MOTION MADE BY RODNEY LOONSFOOT TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2018 DONATIONS AS THE FOLLOWING: \$100.00 TO THE MICHIGAN EDUCATION TRUST SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH, \$2,000.00 FOR THE MTU AISES POWWOW, \$500.00 TO THE OMEGA HOUSE, \$300.00 FOR A SPONSORSHIP FEE IN THE MIKE HAZEN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT REQUESTED BY MARTIN CURTIS AND TEAM, \$1,000.00 TO CONGRESSMAN DOUG LAMALFA, \$1,000.00 TO CONGRESSMAN DON YOUNG, \$1,000.00 TO REPRESENTATIVE TOM MCCLINTOCK, \$1,000.00 TO CONGRESSWOMAN BETTY MCCOLLUM, \$1,000.00 TO CONGRESSMAN DAN KILDEE, \$1,000.00 TO CONGRESSMAN RUBEN GALLEGO, \$1,500.00 TO SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW, AND \$500.00 TO CONGRESSMAN JACK BERGMAN. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot), OPPOSED - 0, ONE ABSTAINING (Elizabeth D. Mayo), THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION MADE BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:15 A.M. SUPPORTED BY DOREEN G. BLAKER. EIGHT IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Rodney Loonsfoot, Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, THREE ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.), MOTION CARRIED.

Break: 10:16 – 10:22 a.m. (Rodney Loonsfoot left)

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION AT 10:53 A.M. SUPPORTED BY RANDALL R. HAATAJA. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, FOUR ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), MOTION CARRIED.

N. Closed Session:

1. Danielle Webb, Tribal Attorney - Casselman & Henderson, P.C. Contract for Legal Services
2. Donation Request – Adopted Child

Casselman & Henderson, P.C. Contract for Legal Services in the matter of KBIC vs Khouri et. al

MOTION MADE BY DOREEN G. BLAKER TO APPROVE THE LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CASSELMAN AND HENDERSON AND PAY THE ATTORNEY FEES ON BEHALF OF JENNIFER MISEGAN IN HER INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY IN THE MATTER OF KBIC VS KHOURI ET AL. SUPPORTED BY TONI J. MINTON. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, FOUR ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), MOTION CARRIED.

Donation Request from Andrew and Mary Peed – Special Request for Window Replacements

MOTION MADE BY ELIZABETH D. MAYO TO APPROVE A DONATION TO THE PEED FAMILY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,640.00 PENDING OTHER FUNDING THROUGH THE CAP OFFICE OR CSBG. SUPPORTED BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, FOUR ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), MOTION CARRIED.

O. Adjournment:

MOTION MADE BY ROBERT R.D. CURTIS, JR. TO ADJOURN AT 10:55 A.M. SUPPORTED BY ELIZABETH D. MAYO. SEVEN IN FAVOR (Susan J. LaFernier, Toni J. Minton, Doreen G. Blaker, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., Randall R. Haataja, Michael F. LaFernier, Sr., Elizabeth D. Mayo), OPPOSED - 0, ABSTAINING - 0, FOUR ABSENT (Warren C. Swartz, Jr., Fred Dakota, Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr., Rodney Loonsfoot), MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Peggy Loonsfoot
Administrative Specialist

AGENDA
KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BIG BUCKS BINGO HALL
SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 8, 2018 – 9:00 A.M.

A. Date: September 8, 2018

B. Call to Order:

C. Invocation: Lord's Prayer

D. Roll Call:

- ___ Warren C. Swartz, Jr., President
- ___ Jennifer Misegan, Vice President
- ___ Susan J. LaFernier, Secretary
- ___ Toni J. Minton, Assistant Secretary
- ___ Doreen G. Blaker, Treasurer
- ___ Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr.
- ___ Fred Dakota
- ___ Randall R. Haataja
- ___ Michael F. LaFernier, Sr.
- ___ Gary F. Loonsfoot, Jr.
- ___ Rodney Loonsfoot
- ___ Elizabeth D. Mayo

E. Declaration of Quorum:

F. Approval of Agenda: September 8, 2018

G. For Your Information:

1. A "Thank you" from Liz Nevala, Case Manager of the Salvation Army
2. A "Thank you" from Toni Minton
3. A "Thank you" from Gary Wadaga, Director of Bay Ambulance
4. A "Thank you" from Jason McCarthy, Planner/Zoning Administrator of Marquette Township
5. A "Thank you" from Julie Seppala, Treasurer of Michigan Tech Fund
6. A "Thank you" from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
7. A "Thank you" from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
8. A "Thank you" from Lawrence Molloy, President of the Keweenaw County Historical Society
9. An Invite to a Luncheon at Governor Rick Snyder's Residence Honoring the Twelve Leaders of Michigan's Federally Recognized Indian Tribes on September 27, 2018
10. An Invite to the National Indian Gaming Commission Reflecting on 30 Years of IGRA in Washington DC on October 16, 2018
11. An Invite to the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington DC on November 8, 2018

12. An Invite from the USGS Midwest Region for a Tribal Consultation regarding Research Surveys of the Lake Superior Region
13. Superior Watershed Partnership Monitoring Reports of Eagle Mine's Operations
14. Voigt Intertribal Task Force Meeting Minutes June 7, 2018 Hayward, Wisconsin
15. 2018 General Election Timeline

H. Vice President's Report/August 2018

I. Secretary's Report/August 2018

J. CEO's Report/August 2018

K. Department Head Reports/July 2018

L. Recognize Scheduled Delegation/Individuals:

1. Bob Wenc, Committee Chair of the Parade of Nations

M. New Business:

1. Thomas Chosa, Director of Fire & Emergency Management - 2009 F-350 Truck Motor Bid
2. Danielle Webb, Tribal Attorney/Terri Denomie – KBIC Tribal Head Start Program License to Operate at the Pre-Primary Building (New)
3. Doreen Blaker, Treasurer – Donations/September 2018

N. Closed Session:

1. Danielle Webb, Tribal Attorney - Casselman & Henderson, P.C. Contract for Legal Services

O. Adjournment:

KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
TRIBAL COUNCIL

August 2018 Report from the Secretary to the Council/Community
(for the September 8, 2018 Regular Meeting)

Big Bucks Bingo Hall - Baraga, MI

ANIN! We honor the greatness in you

Remember: "Indian Country Counts"

"Our People, Our Nations, Our Future"

We continue to recognize the richness of Native American contributions, accomplishments, and sacrifices to the political, cultural, and economic life of Michigan and the United States

Thanks everyone for a wonderful Tribal Government picnic held on August 24, 2018. 180 employees attended the event and all received a cash prize or gift card and prizes for the games.

I wanted to report that the "Let's Eat (Community Meals) Program held at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Baraga has had great attendance. The Tribe sponsors this meal one month out of the year. In July there were 88 guests and in August 81.

On August 7, 2018 I gave a deposition regarding our State sales/use tax case regarding refunds/claims. You will be receiving more information on this case. The Ojibwa Express Convenience store in Marquette, Michigan closed on August 15, 2018 temporarily and the tentative re-opening date is September 12, 2018. Thanks to everyone for working hard for this re-opening. There are new Aanikoosing, Inc. Board of Directors and in the near future, there will be postings for new directors with business experience.

Megwetch, Have a happy Fall!

Mino-Bimaadizin "Live Well"

Respectfully, Susan J. LaFernier

During August, the Tribal Council held the Regular Council Meeting on Saturday, August 4, and (5) Special meetings on August 9, 15, 16, 21, 23, and August 30, 2018 which was a Work Session meeting. Following are the unapproved minutes. This report will be published in the KBIC "Wiikwedong Dazhi-Ojibwa" newsletter and the approved minutes can also be found on the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Website.

August 4, 2018 Regular Council Meeting (unapproved):

- Approved the Tribal Council Vice President's July 2018 Report (Jennifer Misegan)
- Approved the Tribal Council Secretary's July 2018 Report (Susan J. LaFernier)
- Approved the May-June 2018 Department Head Reports
- Approved Tier III Services Agreement with RC Mechanical, Inc. (Hancock) to remove and replace a roof top air conditioning unit for the Pressbox (Baraga Casino)
- Approved the August 2018 donations: \$25.00 L'Anse Ladies Golf League (Tournament); \$250.00 World War II Veterans Committee; \$250.00 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society 2018 Annual Support; \$1,000.00 5th Annual Baraga County Suicide Prevention Awareness Walk Committee; \$380.00 Baraga County Community Foundation (Tony Selkey Memorial Golf Scramble); \$500.00 St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital; \$2,000.00 MI Technological University 2018 Annual Parade of Nations

August 9, 2018 Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

- Approved the KBIC NRD Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Plan
- Approved Resolution KB 029-2018 Approves the sale of the leasehold interest and improvements and transfers the recreational lease from Shawn A. Seppanen to Donald R. Chosa in L'Anse Township
- Approved the sale of a KB Housing Department home to Applicant #1 (3 applicants) on Beartown Road per the KBIC Housing Department Home Ownership Program Lease to Own Policy
- Approved the McKesson Pharmacy Systems LLC Master License Agreement and Enterprise Rx License Contract Supplement and the Intercon Associates, Inc. Software End User Licensing Agreement (for labels and warning paperwork) pending the Health Director's review
- Approved the REDW CPA's Business Engagement Agreement for the two day training (50 participants) on Purchasing, Contracting and

Implementation of Federal Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200 in August 2018 for \$19,750.00

- Denied a KBIC Housing Department waiver request but to offer the market rate rental house and they must work to prepare the house for living

August 15, 2018 Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

- The Council learned that the Ojibwa Express Convenience Center in Marquette closed on August 14, 2018
- Approved to remove Andrew Chosa from the Aanikoosing Inc. Board of Directors for cause
- Approved to remove Anthony Rabitaille and Roy D. Koski, II from the Aanikoosing Inc. Board of Directors for cause and replace them with Randall R. Haataja, Robert R.D. Curtis, Jr., and Susan J. LaFernier (Alternate)
- Approved the Stock Repurchase Agreement (shares) with Keweenaw Financial Corporation

August 16, 2018 Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

- Approved the May 21, 2018 Tribal Council meeting minutes
- Approved the May 24, 2018 Tribal Council meeting minutes
- Approved the addendum to the Memorandum of Cooperative Agreement with Inter-Tribal Council of MI for the Healthy Start Initiative which added additional funding
- Approved the renewal Child Care Center License for the KBIC Pre-Primary Education Program for one year
- Approved the business license renewal for Jimaganish Wadokaged-Veteran's Organization/Non-profit Bar/Food Sales (Richard Geroux) for one year
- Approved the Tier III Services Agreement with MJP Consulting, LLC to provide the KBIC Health Department information technology (IT) Services for one year
- Approved the Memorandum of Cooperative Agreement with Inter-Tribal Council of MI, Inc. for the Three Fires Comprehensive Cancer Control Program until June 29, 2022

- Approved the Participating Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Services Ottawa National Forest until March 2023 to prevent and manage non-native invasive species
- Approved the bid from Enterprise Systems Group (ESG) for the “voice over internet protocol (VOIP) system for the Tribal Center for \$36,496.55 (IT Department)
- Approved the Chief Pharmacist Employment Agreement with Richard Brantner, R.Ph. with the Health and Human Services Department for three years
- Approved a loan to Aanikoosing, Inc. for \$100,000.00 from the settlement funds

(Remainder for approval at Thursday, September 13, 2018 meeting)

August 21, 2018 Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

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August 23, 2018 Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

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August 30, 2018 Work Session Special Council Meeting (unapproved):

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KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY – CEO'S OFFICE



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: TRIBAL COUNCIL
FROM: LARRY DENOMIE III, CEO 
DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
RE: MONTHLY REPORT JULY/AUGUST 2018

We have been able to fill two director level positions and one has decided not to retire just yet. Carole LaPointe, our former Health Director, began filling the role of OVW Team Lead for the Office of Violence Against Women programs and Caitlin Bowers will begin working as the Tribes Social Services Director on September 17. Cherie Dakota is currently serving as Interim Social Services Director. The Tribe's Pre-Primary Program Director, Lisa Denomie, had tendered her notice of retirement but has since rescinded her decision.

The Tribe has provided space within its Pre-primary programs building to the Inter-Tribal Council of MI for expansion of their early childhood programs. Terri Denomie, director of the Head Start/Early Head Start programs for ITC, has classrooms in Zeba but had an opportunity to add another classroom for Head Start aged children. The classroom opened its doors in Baraga this week.

We received an update on the renewal rates for the health care plan provided to employees of KBIC. Initially, based on a two-year deal agreed to last year, the Tribe would be experiencing a 3.5% decrease in the plans costs. Because claims paid were even less than predicted, an ever higher decrease is expected. We should have the actual costs within the next 30 days.

On ^{Aug. 7}~~July 14~~ I provided deposition testimony related to the Tribes litigation with the State of MI over sales and use taxes and tobacco seizures.

The annual budget preparation work for Fiscal Year 2019 is well underway. Sarah Smith, Assistant CEO, developed the template used across the Tribe and prepares the submitted budgets for Council review sessions which will begin the week of September 17. It is anticipated that this year's work will again be tedious and the balancing act will not be easy.

Brad Worthley of Brad Worthley International was back on-site to perform additional service culture training sessions for staff the week of August 6. On August 6, I met with Brad to review the results of the second employee surveys he conducted. The results of the survey were less than expected and employee participation was down from the first surveys conducted. He has provided the survey results by department and the information will be shared with each director who will then share it with their staff.

Training will be taking place on September 18 and 19 for directors related to changes in the Tribes Purchasing and Procurement policies to come more in-line with federal requirements. We recently received notice that another change at the federal level has occurred and will require another review by Council. Sarah Smith will be bringing that forward for your consideration prior to the training.

The Ojibwa Express Convenience store located in Marquette closed its doors on August 15. Andy Chosa, former Aanikoosing, Inc. board member, made the decision. Tribal Council replaced several board members and much work has taken place since, to reopen the store next week.

The Tribe invested nearly \$70,000 to hire the firm of Joseph Eve to provide assistance in updating the Tribal Internal Control and Written Internal Control documents used by the casinos and Gaming Commission to regulate and provide processes and procedures for staff operations. The draft documents, which were requested to be written to national standards, were presented and work continues to get them in final form.

The casino projects are moving forward. I attended a meeting at the Marquette site on August 29 and it is very evident that project is well underway. The area where the new casino is being built is completely excavated and forms are set to begin pouring concrete for the entertainment venue. Gundlach Champion, our general contractor, and their sub-contractors have accomplished a lot since the Guaranteed Maximum Price proposal was approved in late June. We recently posted for a Facilities Manager position who will take on the role of project manager for KBIC. The position will also serve long-term as the manager of both casinos facilities. We are also working on installing an internet based camera so that internal viewing of the projects progress can occur from anywhere. Currently, photos of the progress are being taken and I'll provide those at your upcoming meeting.