



New Ho-Chunk license plates ready for use

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Events unfold in Washington D.C.

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No February 2021 Per Capita

Ardith Van Riper
Editor

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch announced on January 5 that there would be no February per capita distribution. Tribal members are encouraged to apply for the general welfare payments, also known as HELP, if they have not done so already.

Due to limited net gaming revenue, there was not enough to fund a regular quarterly per capita at previous levels.

Additionally, the Legislative Branch's announcement displayed a summary of the Tribal Revenue Allocation Plan.

"As the economy begins to stabilize and recover, there is a greater likelihood of approving and issuing a per capita payment next fiscal year," stated the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch Facebook post.

The next fiscal year begins mid-

way through 2021. Decisions beyond the February distribution have not been made.

HELP stands for Ho-Chunk Nation Economic Legacy Project. The Legislature established this project to achieve a social benefit and promote the Nation's general welfare. This project uses the tribe's NPD funding.

The HELP payments are \$700 and scheduled for monthly distribution from January through June.

Eligible applicants are enrolled members of the Ho-Chunk Nation and 18 years (within the month of disbursement) or older.

Applications are located at www.ho-chunknation.com. The Department of Treasury also has a helpline at 715-284-7720 extensions 11223 or 11215 for any questions.



The Legislature has decided there will be **no Per Cap for February 2021** in order to fund the general welfare payment (HELP). Due to limited Net Gaming Revenue, there was not enough to fund regular quarterly per capita distributions at previous levels. Had an effort been made to pay out the per capita at previous intervals, the payment would have been below expectations.

As the economy begins to stabilize and recover, there is a greater likelihood of approving and issuing a per capita payment next fiscal year.

Facebook post by the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch announced January 5 that there would be no February per cap.

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Tribal Revenue Allocation Plan

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act [25 U.S.C. § 2710] requires that net revenues from any tribal gaming are used:

- a. To fund tribal government operations or programs;
- b. To provide for the general welfare of the Indian tribe and its members;
- c. To promote tribal economic development;
- d. To donate to charitable organizations; or
- e. To help fund operations of local government agencies.

The Ho-Chunk Nation has an approved tribal revenue allocation plan (RAP) in accordance with 25 C.F.R. § 522.4(b) (2). Our revenue allocation plan is defined in 2 HCC § 12 Per Capita Distribution Ordinance:

The portion allocated to

Tribal Government Operations and Programs may fund: the Legislature, Executive Branch Departments, Judiciary Branch, General Council Branch, Constitutional Projects, and other similar governmental executive and administrative services to which the Legislature may appropriate funds from time to time.

The portion allocated to the General Welfare of the Nation and its members may fund: Education Administration, Tribal Scholarships, Community Education Support, Head Start support, and buildings, employee assistance, training, Public Works Department, new homes, repairs and maintenance, Health Department, Tribal Aging Unit, other similar governmental operating services to which the

Legislature may appropriate funds from time to time, and per capita payments.

The portion allocated to Economic Development may fund: Land Improvements, the Planning Division/Department, Planning and Development, land acquisitions, purchase of businesses, Enterprise Management, Casino Department Service, casino expansion, and other similar business and proprietary services to which the Legislature may appropriate funds from time to time.

The charitable donations will be decided by the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature or designee based on requests.

Funding for the operation of local government services will be coordinated by the Legislature or its designee.



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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.

A Letter from the President

I recently published my General Council report in Issue 23 of the Hocak Worak, where I talked about the strengths and weaknesses of the Ho-Chunk Nation that I observed over the year since last gathered.

A key portion of it had to do with what we perceive, individually and collectively, to be our Ho-Chunk culture and how that gets distorted.

What is culture?

Microsoft Bing's dictionary defines culture as, "the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social groups."

I'd simplify things and just say it's our traditions.

What are the traditions that make us who we are?

Social institutions like family and religion are at the heart of our traditions.

Our oral history, like our origin or winter stories (waika), were to be told using exact words of how we were told those stories. That's similar to the stories of the Bible - don't change the words to your liking.

I heard an elder say, "Someone might need to hear that one word."

The bottom line is don't take shortcuts on tradition, or don't bend traditions to make things easier for yourself.

As a proud Ho-Chunk, it saddens me to hear stories of our tribal members or employees treating other tribal members or employees un-

fairly or discourteously.

I think, "that's not showing love," or "that's not who we are as Ho-Chunks."

Building a team is hard work, especially when some people put more value in themselves over other people or the team.

It's human nature to want to take shortcuts, but we have to remember who we are and what we stand for.

When we hire new employees, they go through the New Hire Orientation. That's our time to establish the understanding with new employees that I agree to work for the Ho-Chunk people who believe: "Every day we do good things, say good things, hear good things, and see good things. Above all, love one another."

In my observation, our orientation process needs improvement to build that core Ho-Chunk tradition among those we employ.

My impression from that last time I've gone through our orientation was in short, fill out these forms so your deductions are what you want, you're now in the pay system, now go to your worksite.

The Personnel Department is working on the orientation process, along with the materials and content to improve upon what has been offered in the past.

Personnel team members have been meeting bi-weekly to develop a better orientation process. They are in the pro-

cess of revamping the entire orientation process and that it takes time.

We want our new hire employees to feel like part of the team, like one of us.

They are a part of our team, they are one of us.

Every day, our employees put their hearts into serving our Nation, our people, and helping to perpetuate our existence.

No matter what branch of government, department, or program an employee works

for, they're doing it for our collective good.

The Ho-Chunk Nation is ours collectively, not one individual's, one family's, or one group.

The Ho-Chunk Nation is all of us.



Ho-Chunk Nation President Marlon WhiteEagle signs an agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation while Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes watches. The ceremony took place on Sept. 30, 2019, on the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians reservation.

NAJA, NYU announce full tuition scholarship for NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute

Posted on December 15, 2020

The New York University Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute is proud to offer a new full-tuition scholarship to a Native American Journalism Association (NAJA) member admitted to one of the ten NYU Journalism graduate programs in the fall of 2021.

This full tuition scholarship is worth greater than \$70,000.

The goal of the NYU Journalism-NAJA scholarship is to support an exceptional journalist who might not otherwise have the opportunity to earn a graduate journalism degree in one of the school's top-level NYU graduate journalism programs:

Cultural Reporting & Criticism

Business & Economic Reporting

Global & Joint Program Studies

Literary Reportage Magazine & Digital Storytelling

News & Documentary Reporting the Nation & New York

Science, Health & Environmental Reporting

Studio 20: Digital First American Journalism Online Master's

New York University's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute is a pioneer in educating today's journalists. Not confined by the traditional structure that defines most journalism schools, their small cohort size allows for a deeper, more personalized experience. And NYU Journalism programs emphasize the critical thinking skills so important when covering a complex, interrelated world. All of this adds up to the perfect combination of skills and mastery of content.

The strength of NYU's journalism program stems from the accomplishments of their faculty, who are at the top of their fields. Their professors author books on important contemporary topics. They publish in the most prestigious papers, magazines, and reviews. And they produce award-winning documentaries and broadcast news specials for major media outlets. NYU professors are much more

than just mentors—they are deeply invested in their students' success as future journalists.

Interested candidates only need to complete the regular NYU Journalism application.

Proof of membership in the Native American Journalism Association (NAJA) must be submitted at the time of accepting the fellowship award. Applicants may join NAJA upon receiving the offer. Please note that membership in the NAJA is open to individuals of all racial backgrounds, and this scholarship is as well.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 10, 2021. Some flexibility is available with the deadline and interested candidates should contact NYU with any extension requests.

Apply here <https://journalism.nyu.edu/graduate/scholarships-and-fellowships/nyu-journalism-naja-scholarship/>.



Treasury and IRS begin delivering second round of Economic Impact Payments to millions of Americans

IR-2020-280, December 29, 2020

WASHINGTON – Today, the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department will begin delivering a second round of Economic Impact Payments as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 to millions of Americans who received the first round of payments earlier this year.

The initial direct deposit payments may begin arriving as early as tonight for some and will continue into next week. Paper checks will begin to be mailed tomorrow, Wednesday, December 30.

The IRS emphasizes that there is no action required by eligible individuals to receive this second payment. Some Americans may see the direct deposit payments as pending or as provisional payments in their accounts before the official payment date of January 4, 2021. The IRS reminds taxpayers that the payments are automatic, and they should not contact their financial institutions or the IRS with payment timing questions.

As with the first round of payments under the CARES Act, most recipients will receive these payments by direct deposit. For Social Security and other beneficiaries who received the first round of payments via Direct Express, they will receive this second payment the same way.

Anyone who received the first round of payments earlier this year but doesn't receive a payment via direct deposit will generally receive a check or, in some instances, a debit card. For those in this category, the payments will conclude in January. If additional legislation is enacted to provide for an additional amount, the Economic Impact Payments that have been issued will be topped up as quickly as possible.

Eligible individuals who did not receive an Economic Impact Payment this year – either the first or the second payment – will be able to claim it when they file their 2020 taxes in 2021. The IRS urges taxpayers who didn't receive a payment this year to review the eligibility criteria when they file their 2020 taxes; many people, including recent college graduates, may be eligible to claim it. People will see the Economic Impact Payments (EIP) referred to as the Recovery Rebate Credit (RRC) on Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR since the EIPs are an advance payment of the RRC.

“Throughout this challenging year, the IRS has worked around the clock to provide

Economic Impact Payments and critical taxpayer services to the American people,” said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. “We are working swiftly to distribute this second round of payments as quickly as possible. This work continues throughout the holidays and into the new year as we prepare for the upcoming filing season. We urge everyone to visit IRS.gov in the coming days for the latest information on these payments and for important information and assistance with filing their 2021 taxes.”

Authorized by the newly enacted COVID-relief legislation, the second round of payments, or “EIP 2,” is generally \$600 for singles and \$1,200 for married couples filing a joint return. In addition, those with qualifying children will also receive \$600 for each qualifying child. Dependents who are 17 and older are not eligible for the child payment.

Payments are automatic for eligible taxpayers

Payments are automatic for eligible taxpayers who filed a 2019 tax return, those who receive Social Security retirement, survivor or disability benefits (SSDI), Railroad Retirement benefits as well as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Veterans Affairs beneficiaries who didn't file a tax return. Payments are also automatic for anyone who successfully registered for the first payment online at IRS.gov using the agency's Non-Filers tool by November 21, 2020 or who submitted a simplified tax return that has been processed by the IRS.

Who is eligible for the second Economic Impact Payment?

Generally, U.S. citizens and resident aliens who are not eligible to be claimed as a dependent on someone else's income tax return are eligible for this second payment. Eligible individuals will automatically receive an Economic Impact Payment of up to \$600 for individuals or \$1,200 for married couples and up to \$600 for each qualifying child. Generally, if you have adjusted gross income for 2019 up to \$75,000 for individuals and up to \$150,000 for married couples filing joint returns and surviving spouses, you will receive the full amount of the second payment. For filers with income above those amounts, the payment amount is reduced.

How do I find out if the IRS is sending me a payment?

People can check the status of both their first and second payments by using the Get My Payment tool, available in English and Spanish only on

IRS.gov. The tool is being updated with new information, and the IRS anticipates the tool will be available again in a few days for taxpayers.

How will the IRS know where to send my payment? What if I changed bank accounts?

The IRS will use the data already in our systems to send the new payments. Taxpayers with direct deposit information on file will receive the payment that way. For those without current direct deposit information on file, they will receive the payment as a check or debit card in the mail. For those eligible but who don't receive the pay-

ment for any reason, it can be claimed by filing a 2020 tax return in 2021. Remember, the Economic Impact Payments are an advance payment of what will be called the Recovery Rebate Credit on the 2020 Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR.

Will people receive a paper check or a debit card?

For those who don't receive a direct deposit by early January, they should watch their mail for either a paper check or a debit card. To speed delivery of the payments to reach as many people as soon as possible, the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, part of the Treasury Department, will be sending a limited number of

payments out by debit card. Please note that the form of payment for the second mailed EIP may be different than for the first mailed EIP. Some people who received a paper check last time might receive a debit card this time, and some people who received a debit card last time may receive a paper check.

IRS and Treasury urge eligible people who don't receive a direct deposit to watch their mail carefully during this period for a check or an Economic Impact Payment card, which is sponsored by the Treasury Department's Bureau of the Fiscal Service

Continued on Page 6

New Ho-Chunk license plates ready for use



Director of the Division of Transportation Roberto Bentancurt installs a new Ho-Chunk Nation license plate on a Ho-Chunk government vehicle.

By OOP Public Relations Officer Ken Luchterhand

Roberto Bentancurt, Director of the Division of Transportation, is a busy guy, replacing the license plate on the Ho-Chunk Nation government vehicles.

The new Ho-Chunk Nation plates recently became a reality, through years of discussions, paperwork, and even a pandemic.

“It's taken a long time, but we're finally able to use the new Ho-Chunk Nation license plates,” he said.

The plates were intended to come out in March 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic put those plans on the back burner.

Although the plates have been in Bentancurt's office since February, he hasn't been allowed to place the plates on the vehicle until now. The Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles (WI DMV) only recently approved the plates for use and move the HCN Tribal plates program to live production.

About a month and a half ago, local law enforcement agencies near each of the Ho-Chunk communities were informed about the existence of the plates and that they would be seeing them on vehicles soon.

The plates were made by inmates at the Waupun Correctional

Institute. The plates were designed by Business Department graphic designer Ken Lewis.

Tribal members who receive the plates will still need to pay an annual renewal fee, however, that money goes to the Ho-Chunk Nation, not the Wisconsin DMV.

The Ho-Chunk Nation is the seventh federally recognized tribe in the State of Wisconsin to be issued license plates. The Wisconsin Statute 341.409 allows the State of Wisconsin and the HCN to register motor vehicles owned or operated by an enrolled member or by the HCN.

This first stage is just for vehicle owned by the Ho-Chunk Nation government. Stage two plates will be for tribal members, but the date for that release hasn't been established.

To qualify for a HCN license plate, an applicant must be an enrolled Ho-Chunk tribal member and must reside on trust land. The HCN does not have jurisdiction to register vehicles for enrolled members living off of trust land.

Bentancurt said that it's great to finally be able to begin the process of using the plates.

“It's a way to show the HCN growth and sovereignty,” Bentancurt said.

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.

EDITOR Ardith Van Riper
STAFF WRITER Elijah T. Smith
STAFF WRITER Kaili Berg
Administrative Assistant Anna Reichenbach

HOCOK WORAK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

• PHONE: (800) 472-3089

• FAX: (715) 284-7852

EMAIL: newsletter@ho-chunk.com

• ONLINE: www.ho-chunknation.com

www.hocakworak.com

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



Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be January 15th which will be published on January 22nd. 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.

‘Let’s do this’: US representatives sworn in

A record six Indigenous Congress members took the oath of office

Dalton Walker

Indian Country Today
The 117th U.S. Congress is officially on the clock, and it includes a record number of Indigenous members, among them the first Native Republican woman.

Republican Rep. Yvette Herrell, Cherokee, of New Mexico’s 2nd Congressional District, and Democratic Rep. Kaiali’i “Kai” Kahele, a Native Hawaiian representing Hawaii’s 2nd District, were sworn in Sunday at the U.S. Capitol. They were joined by Reps. Sharice Davids, Ho-Chunk, Deb Haaland, Laguna and Jemez Pueblos, Tom Cole, Chickasaw, and Markwayne Mullin, Cherokee.

Democrats Haaland, of New Mexico’s 1st District, and Davids, of Kansas’ 3rd District, are serving a second term after being the first two Native women elected to Congress in 2018.

Cole is the senior Native member of Congress and has served Oklahoma’s 4th District since 2003. Mullin is serving his fifth term in Oklahoma’s 2nd District. Cole and Mullin are Republican.

Mullin and Herrell have said they will join other Republican lawmakers in objecting to the Electoral College certification of President-elect Joe Biden’s victory by Congress on Wednesday.

Mullin told Indian Country Today on Monday there are many discrepancies in how votes were cast in various states, which is why he won’t support certifying the Electoral College votes.

“Just today, for instance, I swore an oath to uphold the Constitution, and we’re simply following that,” Mullin said.

Herrell, meanwhile, penned a blog post describing “historic” irregularities in the 2020

election.

It’s unclear the extent to which GOP leaders in Congress will be able to control Wednesday’s joint session, which could drag into the night though the challenges to the election are all but certain to fail. Many current and former party officials have warned the effort is undermining Americans’ faith in democracy.

“In my view, the election’s over,” Cole told Fox25 in Oklahoma City last month. “While the election didn’t turn out the way I want at the presidential level, I respect the will of the American people.”

Celebrating taking office

The House of Representatives includes 222 Democrats, 211 Republicans and two vacancies. With COVID-19 protocols in place, members of the new Congress were able to celebrate in their own way, and many took to social media to share the moment.

“I am humbled and honored to have been sworn in today to serve the people of New Mexico in the 117th Congress!” Herrell posted on Twitter.

On her new Facebook page, Herrell posted a short video on Sunday of seeing in her new office for the first time. “This is New Mexico’s office. I’m just thankful for being here and being a part of it,” she said.

Kahele is only the second Native Hawaiian in Congress since statehood. The late Sen. Daniel Akaka, Kahele’s mentor, was the first.

Kahele documented his swearing-in on social media, and he started quickly. A minute after midnight, Kahele posted Sunday on Twitter that he was too excited to sleep.

“Today, this public school educated, Native Hawaiian son of Hawai’i, will become a United States Congressman,”



Native Hawaiian Kaiali’i “Kai” Kahele, Hawaii’s 2nd District, sworn in to Congress on Jan. 3, 2021. (Photo courtesy of Kai Kahele social media)

he said in a Twitter post. “Mahalo nui loa to everyone who made this day possible!”

When he was sworn in, Kahele held Akaka’s bible in his left hand.

Davids posted a selfie Sunday outside her office and next to her name plate on the wall.

“Back in D.C. and ready to be sworn into the 117th Congress. Let’s do this,” she said.

Haaland posted her iconic photo from 2018 where she hugged Davids on the House floor in an emotional moment that captured its historic sig-

nificance. She also posted a 2021 version of the two hugging with the popular social media description, “How it started (2018), how it’s going (2021).”

Sunday’s swearing-in at Congress could be Haaland’s last, at least for a while. Haaland is Biden’s nominee for Interior secretary and would become the first Native to ever serve as a Cabinet secretary if confirmed by the Senate.

Haaland is already wearing both hats. She met virtually with tribal leaders in

late December as the Interior secretary-designate. It’s unclear when her confirmation will take place, and she can remain in Congress until she’s confirmed.

Dalton Walker, Red Lake Anishinaabe, is a national correspondent at Indian Country Today. Follow him on Twitter: @daltonwalker Walker is based in Phoenix and enjoys Arizona winters.

Indian Country Today reporter-producer Aliyah Chavez, Kewa Pueblo, and The Associated Press contributed to this report.



The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature has accepted the nomination for Department of Treasury, Ryan John Crain, Sr. will be Acting Treasurer until confirmed.

- January 5, 2021
Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch

'I'll be fierce for all of us'

Rep. Deb Haaland is poised to become the first Native American to lead a Cabinet agency

Aliyah Chavez

Indian Country Today

President-elect Joe Biden, in a historic move, has chosen Rep. Deb Haaland to lead the U.S. Interior Department. If confirmed by the Senate, the New Mexico Democrat would be the first Native American to serve as a Cabinet secretary.

"A voice like mine has never been a Cabinet secretary or at the head of the Department of Interior," Haaland tweeted Thursday night.

"Growing up in my mother's Pueblo household made me fierce. I'll be fierce for all of us, our planet, and all of our protected land. I am honored and ready to serve."

Biden confirmed the nomination late Thursday as part of his climate team, which also includes secretary of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency administrator, chair of the Council on Environmental Quality and national climate advisor.

"This brilliant, tested, trail-blazing team will be ready on Day One to confront the existential threat of climate change with a unified national response rooted in science and equity," the president-elect said in a statement.

Sources familiar with the decision on Haaland told Indian Country Today she is considered a "barrier-breaking public servant" and a nominee who will hit the ground running.

Haaland, who is from the Pueblos of Laguna and Jemez, became one of the first two Native women elected to Congress in 2018.

The Interior Department is tasked with protecting the nation's natural resources and honoring the government's federal trust responsibilities. It manages America's vast public lands and coastal waters while overseeing prominent departments such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education. The agency employs 70,000

people.

Haaland's nomination has been backed by many Indigenous leaders, advocates and allies for weeks.

More than 130 tribal leaders collaborated to write letters to Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, citing Haaland's bipartisan leadership. Native organizations including NDN Collective and IllumiNative created online campaigns, and celebrities like Mark Ruffalo have offered support via social media.

Many shared their elation Thursday as news of the decision spread.

"The nomination of Rep. Deb Haaland — a champion of the environment and of Native people — heralds a new era of conservation, progress and healing in the Department of the Interior that is long overdue," said Gussie Lord, a member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin and managing attorney of Earthjustice's Tribal Partnerships Program.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez called it a "truly a historic and unprecedented day for all Indigenous people."

"I congratulate her, and I also thank the Biden-Harris team for making a statement and keeping their word to place Native Americans in high-level Cabinet positions," he said in a statement.

Julian Brave Noisecat, a vocal advocate who is a member of the Canim Lake Band Tsq'escen and a descendant of the Lil' Wat Nation of Mount Currie, highlighted Haaland's unique position, saying: "The next Secretary of Interior will be a Laguna Pueblo woman who went to Standing Rock in 2016 and cooked for the people."

Groups that shared their support on social media and in statements included the National Congress of American Indians, the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, the Coalition to Protect America's



Rep. Deb Haaland, Laguna and Jemez Pueblos, is poised to be selected by President-elect Joe Biden to lead the Department of Interior. (Photo by Haaland for Congress)

National Parks and the National Native American Law Student Association.

Many of Haaland's colleagues in Congress also had rallied behind her. In mid-November, more than 50 House Democrats penned a letter to the Biden transition team backing her for the post.

On Wednesday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi joined in, saying Haaland "knows the territory," and if Biden nominated her, "he will have made an excellent choice."

Haaland was chosen for the post over former Deputy Interior Secretary Michael Connor, Taos Pueblo, and two U.S. senators from New Mexico: Tom Udall, who is retiring, and Martin Heinrich. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico was offered the job but turned it down, according to the Hill.

Udall issued a statement Thursday congratulating Haaland and voicing his confidence in her leadership.

"Congresswoman Haaland is fully qualified to lead the

Department of the Interior — through her service in the Congress, to the state of New Mexico and to Indian Country, and through her lived experience," he said. "I know it will be significant and meaningful for Native Americans, especially Native women, to see Secretary Haaland, a member of the Pueblo of Laguna, leading the department that is tasked with meeting many of our responsibilities to Tribes and managing inherently Indigenous land."

Haaland has been cited saying she would accept a nomination as Interior secretary, including in an October interview with Indian Country Today.

"I think it's nice that people are thinking about me. And of course, if I ever had an opportunity to step up and do good work for this district, for the state of New Mexico, for our country, I would always be proud to do that," Haaland said.

In her first term in Congress, Haaland has held leadership positions on a number of committees, currently serving as vice chair of the Committee on Natural Resources and chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. She also sits on the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples, the House Armed Services Committee, the Subcommittee on Readiness, and the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

She previously worked as head of New Mexico's Democratic Party, as tribal administrator and as an administrator for an organization providing services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Born to a Marine veteran father and a Navy veteran mother, Haaland describes herself as a single mother who sometimes had to rely on food stamps. She says she is still paying off student loans after college and law school for herself and college for her daughter.

Biden, who has pledged to pick a diverse leadership team, said at a Native candidate forum in January that he would nominate and appoint people who "look like the country they serve, including Native Americans."

The pick breaks a 245-year record of non-Native officials, mostly male, serving as the very top federal official over Indian affairs in a federal government that worked to dispossess them of their land and, until recently, assimilate them into White culture.

It could also further deplete, at least temporarily, the narrow majority Democrats maintain in the House. Biden has already selected several lawmakers from the chamber, including Louisiana Rep. Cedric Richmond and Ohio Rep. Marcia Fudge, to serve in his administration.

Interior's broad authority includes managing federal relations with tribes, administering tens of millions of acres of land and mineral rights held in trust for Native Americans and Alaska Natives, running national parks and making decisions affecting millions of miles of U.S. lands and waterways, wildlife, endangered species, and oil and gas and mining.

Biden has promised the nation's largest effort yet to curb the oil, gas and coal emissions that are causing the rapid deterioration of the climate, and Interior would play an important part in that.

The president-elect has been methodically filling the posts in his Cabinet, adding North Carolina environmental official Michael Regan as his nominee to lead the EPA. Biden introduced former South Bend, Indiana, mayor Pete Buttigieg earlier this week as his transportation secretary and announced Thursday that former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm was his nominee for energy secretary.



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Nathan Apodaca Talks Recovering from Covid-19, Plans for 2021 and More

BY DARREN THOMPSON
 Reprint from
 NativeNewsOnline.net
 JANUARY 06, 2021
 IDAHO FALLS, Idaho —
 In an interview with Native

News Online, Nathan “Dog-
 gface” Apodaca shared his
 experience with Covid-19,
 plans for 2021, and the wild
 ride that began after he posted
 a video of himself sipping
 Ocean Spray Cran-Raspberry

juice while lip-syncing to
 Fleetwood Mac’s “Dreams”
 on TikTok in late September
 2020.
 Not long after his video on
 TikTok went viral, Apodaca
 traveled to Los Angeles for

some business opportunities,
 which included opportunities
 to meet and visit with some of
 the most well-known names
 in the entertainment industry
 including Snoop Dogg and
 Wiz Khalifa. Apodaca has
 appeared in commercials for
 Viviant Home Security, Bos-
 ton Market, Ocean Spray and
 more—all of which were re-
 corded while in Los Angeles.
 On Dec. 15, he posted on all
 of his social media accounts
 that he tested positive for Co-
 vid-19, which was not long
 after his travels. His fiancé
 Estela Chavez also tested
 positive.

let’s stop the hate.”
 He and his fiancé have
 since recovered and they have
 plans to return to Los Angeles
 as soon as this weekend for
 some business engagements.
 Some of his plans include the
 release of a patented Cannabis
 flower called “Doggtreats,”
 his own longboard with Sec-
 tor 9 of San Diego, Calif.
 and his own clothing line
 with Zumiez of Lynnwood,
 Wash.—all of which will col-
 lect him royalties.

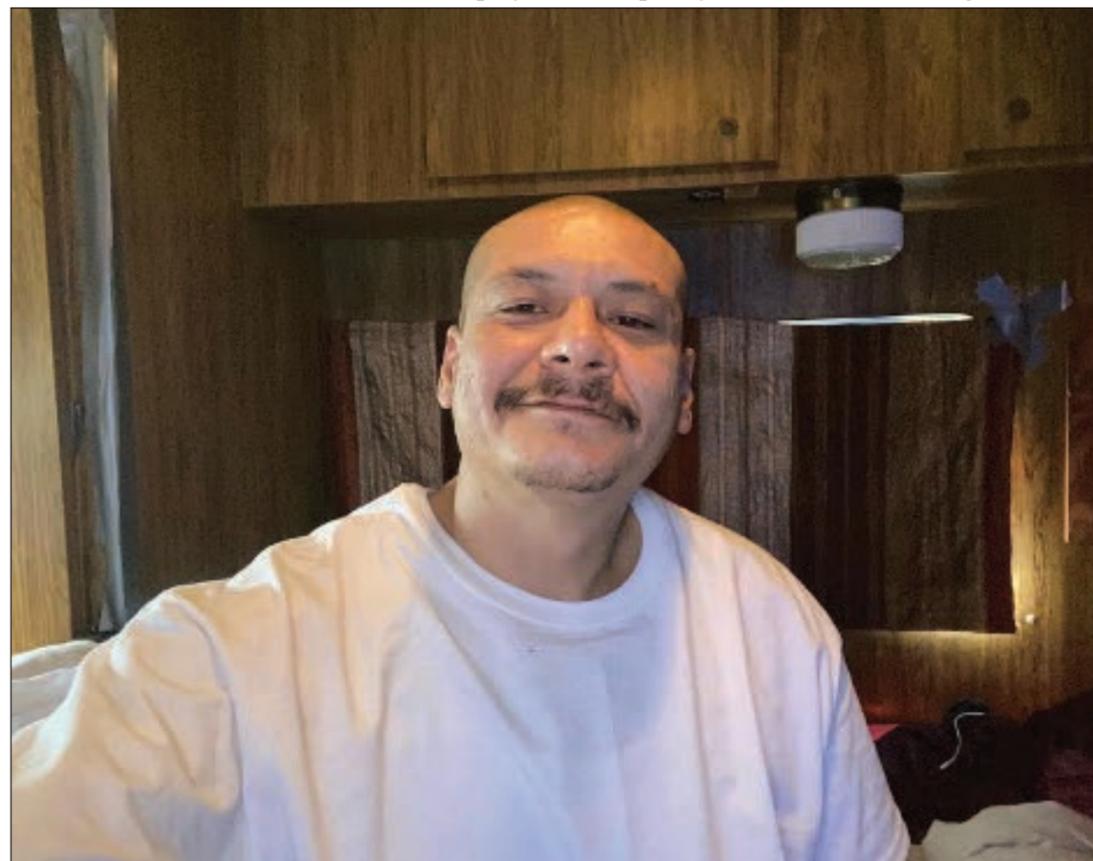
What he’s particularly ex-
 cited about is his clothing line
 with Zumiez, an international
 specialty retailer of apparel,
 footwear and accessories in
 252 stores in the United States
 and Canada.

“I want to throw some Na-
 tive designs and throw those
 out there,” said Apodaca of
 his clothing ideas. “We’re still
 here, we ain’t lost in our own
 lands.”

Apodaca’s mother is Arap-
 aho from the Wind River In-
 dian Reservation in Wyoming.

“I just wanted to lift spirits
 up one by one,” Apodaca said
 of his recent fame. “Now that
 it’s millions, I hope to take
 you all along.”

Apodaca has 7.7 million
 followers on TikTok.



Nathan Apodaca. Courtesy photo.

Continued from Page 3
 and is issued by Treasury’s
 financial agent, MetaBank®,
 N.A. The Economic Impact
 Payment Card will be sent in
 a white envelope that promi-
 nently displays the U.S. De-
 partment of the Treasury seal.
 It has the Visa name on the
 front of the Card and the issu-
 ing bank, MetaBank®, N.A.
 on the back of the card. Infor-
 mation included with the card
 will explain that this is your
 Economic Impact Payment.
 More information about these
 cards is available at EIPcard.
 com.

**Are more people eligible
 now for a payment than be-
 fore?**

Under the earlier CARES
 Act, joint returns of couples
 where only one member of
 the couple had a Social Se-
 curity number were generally
 ineligible for a payment – un-
 less they were a member of
 the military. But this month’s
 new law changes and expands
 that provision, and more
 people are now eligible. In
 this situation, these families
 will now be eligible to receive
 payments for the taxpayers
 and qualifying children of
 the family who have work-
 eligible SSNs. People in this
 group who don’t receive an
 Economic Impact Payment
 can claim this when they file
 their 2020 taxes under the Re-

covery Rebate Credit.

**Is any action needed by
 Social Security beneficia-
 ries, railroad retirees and
 those receiving veterans’
 benefits who are not typi-
 cally required to file a tax
 return?**

Most Social Security re-
 tirement and disability be-
 neficiaries, railroad retirees
 and those receiving veterans’
 benefits do not need take
 any action to receive a pay-
 ment. Earlier this year, the
 IRS worked directly with the
 relevant federal agencies to
 obtain the information needed
 to send out the new payments
 the same way benefits for this
 group are normally paid. For
 eligible people in this group
 who didn’t receive a payment
 for any reason, they can file a
 2020 tax return.

**I didn’t file a tax return
 and didn’t register with the
 IRS.gov non-filers tool. Am
 I eligible for a payment?**

Yes, if you meet the eligi-
 bility requirement. While you
 won’t receive an automatic
 payment now, you can still
 claim the equivalent Recov-
 ery Rebate Credit when you
 file your 2020 federal income
 tax return.

**Will I receive anything for
 my tax records showing I
 received a second Economic
 Impact Payment?**

Yes. People will receive

an IRS notice, or letter, after
 they receive a payment telling
 them the amount of their pay-
 ment. They should keep this
 for their tax records.

Where can I get more in-

formation?

For more information about
 Economic Impact Payments
 and the 2020 Recovery Re-
 bate, key information will be
 posted on IRS.gov/eip. Later

this week, you may check
 the status of your payment at
 IRS.gov/GetMyPayment. For
 other COVID-19-related tax
 relief, visit IRS.gov/Corona-
 virus.



Opening January 11, 2021

6:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Monday thru Thursday

The Fitness Center is the only area that will be open at
 this time. Reservations are required along with new
 sign in process.



Seasonal Depression Affect on DV Survivors and Healthy Relationship Bill of Rights

Submitted by StrongHearts Healthy Relationship Bill of Rights

December 10 is Human Rights Day, as adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims the inalienable rights to which everyone is entitled as a human being - regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. It is the most translated document in the world and is available in more than 500 languages.

But what about a Healthy Relationship Bill of Rights?

You have rights in your relationship. Everyone does, and those rights can help you set boundaries that should be respected by all partners in a healthy relationship. Like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Healthy Relationship Bill of Rights is inalienable, regardless of gender or sexual identity.

- You have the right to privacy, both online and off.
- You have the right to feel safe and respected.
- You have the right to participate in your culture and practice your spirituality.
- You have the right to decide who you want to date or not date.
- You have the right to say no at any time (to sex, to drugs or alcohol, to a relationship), even if you've said yes before.
- You have the right to hang out with your relatives and friends and do things you enjoy, without your partner getting jealous or controlling.
- You have the right to end a relationship that isn't right

or healthy for you.

- You have the right to live free from violence and abuse.

If you feel that your rights have been violated and want to talk, StrongHearts Native Helpline is here to help.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a free, culturally-appropriate, and anonymous helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives impacted by domestic violence and dating violence. We acknowledge and support all victims regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation or relationship status. If you or someone you love is experiencing domestic violence, help is available.

Contact StrongHearts at 1-844-7NATIVE or click on the Chat Now icon to connect one-on-one with an advocate daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. As a collaborative effort of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) and the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, after-hour callers can connect with The Hotline by choosing option one.

Seasonal Depression Can Affect Domestic Violence Victim-Survivors

In the early months of winter, the number of daylight hours gets noticeably shorter and the nights longer. A change in season permeates the air with the sweet smell of fallen leaves and the air becomes crisp beckoning winter's snow. For most people, it's a joyous time of year when family and friends gather to spread holiday cheer. Yet for others, a waning spirit conjures feelings of dread as winter draws near.

December Is Seasonal Depression Awareness Month

December is Seasonal Depression Awareness Month when healthcare professionals see an increase in the number of patients seeking treatment for unexplained symptoms of depression. Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a form of depression that most commonly occurs during the winter months. In the United States, 5 percent of the population experience symptoms of SAD that can include feelings of:

- Sadness
- Extreme fatigue
- Loss of pleasure and energy
- Worthlessness
- Inability to concentrate
- Irritability or anxiety
- Social withdrawal
- Seemingly uncontrollable urges to eat sugar and high-carbohydrate foods

The first symptoms of SAD usually occur in adulthood and are more frequently suffered by women. The severity of the syndrome often increases with geographical latitude, as well as prevalence, increasing from 5 percent to 10 percent of the population. Without treatment, the result can lead to weight gain, depression and strained relationships. When combined with a history of trauma and domestic violence, SAD can be deadly.

Domestic Violence and SAD

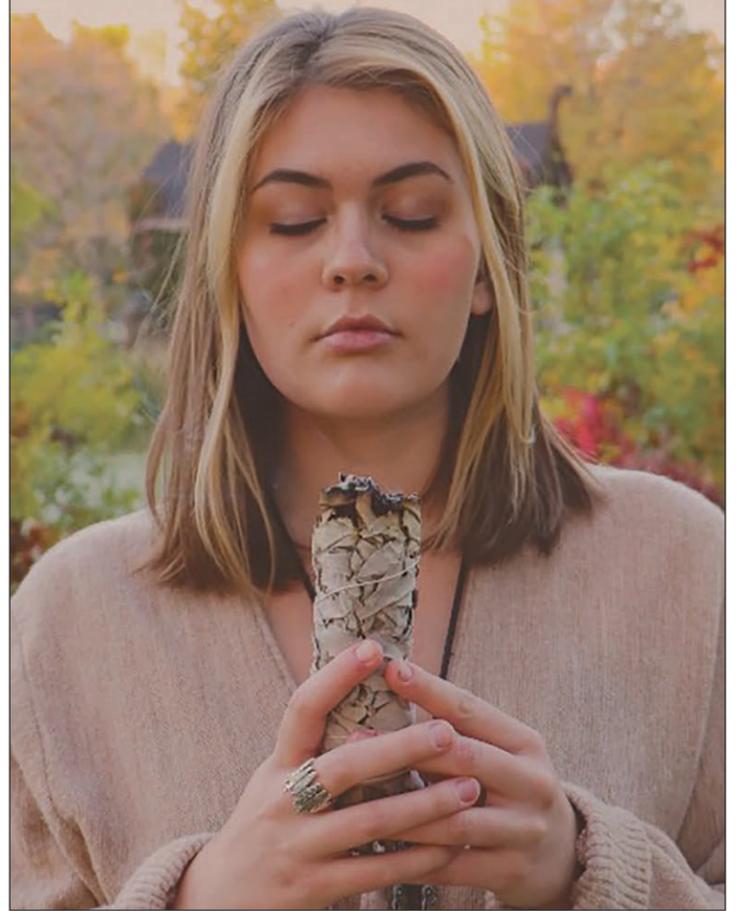
American Indian and Alaska Native women experience some of the highest rates of physical and sexual violence in the nation, however, before colonization, abuse and domestic violence were rare in tribal communities.

Domestic violence and dating violence happens when an intimate partner uses a repetitive pattern of abuse to maintain power and control over their partner. The abuse can physically harm, arouse fear, prevent a person from acting freely, or force them to behave in ways they do not want.

Abusive partners can be affected by SAD and attempt to exert more control over their partner. Victim-survivors may feel confused, afraid, angry and/or trapped. They may blame themselves for what is happening. These feelings may be more intense by the symptoms of seasonal depression.

High Rates of Suicide

Depression can lead to thoughts of suicide. Nationwide, American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) suffer the highest rates of suicide than any other racial/ethnic group. Study after study, decade after decade, suicide rates continue to rise. The ramifications of trauma and depression are felt by loved ones, family, friends and even co-workers.



StrongHearts' Healthy Relationship Bill of Rights has been adapted from The National Domestic Violence Hotline.

Light Therapy May Help

The cause of SAD is unknown, but the onset is linked to light deprivation associated with winter's shorter days and longer nights. Seasonal depression caused by light deprivation can be mitigated using artificial light. Light therapy using bright light to mimic natural outdoor light affects brain chemicals linked to mood and sleep - thus easing symptoms of SAD and other types of depression, sleep disorders and conditions.

Traditional Methods

First and foremost, maintaining a healthy lifestyle can help with the symptoms of seasonal depression. A routine schedule is key to maintaining a well-balanced circadian rhythm. Native people can also benefit from traditional teachings, practices and ceremonies as well as seeking out culturally-sensitive health providers. Here are some tips to help:

- Get showered and get dressed. Use traditional medicines or aromatic lavender in a bath or enjoy a DIY facial. Lay down tobacco and/or smudge with sage. Wearing bright, colorful and comfortable clothing can impact your mood.
- Brighten your environment. Open blinds and sit closer to bright windows.
- Find time to move daily for at least thirty minutes. Search YouTube videos for a Pow-wow dance or yoga class and if all else fails, turn up the radio and dance like no one is watching. Learn how to traditional dance!
- Develop a self-care toolkit.

A lot of successful self-care strategies involve a sensory component (feel, taste, smell, hear, see) such as using a soft blanket, drinking hot cocoa, or burning a scented candle while looking at old photo albums.

Help your child to create a comfort box (use a shoebox or bin they can decorate) and fill it with comforting items to use when they feel overwhelmed. Promote connectivity with Mother Earth by adding traditional medicines such as sage, sweetgrass or cedar.

- Share traditional seasonal teachings with relatives and friends
- Seek the advice of a health-care professional.

StrongHearts Can Help

At StrongHearts, we know that for victim-survivors the holidays can add even more strain or stress to their lives. We know that SAD may: hinder healthy relationships, contribute to unhealthy relationships, or even increase abusive behaviors or increase the severity of abuse in abusive relationships. If you need to talk about your relationship, StrongHearts can help.

Explore your options for safety and healing by visiting StrongHearts Native Helpline online for one-on-one chat advocacy or call 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483). Advocates are available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. In collaboration with the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) callers in need of help outside of regular hours can connect with The Hotline by choosing option one.



Trump supporters storm US Capitol

Reprint from Indian Country Today
Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Angry supporters of President Donald Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday in a chaotic protest aimed at thwarting a peaceful transfer of power, forcing lawmakers to be rushed from the building and interrupting challenges to Joe Biden's Electoral College victory. Trump issued a restrained call for peace but did not call on his supporters to leave.

The ordinarily mundane procedure of certifying a new president was always going to be extraordinary, with Republican supporters of Trump vowing to protest results of an election that they have baselessly insisted was reversed by fraud.

The deliberations inside were still in their early stages when they were overcome by raucous demonstrations outside, as protesters who clashed with police entered the building, shouting and waving Trump and American flags. They abruptly interrupted the proceedings in an out-of-control scene that featured eerie official warnings directing people to duck under their seats for cover and put on gas masks.

With the crowds showing no signs of abating, Trump

tweeted, "Please support our Capitol Police and Law Enforcement. They are truly on the side of our Country. Stay peaceful!"

Senators were being evacuated.

Some House lawmakers tweeted they were sheltering in place in their offices, including New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland, Laguna and Jemez Pueblos.

"We will stay put until they tell us it is safe to go out," Haaland tweeted from her office.

Rep. Markwayne Mullin, Cherokee, of Oklahoma, also was among those inside the Capitol and was reported to be safe, a staffer told Indian Country Today.

Kansas Rep. Sharice Davids, Ho-Chunk, New Mexico Rep. Yvette Herrell, Cherokee, and Hawaii Rep. Kai Kahele, Native Hawaiian, also tweeted that they were safe. The status of Rep. Tom Cole, Chickasaw, wasn't immediately clear.

The Pentagon says about 1,100 D.C. National Guard members are being mobilized to help support law enforcement.

The Guard forces will be used at checkpoints and for other similar duties and could also help in the enforcement of the 6 p.m. curfew being implemented tonight in the city.

Demonstrators fought with Capitol Police and then forced

their way into the building, not long after a huge rally near the White House during which Trump egged them on to march to Capitol Hill.

Lawmakers had convened for an extraordinary joint session to confirm the Electoral College results.

Though fellow Republicans were behind the challenge to Biden's 306-232 Electoral College victory, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell sought to lower tensions and argued against it. He warned the country "cannot keep drifting apart into two separate tribes" with "separate facts."

McConnell declared, "The voters, the courts and the states all have spoken."

But other Republicans, including House GOP leaders among Trump's allies were acting out the pleas of supporters at his huge Wednesday rally up Pennsylvania Avenue outside the White House to "fight for Trump."

"We have to fix this," said Rep. Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the GOP whip.

The last-gasp effort is all but certain to fail, defeated by bipartisan majorities in Congress prepared to accept the November results. Biden is to be inaugurated Jan. 20.

Still, Trump vowed to he would "never concede" and urged the massive crowd to march to the Capitol where hundreds had already gath-

ered under tight security.

"We will never give up," Trump told his noontime rally.

Vice President Mike Pence was closely watched as he stepped onto the dais to preside over the joint session in the House chamber.

Pence has a largely ceremonial role, opening the sealed envelopes from the states after they are carried in mahogany boxes used for the occasion, and reading the results aloud. But he was under growing pressure from Trump to overturn the will of the voters and tip the results in the president's favor, despite having no legal power to affect the outcome.

"Do it Mike, this is a time for extreme courage!" Trump tweeted Wednesday.



Protesters forced lawmakers to be rushed from the building and interrupted challenges to Joe Biden's Electoral College victory.

Republicans raise first objection in Congress to Biden win

Reprint from Indian Country Today
Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican lawmakers mounted their first official challenge to Joe Biden's presidential election win Wednesday, objecting to state results from Arizona as they took up Donald Trump's relentless effort to overturn the election results in an extraordinary joint session of Congress.

Outside, demonstrators tried to shove their way into the Capitol, scuffling with police, after a fiery rally near the White House in which Trump prodded his supporters to march to Capitol Hill.

In the House chamber, Rep. Paul Gosar of Arizona, flanked by Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, rose to object to the typically routine acceptance of electors.

The objection now forces two hours of debate in the House and Senate, sending lawmakers away to separate deliberations.

Trump's allies are acting out the pleas of supporters at his huge rally up Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House to "fight for Trump." But it's a fight that's tearing the Republican Party apart.

The last-gasp effort is all but certain to fail, defeated by bipartisan majorities in Congress prepared to accept the

November results. Biden, who won the Electoral College 306-232, is to be inaugurated Jan. 20.

Still, Trump vowed to he would "never concede" and urged the massive crowd to march to the Capitol where hundreds had already gathered under tight security.

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"Do it Mike, this is a time for extreme courage!" Trump tweeted Wednesday.

But Pence, in a statement shortly before presiding, defied Trump, saying he could not claim "unilateral authority" to reject the electoral votes that make Biden president.

Despite Trump's repeated claims of voter fraud, election officials and his own former attorney general have said there were no problems on a

scale that would change the outcome. All the states have certified their results as fair and accurate, by Republican and Democratic officials alike.

Arizona was the first of several states facing objections from the Republicans as Congress took an alphabetical reading of the election results.

Biden won Arizona by more than 10,000 votes, and eight lawsuits challenging the results have failed. The state's Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the dismissal of an election challenge.

The joint session of Congress, required by law, convened before a watchful, restless nation — months after the election, two weeks before the inauguration's traditional peaceful transfer of power and against the backdrop of a surging COVID-19 pandemic.

Lawmakers were told by Capitol officials to arrive early, due to safety precautions with protesters in Washington. Hundreds of Trump supporters filled the Capitol plaza area and sidewalks, many bearing enormous flags and few wearing masks. Visitors, who typically fill the galleries to watch landmark proceedings, will not be allowed under COVID-19 restrictions.

The session also comes as overnight results from Georgia's runoff elections put Democrats within reach of a Senate majority.

The current majority leader,

Mitch McConnell, who tried to warn his Republican Party off this challenge, was expected to deliver early remarks. Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called it a day of "enormous historic significance," about "guaranteeing trust in our democratic system."

With the Senate results from Georgia streaming in and Democrats within reach of controlling the chamber, Trump amplified his pleas to stay in office as a veto check on the rival party. At the rally he said he had just talked to Pence and criticized Republicans who are not willing to fight for him as "weak."

While other vice presidents, including Al Gore and Richard Nixon, also presided over their own defeats, Pence supports those Republican lawmakers mounting challenges to the 2020 outcome.

It's not the first time lawmakers have challenged results. Democrats did in 2017 and 2005. But the intensity of Trump's challenge is like nothing in modern times, and an outpouring of current and elected GOP officials warn the showdown is sowing distrust in government and eroding Americans' faith in democracy.

Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, told reporters on Capitol Hill that Trump's election challenge has "disgraced the office of the presidency."

"We'll proceed as the Con-

stitution demands and tell our supporters the truth -- whether or not they want to hear it," Romney said.

Still, more than a dozen Republican senators led by Josh Hawley of Missouri and Ted Cruz of Texas, along with as many as 100 House Republicans, are pressing ahead to raise objections to individual states' reports of Biden's wins.

Under the rules of the joint session, any objection to a state's electoral tally needs to be submitted in writing by at least one member of the House and one of the Senate to be considered. Each objection will force two hours of deliberations in the House and Senate, ensuring a long day.

House Republican lawmakers are signing on to objections to the electoral votes in six states — Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Arizona will likely be the first to be disputed as the state tallies are announced in alphabetical order. Cruz has said he will join House Republicans in objecting to that state, even as he acknowledged the effort will not have the votes to succeed.

"Extraordinarily uphill," he said late Tuesday on Fox News.

Hawley has said he will object to the election results from Pennsylvania, almost

Continued on Page 9

DISTRICT 1 MEETING NOTICE

WAUSAU VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Please contact Michelle Ramberg at
Michelle.Ramberg@Ho-Chunk.com for meeting
information.

BLACK RIVER FALLS VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 13, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Please contact Michelle Ramberg at
Michelle.Ramberg@Ho-Chunk.com for meeting
information.

Due to the Pandemic and Social Distancing for the safety
of our constituents, we will be hosting WebEx meetings.

Posted on: 01/04/21



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE



La Crosse /Tomah
Virtual WebEx Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Baraboo & Mauston/Wisc. Dells
Virtual WebEx Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Pandemic Precautions: Due to the high number of
Covid cases we will be holding District 2 meetings
all virtual.

Contact a District 2 Representative for the WebEx link or the meeting phone number.
Rep. Stephanie Begay Stephanie.Begay@ho-chunk.com - 608-408-0339
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. Conroy.Greendeer@ho-chunk.com - 608-387-2163
Rep. Kristin K. White Eagle Kristin.WhiteEagle@ho-chunk.com - 715-299-0583



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

Posted on 12/30/20

DISTRICT 3 MEETING NOTICE



MADISON DISTRICT MEETING-VIRTUAL
Wednesday, January 6, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

WITTENBERG DISTRICT MEETING-VIRTUAL
Monday, January 11, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

GREEN BAY DISTRICT MEETING-VIRTUAL
Tuesday, January 12, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

MILWAUKEE DISTRICT MEETING-VIRTUAL
Wednesday, January 13, 2021- 6:00 p.m.

WI RAPIDS DISTRICT MEETING-VIRTUAL
Thursday, January 14, 2021- 6:00 p.m.

Pandemic Precautions: Due to the high number of Covid
cases we will be holding District 3 meetings virtual.

For Webex information please contact:
Rep. Sarah Lemieux at Sarah.Lemieux@Ho-Chunk.com or 715.315.8071
Rep. Darren Brinegar at Darren.Brinegar@Ho-Chunk.com or 715-315-1031
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. at Lawrence.WalkerJr@Ho-Chunk.com or 715-299-0815

Posted 01/04/21



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING NOTICE



VIRTUAL CHICAGO AREA MEETING
Monday, January 11, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Due to the high number of Covid cases we will be holding
District 4 January meetings virtual.

VIRTUAL TWIN CITIES AREA MEETING
Thursday, January 14, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Due to the high number of Covid cases we will be holding
District 4 January meetings virtual.

For WebEx information please contact:
Rep. Paul.Fox@Ho-Chunk.com
Rep. Robert.TwoBears@Ho-Chunk.com
Rep. Kathy.WhiteRabbit@Ho-Chunk.com
Rep. Matt.Mullen@Ho-Chunk.com

Posted on: 01/05/21



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

Continued from Page 8
ensuring a second two-hour
debate despite resistance from
the state's Republican senator,
Pat Toomey, who said the tally
of Biden's win is accurate.
Sen. Kelly Loeffler may
challenge the results in her
state of Georgia. She was
defeated in Georgia's runoff to
Democrat Raphael Warnock,
but can remain a senator until
he is sworn into office.

The other Senate runoff
race between Republican David
Perdue and Democrat Jon
Ossoff remained too early to
call Wednesday, though Ossoff
declared he won. Perdue,
who was seeking reelection, is
ineligible to vote in the Senate
because his term expired with
the start of the new Congress
Sunday.
The group led by Cruz
is vowing to object unless
Congress agrees to form a

commission to investigate
the election, but that seems
unlikely.
Those with Cruz are Sens.
Ron Johnson of Wisconsin,
James Lankford of Oklahoma,
Steve Daines of Montana,
John Kennedy of Louisiana,
Marsha Blackburn of
Tennessee, Mike Braun of
Indiana, Cynthia Lummis of
Wyoming, Roger Marshall of
Kansas, Bill Hagerty of Tennessee
and Tommy Tuberville

of Alabama.
Many of the Republicans
challenging the results said
they are trying to give voice
to voters back home who
don't trust the outcome of
the election and want to see
the lawmakers fighting for
Trump.
Hawley defended his role
saying his constituents have
been "loud and clear" about
their distrust of the election.
"It is my responsibility

ity as a senator to raise their
concerns," he wrote to
colleagues.
As criticism mounted, Cruz
insisted his aim was "not to
set aside the election" but
to investigate the claims of
voting problems. He has
produced no new evidence.
Both Hawley and Cruz are
potential 2024 presidential
contenders, vying for Trump's
base of supporters.



Hųc WICONĪRA WIIRA
January: First Bear Moon

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

SĪĪ (WILD RICE)



ABOUT

- Wild rice is the **seed** of an **aquatic grass** that grows in shallow lakes and marshes. It is native to North America.
- Nutrition:** Wild rice provides 166 calories, 35 grams of carb, 3 grams of fiber, 6.5 grams of protein and 0.5 grams of fat per 1 cup serving

GATHERING

- Wild rice is traditionally harvested by **canoe** in early fall.
- Canoeing through the plants, the grain heads are bent and knocked using wooden poles or "flails" to **thresh** the seeds into the canoe.
- After harvesting, the wild rice is **parched**, the **hull removed**, and any remaining debris **cleaned out** by hand.

STORE

- Store **uncooked** wild rice in a dry and cool place in an air-tight container.
- Store **cooked** rice in the fridge for 3 to 4 days or in the freezer for 6 to 8 months.

HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV.
http://health.ho-chunk.com/

WILD RICE PILAF

Ingredients

Makes 6 servings

- 1 tablespoon of oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 cup chopped carrot
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1- 1/2 cups wild rice blend
- 3-1/2 cups of vegetable broth (or water)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley (optional)



Directions

1. Heat the oil in a large saucepan.
2. Add the onion, carrots, and celery. Cook until tender.
3. Add the garlic powder, wild rice, and broth (or water).
4. Heat on medium high heat till it reaches a boil.
5. Cover and cook on low heat for 45 minutes or until rice is tender.
6. Stir in parsley if desired.

Nutrition

1 serving = 1/6 a recipe

Calories: 202
Total Fat: 3 g
Total Carbohydrate: 40 g
Protein: 5 g

For more Information
Contact a HCN Registered
Dietitian/ Nutritionist:

BRF, TOMAH, WITTENBERG AREAS:
(888) 685-4422, EXT. 5335

BRF, LA CROSSE AREAS:
(888) 685-4422, EXT. 5340

DELLS, NEKOOSA, MADISON AREAS:
(888) 552-7889, EXT. 5554

Created on 11/2020 NG. Info source:
<https://naldc.nal.usda.gov/download/29993/PDF>, <https://food.unl.edu/now-youre-cooking-brown-rice>
Recipe adapted from: White & Wild Rice Pilaf Recipe - Food.com



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

AVAILABLE FOR ADULT TRIBAL MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

INSURANCE CARD AND ID REQUIRED TO RECEIVE FLU VACCINATION

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









HO-CHUNK HEALTH CARE CENTER
N6520 LUMBERJACK GUY RD.
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615
(715)284-9851

HOUSE OF WELLNESS
S2845 WHITE EAGLE RD.
BARABOO, WI 53913
(608)355-1240

WWW.HEALTH.HO-CHUNK.COM

HO-CHUNK NATION
Department of Labor
Safety Division
P.O. Box 667 Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone (715) 284-5877 FAX (715) 284-1520
(800) 294-9343

To: Marlon WhiteEagle, President, Ho-Chunk Nation

From: Amanda Richmond, Emergency Management Coordinator, Department of Labor

Date: January 4, 2021

RE: Closure of Tribal Office Building to the Public

Due to the continued high levels of newly diagnosed positive COVID-19 cases within the Ho-Chunk Nation and surrounding counties, the Ho-Chunk Nation Emergency Management Coordinator has closed the Tribal Office Building to the public. This order takes effective January 5, 2021 at 6:00 AM and continuing until further notice.

The Tribal Office Building will be open for appointments that are **strongly encouraged** to ensure that tribal personnel are present when you come to the building. The Tribal Office Building will also be open for deliveries.

Half of tribal employees will still be working remotely as determined by department heads and supervisors. Tribal departments and employees can be reached by their tribal extension and through their email accounts. Certain government services that are not essential may be limited but the public is able to continue to contact these tribal departments and employees during this time.

We understand that this is a challenging time and we are grateful for your assistance in slowing the spread of COVID-19. This means that everyone must take individual responsibility to wear a face covering, physically distance at least six feet from others, wash hands frequently, and keep your social circle to five people or less.

CC: Angela Ward, Executive Director of Labor
Phyllis Smoke, Executive Director of Administration
Cinnamon Lonetree, Executive Secretary

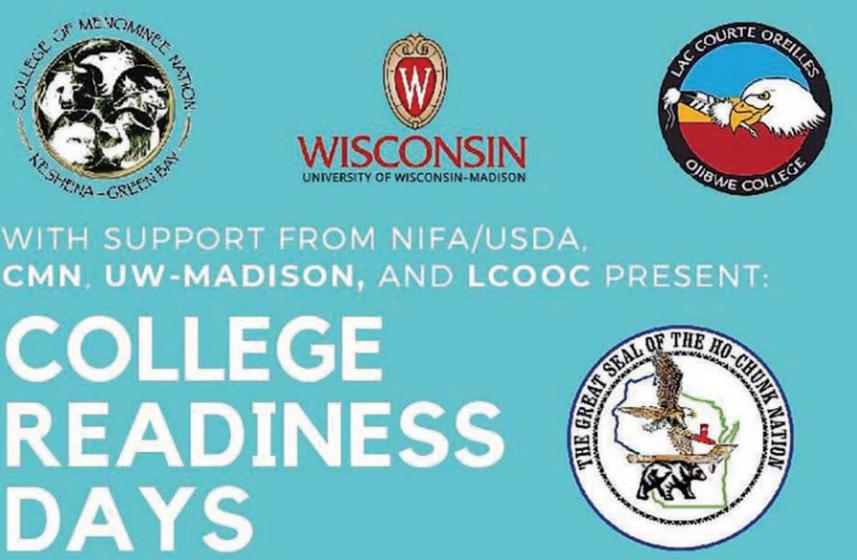
Attention those who claimed Unemployment in 2020

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.





WITH SUPPORT FROM NIFA/USDA, CMN, UW-MADISON, AND LCOOC PRESENT:

COLLEGE READINESS DAYS

TWO ONLINE SESSIONS:
JANUARY 12 AND 14, 2021
5-6 PM

ATTEND ONE OR BOTH SESSIONS TO:

- LEARN ABOUT DEGREE AND CAREER OPTIONS
- GET TIPS ON SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID
- HEAR FROM SPEAKERS FIRSTHAND WHAT COLLEGE IS REALLY LIKE

FOR NATIVE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

[ZOOM LINK TO PARTICIPATE](#)

QUESTIONS? EMAIL:
EARTHPARTNERSHIP@DPLA.WISC.EDU

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

Maaceek Woomaanac

2021

HIRAICERA HOOCĀK YAAT'ET'EKJANE. *I will speak more Hoocak.*
 TEEJĀKI NAĀKIKARAKJANE. *I will exercise more frequently.*
 HIRAICERA NIĪ TAACGAĀKJANE. *I will drink more water.*
 HIRAICERA WAĀKŠIKRA WAGIJITEKJANE. *I will be helpful towards those in need.*
 HAĀKE WAŽA HIRAJAHANĪ KJANE. *I will let go of material things.*
 HIRAICERA WAISGAP TAAXERE HA'ŪŪKJANE. *I will make more fried bread.*
 MAĀX WAAŽU NAĞA HATUŠERECIKJANE. *I will plant and maintain my garden.*
 WAARUC'Ū YAAPERESIKJANE. *I will learn how to cook.*
 WĀROKEWE CEEK HA'Ū NAĀ'Ī KJANE. *I will learn a new Ho-Chunk craft.*
 HIŠJA KUUHĀ HAKITUKĀKJANE. *I will wear a mask.*
 HIRAICERA CĪ WOORERA WAGIJITEKJANE. *I will help in my home.*

First Listeners Project

Vision Maker Media Announces Open Call for 2021 Public Media Project Proposals

Media Contact Only:
Liz Hill; liz@lizhillpr.com
LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 4, 2021 — Today, Vision Maker Media (VMM) announced an open call for 2021 public media broadcast proposals. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. CST on Friday, February 12, 2021. Project awards will be announced in spring 2021. VMM seeks public media film and television projects that are intended and appropriate for Public Media Television Broadcasting, including Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) digital and streaming platforms that represent the cultures, experiences and perspectives of Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

“At Vision Maker Media, we believe that Native people play a vital role in the story and cultural fabric of this country,” says VMM Executive Director Francene Blythe-Lewis (Diné, Sisseton-Wahpeton, Eastern Cherokee). “Our affiliation with many public television distributors ensures that our content reaches more than 90 million Americans annually on public television series, such as Independent Lens, POV, America ReFramed, American Masters and others.” Proposed film and television projects should appeal to a broad audience, be intended for public media broadcast and its digital and streaming platforms, and have effective

outreach/community engagement activities to reach audiences beyond a public television broadcast. “In addition to general and broad audience appeal, we also welcome and encourage projects that foster dialogue about contemporary, critical social issues in Native country,” says Blythe-Lewis. “Some of the themes that VMM has supported in the past include women’s empowerment, activism, tribal sovereignty, environment, history, self-determination, youth topics, home, community and LGBTQ2S+.”

Funding is available in two genres for public television broadcasting: Broadcast Documentary and Broadcast Episodic Programming. Project funding is available in three areas: Research and Development: \$5,000–\$25,000; Production: Up to \$150,000; and Post-Production: Up to \$100,000.

Who is Eligible:

- Independent and Public Television producers, film and digital makers. Applicants must hold artistic, budgetary and editorial control and own the copyright of the proposed film or television project.
- Applicant’s submitted work must be cleared for broadcast, digital and streaming rights for a minimum of four years.
- Applicants must be able to provide an effective community outreach plan with

a foundation in online engagement through social media and the creation of a website.

- Applicants must be 21 years of age and a U.S. citizen.
- Applicants must be able to show significant Native American involvement on their project, whether Above the Line, Below the Line or both.
- Eligible production projects should meet Vision Maker Media’s mission to empower and engage Native people to share their stories.

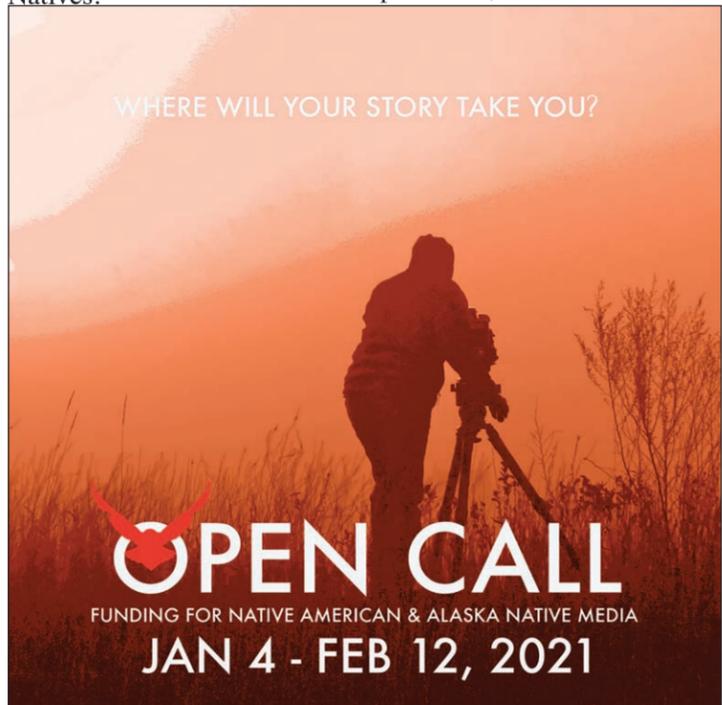
Ineligible:

- Commercial Projects.
- Industrial or promotional films and videos.
- Student productions of any sort, such as thesis films.
- Projects for which four-year exclusive Public Television broadcast rights are not available.
- Projects intended solely for theatrical release.
- Filmmakers or production entities that are foreign-based, owned or controlled.
- Projects funded in part by a government entity or group featured in the content of the project.

For proposal guidelines and more details, visit: <https://bit.ly/38nCh68>. For more information: visionmaker@unl.edu or (402) 472-3522.

About Vision Maker Media
Vision Maker Media (VMM) has a mission to em-

power and engage Native people to share stories. The organization — which is celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2021 — envisions a world changed and healed by understanding Native stories and the public conversations they generate. VMM works with VMM-funded producers to develop, produce and distribute programs for all media. VMM supports training to increase the number of American Indians and Alaska Natives producing public broadcasting programs. A key strategy for this work is reciprocating partnerships with Native nations, organizations and communities. Reaching the general public and the global market is the ultimate goal for the dissemination of Native-produced media that shares Native perspectives with the world. VMM is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) funded in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). For more information, visit visionmakermedia.org.



WHERE WILL YOUR STORY TAKE YOU?

OPEN CALL

FUNDING FOR NATIVE AMERICAN & ALASKA NATIVE MEDIA

JAN 4 - FEB 12, 2021



**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 29, 2020**

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-EX
Rep. George Stacy-VC (10:08 a.m.)
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.-EX
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC
Rep. Matthew Mullen-EX
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P
VC-Video Conference

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

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

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda. Second

by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-December 8, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the December 8, 2020 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 9-0-1(Rep. Robert TwoBears) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reconvened Legislative Meeting-December 9, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the December 9, 2020 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Legislative Meeting-December 15, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the December 15, 2020 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 9-0-1(Rep. Paul Fox) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Committee Reports:

Administration Committee-December 10, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the December 10, 2020

Administration Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Development Committee-December 21, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to approve the December 21, 2020 Development Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-1(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Cancellation of Lease #2162 on Lot #5 of Timber Run #439 T 2134

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 A**, Cancellation of Lease #2162 on Lot #5 of Timber Run #439 T 2134. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #5 of Timber Run #439 T2134 for Sarah Williams

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 B**, Authorization of Residential Land Lease on Lot #5 of Timber Run #439 T2134 for Sarah Williams. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Integrity Audit & Tax Introduction

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to TABLE Integrity Au-

dit & Tax Introduction. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee-December 21, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to approve the December 21, 2020 Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

HCN Non-Tribal Health Plan ACA Affordability

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to approve adding another plan to the Plan Document for singles at the affordable rate. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-1(Rep. Sarah Lemieux)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Legislative Counsel mentioned that adding an addition plan to the Plan Document requires Legislative approval. Mr. Calvin Rigsby from Gallagher stated that this will be brought back to the full Legislature once it is ready for final Legislative approval.

Ho-Chunk Wellness Partner Replacement Request

Mr. Calvin Rigsby stated that after the RPF process, Empower Health was selected.

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to engage with Empower Health regarding the Ho-Chunk Nation Wellness Partner. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

COVID-19 Executive Branch Update-(Standing Agenda Item)

Department of Health

President White Eagle stated that Executive Director of Health, Kiana Beaudin is unavailable at this time, as she is at the House of Wellness this morning. This morning, healthcare workers at the House of Wellness will be given the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. President White Eagle mentioned that the Nation received a shipment of 400 vaccines of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on Saturday, December 26, 2020.

Office of the President

Amanda Richmond, Emergency Management Coordinator, stated that healthcare workers at the House of Wellness will be vaccinated today, and healthcare workers at the Ho-Chunk Health Care Clinic will be vaccinated Thursday. The next shipment of vaccines is unknown. Ms. Richmond also gave a brief verbal update on cross-training that is taking place across the Nation.

Rep. Lemieux inquired if PPE can be available for funerals. Ms. Richmond stated that this can be done. Ms. Richmond

will forward her contact information to the Legislature.

Department of Business

Executive Director of Business (EDOB) Michael Rave was present to give a verbal update. EDOB Rave stated that Business has a draft Alternative Operations Plan that will assist with future closures or scale backs.

Office of General Council (Standing Agenda Item)

General Council Advocate e-mailed the morning of the meeting and stated she is on leave, and no report was provided.

Status Report of Previous General Council Resolutions

No report.

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. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

CARES Act Proposals

Legislative Counsel stated that the protocol for approval of Federal Coronavirus relief fund expenditures may need to be updated, with the Federal Government extension.

Rep. Sarah Lemieux expressed concern that the Legislature does not have the most recent CARES Act funding balances.

Executive Director of Labor Angela Ward mentioned that she would like the Department of Labor CARES Act positions on staff until the money that was allocated runs out.

EMERGENCY MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the use of already approved CARES Act proposals, in line with the extension from the Federal Government (December 31, 2021). Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include final reconciliation of all proposals so far from Treasury and from each respective department, with an evaluation of their proposal including progress of project and unspent dollars to be completed by January 5, 2021, and a blanket extension of CARES Act funded staff for one week from today, ending January 8, 2021. Second concurs. 5-5(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Kristin White Eagle, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Sarah Lemieux, Rep. Robert TwoBears)-0 **MOTION DEFEATED.**

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned waiting on the extension for CARES Act funded positions until the Legislature receives an accurate and updated balances. Rep. Hinu Smith would like to see recon-

Continued on Page 13



**HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**



Facts about COVID-19 Vaccine

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines will not give you COVID-19

None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States use the live virus that causes COVID-19. The goal for any vaccine is to teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight COVID-19 virus in the body. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fatigue, headache, muscle pain and chills. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building immunity. It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests

Vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States won't cause you to test positive on PCR viral tests. PCR viral tests are used to see if you have a **current infection**. If your body develops an immune response, which is the goal of vaccination, there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a **previous infection** and that you may have some level of protection against the virus.

FACT: People who have gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated

Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before. At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person. Some early evidence suggests natural immunity may not last very long.

FACT: Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19

While many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe illness or they may even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. If you get sick, you also may spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you while you are sick. COVID-19 vaccination helps protect you by creating an antibody response without having to experience sickness.

How do I know which sources of COVID-19 vaccine information are accurate?

It can be difficult to know which sources of information you can trust. Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/evalwebs.htm>.

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
52845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913
Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643

Continued from Page 12
ciliation for each project.

EMERGENCY MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to extend CARES Act funded staff for one week, and once the Legislature receives an update and reconciliation of current CARES Act projects, then consider extending those projects at that time. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. **MOTION IS AMENDED TO ONLY INCLUDE** the request for the update and reconciliation of current CARES Act projects, then consider extending those projects at that time. Second concurs. 5-5(Rep. Paul Fox, Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit, Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., Rep. George Stacy, Rep. Robert TwoBears)-0 **MOTION DEFEATED.**

NOTED FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Stacy and Rep. Greendeer are opposed, as they would like the CARES Act funded positions to not be laid off.

Rep. Smith would like to see reconciliation, balances, assessment of the overall project and if the goal of the project was met.

EMERGENCY MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to extend CARES Act funded staff for one week, ending January 8, 2021 and once the Legislature receives an update and reconciliation of current CARES Act projects, then consider extending those projects at that time. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 6-3(Rep. Paul Fox, Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Robert TwoBears)-1(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit) **MOTION DEFEATED.**

MOTION by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. to TABLE CARES Act Proposals until after Executive Session. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 8-2(Rep. Darren Brinegar, Rep. Robert TwoBears)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on #26 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for HHCDA

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to TABLE Resolution-Authoriza-

tion 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, Resolution-Authorization of Residential Land Lease on #26 of Chakh Hah Chee North #439 T 2137 for HHCDA and refer to Development Committee. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to TABLE Resolution-Approval of MedWatch Medical Management Services Agreement and Acknowledgment of Care Management Proposal. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Legislative Counsel mentioned that this item was referred from the Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee. At the last meeting, this item was tabled so legal could review the policy. Gallagher forwarded the policy on to Legislative Counsel, but it still needs to be reviewed. This was also tabled for Executive Branch's input as to if this project is still needed.

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to TABLE Resolution-Approval of Ho-Chunk Nation Drone/Aviation Insurance Coverage Renewal for legal review and to see if this program is needed. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Elder Home Repair Policy

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to approve the revised changes to the Elder Home Repair Policy, and refer this to the Executive Director of Personnel for approval and implementation. **MOTION DIES DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.**

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to TABLE Elder Home Repair Policy. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 C**, Quick Passage Amendments to the Ho-Chunk

Nation Finance Manual. Second by Rep. Robert TwoBears. 8-0-2(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit, Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.) **MOTION DEFEATED.**

This will remain on the agenda for next week.

Merit Increases Status Update

Finance Director Jeriah Rave stated that the "Routes to Recovery" reimbursement from the State has been received by the Nation. Mr. Rave stated that Treasury is working on coding.

Executive Director of Personnel Kimberly Lonetree stated that NPD funded positions merit increases are still on hold, awaiting approval.

Approval of Adoption of GLI Standards

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to STRIKE Approval of Adoption of GLI Standards from the agenda, per request from the Gaming Commission. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Forrest Tahdooahnippah was present via video conference. Mr. Tahdooahnippah stated that the malpractice insurance at his firm will not allow for an arrangement where he could work as an individual as the Attorney General.

It was mentioned that the acceptance resolution includes language that accepts Mr. Tahdooahnippah as the Attorney General of the Ho-Chunk Nation, as an individual and not through a law firm and that the President may negotiate a contract with Mr. Tahdooahnippah to be the Attorney General, subject the salary and benefit parameters in place for the Department of Justice budget, the Nation's Budget Act, Finance Manual and the laws of the Nation generally. Therefore, Mr. Tahdooahnippah would have to resign from his law firm, if he were to be accepted as the General Attorney.

Mr. Tahdooahnippah stated that he would respectfully have to decline, as he is not in a position to resign from his law firm, and his position as the tribal attorney for the Comanche Nation.

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adopt Resolution-Acceptance of Forrest Tahdooahnippah to be Interim Director of the Department of Justice. Second by Rep. Robert TwoBears. **MOTION IS WITHDRAWN** for the reasons Mr. Tahdooahnippah stated.

Rep. Brinegar stated that he will be voting in opposition of the Resolution to accept Forrest Tahdooahnippah to be

Interim Director of the Department of Justice, as he does not think it is fair for Mr. Tahdooahnippah to step down from his job at Dorsey and Whitney.

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 D**, Denial of Acceptance of Application of Forrest Tahdooahnippah to be Interim Director of the Department of Justice. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 9-1(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Lunch Break:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to break for lunch until 1:30 p.m. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

12:46 p.m.

Call to Order: President Marlon White Eagle called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-P
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-EX
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 (1:40 p.m.)
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-EX
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC
Rep. Matthew Mullen-EX
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P
VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 1:35 p.m.

Strategies to Restructure Museum

Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 04-04-18 E, Authorizing the Nation's Department of Heritage Preservation to Raise Funds and Receive Donations for the Development, Program Implementation and Sustaining of the Cho Wa Re Ja Museum & Cultural Center

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to TABLE Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 04-04-18 E, Authorizing the Nation's Department of Heritage Preservation to Raise Funds and Receive Donations for the Development, Program Implementation and Sustaining of the Cho Wa Re Ja Museum & Cultural Center. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Quick Passage Amendment to the Appropriation and Budget Act

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 E**, Quick Passage Amendment to the Appropriation and Budget Act. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle.

10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOU between the Ho-Chunk Nation and International Crane Foundation

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE MOU between the Ho-Chunk Nation and International Crane Foundation. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Blue Stone Presentation

John Moore from Blue Stone was available via video conference. Mr. Moore stated that this is an introduction to the overall strategic plan for the Housing Department for next fiscal year. The Housing Committee members, HHCDA and First Nations were interviewed. Blue Stone reached out to Department of Housing and Office of the President for an interview, but Blue Stone did not get a response back.

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to TABLE Blue Stone Presentation. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. **MOTION IS AMENDED TO REFER** the Blue Stone presentation to the Housing Department and have the Department of Housing and Executive Branch provide feedback on the Blue Stone presentation at the next Housing Committee Meeting. Second concurs. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Paul Fox out of the room.

Resolution-Authorization to Enter into Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources for the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program Grant

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 F**, Authorization to Enter into Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources for the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program Grant. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation DNR to Apply for USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentive Program Funding

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 G**, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation DNR to Apply for USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentive Program Funding. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-2021-2024 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to adopt **Resolution 12-29-20 H**,

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

2021-2024 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Legislative Statement

READ FOR THE RECORD by Rep. Hinu Smith:

“A recent podcast hosted by Mr. Marlon White Eagle, acting in his personal capacity, has been circulating the internet. The fact that he made a podcast is, of course, not an issue in and of itself. What has become an issue is that Mr. White Eagle is the sitting President of the Ho-Chunk Nation when he created the podcast about Ho-Chunk women, blood quantum, and other topics. I have received numerous concerns from our constituents regarding that episode.

Referring to the Ho-Chunk Nation as ‘getting weaker because of equal rights’ devalues the Ho-Chunk Nation overall and discredits the significant contributions made by amazing women who are our relatives.

Referring to enrolled Ho-Chunk members of multiracial ancestry by a derogatory label is beneath the dignity of the office of the president. Such comments alienate and cast judgment upon many of our relatives, constituents, and their parents, while simultaneously perpetuating division and racial hierarchy.

Undeniably, maintaining our history, culture, and traditions is critical to maintaining our identity as Ho-Chunk People. Historical and traditional context is equally important to prevent undo harm to people of all genders, ages, and ethnicities that want to learn and sustain the culture of our great Ho-Chunk Nation. I believe that those teachings can be taught without harm and prejudice. They can be taught with compassion and understanding in a way worthy of our cultural teaching “wogixete wire”, which means to love one another.

Working from a private platform and creating a product which carries “Ho-Chunk Voice” in the title while simultaneously acting as the official “voice” of the Ho-Chunk Nation is precarious. Failing to distinguish between one’s personal and official capacities leaves much room for misrepresentation of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Using one’s platforms in this manner begins to make indistinguishable, the views of the Office of the President from one’s personal views.

In closing, it is my opinion that tying the demise of Ho-Chunk culture to those pursuing their equal rights or to tribal members of mixed ethnicities is unbecoming.

I would like to state explicitly for the record that I believe the comments in the podcast do not reflect the values of

the Ho-Chunk Nation and are solely the views of the commentator.”

President White Eagle stated that he is protected by his first amendment. President White Eagle also stated that he does his podcast on his own, and he purchased the equipment on his own. He stated that his podcast is named “Ho-Chunk Voice, Discussions with Marlon White Eagle.”

District Meetings:

D1-Black River Falls-December 9, 2020

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to TABLE D1-Black River Falls-December 9, 2020. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 9-1(Rep. Kristin White Eagle)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D1-Wausau-December 15, 2020

No motions.

D2-La Crosse/Tomah-December 14, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Justice the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman for Monroe Co. Law Enforcement Agreement to include \$2,000 for community events. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Staff the **MOTION** by Melanie Stacy to request District 2 Legislators to inquire if groups can reserve a theatre to have their own movie showings, the cost for movie showings and how many can be in the theatre. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Health the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman to request the contract tracing process from the Department of Health, motion is amended to include community education and for a representative from the Department of Health be required to attend area meetings. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Counsel the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman for Legislature to take back the contract oversight per the Constitution Article V, Section 2. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Counsel the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman to review past contracts of husband/wife approving and signing contracts. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Justice the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman to research the term limit of the Law Enforcement Committee member and

how many meetings the committee member attended and to bring that information back to the January area meeting. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Counsel and the Finance Committee the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman for Legislature to conduct an investigation for the ‘loans’ from the bereavement line item and recover those funds from the individuals. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Office of the President and Treasury the **MOTION** by Tara Chapman to provide the Annual Audit to the community members. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Office of the President and Office of General Council the **MOTION** by Michelle De Cora that the costs for the virtual General Council be taken from the Executive Branch, specifically the Office of the President’s budget. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-1(Rep. George Stacy)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Counsel and Election Board the **MOTION** by Melanie Stacy for Legislature to look into if there can be referendum questions in the Primary Election in March. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Tara Chapman for Legislature to not accept the Attorney General nomination due to the role of the Attorney General is a full-time position dedicated to the Nation.

D2-Baraboo/Mauston-December 16, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to the Legislative Financial Projects Manager the **MOTION** by Jon Warner to request a report on Lynwood that identifies the spend-the-date with a running total of expenses that includes property expenses, losses incurred, maintenance, other and bring back next month. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Legislative Counsel the **MOTION** by Patti Lowe-Ennis to request supplemental information on Lynwood to bring back to D2. Motion is amended to clarify that this information is from Southland LLC and any affiliate under it, and includes an inquiry on board meeting minutes and its composition. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr., 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Jon Warner to have D2 Legislators properly fund the Election Board in this election cycle and if another CARES Act allocation is award then use it towards alternative voting methods.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Clariss Funmaker to table the Election Board election of the Wisconsin Dells Alternate and bring it back to next month’s area meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Office of the President and Treasury the **MOTION** by Jon Warner for Treasury to clarify in Direct Deposit detail and check detail the correct title of the payment rather than incorrectly noting them as per capita to prevent issues with those who are income-based. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to refer to Office of the President and Treasury Finance Director for statement, the **MOTION** by Cindy Tack to get clarification that the employee \$250 TESS payment is non-taxable and should not have a 401(k) withdrawal since the dollars are coming from the CARES Act. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3-Madison-December 9, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to refer to Social Services/TAU and the Health, Social Services and Insurance Committee the **MOTION** by Marlys Whiteagle for elite elders to receive financial support for Medicare Part B insurance premiums. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Brenda Neff to accept Cher Laubmeier as the D3 Madison Election Board Delegate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Cher Laubmeier as the D3 Madison Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Arvina Martin to accept Brenda Neff as the D3 Madison Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Brenda Neff as the D3 Madison Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3-Wittenberg-December 14, 2020

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Fran Littlewolf to accept Jamie Decorah as the D3 Wittenberg Election Board Delegate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Jamie Decorah as the D3 Wittenberg Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Fran Littlewolf to accept Melanie Roth as the D3 Wittenberg Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Melanie Roth as the D3 Wittenberg Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to refer to Office of the President and the Department of Administration the **MOTION** by Jamie Decorah to purchase UV Lighting for the Siga Funmaker Center. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3-Green Bay-December 15, 2020

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to refer to Legislative Counsel and Legislative Liaison on 12 Clans, Inc. the **MOTION** by Pam Wilber for 12 Clans to give us a report within 30 days. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 9-0-1(Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Dave Radtke to accept Landis Cleveland as the D3 Green Bay Election Board Delegate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Landis Cleveland as the D3 Green Bay Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Mary Lopez to accept Clarissa Haapala as the D3 Green Bay Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Clarissa Haapala as the D3 Green Bay Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3-Milwaukee-December 16, 2020

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Yvonne Delarosa to accept Valerie Kempen as the D3 Milwaukee Election Board Delegate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah

Continued on Page 15

Continued from Page 14

Lemieux to confirm Valerie Kempen as the D3 Milwaukee Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Heather Schulz to accept Bridget Schulz as the D3 Milwaukee Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Bridget Schulz as the D3 Milwaukee Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3-Wisconsin Rapids-December 17, 2020

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Lorena Brinegar to accept Bonnie Smith as the D3 Nekoosa Election Board Delegate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Bonnie Smith as the D3 Nekoosa Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the

Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-0-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Lorena Brinegar to accept Greg Smith as the D3 Nekoosa Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux to confirm Greg Smith as the D3 Nekoosa Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-0-1(Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D4- Chicago-December 14, 2020

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Sunshine Thunderchief to not work with Law Firm Dorsey and Whitney for Ho-Chunk Nation (HCN) Attorney General position, but to only confirm individuals for HCN Attorney General.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Benjamin Krause to have the motion on December 8, 2020 reverse of Legis-

lators Media Streaming Video Equipment for \$48,356.27.

NOTED FOR THE RECORD:

The Chicago area did not select an Election Board Delegate or Alternate at its December 14, 2020 District Meeting.

Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit requested information from the Executive Legislative Information Officer regarding the Election Board Delegate and Alternate position including responsibilities, time commitment, stipends, and any other applicable information, so Chicago area members can recruit for those positions.

NOTED FOR THE RECORD:

Legislative Attorney Carolyn Garnett mentioned that the Election Board Delegate/Alternate remain in their seats until a successor is chosen.

D4-Twin Cities-December 17, 2020

READ FOR THE RECORD:

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
RECONVENED MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
DECEMBER 30, 2020**

The Legislative Organization Act (2HCC11), Chapter II, Section 6f states "In the absence of the Vice President, the Tribal Secretary or either Presiding Office of the Finance Committee (in the absence of the Tribal Secretary), may call a meeting to order or chair a meeting when the President or Vice President is unavailable.

Call to Order: Tribal Secretary Rep. Hinu Smith called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Roll Call:

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

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 9:08 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Rep. Paul

Fox offered a word of prayer.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to move into Executive Session. Second by Rep. George Stacy. 9-0-1(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit) **MOTION CARRIED.**

9:12 a.m.

The meeting recessed in Executive Session, in order for the Regular Finance Committee Meeting to start.

10:03 a.m.

The meeting was called back to order in Executive Session. Roll Call was taken in Executive Session.

2:56 p.m.

The Legislative Organization Act (2HCC11), Chapter II, Section 6f states "In the absence of the Vice President, the Tribal Secretary or either Presiding Office of the Finance Committee (in the absence of the Tribal Secretary), may call a meeting to order or chair a meeting when the President or Vice President is unavailable.

Call to Order: Tribal Secretary Rep. Hinu Smith called the meeting to order at 2:56 p.m.

Roll Call:

President Marlon White Eagle-EX
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-EX
Rep. George Stacy-VC (3:01 p.m.)
Rep. Hinu Smith-VC
Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr.-VC
Rep. Stephanie Begay-VC

Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Rep. Darren Brinegar-VC
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr.-EX
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-VC
Rep. Matthew Mullen-EX
Rep. Robert TwoBears-VC
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit-P
VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 2:57 p.m.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Darren Brinegar to move into Open Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

3:03 p.m. Rep. Robert TwoBears is excused.

3:13 p.m. Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit is excused.

4:02 p.m. Meeting moved back into Open Session.

4:20 p.m. President Marlon White Eagle arrives. President White Eagle chairs the remainder of the meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to add under District Meetings, Black River Falls District Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2020. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

MOTION by Carson West to add to New Business, to put on the Agenda for Election Board Delegate/Alternate.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Stephanie Yellowbank to confirm Patrick RedEagle as the Delegate for District 4 Twin Cities Area to the Election Board.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to confirm Patrick RedEagle as the D4 Twin Cities Election Board Delegate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Carson West to confirm Anthony Veesenmeyer as the Alternate for District 4 Twin Cities Area to the Election Board.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to confirm Anthony Veesenmeyer as the D4 Twin Cities Election Board Alternate and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Robert TwoBears 9-0-1(Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit) **MOTION CARRIED.**

D1-Black River Falls-December 9, 2020

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to refer to Legislature for research, the MOTION by Phyllis Smoke to have D1 Legislators put together proposal through the CARES act funding or other sources to assist the family of Adriana White for bereavement expenses for their father similar to the amount tribal members receive \$8,000. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 6-0-2(Rep. Paul Fox, Rep. Darren Brinegar) **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOTED FOR THE RECORD:

Crystal Pettibone was nominated as the D1 Black River Falls Election Board Delegate, and Devin Funmaker was nominated as the D1 Black River Falls Election Board Alternate.

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to confirm Crystal Pettibone as the D1 Black River Falls Delegate for the Election Board, and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to confirm Devin Funmaker as the D1 Black River Falls Alternate for Election Board, and refer this confirmation to the Election Board. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to refer to Office of the President and Department of Health the MOTION the motion by Tina Brown that District 1 people request that Hosto Pi Hoci be open back up for

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Kathyleen Lone Tree-Whiterabbit to move into Executive Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

3:30 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to move into Open Session. Second by Rep. Darren Brinegar. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

5:48 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Recess:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to recess to tomorrow, December 30, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, WI. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting recessed at 5:53 p.m.

people with addictions. For it to be used for the original use. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to refer to Legislature for review the MOTION by Lori Pettibone to have the Legislature provide/explore other funding for Hosto Pi Hoci is needed to open. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

ELIO Longtail stated that Hosto Pi Hoci plans to open under a different grant.

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to refer to Office of the President and Department of Health the MOTION by Crystal Pettibone for an update from OOP or Executive Branch on the Hosto Pi Hoci by next month. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. George Stacy to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Lori Pettibone for D1 Legislators provide District 1 constituents with a listing of priorities with action and Implementation schedules. Second by Rep. Hinu Smith. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Hinu Smith to adjourn. The next Legislative Meeting will take place Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, WI. Second by Rep. Conroy Greendeer, Jr. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

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
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

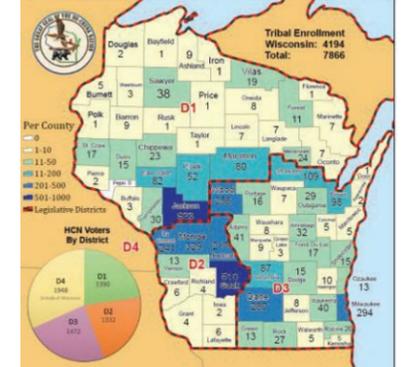
After 4:30 pm and the weekend
please call (715)299-6104

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