



2021
HAPPY NEW YEAR

YEAR IN REVIEW
Page 5

Tier 1A Receives First Round of the Covid-19 Vaccine from the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

Ardith Van Riper
Editor

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health (DOH) received its initial doses of the Covid-19 vaccine on December 23 and began vaccinating tier 1A individuals on December 29. Executive Director Kiana Beaudin and Dr. Amy DeLong were among the first to receive the DOH vaccine at the House of Wellness.

Tier 1A of individuals to receive the vaccine are healthcare workers and long term care residents. Tier 1B are essential frontline employees, elite elders, and eminent speakers. Tier 1C are elders, those with underlying health conditions (some examples: cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, heart conditions, immuno-compromised, obesity, sickle cell disease, and type 2 diabetes), and essential workers.

The first allocation of the Covid-19 vaccine from the DOH is Moderna. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this vaccine was 94.1% effective in clinical trials at preventing laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 illness.

The vaccine is given as a shot to the upper arm. Two shots, one

month or 28 days apart, must be administered or immunity cannot be guaranteed.

The most common side effects from the Moderna vaccine are pain, swelling, and redness in the arm where the shot was administered. Individuals may also experience chills, tiredness, and headache after the second vaccine shot. These side effects usually start within a day or two of receiving the vaccine but should go away in a couple of days.

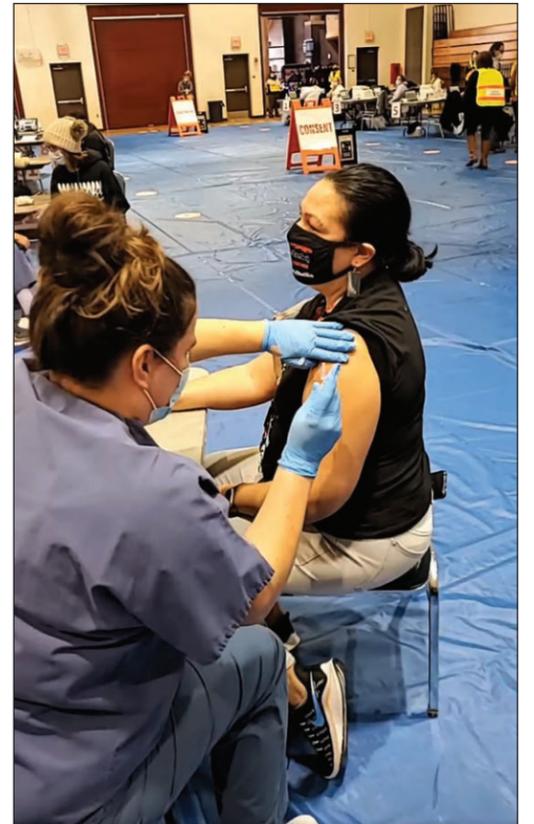
“The only side effect I am experiencing is mild arm pain, also known as pain at the injection site,” stated Kiana Beaudin.

The DOH will notify those who fall into the tier 1 categories of when and where they can receive the vaccine.

Point of Dispensing sites are at the House of Wellness near Wisconsin Dells and the District 1 Community Building near Black River Falls.



Dr. Amy DeLong and Executive Director Kiana Beaudin were among the first to receive the DOH Covid-19 vaccine at the House of Wellness.



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HCN Community Health Receives New Food Truck

Submitted by the
Ho-Chunk Nation Health
Team

The Ho-Chunk Nation scrambled to get food and

essential supplies to people during the most critical time as the COVID-19 pandemic struck our communities. At that time, many employees

were laid off and subsequently lost personal and family insurance coverage. With little relief in sight, families were forced to move quickly into emergency action to find alternative work, assistive funding and food.

This was when the teams at Community Health understood that no matter what they were hired to do, their work went well beyond what the job description says and, more importantly, that being a real “Team” means being able to back each other up in their field(s) when the work gets tough. Admins helping nurses, nurses helping CNAs, CNAs helping deliver food and, most importantly, having the bosses showing up with their sleeves rolled up to work alongside their team.

If you’re starting to notice this piece has little to do

with a new truck, you’re not entirely wrong. However, letting people know we welcomed a new vehicle, throwing some confetti and moving on is unworthy of what the truck represents. Although through difficulty, we’ve learned how to work

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The Ho-Chunk Nation added a new 26’ refrigerator freezer truck with a hydraulic lift system to its resource pool. The truck represents hard work and collaboration.

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Want something special placed in the Hocak Worak? Limited space is available so send your request in early. Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.

Letter from the President

Happy New Year!

The past year, 2020, brought many challenges for all of us, on all fronts.

Challenges are opportunities to do good things and to grow.

Marines say “it builds character,” whenever we take on extra tasks or duties.

Lucius Seneca, the Roman philosopher, said, “I judge you unfortunate because you have never lived through misfortune. You have passed through life without an opponent – no one can ever know what you are capable of, not even you.”

After last year, we are all a bit more fortunate.

The Nation’s General Council made tribal history by attempting to meet virtually. This would give voice to the more than 2,000 tribal members living outside of Wisconsin by allowing them to participate in their tribal government without having to travel home to Wisconsin to do so.

However, a quorum was not met and no business of the General Council occurred.

Two legal questions remain. One is on the definition of the word presence.

Article IV, Section 7 of our Constitution reads, “Twenty (20) percent of the eligible voters of the

Nation present in General

Council shall constitute a quorum. Each action of the General Council shall require the presence of a quorum.”

That means the action of the General Council is only deemed official when 20 percent of tribal members are present during the meeting.

Does this mean quorum can only be established when members are physically present, or can it include members who appear virtually?

The Office of General Council completed its role to hold an annual meeting.

Article IV, Section 5 of our Constitution reads, “The People shall meet in General Council at least one time each year, which shall be called by the President, and at other times as provided in Section 6 of this Article.”

The people attempted to convene this year but did not meet quorum.

The direction and the possibilities of now moving to a virtual setting for the annual meeting of the General Council are more real than before. We see that people are willing to participate in the annual meeting if not required to travel.

There were technological issues with being able to cast votes, but that can be worked out in the future.

The voice of the General Council sets the policy of the

Nation. We all have a role to help move our Nation forward.

The other legal question is the Constitutional role of the General Council Agency (GCA).

When the GCA was dissolved, the resolution erroneously did not request a Special Election to amend the Constitution. So here we sit with a constitutionally required GCA, with laws and organizations that act on the General Council’s behalf.

The only possible solutions are to either bring back the GCA or to remove the requirement from the Constitution.

These are legal questions yet to be decided.

Similar to other challenges in our society, we have adjusted and adapted. During these times of the COVID pandemic, we must make the changes necessary to allow our people to acclimate and



President Marlon WhiteEagle helps with food distribution on April 2, 2020, at the Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells facility. The food was provided to Ho-Chunk people for relief of food and money shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic. The contagion made 2020 an especially challenging year, which caused many disruptions in people’s lives.

grow. It’s what our ancestors did during their hard times.

Our trials ahead are not insurmountable. They may

be difficult, but if we join our efforts, we came come out of this pandemic stronger than ever before.

Memorandum for Tribal Members and Employees

From Vice President Karena Thundercloud
December 23, 2020

As 2020 comes to a close, we will take some time to reflect on our accomplishments and hardships – having many of both – and look forward to a renewed hope that the next year will be our best year yet. The Legislature has already made decisions that we hope will bring encouragement and some confidence in the new year. Vaccines will be helping to end the pandemic. Millions of dollars in economic aid have been delivered to tribal members and employees. The next tribal elections are underway.

It is during the holidays that we miss our loved ones that are serving in the Armed Forces. Let’s all thank those service members for their devotion to serving our great Nation. We cannot wait to welcome them home.

This year more than any, we must practice our traditional values in caring for one another. The pandemic reminds us exactly how interwoven we really are. We will soon be able to share

meals and laughter together without worrying about the coronavirus. Those gatherings will always be the lifeblood of our Hoocak ways.

Some of those ways have evolved through the years. We put shoes on our feet, roofs over our heads, and text with phones. One thing I hope will never change is wookixete – the affection and respect we have for every member of our family, even those who denigrate our relatives based upon their gender or skin color. Our relatives will always have a seat at the table and shouldn’t ever be made to feel unwelcome or unbecoming. We know that those who harbor malice need our love the most, so the love can guide them back to the right path.

It is our hope that 2021 will see our loved ones being free to come and go from our homes, as they always have. Until then, please be safe and compassionate by practicing social distancing.

From all of us in the Legislature, we hope you have a bright and merry Christmas and happy New Year.



Payroll W2 Notice

DATE: December 29, 2020

TO: Ho-Chunk Nation Employees

FROM: Andrea Rave, Payroll Manager *AR*

RE: W-2 address changes

Greetings all,

Please use this memo as a reminder that W-2’s will be issued next month. We do not have a specific date that these will be mailed, however they must be postmarked by January 31st. Please take a moment to take a look at your check/check stub to make sure your address is correct. Your W-2 will be mailed to the address on file. If you need to make a change to your address, please get in touch with the HR department at your facility to make the necessary changes.

I hope you all have a safe and prosperous 2021.



INTEGRITY AUDIT & TAX

Integrity Audit & Tax is an emerging, Native-owned, CPA managed, full-service accounting firm in Black River Falls, WI that provides services to both Individuals and Businesses.

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integrityoffice@integrityaudittax.com

• Our tax expertise can address per capita questions, Native American taxation rules for federal & state taxes, child tax credits, trust fund distribution (full payouts), and unemployment.

• We can provide tax fee estimates by simply calling our office. If you need to roll your tax fee into your refund, we have options.

• Stay safe when filing 2020 taxes. We electronically file, documents can be submitted electronically, even your tax appointment can be over zoom!

Tax Year 2020 Tribal Discounts:

10% Discount for all Tribal Members!

20% Discount for all Tribal Elders!



Continued from Page 1

together by staying apart and serving the people with little contact, we also learned how unprepared we were to the unrehearsed worst-case scenarios we encountered.

For this reason, Community Health relied on team members to work from their strengths bringing in drivers, warehousemen, coordinators, health workers and various others to reach a common goal of ensuring the health and wellbeing of the tribal members, the employees and all of their families. In many respects, we fell short of personnel and resources so while coordination efforts were afoot, some looked beyond what we needed at the time to what we'll be needing down the road. For this reason, capacity building efforts began early and are now coming to bear the fruit of early planning and investment.

We all remember the big rental vehicles and cooling semis we rented to ensure food safety and freshness. Without them, we could produce nothing and when the food box program sunsetted, this equipment was returned. Since then, the Community Health Director maintained continuous efforts to replicate what we needed by utilizing CAREs Act funding designated explicitly to ensuring the Team has the means to continue to assist communities.

This couldn't be done alone and mandated Community Health reach out to rekindle partnerships and make new ones to share resources and gain essential contacts. One such resource that stands out like no other is the Hunger Taskforce out of Milwaukee, overseen by their Executive Director, Sherrie Tussler.

Upon her first engagement with the Ho-Chunk Nation, Sherrie embraced the dilemma of serving multiple locations across the state. Her phone calls often began with, "Jon, WE HAVE FOOD!" and the coordination started there. She became familiar with our shortfalls and wrote the Ho-Chunk Nation in along with several other tribes for their needs.

She made no promises other than she'd do her best for us and, without flaw, came through on every hope. Although she oversees the largest need-based food distribution in Milwaukee County, she is also the pivotal nexus between USDA CAREs Act dollars for food producers and capacity-building grants for redistributors like the Ho-Chunk Nation. With our combined efforts, including workers and community members, the Ho-Chunk Nation became the largest hub for moving this food to families and ensuring growers and producers could move their product. In the end, this is recognized and the work you've all done made it an easy case for Sherrie to secure six industrial reach-in refrigerator/freezer units located at the Milwaukee Branch Office, Siga Center and House of Wellness, an electric forklift at the Commod Shop and now a new 26' Refrigerator Freezer truck with a hydraulic lift system to our own HCN resource pool.

"We are extremely grateful to Sherrie, the Hunger Taskforce and all the partnerships we've made to get us through these hard times," says Sara Peterson, HCN Community Health Director. "We know it's not over and our work is not done so these resources better be ready to hit the ground running."



Executive Director Sherrie Tussler of the Hunger Taskforce out of Milwaukee was the pivotal nexus between USDA CAREs Act dollars for food producers and capacity-building grants for redistributors like the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be January 1st which will be published on January 8th. Please contact Hocak Worak at newsletter@ho-chunk.com if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Wisconsin WIC Formula Transition from Gerber® to Similac®

Effective January 2021, the Wisconsin WIC Nutrition Program will provide Similac as our standard formula.

If you are also breastfeeding your baby, keep it up! The more breastmilk your baby drinks, the less you will notice the switch in formulas.

Currently Using This Formula	Switching to this Formula – starting 2021
Gerber Good Start Gentle 	Similac Advance  12.4 oz powder 13 oz concentrate
Gerber Good Start Soy 	Similac Soy Isomil  12.4 oz powder 13 oz concentrate
Gerber Good Start Soothe 	Similac Total Comfort  12.6 oz powder

WIC is here to help. Most babies will transition to their new formula without any problems.

If you are concerned about changing formula, a good way to start is to mix the old formula with the new formula over a period of several days. Save a can of Gerber formula for when it is time to switch.

Amount of Formula	Day 1 and 2	Day 3 and 4	Day 5 and 6	Day 7
4 ounces	3 oz of current formula 1 oz of Similac	2 oz of current formula 2 oz of Similac	1 oz of current formula 3 oz of Similac	4 oz of Similac
6 ounces	4 oz of current formula 2 oz of Similac	3 oz of current formula 3 oz of Similac	2 oz of current formula 4 oz of Similac	6 oz of Similac
8 ounces	6 oz of current formula 2 oz of Similac	4 oz of current formula 4 oz of Similac	2 oz of current formula 6 oz of Similac	8 oz of Similac

If you have any questions or concerns, please talk with your WIC nutritionist.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content.

The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

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HOCOK WORAK NEWSLETTER

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The Hocak Worak is a member of:
The Native American Journalists Association



COVID-19

UPCOMING COMMUNITY TESTING EVENTS

-FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES-

TUES. 1/5, 9AM-1PM
SIGA FUNMAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, WITTENBERG

THURS. 1/7, 9AM-1PM
LA CROSSE BRANCH OFFICE

TUES. 1/12, 9AM-1PM
MADISON BRANCH OFFICE

TUES. 1/19, 9AM-2PM
NEKOOSA HEALTH OFFICE

THURS. 1/21, 9AM-2PM
DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY CTR. BLACK RIVER FALLS

TUES. 1/26, 9AM-2PM
TOMAH HEALTH OFFICE

THURS. 1/28, 9AM-2PM
HOUSE OF WELLNESS BARABOO

ALL TESTING SITES ARE OUTSIDE & DRIVE-THRU OR WALK-UP.

PLEASE BRING PHOTO ID. NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED. TESTING IS FREE TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

Testing events may be canceled due to inclement weather or to prioritize COVID-19 vaccine distribution, once received.



Questions?
HO-CHUNK HEALTH CARE CENTER
(715) 284-9851

LOWER YOUR FLU RISK

IT'S EASIER THAN EVER!

DRIVE-THRU FLU SHOT CLINIC

WED. 1/6, 10AM-2PM
NEKOOSA HEALTH OFFICE

WED. 1/13, 10AM-2PM
LA CROSSE BRANCH OFFICE

WED. 1/20, 10AM-2PM
TOMAH HEALTH OFFICE

WED. 1/27, 10AM-2PM
SIGA FUNMAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, WITTENBERG

WED. 2/3, 10AM-2PM
MADISON BRANCH OFFICE

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

INSURANCE CARD AND ID REQUIRED TO RECEIVE FLU VACCINATION





HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



December 8, 2020

Media Release:
Kiana Beaudin, Executive Director Of Health

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center and House of Wellness Clinical Services Update

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health is actively working on plans for offering our community the COVID-19 vaccine. These plans are continually changing based on the information from our Federal and State partners. The Department is planning to distribute the vaccine through large community vaccination events. We will have very short notice that our vaccine allotment has arrived AND the vaccine that is arriving will have a limited shelf life for administration.

In order to deliver the vaccine as efficiently as possible, the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center and the House of Wellness clinics MAY REDUCE services due to limited staffing, however, both clinics WILL REMAIN OPEN. Some appointments may be re-scheduled in order to accommodate vaccine delivery to our community members. The Health Department will work to ensure that appointments are re-scheduled in a timely fashion but request your patience and understanding regarding our capacity limitations. The Department of Health will continue to communicate with the community as the situation changes.

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness

S2845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913

Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



December 23, 2020

MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kiana Beaudin, Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department Health Officer, 715-284-9851

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Update

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health has received confirmation that our application to be a vaccination site for our employees and community members has been completed. This is a significant step towards having vaccine available to administer. Today the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health received its initial doses of COVID-19 vaccine. The Department was notified that 400 doses would be shipped in the coming days to our facilities. Because the vaccine is being distributed from the Federal government specific processes and documentation requirements needed to be prepared and submitted for our application approval. The Department of Health staff have been completing trainings to prepare for COVID-19 vaccine and the department has staged the POD (point of dispensing) sites at both the House of Wellness and District 1 Community building. The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health will be following the recommendations of both CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) regarding who will be eligible for vaccine. The Department has identified the following tiers of individuals to receive the vaccine:

Tier 1A:

- Healthcare Workers
- Long Term Care Residents

Tier 1B:

- Frontline Essential Employees
- Elite Elders
- Eminent Speakers

Tier 1C:

- Elders
- Those with underlying health conditions (examples: cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, heart conditions, immuno-compromised, obesity, sickle cell disease, type 2 diabetes) See full list at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>
- Essential Employees

Tier 2A:

- Essential Casino Employees

Tier 2B:

- General Community Members

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health has confirmed that the first allocation of COVID-19 vaccine is Moderna. This vaccine has received a EUA (emergency use authorization) for use in people 18 years and older. The Department of Health will be using the guidance and recommendations of ACIP and CDC for administration of the vaccine.

Once the Department of Health has received all of the needed information for administration of vaccine the Department of Health Vaccination Team will reach out to the tier 1A group to notify them of the date, time, and location of vaccine administration options. We do anticipate that our POD sites will be activated next week to dispense the vaccine.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health will continue to keep leadership, community members, and employees updated as new information is available. Please remember to continue to stay safe by wearing a mask while outside your home, social distance when you must go out in public, avoid large gatherings of people, and routinely wash your hands. Take care of one another.

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

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Year in review

JANUARY

Surprise luncheon for Judge JoAnn Jones' 80th birthday

Friday, January 3, 2020, the Tribal Courts staff organized a surprise luncheon in celebration of Judge JoAnn Jones' 80th birthday. The multi-purpose room at the District 1 Community Center was bursting with people, favorite foods of the Judge, and vibrant decorations.

The staff was able to surprise Judge Jones under the guise that the clerks were having a staff meeting at D1CC. All the while, they were preparing dishes and making the room festive.

Tribal Member creates film about area Somali Immigrants and family separation stories

Gary Garvin, a UW-Eau Claire junior marketing major from Black River Falls, was a cinematographer on a film, sharing stories of Somali refugees who have settled down in Baron County and how U.S immigration policies have directly impacted their families.

Joel Friederich, associate professor of English at UW-Eau Claire, initially wrote the immigrants stories, which were published last May in the UWEC-Baron County's literary journal, Red Cedar.

Calverley named as Executive Compliance Officer

Tracy Calverley, formerly the Contract Division Administrator for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice, recently was named as Executive Compliance Officer by Ho-Chunk President Marlon WhiteEagle. Her new role was effective on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Ho-Chunk Nation reference on gameshow Jeopardy!

January 15, the clue was, "Deb Haaland of the Laguna Pueblo & Sharice Davids of the Ho-Chunk Nation are the first women of this group in Congress."

The clue was revealed under the category title 'U.S. Representatives' and presented in the Double Jeopardy! Round. Contestant Laura Thomason, an English professor from Lizella, Georgia, responded, "What is Indigenous women?"

Eagle Summit closes its doors for the last time

On January 6, Eagle Summit at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells closed its doors for the last time. Eagle Summit is an 18+ casino which offers a full range of class II games and much more.

Initially, planners wanted to use the space as a poker room. Executive Management decided poker was not very profitable, so the decision to put Eagle Summit in that space was ideal at that time.

Legislature Begins 2020 Budget Development

Each year, the Legislature must enact an appropriations bill for the Ho-Chunk Nation in accordance with the Constitution. The process is outlined in the Appropriation and Budget Process Act (2HCC§4).

The budget development process begins with an analysis of the previous year of income generation, all expenses, and establishing funding priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. The Nation's enterprises submit a proposed budget to the Legislature's Finance Committee by January 15 each year.

FEBRUARY

Kiana Beaudin receives Forward Under Forty Award

Madison, Wisc. – Ho-Chunk Nation's Kiana Beaudin received UW-Madison Alumni Association's Forward under 40 Award for 2020 at a Madison Founders' Day event on February 5. The evening also included a blanketing ceremony and panel discussion.

Clarence Boyce Monegar's artwork put on display at the opening of the Ho-Chunk museum and Culture Center

On Friday, January 24, the first art show at the new Ho-Chunk Art Museum and Culture Center took place in Tomah, Wisconsin. The showcased art was created by Clarence Boyce Monegar. Many of Clarence's watercolor paintings represented the Ho-Chunk landscape of central Wisconsin. They focused on the forests and fields with a perception that is not only accurate but tempered with knowledge and respect inherited from generations of devotion.

Senior Basketball Player Reaches 1,000 points

On Monday, January 13, senior point guard Elliot Bird reached 1,000 points for his career playing basketball for the Black River Falls Tigers. Elliot has received multiple scholarship offers for both football and basketball and plans to attend UW-La Crosse for football.

Criminal Complaint filed against former General Council Deputy Advocate in the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court

Former General Council Deputy Advocate Wendy L. Running Horse, 39, has been charged with one Criminal Complaint in the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. She is accused of knowingly and without authorization access the Ho-Chunk Nation Payroll System and modifying payroll data by entering and approving personal work hours using the login credentials of a deceased Tribal Employee.

Students showcase Ho-Chunk picture book at Sandburg Elementary

On Thursday, January 23, fourth and fifth grade students at Sandburg Elementary School located in Madison, had an author's book release party as part of their 2nd quarter showcase.

Students took what they learned and created an original Ho-Chunk picture book, complete with original pictures and writings inspired by their learning. Students took digital publishing software to publish real books.

Stolen Sisters Exhibition spotlight MMIW epidemic

An opening reception for the Stolen Sisters exhibit was held in the Greenhill Center of the Arts atrium at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater on Jan. 30. The exhibition features Indigenous artists and allies addressing a range of experiences and emotions surrounding violence against, loss of indigenous women, and also celebrates survival.

Largest Annual Teen Summit gathers youth, parents, educators, activists, and mentors from all over Wisconsin

Sunday, February 23 through Tuesday, February 25, the largest annual Teen Summit to End Domestic Abuse was held at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. The Ho-Chunk Nation Domestic Abuse Division sponsored 38 Ho-Chunk Nation youth and staff to attend.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Movement

While violence against women plagues many communities across the country and around the world, the Native American Indigenous groups in North America are particularly affected by this devastating problem. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) present some of the highest statistics for violence and death. The situation has existed for generations and continues to harm individuals and families to this day.

UAS Program Administrator from Realty Division receives Emerging Leader Award from the Wisconsin Land Information Association

Niklas Anderson from the Ho-Chunk Nation's Realty Division received the very first Emerging Leader Award from the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) at their 33rd annual conference in Middleton, Wisc. The Emerging Leader Award is given to an individual in the first seven years of their Land Information/GIS career who demonstrates exemplary individual technical achievement and/or leadership within the Wisconsin land information community.

Kickapoo Reserve Management Board welcomes new members

The Kickapoo Reserve Management Board (KRMB) recently introduced two new Board members. Hocak (Ho-Chunk) Tina Brown of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, has been appointed to represent the Ho-Chunk Nation's Cultural interests and Julie Hoel of Ontario, Wisconsin, has been appointed as the Education Representative by Governor Tony Evers. These appointments filled the only remaining seats left on the board which has not seen a complete board since 2012.

MARCH

Sauk County Historical Society creates new Sacred Sites Committee

The Sacred Sites Committee is a new committee of the board of the Sauk County Historical Society (SCHS), created as an outgrowth of strategic planning done in the summer of 2019.

The current SCHS board members on the new committee include Seth Taft, Kristin White Eagle, and Executive Director Paul Wolter.

Ho-Chunk Nation welcomes new GIS Coordinator

Scott Nesbit is the new GIS Coordinator for the Ho-Chunk Nation in the Realty Division supporting the geospatial needs of the Ho-Chunk Nation employees and tribal members.

Advantages of the Tribal Member Benefits Program

The FSA has been working with American Indian Tribes for the past 15 years, creating and administering tribal member benefit programs as well as implementing investment management strategies to maintain and fund these programs effectively.

Monitoring the Novel Coronavirus

Over the past several weeks, the Health Department has closely monitored the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. This includes several weekly calls with our Local, State, and Federal partners.

The Health Department does have a Public Health Emergency Plan for addressing communicable disease incidents and we have practiced our Point of Dispensing plans with our internal and external partners, and we continue to work with them to address identified issues.

COVID-19 causes Ho-Chunk Nation policy and procedure adaptations

The COVID-19 pandemic currently changes our lifestyles, and day to day activities adjust around updates on the disease. The Ho-Chunk Nation works diligently to protect our communities, our employees, and our tribal members. President Marlon White Eagle declared a state of emergency for the Ho-Chunk Nation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 13.

The declaration included limitations on employment-related travel outside Wisconsin and between work sites. It also presented a request for departments to explore implementing communication technology and other solutions that will limit social interaction. All meetings of public boards and committees administered by the President are suspended except for critical meetings.

Indigenous Movies

to watch during the isolation period

All over the globe, many people are being affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Schools, museums, movie theaters, restaurants, bars, hair salons, and casinos: all closed. You are home and you need a distraction. Let us help.

UW Parkside Hosts New Exhibit by Sky Hopinka

From February 4 through March 20, the Mathis Gallery in the Rita Tallent Picken Regional Center for Arts & Humanities at Parkside displayed a series of videos showing Sky Hopinka's works.

Sky Hopinka is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and a descendant of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians. The announcement of identity is significant to his work, revealing the layered strata of information, presence, confusion, and history.

Social Distancing and What it means! Yes, that means you too!

In the last week you may have heard a lot about social distancing to help slow the spread of coronavirus. This is an effort that ALL of us must undertake to slow the spread of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

WHY is this so important? Social distancing means limiting the close contact with other people. This is especially important to protect our most vulnerable community members including elders, those with health problems, or anyone with a compromised immune system. It is important that even younger healthy adults practice social distancing because they are able to spread the disease to other people.

WHAT should I do? Limit trips out of the house to only getting groceries, seeking medical services, and caring for elders. When you decide it is absolutely necessary to leave the house remember to maintain a safe distance away from others, that means 6 feet. Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer after you have touched any handrails, door knobs, pens, or signature pads in public. Try to complete errands at a time that it will be less crowded.

WHO should be practicing social distancing? EVERYONE.





Ho-Chunk Gaming facilities temporarily close

Based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, Wisconsin Department of Health, and the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department, multiple Ho-Chunk Gaming (HCG) facilities temporarily close for the good of team members, guests, and the community.

HCG – Madison closed March 17. HCG – Wisconsin Dells, HCG - Tomah, and HCG – Nekoosa closed March 18. HCG – Black River Falls closed March 19. HCG – Wittenberg closed March 20.

APRIL

BRF Youth Services changes the dynamics of working with students to working with elders and families

Ho-Chunk Youth Services are designed to educate youth and provide recreational activities that promote healthy, mature lifestyles. The Youth and Learning Center located at District 1 Community Center closed March 13 to protect youth, families, and staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Staff compassionate about their jobs and the community continue to find alternate ways to help.

Two Ho-Chunk Head Start buildings offer pickup locations for Black River Falls School District meals

Ho-Chunkgra and Puzaki Pei Cinak Head Start buildings near Black River Falls are pick up locations for the free breakfast and lunch meals that the Black River Falls School District (BRFSD) offers during the school closure. Bus drivers, teachers' aides, secretaries, and the Nutrition team from the BRFSD packed 10,500 meals for the March 30 deliveries.

Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature suspends May 2020 rent and mortgage payments for Housing and HHCDA

Numerous individuals and families face financial hardships as a result of layoffs and the economic downturn as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Legislatures plans to ease the burden during this time by suspending all Department of Housing and Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA) rent and mortgage payments for May 2020.

Limited services and program updates from the Department of Education

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Education continues limited services during these uncertain times. Like many other departments within the Nation, the workforce has been temporarily reduced, and remaining employees take on additional responsibilities.

The Education Department altered programs and services in response to situations caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Each division within the department provided a brief update.

HHCDA offers one-time Rental Assistance in response to COVID-19

In response to the declared State of Emergency during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency (HHCDA) offers one-time rental assistance to eligible households. The grant amount cannot exceed \$700 and will be released to the landlord.

Language Division launches inaugural online Hoocak exercises

The Hoocak Waazija Haci Language Division developed a self-guided, self-paced, language learning experience called the Hoocak Online Independent Targeted Exercises (HOIT'E) Program. Lessons began April 6, runs eight weeks, and geared towards beginner level Hoocak language learners.

Transport Division and Community Health upgrade transport unit

Community Health in cooperation with the Ho-Chunk Nation Transportation Division have upgraded a transport unit for the protection and comfort of the driver and passenger. Thank you, Roberto! This was a direct result of input from our employees and concerned community members.

Food Distribution Program remains operational

The Ho-Chunk Nation Food Distribution Program provides USDA commodity foods to eligible participants meeting lowered income guidelines and are federally recognized Native Americans or elderly persons residing on, or near, reservation lands. The Food Distribution Program offers up to 75 food items in canned, dried, or fresh produce items. Products include fruit, vegetable, dairy, pasta, poultry, beef, cereal, and flour.

The main office and warehouse is located in Black River Falls and provide services daily. Tailgate services are offered in Wisconsin Dells, Madison, Wittenberg, Tomah, La Crosse, and Nekoosa.

HHCDA announces Emergency Utility Loan Program

The Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency (HHCDA) provides an Emergency Utility Loan of up to \$400 to low or moderate income HHCDA tenants or Ho-Chunk Nation members who own their own homes. This loan is intended to address members' need for utility assistance resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

MAY

Life Skills Coordinator collaborates with Youth Services to deliver planting project packages

The Ho-Chunk Nation Social Services Family Services Program teamed up with Youth Services to provide planting project packages to 73 Ho-Chunk youth. The program must remain in compliance with their grants, and events they were supposed to hold are canceled or postponed due to the pandemic. The employees have been planning alternative activities.

The planting project packages include planting pots, seed pods, soil, Popsicle sticks, paint pens, and instructions. Youth decorate the planting pots with the paint pens and then add a seed pod and soil. The Popsicle sticks can be used to label parsley, chives, or basil - the three seed pods that are offered.

Purchase a printer and ink with the Education Department's COVID-19 Response Relief program

The Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department announces a new COVID-19 Response Relief program that will purchase a printer and extra ink cartridges for families. Due to the pandemic and remote learning requirement, assistance is available for students in grades K-12 attending public or private schools.

There are no options to change the make or model of the printer. The printer will be the HP Deskjet 3755 Inkjet Multifunction Printer Color Copier/Printer/Scanner with additional black and color ink cartridges.

Executive Order May 4, 2020-1

"I, President Marlon E. WhiteEagle, modify the general working times for Administration and Programs of the Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Branch. See ERA, 6 HCC §§ 5.31, -32d, -69, -76. The Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Branch employees (excluding the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health, Ho-Chunk Nation enterprises, Executive Directors, and contract, exempt, and grant employees) will be operational for 32 hours per week until further notice; general working times for Administration and Programs of the Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Branch will be Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health will remain open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If there is a need for additional critical staff and hours, then it must be addressed with the Ho-Chunk Nation President as soon as practicable."

Weaver approved as interim HCN Department of Business executive director

Kelli D. Weaver has been approved as the interim executive director for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Business. The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature approved Weaver on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. She received the vote from legislature members, six to six, with President Marlon WhiteEagle breaking the tie for approval.

Ho-Chunk Nation Veteran gravesites honored with flags

Starting on May 5, volunteers placed flags at the gravesites of Ho-Chunk Nation Veterans at Blue Wing Cemetery. An additional two days were dedicated to visiting Decorah Cemetery, Indian Mission Church Cemetery, Decorah Prairie Cemetery, and Trempealeau Cemetery.

Ho-Chunk Nation announces soft reopening of Madison casino

Ho-Chunk Gaming – Madison was selected to reopen on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, utilizing an effectual safety and sanitation plan. The staff at Ho-Chunk Gaming Madison has implemented and will enforce the utmost health and safety of its guests and employees.

With Dane County's Public Health announcement of Forward Dane yesterday, Ho-Chunk Gaming – Madison is following the advisement for a cautious reopen. The casino will reopen with a phased-in process and initially not including the general public.

Water Quality Reports for the Ho-Chunk Nation Membership

Annual Water Quality reports are now available for calendar year 2019 for those people living in a Ho-Chunk community that is served by a Community Water Supply.

JUNE

Madison Casino Reopens in Phases

The phased opening began May 27 at Ho-Chunk Gaming – Madison. Guests formed a line around the edge of the parking lot extending from the front door to the second driveway before the doors unlocked at 10:00 AM. The Department of Business, Department of Health, Department of Labor Safety Division, and the Executive Management team at Ho-Chunk Gaming – Madison collaborated for a safe, phased reopen.

2020 Annual Address Verification – Notice from the Ho-Chunk Nation Office of Tribal Enrollment

In accordance to HCC § 12, Per Capita Distribution Ordinance, Sec. 7c. Each member shall be required to submit an annual verification form (either paper or electronic) to the Enrollment Office in accordance with the procedures and instructions promulgated by the Enrollment Office.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ho-Chunk Nation leadership had to make the difficult decision to implement an emergency plan to only maintain employees to perform the critical functions and services within the Nation's governmental structure. Please take note of the AVF schedule.

Tomah Protests Peacefully

June 2, protestors peacefully traveled alongside Superior Avenue in downtown Tomah showing support of George Floyd, the Black Lives Matter movement, anti-racism, peace, and the end of police brutality.

Approximately 135 men, women, and children of all ages and races gathered at Gillet Park and listened to organizer Quinton Hanson's message. Per April 2019 Enrollment data, Monroe County is home to 447 enrolled Ho-Chunk members. Multiple members participated and marched.

Farm to Families Program Food Distribution in various Ho-Chunk Nation locations

Farm to Families Food Box Program began May 29 thanks in part to the Farm to Families Program, the Hunger Task Force, and the Ho-Chunk Nation. The Ho-Chunk Nation Community Health Team organized Nation workers and volunteers distributing foods to families.

A limited number of boxes filled with fresh and nutritious foods are available to Ho-Chunk Nation families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Pick up locations include Black River Falls, Tomah, Wisconsin Dells, Wittenberg, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, Nekoosa, Milwaukee, Chicago, and Minneapolis.

Flag Raising Ceremony with No Memorial Day Powwow

May 25, 2020, was unlike any other Memorial Day holiday at the Andrew Blackhawk powwow grounds near Black River Falls. The Ho-Chunk Nation did not sponsor a powwow due to public health safety concerns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Andrew Blackhawk Legion Post 129 organized a Flag Raising Ceremony.

'Justice for Kozee' gathering in Wausau calls for upgraded charges

Family, friends, and supporters of Kozee Montana Featherstone Medicinetop Decorah, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, gathered on June 5 outside the Marathon County Courthouse in Wausau for justice. Decorah was murdered May 16 in a remote, wooded area on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in Winnebago, Nebraska. It is believed that Jonathan Daniel Rooney, Decorah's boyfriend and father of her children, was involved and is being charged with Manslaughter in Indian Country.

The family believes the charge should be upgraded and that the rally outside the Courthouse works to bring awareness to Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women across the country. The maximum punishment for Manslaughter in Indian Country is 15 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, a three year term of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

Estebo nominated for Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Director of Business

Andrea “Pepper” Estebo has been nominated by President Marlon WhiteEagle for the position of Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Director of Business. Prior to her nomination she served in the Office of the President as the Executive Legislative Information Officer since July 2019.

Requiring a face mask becomes more common

Two top health agencies, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend the use of face masks while in public. More non-essential businesses are reopening, and several set a face mask policy for customers.

Numerous retail stores, grocery stores, hospitals, pharmacies, public transportation, airplanes, and ride-hailing services make it their policy to make it mandatory for both employees and patrons to wear a face mask. The casinos operated by the Ho-Chunk Nation require face masks for both employees and patrons.

Three Ho-Chunk Gaming facilities reopen June 29

Casinos located near Black River Falls, Wisconsin Dells, and Wittenberg reopen on Monday, June 29, with strict guidelines. The hours of operation vary at each location.

Ho-Chunk Gaming – Black River Falls operates Sunday through Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 AM, and Thursday through Saturday 8:00 AM to 2:00 AM. Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells opens daily from 9:00 AM to 1:00 AM. Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wittenberg runs Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 AM, and Friday to Saturday 8:00 AM to 2:00 AM.

Outstanding Native American varsity high school athletes named

The 2019-20 Northern Indigenous All State Teams (NIAST) recognize outstanding Native American varsity high school athletes. Several Ho-Chunk sportspersons made the Wisconsin list.

Females named were Olivia Curley, grade 12, from Wittenberg-Birnamwood for basketball; Kanani Blackdeer, grade 12, from Black River Falls for softball; Allison Giroux, grade 10 from Black River Falls for swimming; and Jenna Quackenbush, grade 12 from Black River Falls for golf.

Males included Elliot Bird, grade 11, from Black River Falls for football; Joseph Pecore, grade 11, from Stevens Point for football; Bryson Funmaker, grade 12, from Wisconsin Dells for basketball; Joseph White Eagle, Jr., grade 12, from Baraboo for basketball; Cameron Logan, grade 12, from Baraboo for hockey and Lacrosse; and Alexander Thundercloud, grade 12, from Milwaukee for hockey and track and field.

American Red Cross testing for COVID-19 Antibody Status when you give blood

The American Red Cross will test all blood, platelet, and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies for a limited time. This testing may provide insight into whether donors have possibly been exposed to the coronavirus and perhaps never developed symptoms.

Showcase 2020 Graduates

Three pages displayed photos, names, accomplishments, and future endeavors of Ho-Chunk Nation graduates. The graduates range from head start through college.

JULY

Financial setbacks hit the Hocak Worak

Like many other departments and divisions within the Ho-Chunk Nation, the Hocak Worak experienced financial hindrances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The newest approved 60-day budget resulted in a reduced number of pages published. Before the new budget year, the Hocak Worak published 16 pages. Now the Hocak Worak publishes 12 pages.

No August Per Cap

On July 7, 2020 there was a regular meeting of the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature at the Tribal Executive Offices near Black River Falls. A resolution regarding Per-Capita Declaration for August 1, 2020 was on the agenda. Those listening via Webex heard the resolution did not pass.

The Legislature looked at the revenue since the coronavirus has started to close our casinos and current revenue projections. The Nation’s casinos had been closed for over three months and it severely impacted revenues. In facing the unprecedented threat, the Legislature had to consider revenue shortfalls under the tribe’s revenue allocation plan. Another possible motivation for the action of the Legislature was to save as much as possible due to the potential for another shutdown.

This resulted in the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature initiating an emergency relief program called CARES Act Emergency Relief Assistance to Tribal Members. The program is intended to assist adult tribal members that are impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg Reopening: A Triumph!

Wittenberg, WI – On Monday, June 29, 2020, after 14 weeks of being closed, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg anxiously reopened the facility doors; with new health and safety standards to help reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19 to both customers and employees.

Greendeer-Rave no longer serving as Attorney General

Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle today regrets to announce that Michelle Greendeer-Rave will no longer be serving as Ho-Chunk Nation Attorney General for the Department of Justice.

Masks & Social Distancing Required at District Area Meetings

July 8 marks the first District Area Meeting since the April 22 announcement that the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature discontinued Area Meetings due to COVID-19 pandemic concerns. The Legislative Branch were following the advice of health professional by cancelling District Area Meetings.

Meet the Nominated Attorney General

On July 14, 2020, President Marlon WhiteEagle nominated David A. Wilson for the position of Attorney General. Mr. Wilson brings with him a passion for justice and helping people resolve problems. Mr. Wilson currently works for the Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary as the Senior Staff Attorney where he advises the Court on a variety of civil and criminal legal matters. Mr. Wilson began working for the Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary in February 2017.

La Crosse man arrested after seven Ho-Chunk Nation vehicles vandalized

Seven Ho-Chunk Nation fleet vehicles were damaged near the La Crosse Branch Office in broad daylight.

According to a Police report, Saturday, July 18, at 11:38 AM, a police officer was flagged down by an employee who advised multiple vehicles were damaged on the south side of the parking lot. All vehicles had their windshields smashed with what ap-

peared to be a heavy object.

The Ho-Chunk Nation has video cameras pointing directly at the vehicles, and the footage turned over to the La Crosse Police.

Danny L. Link, 39, of La Crosse was arrested July 20 with Criminal Damage to Property, Disorderly Conduct, and Bail Jumping-Misdemeanor.

AUGUST

Funding allocated for specific Pre K-12 Grants

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature allocated funding for the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Pre K-12 Grant Program to assist students with necessary costs for the upcoming school year. The funding amount per student decreased and is for nine specific grants.

The limit for the 2020-21 year is \$2,000 per student. This amount used to be \$2,500.

HHCDA extends the COVID-19 rental assistance program
The Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA) announced a one-time rental assistance program in April in response to the COVID-19 virus and the declared state of emergency. This rental assistant program now extends to two payments for those applicants approved between April 24 and August 3, 2020.

Planning for the Annual Meeting of General Council 2020 amidst COVID-19

The Office of General Council faces a unique, unprecedented situation with planning the 2020 General Council amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. A volunteer General Council Planning Workgroup debated meeting in person versus a virtual meeting for the December 5 event.

As of an August 26, 2020, Enrollment Office query, there are a total of 7,881 enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation members. Total voting-age members are 6,143. Twenty percent of the eligible voters constitute a quorum. The quorum for General Council 2020 is approximately 1,229.

The workgroup moves forward, planning a virtual meeting and labeling it the GC2020 E-Meeting to ensure the safety and well-being of all tribal members.

2020 ANNUAL ADDRESS VERIFICATION - Notice from the HCN Office of Tribal Enrollment

In previous notifications, the Ho-Chunk Nation Enrollment Office stated that it would be distributing the 2020 Annual Address Verification form on September 1, 2020.

However, due to the lack of funding, the Enrollment Office neither has the resources, nor the staff to ensure that it occurs as planned.

Therefore, the issuance of the 2020 AVF is suspended until further notice. If the situation changes an update will be forthcoming.

Final Farm to Families Distribution August 21

We are so very fortunate to have had the partnerships step up and fulfill a need among our communities. The Food Box Program was coordinated by the Community Health Office under Director Sara Peterson and the HCN Department of Health under Executive Director Kiana Beaudin. With their leadership, guidance, support and active participation, we were able to assemble a variety of reassigned workers and community volunteers to make the distribution of nearly 1,000,000 pounds of food to 11 different areas.

While the Department is committed to continuing to find resources for our communities directly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the weekly program distribution will have its final day August, 21, 2020.

Michael Sallaway serves HCN Legislators with a lawsuit

In the August 26 open session of the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Finance Committee meeting, Michael Sallaway served the Legislators in attendance with a lawsuit stating they violated the law concerning the passage of a resolution to call a Special General Council meeting.

SEPTEMBER

Hoocak families gather at Maa Wákačak perpetuating culture

Once hailed as the world’s largest ammunition plant and having been turned back over to its rightful caretakers, the Hoocak (Ho-Chunk), the Badger Ammunition plant recently played host to several Hoocak families for a cooperative art project.

Judge Hunter schedules possible Contempt of Court charges hearing for Sept. 17

On Monday, Aug. 31, Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court Judge Mary Jo Hunter scheduled a “show cause” hearing telephonically for 10 am Thursday, Sept. 17, of a court violation by the Ho-Chunk Legislature.

The hearing is to listen to argument why Judge Hunter should not hold Vice President Karna Thundercloud and Legislative Attorney Mike Murphy with Contempt of Court.

The “show cause order,” also called an “order to show cause,” mandates that an individual or corporation make a court appearance to explain why the court should not take a proposed action.

Injunction issued to HCN Legislature on making any budgetary decisions

A legal action has determined that the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature must refrain from making any budgetary decisions until a hearing can be made on Monday, Aug. 31

An “Ex Parte Temporary Restraining Order and Scheduling Preliminary Injunction Hearing” has been issued by the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. The hearing is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 31.

The Honorable Associate Trial Court Judge Mary Jo B. Hunter ruled on the matter.

Trial Court Judge Mary Jo B. Hunter listens to an argument in show cause hearing

Thursday, September 17, 2020, Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court Judge Mary Jo B. Hunter listened to why Judge Hunter should not hold Vice President Karna Thundercloud and Legislative Attorney Mike Murphy in Contempt of Court.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court conducted the show cause hearing telephonically due to the pandemic’s current status.

Two new Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Commissioners

September 22, 2020, two newly appointed Gaming Commissioners, Michael J. Owen and Quentin R. Allen, were sworn into office behind the Tribal Office Building near Black River Falls.

Ho-Chunk Nation Wins Legal Challenge Aimed at Preventing Destruction of Wetlands

Monroe County Judge Rejects Meteor Timber’s Request to Reinstate DNR Permit

Madison, WI—Today, a Monroe County Circuit Court judge ruled in favor of the Ho-Chunk Nation, represented by Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA), and Clean Wisconsin in a decision that continues to prevent the out-of-state frac sand company Meteor Timber, LLC, from destroying 16 acres of globally rare wetlands in Monroe County.

In his ruling today, Judge Ziegler found that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) violated state wetland laws when it issued a permit to Meteor Timber in 2017

to build an industrial sand processing facility and rail project in the Town of Grant in Monroe County.

Anthony Falcon nominated for Executive Director of Treasury

Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle has announced the nomination of Anthony Falcon to the position of Executive Director of the Department of Treasury. His nomination was delivered to the HCN Legislature on Monday, Sept. 14, 2020.

Notice of Special General Council
 “To date, there is no location, no date, and no budget for a Special General Council Meeting that the Legislature called. Additionally, no safety measures have been requested or approved by the Nation’s COVID-19 Response Team.”

OCTOBER

No November Per Cap

October 6, the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch announced in a Facebook post that the Ho-Chunk Legislature has decided there will be no November per capita and plan accordingly. Tribal members are encouraged to apply for COFA and other available programs.

In July, a similar decision was made at a regular meeting of the Legislature regarding the Per-Capita Declaration for August. There was no August per cap. This action resulted in the Legislature initiating an emergency relief program called Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Other Financial Assistance or COFA.

Little Eagle Arts Foundation reveals Hooçak mural at Maa Wákaçak

Once hailed as the world’s largest ammunition plant, and having been turned back over to its rightful caretakers, the Hooçak (Ho-Chunk), the Badger Ammunition plant recently played host to the revealing of a cultural mural.

The mural titled “Earth, Sky, Water”, a cooperative art project, was placed on the Great Sauk Trail that skirts the property on its eastern edge. The mural has been permanently installed to repurposed stem walls on the Great Sauk State Trail, and the opportunity was afforded, intended as a gift of appreciation and in recognition for the generous donation the Hooçak Nation gave to complete the trail.

Ho-Chunk Nation Vice President found in Contempt of Court

Ho-Chunk Nation Vice President Karena Thundercloud was found in Contempt of Court by the Honorable Mary Jo Hunter, associate trial court judge for the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court.

The decision was handed down by Judge Hunter on Monday, Sept. 28.

HCN Education Department awarded grant to prepare students for higher education, careers

Executive Director of Education Nehomah Thundercloud recently announced the award of a Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) grant to the Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department.

The grant will create three new positions whose exclusive aim will be to promote career and college readiness for Ho-Chunk students and families.

The first year of the grant has been designated as a planning year, which will be funded by the grant for \$765,673. One grant administrator will be hired in January 2021 and two student services specialists in May 2021.

Anthony Falcon begins as OOP Business Service Auditor

Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle has announced the addition of Anthony Falcon to the Office of the President as Business Service Auditor. Falcon began his new position on Monday, Sept. 28, 2020.

HCN Legislature suspends rent and mortgage payments

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature has suspended rent and mortgage payments for Department of Housing, HHCD, and Nation Water and Sewer through March 2021. Renters who miss a payment will not be penalized but should set up arrangements to pay.

WilloWood Inn hosts Native American Artisans

With fall in full swing, the Baraboo Artisan Backyard Art Walk and Drive was a welcome option this past Saturday for folks to get out and enjoy the outdoors and work of local artisans.

According to the Baraboo Artisan Backyard Art Walk and Drive Facebook page, ten stops on the tour hosted different artisans around the Baraboo, Wisconsin area. The public had an opportunity to talk with each local artist and craftsman about their art making processes. It also stated, it was “a special day for Baraboo’s Creative Community with social distancing observed, following the ‘Safer in Sauk’ Guidelines.”

One of the stops was the WilloWood Inn located just South of the downtown area, owned and operated by Hooçak (Ho-Chunk) Angie Lowe. The venue offered the public the opportunity to view Native American artwork and learn its significance to the artists and their cultures.

HHCD currently offering Rental Assistance, Mortgage Assistance, and Elder Utility Assistance

In response to those families economically impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCD) offers grant assistance programs.

These most recent grant programs include Rental Assistance up to \$1,400.00, Mortgage Assistance up to \$2,100.00, and Elder Utility Grants up to \$350.00. At this time, the Rental Assistance and the Mortgage Assistance are for new applicants only.

GC2020 E-Meeting updates

This year, the General Council’s annual meeting convenes on December 5 in a virtual setting to ensure the safety and well-being of all tribal members during the pandemic. Plans are in place to assist Ho-Chunk Nation tribal members with the necessary tools and experience to make the event productive.

That plan includes a Mock E-Meeting scheduled for Friday, November 20, and currently scheduled to run from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM.

Tribal members experience navigating the virtual meeting during the Mock E-Meeting. Participants practice logging in, raising your hand, using the microphone, and voting.

The 2020 Census finishes collecting responses

The 2020 Census wrapped up last week on Oct. 15, with the U.S. Census Bureau reporting that 43.7% of Ho-Chunk Nation households were counted. The bureau ended operations more than two weeks earlier than originally planned.

NOVEMBER

Harsher charges against Nebraska man

A Winnebago, Nebraska, man accused of killing 22-year-old Kozee Decorah on the Winnebago Indian Reservation, has now been charged with murder. The murder charge replaces a previous charge of manslaughter.

A grand jury on Oct. 23 filed a second superseding indictment charging Jonathan Rooney with second-degree murder and tampering with documents or proceedings in Indian Country.

2020 Election results for three Ho-Chunk candidates

Rep. Sharice Davids of Kansas wins a second term. The Ho-Chunk Nation member made history in 2018 as one of the first two Native women elected to U.S. Congress. Davids wins 53.4% over Amanda Adkins 43.8% in Kansas District 3.

Democratic Tricia Zunker lost her bid to Republican Tom Tiffany for the Wisconsin 7th District congressional seat. Zunker claimed 39.2% of votes to Tiffany’s 60.8%.

Amanda WhiteEagle came up short in the race against incumbent Treig Pronschinske for the Wisconsin State Assembly to represent District 92. Pronschinske wins 17,270 votes to WhiteEagle’s 12,197 votes.

Judge rules legislative action unconstitutional

The Ho-Chunk Legislature has acted in an unconstitutional manner, according to a ruling by the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court.

The Honorable Associate Trial Court Judge Mary Jo Hunter of the Ho-Chunk Trial Court issued the decision on Friday, October 30, 2020.

Michael Rave confirmed as Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Director of Business

Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle nominated Michael Rave on Monday, August 17, 2020. Rave was confirmed on Monday, November 2, 2020. Rave was most recently the Director of Planning and Development division.

Mock E-meeting Provides Orientation for GC2020

Enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation members were invited to attend a mock e-meeting on November 20, 2020. The mock meeting provided attendees an opportunity to navigate the virtual meeting space in preparation for the Annual Meeting of General Council scheduled for December 5.

Circle of Excellence Awards honor the American Indian Community Development Corporation in Minneapolis

On November 17, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) announced six winners of its Circle of Excellence Awards. Organizations that have partnered with DHS and executed an exemplary job of providing food, shelter, and other assistance to Minnesotans in need were recognized.

The winners are the American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC), Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Cloud, CHUM (formerly known as Churches United in Ministry), Family Wise, Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and United Community Action Partnership.

COFA ends in December and HELP begins in January

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature has established a new optional program this month for eligible tribal members. They initiated an emergency relief program called COFA (CARES Other Financial Assistance) back in July to assist tribal members impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The final COFA payment disperses in December with the expiration of the federal CARES Act appropriations. A new program called the Ho-Chunk Economic Legacy Project (HELP) will begin, using the tribe’s NPD funding.

The HELP payments are \$700 and scheduled for monthly distribution from January through June. Enrolled tribal members interested in this new assistance are encouraged to apply before December 18, 2020.

Laura LaMere Sustain Dane’s Live Forward Award Winner

Madison, WI November 12, 2020 – Laura LaMere has been honored as one of four Sustain Dane’s Live Forward award recipients. This is quite an achievement as Sustain Dane is the sustainability organization in Dane County. They are dedicated to creating a community based on holistic sustainability, a healthy environment, a just economy, and equity & social wellbeing for all. The seven other nominees included Dane County Executive Joe Parisi.

DECEMBER

The Ho-Chunk Nation Assembles Historic Virtual Meeting of the General Council

The Ho-Chunk Nation’s Annual Meeting of the General Council convened in the first-ever virtual setting on Saturday, December 5. This Annual Meeting is one of the largest and most vital events of the Ho-Chunk Nation because the tribal membership meets to set policy for the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Meeting virtually has become a useful tool in preventing the spread of covid-19. Governments, businesses, schools, individuals, and the world has had to adjust their daily lives to stay safe during the pandemic. Wisconsin became a hot spot for the virus in the past few months and community spread is uncontained.

The Office of General Council coordinated and broadcasted the E-Meeting from Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells with assistance from Lumi, Majic Productions, and the Ho-Chunk Nation IT Division.

Like past in-person General Council meetings, the determination of quorum for this year’s E-Meeting was to be established through registration and electronic vote. Although quorum was not met this year, Emcee Matthew Mann announced that there were 1,239 individuals registered at one point during the meeting. A total of 727 individuals participated in the final quorum vote.

Fire in Tomah causes damage to the Ho-Chunk Museum and Cultural Center

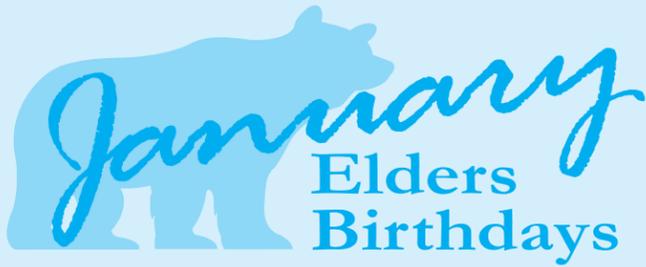
A structure fire broke out just before 5:00 AM on November 29 in downtown Tomah, Wisconsin. Two historic buildings located at 1110 and 1112 Superior Avenue were a total loss. The Ho-Chunk Museum and Cultural Center is located at 1108 Superior Avenue and is next door to where the blaze happened.

The Ho-Chunk Museum and Cultural Center suffered smoke and water damage. The Heritage Preservation staff stored the museum collection in the basement, and part of the collection was submerged in water. The roof of the Museum sustained fire damage.

Ryan John Crain, Sr. receives a Rising Stars Under 40 award

The River Valley Media Group and The 7 Rivers Alliance selected 28 recipients from three states as the 2020 Rising Stars Under 40. The Rising Stars is a program recognizing and celebrating rising stars’ achievements and encouraging them to remain in the region. This year, Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member and motivational speaker Ryan John Crain, Sr., of Sparta, received an award.





January Elders Birthdays

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Francis Decorah | 17. Peggy Crowley |
| Sarah Hernandez | 18. Roger Houghton, Sr. |
| Marlene Huffman | Sidney Lewis |
| Karen Johnson | Sherill Worthy |
| 3. Shelby Grant | 19. Rhonda Funmaker |
| Denise Kearnes | Marlene Peterson |
| Roger Schmitz, Jr. | Charlene Steele |
| Algernon Wauqua | 20. Michael Goze |
| Frederick Zensen, Jr. | Mark Hellerud |
| 4. Steven Bell | 22. David Mach |
| Joni Bradley | Barbara Pierce |
| David Radtke | 23. Michael Day |
| 5. Raena Funmaker | Antoinette Horak |
| Joann Jones | Pamela Smith |
| Mark Thundercloud | 24. Franceita Decorah |
| 6. Roy Cassiman | Karena Thundercloud |
| Penny Lamere Smart | 25. Martin Cooper |
| Anita Prieur | Julia Little Wolf |
| 7. Phyllis Armendariz | Nela Stacy |
| Barbara Lowe | 26. Wilbert Cleveland |
| Eunice Winneshiek | Gary Hall |
| 8. Ona Garvin | Stewart Miller |
| Bonnie Hanson | Melanie Sainz |
| Mark Young | Myrna Thompson |
| 10. Melanie Bryant | 27. Tina Danielski |
| Janice Goldman | 28. Berna BigThunder- |
| Douglas Greengrass | Hindsley |
| Avery Lonetree | Wade Blackdeer |
| Damon Picotte | Anthony Winneshiek |
| Sharon Topping | 29. Frisk Decorah |
| 11. Yvonne Chojnacki | Cindy Funmaker |
| Patricia Filipowicz | John Houghton, Jr. |
| 13. Carson West | Faye Larson |
| Wendy White Eagle | Eugene Notah |
| 14. Fred Decorah | Nadine Sieber |
| Roberta Decorah | Rosalie Two Bulls |
| Marvin Leonard, Jr. | 30. Barbara Nyhan |
| Susan Moore | Cecelia Rave |
| Hattie Walker | 31. Ethel Funmaker |
| 15. Joanne La Mere | Kathyleen Lone Tree- |
| Rodney Young | Whiterabbit |
| 16. Joyce White Eagle | Janice Rice |
| Sharon Whitebear | Estelle Whitewing |

FRANCES THUNDERCLOUD WENTZ (Wakajapiiwiga) 1931-2020

Frances Thundercloud Wentz passed away on Sunday, December 6, 2020. She was born on May 25, 1931 at home at the Indian Mission, Black River Falls, WI to Lydia (Lyons-Lowe) and Daniel Thundercloud. Frances was an enrolled member of the Ho Chunk Nation and she was part of the Wakaja Clan. She was baptized and confirmed at the Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ. She was a lifetime member of the Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ (previously Winnebago Evangelical and Reform Church). Frances spent her childhood on her family's farm on the Indian Mission. When she was school age she attended the Winnebago Indian School, Neillsville, WI. Frances graduated from Black River Falls High School. After high school, she attended Mission House College (now Lakeland University) and she graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Medical Technology. While in college, she excelled academically and enjoyed playing ping-pong.

While at Mission House College, Frances also met the love of her life Roger Wentz. They were married December 30, 1955 at the Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2005. Reverend Roger Wentz had several congregations in Milwau-

kee, WI, Kaukauna, WI, Sauk City, WI, and Canton, Ill. As a minister's wife, Frances took her role seriously and was a gracious, kind, friendly, and empathetic with her spiritual gifting to her church community. In life, she loved and was loved by many. Roger and Frances retired and lived on the family homestead near Black River Falls. They had one child, Renee Wentz. They raised two dogs, Daisy and Suzy.

Frances and Roger lived quietly in retirement. She was an excellent seamstress and sewed Roger's suits for work. Frances had a green thumb and grew many plants, and her specialties were pony tails and orchids. Frances was a first speaker of the Ho-Chunk language, and the family very often called her for advice on how to interpret English to Ho-Chunk. She assisted Dr. Nancy Oestreich Lurie, of the Milwaukee Public Museum with the biography of Stella Stacy (Mountain Wolf Women) by interpreting Ho-Chunk to English. Frances had a competitive spirit and she enjoyed winning when she played cards. She collaborated with her sisters in an "Immersion" type of Ho-Chunk language learning activities for members of the family and other cultural traditions such as: black ash basket making from tree to basket, finger weaving, traditional Ho-

Chunk moccasins, paaxges, shirts, and wajes (dresses), etc.

She was one of the founding members of the Ho-Chunk Nation Institutional Review Board that protects Ho-Chunk Nation Information. She was also a member of the Consistory on the Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ and served as secretary for many years.

Frances is survived by her husband, Rev. Roger Wentz, her sisters Lillian Thundercloud and Hattie Thundercloud Walker and many sons, daughters, and grandchildren through the Ho-Chunk relationship. Frances is preceded in death by her parents; Daniel and Lydia, her siblings David, Samuel, and Lawrence, and her daughter Renee Wentz.

Following CDC, Wisconsin, and Ho-Chunk Nation COVID-19 guidelines, there will be no visitation. A private family funeral will be held Wednesday, December 9, 2020. Please, respect the family's wishes and stay safe at home. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers that memorials be donated to the Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ (Mission Church), P.O. Box 9, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

Buswell Funeral Home of Black River Falls, WI is assisting the family with arrangements.

Department of Housing Contact List – 12/22/20

Department of Housing Office 27374 Hwy 21 East, Bldg 5 & Bldg 1 PO Box 170 Tomah, WI 54660 Fax: 608-374-1233	Department of Housing – Complex Heavy Equipment Division 28902 Hwy 21 East Tomah, WI 54660 Fax: 608-374-3954
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General Housing email:	housing@ho-chunk.com
Housing Accounts Payable:	housingap@ho-chunk.com
Home Ownership Programs:	housinghop@ho-chunk.com

Housing - Office		
15900	Front Desk – Housing Office Bldg 5	608-374-1255
15780	Front Desk – Complex (Heavy Equipment)	608-374-3950
15954	Front Desk – Housing Bldg 1	
15907	Conference Room	Housing – Bldg 1

Housing – Administrative Division		Email	Work Cell	
15902	Cloud, Heather	Executive Director of Housing	HRcloud@ho-chunk.com	608-343-7516
15910	Dick, Chester	Office Manager	Chester.Dick@ho-chunk.com	
15909	Ferkey, Marla	Financial Division Manager	Marla.Ferkey@ho-chunk.com	
15911	Funmaker, Kyle	Junior Accountant	Kyle.Funmaker@ho-chunk.com	
15919	Houghton, Jonnie	Junior Accountant	Jonnie.Houghton@ho-chunk.com	

Housing – Rental Management				
15903	Sanchez, Gabrielle	Rental Manager	Gabrielle.Sanchez@ho-chunk.com	
15905	Pettibone, Desiree	Rental Coordinator	Desiree.Pettibone@ho-chunk.com	
15912	Emery, Malakai	Residential Construction Supvsr	Malakai.Emery@ho-chunk.com	608-387-9722
15923	Decorah, Randeem	Admin Assistant	Decorah.Randeem@ho-chunk.com	

Housing – Home Ownership Program			
15906	Meza, Yesenia	Home Ownership Project Mgr	Yesenia.Meza@ho-chunk.com
15918	Burnstad, Leanne	Project Coordinator	Leanne.Burnstad@ho-chunk.com
15913	Cloud, Travis	Residential Services Advocate	Travis.Cloud@ho-chunk.com

Housing – Heavy Equipment				
15901	Brown, Dean	Heavy Equipment Manager	Dean.Brown@ho-chunk.com	608-343-7517

Roads				
15770	Parker, Lori	Roads Admin Coordinator	Lori.Parker@ho-chunk.com	608-374-3950



Virtual Homebuyers Education Class

Certificates given only to those who participate the ENTIRE class time with video on at all times!

Books will be mailed prior to class. Must have own computer, internet, video & mic to participate.



Join us for a Virtual Homebuyer Education Class

January 27th, 2021
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
(Lunch break at noon)

YOU MUST RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY JANUARY 15, 2021 TO ATTEND!

Contact Tasha by email at Natasha.Edwards@ho-chunk.com
or call First Nations Community Financial at (715) 284-2470.



Department of Housing services update

Dear Tribal Membership,
The Department of Housing has come through some interesting and memorable moments this year. We are providing this letter to provide information to help our tribal membership with Housing services. We have gone under much change over the course of this past year. Many of the changes are attributed to re-organization, budgetary constraints, funding levels, strategic planning and goals, and/or the impacts of the pandemic for our departments.

In August, Legislature did approve CARES Act funding for waste management, cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), operating supplies, and a support team to assist with matters relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority (HCTA), formerly known as Roads

The greatest change is the transition of former Roads Program from Department of Housing to Legislature, now known as the Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority (HCTA). In July, Legislature passed a resolution to establish the Roads program as its own entity with a Board of Directors. As no Board of Directors is established at this time, the HCTA reports directly to the Legislative subcommittee(s). Brett Blackdeer was appointed as the Chief Roads Officer for the HCTA.

If you have a request, the Department of Housing was notified that tribal members will need to go to their area meeting and make a motion for services. In conjunction with the motion, a form will need to be completed documenting and detailing the work requested. The motions will go to the Legislative meeting. If Legislature takes action in support of the request, the official area meeting minutes, Legislative minutes, and the written request will need to be provided to the HCTA. Until this is done, work will not be done. This is the process that was

shared with Housing. The direct number for the HCTA is (608) 374-3950. Lori Parker answers the phones and may direct your call. All calls, questions, and requests may be answered by HCTA team.

Heavy Equipment

The Department of Housing is still providing many of the services for Heavy Equipment. Over the Spring, Summer, and into the Fall, there was not funding for materials to complete requests for driveways. The team did continue to burn brush, clear lots, remove trees, remove stumps, and graveside assistance.

Housing was not provided funding for Spring Clean-up and there was many unknown factors relating to the pandemic which prevented this service from occurring. Heavy Equipment will be assisting TAU with snow plowing, and all plowing requests have to be made through social services intake. Scott Lowe at TAU is the contact person for snow plowing.

At the end of August, Legislature provided Housing funding to complete public sanitary services through the CARES Act funding. The team worked hard to get out notice and provide these services to as many communities as possible. Scott Lowe at TAU Elder services

Home Ownership Office

The Home Ownership Office was impacted greatly by the pandemic and funding levels. Pre-pandemic, the team was working towards completing a conversion of hard paper files to electronic filing. The electronic filing system would ensure the safety of the Home Ownership Office records. All files are sent to Records and scanned in so team members can quickly search and access records. This proved to be extremely vital and a perfect solution when the pandemic required working remotely. All Home Ownership Programs were suspended at the onset of the pandemic until just recently. Housing did not receive

funding for the non-elder home ownership program, or down payment assistance. We were appropriated funding for two mortgage assistance awards. The team is completing the file conversion with records so we may notify those applicants. There is funding available to continue the elder roof repair program. Additionally, we were able to finally get confirmation from Treasury regarding the availability of funds for the Home Repair Loan program. If you are an elder home owner, the Home Ownership Office is taking applications for waste management services. An application must be completed and updated annually. We are meeting to plan next steps in project development for Home Ownership opportunities. Leanne Burnstad, Projects Coordinator, is the point of contact for these services.

We will be welcoming our new Home Ownership Office Manager Yesenia Meza with the New Year. We are looking forward to her joining the team as she has a wealth of experience with the Nation and in the Realty industry. She will be learning a lot during her orientation and she will be assuming duties for this position gradually.

With this new budget, Housing was approved the position of Residential Services Advocate (RSA). Travis Cloud is onboard working with the COFA workers as the funding for those positions are at the end of the funding period for Housing. The RSA will continue working with the tribal membership to identify funding opportunities and services available to tribal members within his/her community. Additionally, he will be working closely with our Projects Coordinator and Rental Manager. We are looking forward to developing educational opportunities to assist tribal members with Housing related matters.

Rental Management Office

Gabrielle Sanchez, Rental Manager, does a phenomenal

job overseeing the rental units under the administration of the Department of Housing. Her team includes: Residential Construction Supervisor Malachi Emery, Administrative Assistant Randeem Decora, and Rental Coordinator Desiree Pettibone.

The Rental Management Office (RMO) is updated policies, procedures, and taking proactive measures to provide information to applicants and current tenants. As a reminder, applications must include income verification, identification, completed application, and release of information in order for an application to be complete. If an application is not complete, the applicant is not placed on the waiting list until all information is received. The date all information is turned in, is the date the applicant is placed on the waiting list. Completed applications are only valid for one year from the date the applicant is placed on the waiting list. Failure to submit an updated application will result in being removed from the waiting list and a new application date will be assigned when re-applying.

RMO has been working with IT this past summer and fall to develop an online application for tribal members to electronically apply and attach the required supporting documentation. Applicants will be assigned a unique alpha numeric identifier. Tribal members can create an account and see where he/she is at on the waiting list.

If you have a work order, call the Housing main office at (608) 374-1225. Callers must leave a detailed message and a call back number so we may address the call as soon as possible. When the office is closed, calls are forwarded to our Housing emergency cell phone at (608) 387-9722. Please provide as much information as possible as the number on the cell phone is the main Housing office line so we are not able to return the call or the caller. We appreciate your kind coopera-

tion with this concern.

Benevolent Services

The Heavy Equipment Manager Dean Brown (608-343-7517), and/or Residential Construction Supervisor Malachi Emery (608-387-9722) coordinate the requests for rough boxes and graveside digging. If you are in need of portable toilets, you must call the main office for these services as a purchase order will need to be signed for ordering of this service.

Housing is currently not putting up the tents or taking the tents down as each request requires many team members and this is not feasible at this time due to staffing levels. Requests for tents for a funeral must be provided as soon as possible so we may address the request. Tent rentals are still being processed. Tribal members must complete the application and provide the required information, insurance, and payment 10 days in advance, as stated in the Equipment Rental Guidelines. If the request is received in a timeframe which is less than the 10 days, we cannot guarantee we will be able to meet the request but definitely do our best to accommodate if possible.

Applications

All applications for services must be sent to our email (housing@ho-chunk.com), sent via inter-office mail, or USPS:

Department of Housing
PO Box 170
Tomah, WI 54460

We endured phone issues and technical difficulties during this time, so we sincerely apologize if this impacted the services and thank you for your kind understanding. Attached to this letter is our most current phone extension list to assist in reaching a Housing team member.

Our deepest and sincere condolences to the families whom endured a loss this year. We wish everyone good health and a blessed new year.

Best Wishes,
Department of Housing



HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

December 14, 2020

Dear Ho-Chunk Scholarship Recipients:

Hižakišąna hinikaragiwi! I hope this letter finds you safe and healthy. Earlier this year, I wrote to you to inform you that we were uncertain about the availability of scholarship funds for the spring 2021 term. However, I am pleased to inform you that the Ho-Chunk Legislature provided the Education Department with generous financial support for the rest of the fiscal year, which means that we will be able to award scholarships for the spring 2021 academic term!

If you have already submitted your 2020-21 Ho-Chunk Scholarship Application, you do not need to send another one. However, if you have not submitted your HSA, please do so as soon as possible. Applications can be obtained on the Ho-Chunk Nation website or by emailing higher.education@ho-chunk.com. Current students should also order your transcript and have it sent to the Higher Education Division once your final grades are posted from fall 2020.

We appreciate your patience, and we are pleased to continue serving you. Please contact higher.education@ho-chunk.com or (800) 362-4476 for any further information.

Thank you and have a fantastic holiday season!

Sincerely,

Nehomah R. Thundercloud
Executive Director of Education



Legal Notice INVITATION FOR BID

BID # 2020-17SFS
Water Treatment Services

c/o Ho Chunk Nation
Treasury Department, Procurement Division
Attn: Steve Sallaway
W9814 Airport Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

The Ho Chunk Nation is inviting sealed bids for the above referenced project. Only firms with the capability, experience, and expertise with similar projects should obtain the Invitation for Bid document and submit bids.

Sealed bids must be submitted by 2:00 PM CST on January 04, 2021. Any bids received after this date and time will be rejected and returned to the bidder unopened.

Documents may be obtained by downloading it at:
<https://ho-chunknation.com/procurement-opportunities/>
Search on the bid number and bid title.

Please call Steve Sallaway at 800-779-2873, Ext. 11316 or Dakota Walton-Smith at 800-779-2873, Ext. 11243 for response to any questions or requests for additional information.

Published this 11th day of December, 2020.

Dakota Walton-Smith, CPPB
Procurement Manager
Ho-Chunk Nation

The Ho-Chunk Nation reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 8, 2020**

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P

Rep. George Stacy-VC
Rep. Hinu Smith-VC
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-VC,
P 10:08 a.m.

Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC

Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC
Rep. Matthew Mullen-VC

Rep. Robert TwoBears-EX

Rep. Paul Fox-P

Rep. Kathyeen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P

VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 10:04 a.m.

Opening Prayer: President Marlon White Eagle offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Kathyeen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the agenda. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-1(Rep. Hinu Smith)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-November 17, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kathyeen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the November 17, 2020 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 9-0-2(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. George Stacy did not respond during vote count.

Committee Reports:

Development Committee-November 16, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. to approve the November 16, 2020 Development Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. 10-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. George Stacy did not respond during vote count.

Resolution-Granting Consent as an Interest Holder for a BIA Residential Lease for Roberta Mann Decorah on the John Man Homestead #439 248

MOTION by Rep. Kathyeen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 A**, Granting Consent as an Interest Holder for a BIA Residential Lease for Roberta Mann Decorah on the John Man Homestead #439 248. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay)

MOTION CARRIED. Rep. George Stacy did not respond during vote count.

Resolution-Authorization of a Business Site Land Lease on Maawakacak #439 T 2170 for Specpro Professional Services LLC

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 B**, Authorization of a Business Site Land Lease on Maawakacak #439 T 2170 for Specpro Professional Services LLC. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. George Stacy did not respond during vote count.

Resolution-Granting Consent as an Interest Holder for a BIA Residential Lease for Kathy Frogg on the Boss Thunder Homestead #439 278

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 C**, Granting Consent as an Interest Holder for a BIA Residential Lease for Kathy Frogg on the Boss Thunder Homestead #439 278. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Service Line Agreement for WE Energies on Lot 9 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 D**, Authorization of Service Line Agreement for WE Energies on Lot 9 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Agricultural Land Lease on the Beloit Properties for G&M Acres

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 E**, Authorization of Agricultural Land Lease on the Beloit Properties for G&M Acres. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #133 of Wazee Subdivision #439 T 2180 for HHCDA

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 F**, Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #133 of Wazee Subdivision #439 T 2180 for HHCDA. Second by Rep. George Stacy. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lots #18, 20, 22 of Sand Pillow East #439 T 2158 for HHCDA

Vice President Thundercloud mentioned that the money that was allocated for the HHCDA will be pulled because HHCDA would not be able to get the money spent and tribal members into the units by the deadline of December 31, 2020.

Neil Whitegull, Executive Director of HHCDA, stated that he is in favor of not moving forward on these leases right now. He is looking forward to trying to make this project work out in the near future.

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to deny Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lots #18, 20, 22 of Sand Pillow East #439 T 2158 for HHCDA. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to TABLE Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lots #18, 20, 22 of Sand Pillow East #439 T 2158 for HHCDA, Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #20 of Chakh Hah Chee South #439 T 2095 for HHCDA, Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #9 of Potch Ha Chee V #439 T 2157 for HHCDA, Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Outlot #6 of Indian Mission #439 T 2016 for HHCDA, and Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on #26 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for HHCDA pending additional federal funding. Second concurs. 11-1(Rep. George Stacy)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Stacy stated that he was hoping the motion would include an extension. He is not opposed to the project.

Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee- November 16, 2020

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve the November 16, 2020 Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Approval of Employee Credits to Ho-Chunk Nation Wellness Program

Sara Pomeroy, Insurance, stated that Option #1 gives employees who participated in the wellness program and were granted the deductible credit will also receive the same credit for 2021 due to COVID-19. The credits have to be in place by January 1, 2021.

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 G**, Approval of Employee Credits to Ho-Chunk Nation Wellness Program. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Approval of MedWatch Medical Management Services Agreement and Acknowledgement of Care Management Proposal

It was stated that the renewal is due January 1, 2021. Legislative Counsel stated that Paragraph 13 will need to be revised, and does not expressly waive the sovereign immunity of the Nation.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to TABLE Resolution-Approval of MedWatch Medical Management Services Agreement and Acknowledgement of Care Management Proposal.

proval of MedWatch Medical Management Services Agreement and Acknowledgement of Care Management Proposal. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Auxiant Renewal

Sara Pomeroy, Insurance, stated that Auxiant has been reporting the required information, but the information was not getting to Department of Health. It was asked when the last time this went out for RFP. Ms. Pomeroy stated that it has been several years since this was sent out for RFP.

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to accept the 1-year Auxiant agreement, and requesting the Insurance Division to perform an RFP for next year. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Approval of Ho-Chunk Nation Drone/Aviation Insurance Coverage Renewal

Tyler Van Fossen from Gallagher was present via video conference.

Executive Director of Personnel, Kimberly Lonetree stated that the drone operator within the Nation had mentioned that an additional \$100 in coverage.

Legislative Counsel requested the insurance policy documents from Gallagher. Mr. Van Fossen will forward that.

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 H**, Approval of Ho-Chunk Nation Drone/Aviation Insurance Coverage Renewal. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 5-7(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. George Stacy, Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Sarah Lemieux, Rep. Matt Mullen, Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.)-0 **MOTION DEFEATED.**

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to TABLE Resolution-Approval of Ho-Chunk Nation Drone/Aviation Insurance Coverage Renewal to next session for Legislative Legal review. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Approval of Clinical Experience Affiliation Agreement with East Tennessee State University

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 I**, Approval of Clinical Experience Affiliation Agreement with East Tennessee State University. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to move up New Business N. Museum Update. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Museum Update

Rep. Smith mentioned that she added this to the agenda to get an update from the Museum Director regarding the structure of the museum, insurance, preliminary plan of recovery, and how the Legislature can assist in that.

Josephine Lee, Museum Director, stated that on November 29, 2020 a fire broke out at the building next to the museum. Ms. Lee stated that 25 volunteers were able to move artifacts out of the museum to the Tomah Youth Center. Ms. Lee mentioned that we did not lose any objects, although one photo was lost. Ms. Lee briefly discussed grants, and donations from third parties. There is also an online fundraiser administered by a third party. Ms. Lee stated that a decision needs to be made regarding the objects from the museum. If the objects will be moved back to the museum or stored at an off-site storage location. Ms. Lee recommends an off-site storage location.

Executive Director of Heritage Preservation (HP), Samson Falcon was available via video conference. Mr. Falcon stated there is a \$25,000 deductible for the museum. Mr. Falcon stated that the building has been serviced by ServPro. Mr. Falcon also stated that the furnace needs deep cleaning, although he has not received quotes yet. Mr. Falcon mentioned that a general contractor determined that the roof needs replacing due to fire damage. Mr. Falcon is waiting on a quote for a new roof.

It was asked if Heritage Preservation have accessed the restricted account for the museum. Mr. Falcon stated that HP has not accessed the restricted account. Rep. Smith stated that Resolution 04-04-18 E, Authorizing the Nation's Department of Heritage Preservation to Fund-Raise for the Development & Program Implementation of the Cho Wa Re Ja Museum & Cultural Center authorizes HP to accept donations. It was asked if the ELIO could reach out to Treasury to inquire if anything else needs to be addressed today.

11:21 a.m. President Marlon White Eagle leaves the room. Vice President Karena Thundercloud chairs the meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to request Legislative Legal Counsel, Quarles and Brady LLP and Museum Director to develop strategies to restructure the museum and bring the options back to Legislature for approval. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Legislative Counsel stated that the 2018 resolution is sufficient, but specific language can be added regarding accepting third-party donations.

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to rescind and restate Resolution 04-04-18 E to specifically address recovery efforts, rebuilding efforts and third-party donations for next session. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-1(Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Continued on Page 12

Continued from Page 11

MOTION CARRIED. Rep. Darren Brinegar did not respond during vote count, as he was assisting a family.

11:44 a.m. President Marlon White Eagle returns, and chairs the meeting. Vice President Karena Thundercloud chairs the meeting.

11:52 a.m. President Marlon White Eagle leaves the room.

Jeriah Rave, Department of Treasury, stated that the Treasury Accounting team is working on the restricted account and will close out the restricted account tomorrow.

12:01 p.m. President Marlon White Eagle returns, and chairs the meeting.

President White Eagle stated that he will meet with Executive Director Falcon to discuss the long-term plan for the museum.

Committee Reports (Continued):

Housing Committee-November 19, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to approve the November 19, 2020 Housing Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Stephanie Begay out of the room.

Resolution-Authorization to Place Amendments to the Housing for the General Welfare of Veterans, Elders and Non-Elders Act out for 45 Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 J**, Authorization to Place Amendments to the Housing for the General Welfare of Veterans, Elders and Non-Elders Act out for 45 Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Stephanie Begay out of the room.

Finance Committee-December 2, 2020

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve the December 2, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Elder Home Repair Policy

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the amendments to the Elder Home Repair Policy, that General Welfare Exclusion applies to this policy, and striking the same agenda item under Unfinished Business E. Elder Home Repair Policy Revisions. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include referring the Elder Home Repair Policy to the Department of Personnel for approval, and notifying the Legislature when it is approved. Second concurs. **MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.** **MOTION TO TABLE ELDER HOME REPAIR POLICY UNTIL NEXT**

LEGISLATIVE MEETING. Second concurs. 11-0-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

It was requested that the ELIO route the Elder Home Repair Policy amendments to the appropriate Executive Directors.

Lunch Break:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to break for lunch until 1:15 p.m. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

12:32 p.m.

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P

Rep. George Stacy-VC

Rep. Hinu Smith-VC

Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-P

Rep. Stephanie Begay-P

Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC

Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC

Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-VC

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC

Rep. Matthew Mullen-VC

Rep. Robert TwoBears-EX

Rep. Paul Fox-P

Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P

VC-Video Conference

VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum:

Quorum is established at 1:22 p.m.

Committee Reports (Continued):

Resolution-Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Finance Manual

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE Resolution-Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Finance Manual to later today. Second by Rep. George Stacy. 11-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

COVID-19 Executive Branch Update

Department of Health

Executive Director of Health Kiana Beaudin was present via video conference. She stated that there are 534 total confirmed positives, with 27 active cases.

Updated Quarantine Guidance

Executive Director Beaudin stated that Ho-Chunk Nation Health is not following the early CDC guidelines on the shorter quarantine timeframe. Ms. Beaudin stated that 14 days is the gold standard, and the Nation will be still implementing the 14-day quarantine. Ms. Beaudin also stated that the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department will receive the COVID-19 vaccine this month.

Office of the President

Amanda Richmond, Emergency Management Coordinator

gave a brief verbal update on security staffing and brief discussion took place regarding the vaccine.

Department of Business

Michael Rave, Executive Director of Business was present to address the Legislature and gave a brief verbal update on procedures that will be put in place to ensure that Department of Business employees are not coming to work when they are sick.

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to move up New Business I. Resolution-Authorization for Application Economic Development Administration FY 2020 Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room.

New Business:

Resolution-Authorization for Application Economic Development Administration FY 2020 Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant

Carol Garvin, Legislative Project Manager, briefly overviewed the Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant. Tom Baron, Economic Development Representative, was available via video conference to answer questions.

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 K**, Authorization for Application Economic Development Administration FY 2020 Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business (Continued):

Office of General Council

Cari Fay stated that the (virtual) Annual General Council meeting took place last Saturday, December 5, 2020, but quorum was not met. Ms. Fay stated that there were 1,255 registered attendees. The highest number during voting was 726, and 191 individual callers. Ms. Fay stated that after gaining this experience, they are looking forward to next year. Ms. Fay stated that she will provide a reconciliation at the first Legislative Meeting in January.

Status Report of Previous General Council Resolutions

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to TABLE Status Report of Previous General Council Resolutions. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Grant an Easement to Town of Sumpter on Maa Wakacak for Access to Pioneer Cemetery

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE Resolution-Grant an Easement to Town of Sumpter on Maa Wakacak for Access to Pioneer Cemetery. Second by

Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

CARES Act Proposals

At the November 2, 2020 Legislative Meeting, a motion was made to allocate \$1 million towards paid Administrative Leave for employees not able to work from home due to isolation or quarantine, pending a policy from the Executive Branch. It was asked the status of this project.

President White Eagle stated that paid Administrative Leave can only be granted through an approval from the President (through an Executive Order), Vice President, Chief Judge, or General Council designee.

President White Eagle also mentioned a "Road to Recovery" \$1 million that the Nation received, and Treasury is working on this.

EMERGENCY MOTION

by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the TAU CARES Act proposal in the amount of \$751,442. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include that this motion be expedited and be completed as soon as possible. Second concurs. 7-4(Rep. Hinu Smith, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr., Rep. Sarah Lemieux)-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud) **MOTION DEFEATED.**

2/3 affirmative vote of Legislators present is required for emergency basis motion.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the TAU CARES Act proposal in the amount of \$751,442 to include that this be expedited and be completed as soon as possible. Second by Rep. George Stacy. 7-3(Rep. Hinu Smith, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Sarah Lemieux)-1(Vice President Karena Thundercloud) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. did not respond during vote count.

Please note: The motion above was also made in Executive Session at the December 9, 2020 Reconvened Legislative Meeting, so that it can be expedited and completed as soon as possible, and was released to Open Session.

CARES Act Remaining Funds-Tribal Members/Employees

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to TABLE CARES Act Remaining Funds-Tribal Members/Employees until later today. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. did not respond during vote count.

Livestream Project

~~**MOTION** by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve the Legislative Livestream CARES Act Proposal in the amount of \$48,356.27. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 5-2(Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Sarah Lemieux)-4(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr., Rep. Matt Mullen)~~

~~**MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room.~~

Note: The motion above was rescinded via motion at the Reconvened Legislative Meeting on December 9, 2020.

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to add HHCDA CARES Act Proposal to the agenda. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 8-3(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room.

4:51 p.m. President White Eagle out of the room for the remainder of the meeting. Vice President chairs the meeting.

HHCDA CARES Act Proposal

This CARES Act Proposal is to fund the mortgage and utility assistance through HHCDA.

EMERGENCY MOTION

by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the HHCDA CARES Act proposal in the amount of \$369,000 and that this be expedited and be completed as soon as possible. Second by Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room. Rep. George Stacy offline.

2/3 affirmative vote of Legislators present is required for emergency basis motion.

Please note: Since this motion passed on emergency basis, ratification is not required in order for action to be taken in accordance with the motion.

Resolution-Authorization to Enter into Memorandum of Understanding with USDA for Housing Programs

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 K**, Authorization to Enter into Memorandum of Understanding with USDA for Housing Programs. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-1(Rep. George Stacy) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room.

Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Trust Lease

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 12-08-20 L**, Adoption of Amendments to the Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Trust Lease. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit out of the room.

Recess:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to recess until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, December 9, 2020. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit 11-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting recessed at 5:01 p.m.

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
RECONVENED REGULAR
MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 9, 2020**

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. George Stacy-VC
Rep. Hinu Smith-VC
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-P
Rep. Stephanie Begay-VC
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-P
Rep. Matthew Mullen-VC
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-EX, VC at 11:12 a.m.
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-VC
VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 10:04 a.m.

Opening Prayer: President Marlon White Eagle offered a word of prayer.

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to revisit Unfinished Business D2. Livestream CARES Proposal. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business (Re-visited):

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to rescind the December 8, 2020 motion approving the Livestream CARES Proposal. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 10-0-2(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., Rep. Robert TwoBears) **MOTION CARRIED.**

During Discussion:

Legislative Public Relations Officer, Ryan Greendeer stated that this project was submitted several weeks, and was not routed from Treasury to the Legislative Office for the agenda. Additionally, PRO Greendeer stated that the equipment is similar to what a newscast would use.

New Business:

Resolution-BIA FY 2021 Circle of Flight Program Funding

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 A**, BIA FY 2021 Circle of Flight Program Funding. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

During Discussion:

It was stated that a portion of

this grant will be utilized for wages. Randy Poelma stated that all his staff is grant funded, and if not awarded this grant, they make it up through another grant.

Merit Increases

President White Eagle stated that at the start of the pandemic the casinos closed and there was a merit increase freeze due to the financial health of the Nation. President White Eagle mentioned that grant funded employees received their merit increase if it was applicable, and this request is strictly for NPD funded positions. President White Eagle also mentioned that the Nation applied for the "Route to Recovery" reimbursement from the State of Wisconsin, which totals \$1 million. President White Eagle stated that the Executive Branch would like to use that money to fund the merit increases.

Christopher Bush, Executive Accounts Manager, stated that the dollar amounts for the merit increases are not a true reflection because Office of the President does not know who has been laid off and who is coming back to work. EAM Bush stated that merit increases at 4% equals \$729,407.83.

Executive Director of Personnel, Kimberly Lonetree stated that there are 597 employees who are need of a merit increase.

It was asked what the Nation got reimbursed for, and Jeriah Rave, Treasury, stated that the Nation was reimbursed for payroll related expenses.

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve the \$729,407.83 from the Routes to Recovery \$1 million reimbursement from the State of Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. **MOTION AMENDED** to include approval up to \$729,000 from the Routes to Recovery reimbursement, with a status update at the next Legislative Meeting. Second concurs. 6-5(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Robert TwoBears, Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit)-1(Rep. Paul Fox) **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. George Stacy *offline.*

It was stated that employees will be given the merit increase based on their annual review. Additionally, all branches of government are included in this request.

There was brief discussion regarding merit increases being included in budgets. President White Eagle stated that the payroll expenses have already been paid, and the Nation has been reimbursed for that expense.

11:12 a.m. Rep. Paul Fox *arrives via video conference.*

11:15 a.m. Rep. George Stacy *offline.*

NOTED FOR THE RECORD:

Rep. Brinegar voted in opposition, as the process needs to be followed. Rep. Brinegar felt this should have been done via budget mod.

Vice President Thundercloud stated that once the money is in the General Fund, Executive Branch will have to submit a budget mod to move the money to Payroll Expenses.

11:32 a.m. Rep. George Stacy *back online.*

Approval of Adoption of GLI Standards

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to TABLE Approval of Adoption of GLI Standards. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 12-0-1(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Renewing Wildland Crew Use Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

MOTION by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 B**, Renewing Wildland Crew Use Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Second by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Acceptance/Denial of Application of Forrest Tahdoahnippah to be Interim Director of the Department of Justice

Legislative Counsel Michael Murphy stated that President White Eagle submitted Forrest Tahdoahnippah for consideration as the next Attorney General. Counsel Murphy mentioned that the Legislature has two meetings to act on the nomination of Mr. Tahdoahnippah, and that the Legislature can treat this as a nomination hearing.

Forrest Tahdoahnippah was present via video conference and introduced himself to the Legislature. Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated that he is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation in Oklahoma. He is a lawyer based out of Minneapolis working with Dorsey & Whitney LLP. Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated that he has been a lawyer for 10 years. He graduated from University of Minnesota Law School. Mr. Tahdoahnippah spoke to his work experience, and he stated that he has been with Dorsey & Whitney LLP for 8 years now and most recently he was named partner. Mr. Tahdoahnippah mentioned he has legal experience in Indian law and gaming.

Mr. Tahdoahnippah also stated that he serves as the tribal attorney for the Comanche Nation, and that he was appointed to that position last month. Mr. Tahdoahnippah mentioned that he has a connection to the Ho-Chunk Nation through his companion.

Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated

that he believes the Attorney General should be a Ho-Chunk tribal member, but is willing to fill the position until a new Attorney General is appointed.

It was asked if Mr. Tahdoahnippah has supervisory experience. He replied that he does have supervisory experience and supervises staff at Dorsey & Whitney LLP.

Legislative Counsel stated that the Attorney General is an employee of the Nation, and if the Legislature were to move forward with an arrangement like this, in addition to the Confirmation consideration, a contract with Dorsey & Whitney LLP would be up for consideration.

Vice President Thundercloud asked if the Legislature is considering hiring an individual for the position of Attorney General or a law firm. President White Eagle replied that both are an option at this point.

It was asked if Mr. Tahdoahnippah would continue to work at Dorsey & Whitney, and concerns were expressed that this proposal is different from standard practice. It was also mentioned that the position of Attorney General is a full-time position. Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated that he would continue to work at Dorsey & Whitney. He again stated that the Attorney General should be a tribal member. Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated that he not in a position to quit his current job for a temporary job. Mr. Tahdoahnippah also mentioned that he has no legal conflicts with the Nation.

It was asked how Mr. Tahdoahnippah sees this working, as the Attorney General is an important role within the Nation, and past Attorney Generals are in the office full-time. Mr. Tahdoahnippah stated that in addition to his work, he could delegate work to his team. Mr. Tahdoahnippah also stated that he does not see this as replacing the Nation's Department of Justice.

Legislative Counsel stated that, usually if someone is accepted, they start as the interim Attorney General under the Ho-Chunk Nation Attorney General job description. Discussion of scope and pay would need to take place.

Rep. Fox stated that he is not comfortable with adding another law firm for the Nation, and thinks the Attorney General should be an individual person, not a law firm.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adopt Resolution-Denial of Application of Forrest Tahdoahnippah to be Interim Director of the Department of Justice. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. Second is withdrawn. Rep. Fox rescinds his motion.

During Discussion:

Rep. Smith wants to make sure it is legal to hire a firm for the Attorney General position. It

was asked if the motion maker would table this item so Legislative Counsel can review this further.

MOTION by Rep. Fox to TABLE Acceptance/Denial of Application of Forrest Tahdoahnippah to be Interim Director of the Department of Justice. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 11-1(Rep. Hinu Smith)-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOTED FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Hinu Smith stated that she would have liked this tabled with an action item moving forward with the individual, not the law firm.

Legislative Counsel spoke to the Confirmation Act and the act refers to "an individual."

President White Eagle stated that he will contact the Vice President for historical information regarding Quarles and Brady LLP.

International Crane Foundation-Consideration of 12/01/2020 Requests

Rep. White Eagle stated that the International Crane Foundation is an organization with an international basis, based out of Baraboo. The International Crane Foundation does community outreach, and the Nation has a long-term partnership with them through Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells. The International Crane Foundation would like to collaborate with the Nation, recognizing the ancestral land of the Nation that they are on. They want to include the map in community outreach they do. The second part of the collaboration is to have interpretative signage at their location in Baraboo. Rep. White Eagle would like to execute an MOU with the International Crane Foundation with the rights to any interpretative signage, as they can utilized throughout the Nation.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request Legislative Legal to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding designating the Tribal Historical Preservation Officer as the lead and authorizing Heritage Preservation, Environmental Health and Legislature collaborate with the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Lunch Break:

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to break for lunch until 1:15 p.m. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Matt Mullen *did not respond.*

12:36 p.m.

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

Roll Call:
President Marlon White Eagle
Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

gle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. George Stacy-VC
Rep. Hinu Smith-VC
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-P
Rep. Stephanie Begay-VC
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-P
Rep. Matthew Mullen-VC
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-VC
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-VC
VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 1:21 p.m.

New Business (Continued):

Class & Comp Executive Summary from Gallagher

Executive Director of Personnel, Kimberly Lonetree stated that at the beginning of this year, the Vice President asked Personnel to start working on a new class and comp.

A written proposal was submitted from Gallagher.

MOTION by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. to REFER Class & Comp Executive Summary from Gallagher to the Administration Committee Meeting tomorrow, December 10, 2020. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

Department of Personnel was also requested to provide information regarding COLA.

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to request, from the Executive Branch, a plan of action on where the money will come to fund the comp and class and COLA to be reported at the January 2021 Finance Committee Meeting. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

Roll Call-Attendance

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to REFER Roll Call-Attendance to the LOA workgroup. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Hinu Smith is hoping this workgroup will start up again soon.

Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Social Services to Apply for the 2021 Tribal Elderly Transportation Program

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 C**, Authorization for the Department of Social Services to Apply for the 2021 Tribal Elderly Transportation Program. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

Resolution-Bureau of Indian Affairs Sacred Earth Asbestos Abatement Funding Request

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 D**, Bureau of Indian Affairs Sacred Earth Asbestos Abatement Funding Request. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep.*

Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.

Resolution-Authorizing Application for GLITEC Intimate Partner Violence Program Grant

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 E**, Authorizing Application for GLITEC Intimate Partner Violence Program Grant. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

Resolution-Acceptance of BIA Project Grant Funds for Ho-Chunk Nation Real Estate Service Contract Services

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 F**, Acceptance of BIA Project Grant Funds for Ho-Chunk Nation Real Estate Service Contract Services. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

Resolution-Quick Passage Amendment to the Appropriation and Budget Act

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to TABLE Resolution-Quick Passage Amendment to the Appropriation and Budget Act, and request Treasury and Executive Branch review. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit offline.*

1:57 p.m. *Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit online.*

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox

to move into Executive Session. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-1(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

1:58 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to move into Open Session. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

5:30 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 9-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Release to Open Session:

MOTION Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve a Tribal Member and Employee Surge Supplement as a result of the continued COVID-19 impact, in the amount of \$500 for Tribal Adult Members, \$100 for Tribal Members 17 years old and younger, \$250 for non-gaming employees and \$250 for gaming employees with the funding coming from CARES Act funding, for a total of \$3,770,700 and release of the motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the TAU CARES Act proposal in the amount of \$751,442 to include that this be expedited and be completed as soon as possible, as this is a clarification of the December 8, 2020 motion, and release to Open Session. Second by Rep. George Stacy. 6-3(Rep.

Darren Brinegar, Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr., Rep. Sarah Lemieux)-3(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Robert TwoBears, Rep. Paul Fox) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to add Resolution-Quick Passage Procedure to Enact Ho-Chunk Nation Isolation and Quarantine of Communicable Diseases Ordinance to the agenda. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 8-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar)-1(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit) **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business (Continued):

Resolution-Quick Passage Procedure to Enact Ho-Chunk Nation Isolation and Quarantine of Communicable Diseases Ordinance

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adopt **Resolution 12-09-20 G**, Resolution-Quick Passage Procedure to Enact Ho-Chunk Nation Isolation and Quarantine of Communicable Diseases Ordinance. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 8-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar)-1(Rep. Sarah Lemieux) **MOTION DEFEATED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adjourn. The next Legislative Meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, WI. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Reconvened Legislative Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
SPECIAL MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 15, 2020**

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. George Stacy-VC
Rep. Hinu Smith-VC
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-VC
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-VC
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC
Rep. Matthew Mullen-Unexcused
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 10:05 a.m.

Opening Prayer: President Marlon White Eagle of-

fered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda with adding Executive Session. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 10-2(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., Rep. Darren Brinegar)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Tribal Member and Employee Surge Supplement (T.E.S.S.) for Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA), First Nations Community Financial (FNCF), Children Learning Village Montessori Academy (CLVMA) and Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority (HCTA)

EMERGENCY MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to approve a Tribal Member and Employee Surge Supplement (T.E.S.S.) as a result of the continued COVID-19 impact, in the amount of \$17,750 for the 42 employees at HHCDA, 9 employees at CLVMA, 7 employees at FNCF, and 13 employees at HCTA with funding coming

from CARES Act funding. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. **MOTION IS AMENDED TO INCLUDE THAT** this is to supplement the **MOTION** made on December 9, 2020, and the cutoff date for date of hire for employees is December 14, 2020, intending that the December 14, 2020 date of hire cutoff date be applied to all payments that will be made. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

2/3 affirmative vote of Legislators present is required for emergency basis motion.

Please note: Since this motion passed on emergency basis, ratification is not required in order for action to be taken in accordance with the motion.

It was mentioned that Legislative Counsel, Outside Counsel and the auditors reviewed the criteria of the CARES Act funding and the T.E.S.S. payments.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to move into Executive Session to address Legal

Advice. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. **MOTION IS AMENDED TO INCLUDE ONLY** Legislature, Legislative Counsel, and Legislative Staff in the room during Executive Session. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

10:31 a.m.

10:34 a.m. Rep. Hinu Smith excused for the remainder of the meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to move into Open Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION**

CARRIED.

11:16 a.m.

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to adjourn. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Special Legislative Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Attention those who claimed Unemployment in 2020

Submitted by
Unemployment
Insurance Specialist,
Ho-Chunk Nation
Personnel Department
If you claimed any unemployment for the year of 2020, please note that Unemployment will NOT

be automatically sending out a 1099-G form for tax purposes.
You will need to go to Online Benefit Services and print a form or you can call 608-266-2999 AFTER January 2, 2021 to request a tax form be mailed.

Official Election Board Postin Notice Recall Legislator District 2, Seat 3 Stephanie Begay

An Official Recall Petition has been issued for Legislator District 2, Seat 3, Stephanie Begay
The completed petition forms must be returned no later than by Monday, January 4, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board
W8801 Mission Road
Black River Falls, WI. 54615
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583
FAX NUMBER (715)284-8600
E-MAIL: Election.board@ho-chunk.com

24. Recall Elections.

- a. Constitutional Requirements
- (2) An eligible voter(s) from a District may initiate a Recall Election against a Legislator(s) in accordance with Article IX, Section 6 of the Constitution, which states: Section 6. District Recall of Legislators. A Member of the Legislature shall be removable by a recall vote called by a petition of thirty (30) percent of an [all] eligible voters of the District which elected such Member of the Legislature. A petition shall be submitted to the Election Board, which shall hold a Special Election not less than thirty (30) days and not more than ninety (90) days from the date a petition is duly submitted. If the Election Board fails to hold such Special Election within ninety (90) days, any eligible voter of the Nation may request the Trial Court to order such Special Election.
- b. Recall Election Procedures
- (1) All Recall Elections shall be administered by the Election Board.
- (2) An eligible voter(s) initiating a recall shall submit a written request for *Official Recall Petition Form* (Election Board Form 7 at Appendix A) to the Election Board. A written request for each person to be recalled is required.
- (3) A separate *Official Recall Petition Form* will be circulated for each person who is subject to recall.
- (4) The Election Board shall issue an *Official Recall Petition Form* to the person(s) initiating the recall.
- (a) The number of *Official Recall Petition Forms* issued will be the number requested or, at a minimum, a number sufficient to enable the petitioner to obtain the signatures of thirty percent (30%) of the eligible District voters.
- (b) The Election Board Chairperson or designee will issue the requested *Official Recall Petition Form* without unreasonable delay and sign each *Official Recall Petition Form* on the date of issuance. The petitions shall be numbered in sequence and will include the District number.
- (c) The petitioner(s) shall have forty-five (45) calendar days from the *Official Election Board Posting Notice* to collect the required number of signatures.
- (d) The *Official Recall Petition Forms* will be submitted to the Election Board Chairperson or designee before the expiration of the forty-five (45) calendar day deadline. Forms cannot be copied; only original forms will be accepted. The *Official Recall Petition Form* may be returned by certified mail, return receipt requested. Envelopes must be postmarked no later than the last day to submit the *Official Recall Petition Form*. The Election Board will provide a receipt to person(s) hand delivering *Official Recall Petition Form*.
- (e) The Election Board or designee shall stamp and initial the *Official Recall Petition Form* to verify the date of receipt.
- (f) The Election Board with the assistance of the Ho-Chunk Nation Enrollment office will verify the signatures on the *Official Recall Petition Form* within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of *Official Recall Petition Form*. For purposes of signature verification, the Election Board shall obtain and use a current master list of eligible voters in the District. The list will contain the names of those voters who meet the residency requirements on the date that the *Official Recall Petition Form* were issued. The Election Board will attempt to contact any voter whose signature or residency appears questionable to verify his or her signature or residency.
- (g) The Election Board will publish a Notice at prominent locations in the affected District and in the Nation's newsletter (currently the *Hocak Worak*), informing the voters whether or not an *Official Recall Petition Form* has been determined valid and the reasons for that decision. Eligible voters will have five (5) working days following the posting of the Notice to challenge the decision of the Election Board to the Election Board. The Election Board will issue a decision within five (5) working days of receipt of the appeal. The decision of the Election Board may be appealed within five (5) working days of the decision only upon the grounds that it is inconsistent with the *Election Code* (2 HCC § 6) and/or the *Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution*.
- (h) Each eligible voter shall have the right to freely and without constraint or coercion of any kind sign an *Official Recall Petition Form*.
- c. Conduct of Recall Elections
- (1) The *Constitution* requires that a Recall Election be held not less than thirty (30) calendar days and not more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date an *Official Recall Petition Form* is duly submitted.
- (2) A Recall Election shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Election Code* (2 HCC § 6) except as provided:
- (a) The Election Board Chairperson or designee will prepare the *Notice of Recall Election* and ensure it is posted in prominent locations within the affected District at least forty-five (45) calendar days before the date of the election. The Notice will inform the voters of the purpose of the election, the hours of voting, and
1. The location of the poll(s) if the Election Board, pursuant to *Section 14*, determines to not conduct the Recall Election by Mail Balloting, or
 2. The last day to receive Mail Ballots if the Election Board, pursuant to *Section 14*, determines to conduct the Recall Election by Mail Balloting.
- (b) The Official Recall Ballot will ask the question whether the person subject to the recall should be removed from office.
- (c) Upon certification by the Election Board, the person subject to recall will be removed from office if the votes cast in favor of recall total fifty percent (50%) plus one (1). In the event of a tie vote, the person subject to recall will remain in office. There shall not be a Runoff Election.

POSTED 11/20/2020

Official Election Board Posting Notice Recall Legislator District 2, Seat 2 Kristin WhiteEagle

An Official Recall Petition has been issued for Legislator District 2, Seat 2, Kristin WhiteEagle
The completed petition forms must be returned no later than by Monday, January 4, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

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Posted 11/20/2020

NOTICE AND RULES OF MAIL BALLOTING

PRIMARY ELECTION

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021



Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation that the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation has called a General Primary Election. ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS and the Election Code (2 HCC Sec. 14a) & (2 HCC Sec. 6), states in relevant part:

14. Mail Ballot Voting.

a. Mail Ballot Voting.

i. Determination as to whether to conduct an Election by mail balloting. (a) At the discretion of the Election Board, elections shall be conducted by mail ballot.

(2) Procedures for Mail Balloting.

(a) The Election Board shall designate a Post Office Box rented by the Board as the place where Ballots shall be returned. Ballots must be received at the Post Office Box designated by the Election Board not later than the day of the Election.

(b) The Election Board shall send by United States Mail a ballot to each eligible voter or Ho-Chunk Member who will be an eligible voter by the date of the election. The Election Board shall mail ballots forty-five (45) calendar days before the date of the election; and, if said date falls on a weekend, then on the first working day thereafter.

(c) A Voter may obtain a replacement ballot from the Election Board if his or her ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost or not received by the Voter.

(d) The Election Board shall not mail a replacement ballot later than ten (10) working days before the day of an Election. If pursuant to Section 14, subparagraph a. (3) a voter requests a replacement ballot, the Election Board shall only give a replacement ballot if the request for the replacement ballot is made fifteen (15) working days before the day of the Election.

b. Ballots. The Ballot package mailed out by the Election Board shall consist of a ballot which otherwise meets the requirements of Section 12, an outer envelope, instruction sheet, ballot secrecy envelope, and return envelope.

c. Voting Procedure. The Voter shall mark the ballot and place it in the ballot secrecy envelope and seal it. The Voter shall then place the ballot secrecy envelope inside the return envelope and seal it. The return envelope shall be signed by the Voter as his or her name appears on the return envelope and he or she shall return it by United States Mail to the location designated by the Election Board.

d. Returns. The Board shall verify that the returned envelope bears the signature of the voter. If the envelope is not signed, the ballot shall be rejected. The entire rejected ballot shall be deposited unopened in a separate, secure box for invalid ballots. If the envelope is not signed, the ballot shall be rejected. The entire rejected ballot shall be deposited unopened in a separate, secure box for invalid ballots. If the envelope is signed, the ballot shall be deposited in the locked ballot box. For ballots placed in the locked ballot box, the Election Board shall make a notation in the poll book, next to the Voter's name, that indicates that the Voter has returned his or her ballot.

e. Multiple Ballots. If a Voter to whom a replacement ballot has been issued pursuant to Subsection a. (2) (c) of this Section votes more than once, only the ballot with the earliest postmark shall be counted. If there are two (2) or more ballots with the same postmark date for one (1) Voter, neither ballot shall be counted.

f. Security of Ballots. Returned Ballots shall remain in the designated Post Office Box until retrieved by the Election Administrator. The Election Administrator shall retrieve returned ballots on a daily basis and the day after the Election. Upon picking up returned ballots, the Election Administrator shall place the returned ballot in the Ballot Security Box located at the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board Office. Following the counting of ballots, the Election Board shall maintain returned ballots in a secure location. g. Rejected Ballots.

(1) The Election Board shall count only the choice(s) which can be determined.

(2) The Election Board shall keep and retain all partially or completely rejected ballots for a period of at least three (3) years.

h. Election Results.

(1) Unofficial results will not be released.

(2) The Election Board shall determine the official results of the election and shall use the *Official Ballot Accounting Form* (Election Board Form 5 at Appendix A). The official tallying of the votes shall be open for public observation. The public must remain quiet and in no way interfere with the orderly tallying of the ballots.

(3) The Election Board shall post the official results on the *Official Certificate of Election Results Form* (Election Board Form 6 at Appendix A). The *Official Certificate of Election Results Forms* shall be signed by each Member of the Election Board. The Election Board shall post the Certificate at the Polling Places within three (3) calendar days after the date of election.

(4) After the Election Board has certified the official election results, the Election Board shall retain the election records. These records shall include the counted ballots, the unused ballots, and the spoiled or rejected ballots, if any. The Election Board shall retain the election records for at least three (3) years.

3. Elections, c. Primary Election and Runoff Elections.

- (1) Primary Elections shall be held prior to an Election with
- (2) three (3) or more candidates in order to ensure compliance with the majority vote requirement as provided for in paragraphs 1c and 1e.
- (3) If no candidate in any Primary Election receives more than 50% of the votes cast in such Election, the two candidates with the highest vote totals from the Primary Election (and any candidates tied with the lower of such totals) shall appear on the ballot in the Runoff Election. When there are two (2) seats vacant in a district, the top two (2) vote getters for any vacant seats, if no candidate has received 50% + 1 vote, shall be on the ballot for the
- (4) General Election or Runoff Election. (3) Primary Elections shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by this Code and

- (5) in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Election Board.

THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF FOUR (4) YEARS WILL BE VACANT:

LEGISLATURE:

July 2021 – June 2025

District 1, Seat 1

District 1, Seat 3

District 2, Seat 2

District 2, Seat 3

District 3, Seat 2

District 4, Seat 1

District 4, Seat 3

District 4, Seat 4

JUDICIARY:

July 2021 – June 2025

Supreme Court Associate

Justice 1

ELIGIBLE VOTERS:

Any enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation who is at least eighteen (18) years old and who has resided in their respective district for at least three (3) months. See *Election Board Code Sec.11 (c)*.

ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:

Any individual whose name does not appear on the eligible voters list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. Any eligible voter may challenge the eligibility of an individual's name appearing on the eligible voters list by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board.

The Election Board will rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Section 11(c) iii, (Deadline Wednesday, February 17, 2021).

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board
P.O. Box 247
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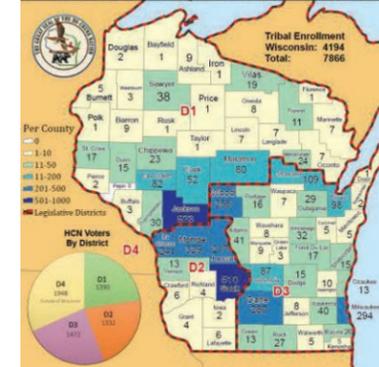
After 4:30 pm and the weekend
please call (715)299-6104

POSTING ELECTION RESULTS:

The Election Board will certify and post the official election results within three (3) days after the date of election.

Please check eligible voter's lists for your Districts.

Ho-Chunk Nation Eligible Voters, October 2020



CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS:

Any member of the Ho-Chunk Nation may challenge the results of any election within ten (10) days after the Election Board certifies the results. The Trial Court shall hear and decide a challenge to any election within twenty (20) days after the challenge is filed in the Trial Court.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST

Wednesday, December 23, 2020

NOMINATION & DECLARATION CANDIDACY DUE,

Friday, January 8, 2021

by 4:30 pm

CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

Monday, January 11, 2021

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO 4:30 PM

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

THE DAY MAIL BALLOTING WILL BE MAILED

Friday, January 22, 2021

LAST DAY TO REQUEST REPLACEMENT BALLOT

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

ALL BALLOTS DUE TO P.O BOX 247 BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

Tuesday, March 9, 2021