

TRIBE AFFILIATED TRIBES
FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION
NEW TOWN, NORTH DAKOTA

Special Meeting
January 22, 1960

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MINUTES

Name of Tribal Organization: Three Affiliated Tribes, Fort Berthold Reservation, New Town, North Dakota

Place of Meeting: Conference Room, New Town, North Dakota

Special Meeting: January 22, 1960

Chairman James Hall called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. on January 22, 1960.

Present: Thomas Bluestone, Charles Fox, James Hall, Leland Hall, John Starr, Valentine Wells, John White, John Wilkinson, B. J. Youngbird.

Tardy: Guy Fox

Chairman James Hall: The first thing we have on the agenda is this land deal of Charles and Hazel Blake. It is a proposed land exchange with the Tribe. This land transaction was tabled at our last meeting, until the parties were interviewed. The Land Committee went on record and approved the exchange. The question came up on the difference in value. In one of the previous meetings the Council made a stand not to pay the difference. It had to be an even trade. The following is the proposed land exchange.

Tribal 578A SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 25-152-94, 160 acres, \$3400.00

Hazel Blake 382A SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 8-150-93, 100 acres, \$950.00.

Charles Blake 1787, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 3-149-93, 319.12 acres, \$3000.00

Blake's \$3950.00

Tribal 3400.00

550.00 difference to be paid by the Tribe.

The Tribe will dispose of 160 acres of grassland for 419.12 acres of rough grazing land.

Lee Hall: The Tribe is gaining 259 acres. The land committee recommended to the Council for the approval of the exchange. We figured this out.

James Hall: What is the action of the Council?

Motion made to approve the land exchange of Charles and Hazel Blake with the Three Affiliated Tribes. Second, motion carried.

Chairman James Hall: We have a resolution which was adopted March 4, 1950 at St. Paul, Minnesota. How the Governors Interstate Indian Council was formed. There is a memorandum attached to the resolution, and it is to the Executive Committee and Board of Advisors, Institute of Indian Studies. The subject is on tentative plans for the Institute's Sixth Annual Conference on Indian Affairs. This usually takes place at the State University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota. The Chairman of this Conference was John Articker.

Valentine Wells: There was no action taken on the resolution etc.

James Hall: Someone should call Dewey Clifford down and the Council can go over this Grant-Loan Program.

Mr. Clifford: On this Proposed Agricultural Grant Loan Program here are the figures that it is going to take to get it in operation etc.

Loan funds needed -----	\$630,000.00
Grant funds needed 1st to 5 yrs	789,000.00
Reduced grant funds 6 yr. thru 9th.	315,600.00
Total:	<u>\$1,734,600.00</u>

	\$1,734,600.00
Administrative costs for one year.	40,104.00
Total	<u>\$1,774,704.00</u>

Exhibit I	84 applicants	80 families
	460 people	4 singles

There was a discussion on the loan funds, grant funds, costs and how many people the program would take care of.

Dewey Clifford to the Council: Should we go over the whole thing?

The Council was in favor of reviewing the proposed program.

Mr. Clifford: Here is the introduction on this Proposed Agricultural Grant Loan Program.

Mr. Clifford handed each council member copies of the exhibits. In the first copy was the introduction.

Location: The Fort Berthold Reservation is located in the north-western part of the State of North Dakota, with agency headquarters located at New Town, North Dakota.

Land: Land owned by the Tribe and individually by its members amount to approximately 426,413 of which 88% (373,598 acres) is grassland and 12% (52,815 acres) is farmland. The Tribe owns approximately 5% (21,308 acres), with individual members owning 95% (405,105 acres) of the reservation trust lands. Approximately 155,000 acres of reservation lands were lost as a result of construction of the Garrison Dam.

Segments of Reservation: The reservation is divided into five (5) distinct segments, North, West, South, East and Northeast segments and located in five counties, namely; McKenzie, Dunn and Mercer located west of the Missouri River, and Mountrail and McLean east of the Missouri River.

On-off Population: Resident population of Tribal members is 2,660 and off reservation population is 991 members, total population 3,551.

Land Utilization: Presently the utilization of reservation trust lands for agricultural purposes by members of the Three Affiliated Tribes amounts to only approximately 33%, which is quite alarming considering that 67% of reservation trust lands are being utilized by non-Indians.

Reservation Agricultural Capacity: Agricultural surveys made on the Fort Berthold Reservation in the past indicate a capacity for 184 economical agricultural units.

Economical Agricultural Units: Presently there are approximately 40 economical units operated by Indians on the Fort Berthold Reservation owning 4325 head of cattle. Non-Indian owned cattle on the reservation amount to 8,804 head.

The next exhibit was Purpose, Justification and Need

The purpose of the proposed Agricultural Grant-Loan Program is: (1) To provide members of the Three Affiliated Tribes who are landowners an opportunity, which is not otherwise provided, to utilize their lands and thereby elevate their sub-standard economy, (2) To substantially reduce the financial burden placed upon the Branch of Welfare by members of the Tribe due to present economic conditions, (3) To provide members of the Tribe and their families an opportunity to qualify for Social Security benefits, (4) To provide agricultural education and work experience for the children of Agricultural Grant-Loan clients, (5) To enable loan clients under this program to become self-sufficient or qualify for financing from other sources of credit to attain self-sufficiency.

The need for the proposed program is indicated by the increasing welfare and general assistance rolls, the lack of interest shown by tribal members to take advantage of Adult Vocational Training and their reluctance to relocate from the reservation.

Justification for the program is indicated above and by the desire and motivation of tribal members in wanting to better their economic and social status, the favorable historical agricultural background of members of the tribe, the landowners above all should be given an opportunity to fully utilize their lands.

It is believed that if the proposed program is instituted on the Fort Berthold Reservation that the landowners will avail themselves to the fullest extent of the opportunities provided under such a program. It is also felt that an agricultural program on the Fort Berthold Reservation is basic and that the success of most other programs will depend upon the implementation and degree of progress made toward the full utilization of the agricultural potential of the reservation by tribal members.

Social security program, quarters of coverage needed.

Month in which retirement age is reached (65 for men; 62 for women)

Year of birth		Men	Age	Women	Age	Jan.	June	July-Dec.	Yr.
1888	or earlier.....	72	1891	or earlier.....	69	6	1½	6	1½
1889	.....	71	1892	.....	68	6	1½	7	1 3/4
1890	.....	70	1893	.....	67	8	2	9	2¼
1891	.....	69	1894	.....	66	10	2½	11	2 3/4
1892	.....	68	1895	.....	65	12	3	13	3¼
1893	.....	67	1896	.....	64	14	3½	15	3 3/4
1894	.....	66	1897	.....	63	16	4	17	4¼
1895	.....	65	1898	.....	62	18	4¼	19	4 3/4
1896	.....	64	1899	.....	61	20	4	21	4½
1897	.....	63	1900	.....	60	22	5½	23	5 3/4
1898	.....	62	1901	.....	59	24	6	25	6¼
1899	.....	61	1902	.....	58	26	6½	27	6 3/4
1900	.....	60	1903	.....	57	28	7	29	7½
1901	.....	59	1904	.....	56	30	7½	31	7 3/4
1902	.....	58	1905	.....	55	32	8	33	8¼
1903	.....	57	1906	.....	54	34	8½	35	8 3/4
1904	.....	56	1907	.....	53	36	9	37	9¼
1905	.....	55	1908	.....	52	38	9½	39	9 3/4
1906	or later.....	54	& 1909	or later.....	51	40	10	40	10

There was a discussion on Social Security. It was stated, that a notice of ruling (for Indians), income from trust lands was considered not taxable. Any crops derived from trust lands also not taxable. Other things such as cattle sales were. This notice was received from the Solicitor's Office.

Mr. Starr asked the question on the age limit of this program. Mrs Clifford answered the question, said the limit was to 60 years. There was more discussion on the age limit.

Mr. Clifford: I believe this is all I have and if there is more questions you would like to ask, just go on ahead.

Chairman James Hall: I guess, that is all at this time.

Chairman James Hall: Someone better call Mr. Drissen in. We have this resolution on the Protesting Enforcement of Bureau of Indian Affairs Regulations Alienating Trust Land to fee patent status upon sale between Three Affiliated Tribes members or between Indians.

Mr. Drissen: was called into the meeting.

Chairman James Hall to Mr. Drissen: Here is this protest, maybe you can explain the whole matter to the Council. You are posted on these things that has anything to do with realty.

Mr. Drissen: This pertains to land purchases between Indians or members of the Three Affiliated Tribes in this case. Only lands purchased by the Tribe can be conveyed in trust status.

An Indian who acquires land by purchase, any land, in every case has to be on a fee simple status. There is an exception on sales to tribal members who are considered in need of Bureau assistance in handling their affairs.

Mr. Drissen gave an illustration and explanation on land purchases etc., also on the amended regulations.

A memorandum was read to the Council:

To: Superintendent, Fort Berthold Agency
From: Branch of Realty, Aberdeen, Area Office
Subject: Advertisement of lands in accordance with amended regulations pertaining to part 121, title 25, CFR published in the Federal Register of September 2, 1959.

Amended: Title to lands sold as a result of this advertisement will be conveyed in a fee simple status, except sales to the tribe which will be conveyed to said tribe in a trust status.

Title to lands sold as a result of this advertisement will be conveyed in a fee simple status, except sales to those Tribal members who are considered in need of Bureau assistance in handling their affairs, and sales to the tribe, to whom title will be conveyed in trust status.

There was some discussion on the amended regulation.

Chairman James Hall: Let's take some action on this protest.

Motion made to adopt the resolution providing it is revised or the wording is changed. Second. Motion was withdrawn.

John Starr: I like to get an answer on some hardship cases we have in the South Segment. We have Mirriam Stone she has three children. She is not getting commodities. There is Mrs. Phillip Benson who has 9 children, husband in jail. She has no wood or coal and also Isaac Price. Ike has no road can't get to his place. He has to walk to get out. Who is going to pay for this? From what funds?

The council discussed the cases and assured Mr. Starr that Mr. Holliday would investigate the cases mentioned.

They would be given general assistance. Some of the Council members felt if the Tribe made coal and wood deliveries other people would be asking for the same kind of help. The council suggested to have Phillip Benson released from jail so he could haul his fuel needs etc. He could be let out for a week or be placed on probation.

Mr. Morken stated that he did not want anyone starving and some help would be forth coming. Whenever an investigation is made on the cases and that will be determined how bad the need is.

Mr. Morken: Mr. Chairman, I have a tough problem and a proposition, I would like to have the floor, let me talk for about five minutes.

Chairman James Hall: Go right ahead Mr. Morken.

Mr. Morken: Here is the situation in the South Segment. There is a shortage of water supply at the Twin Buttes School. This should have been solved a long time ago, but this is beside the point. We have got an allocation for some money, that is the Bureau for use on this water situation. I am asking this, if the council would go along on it. I'll give an illustration on what I am getting at.

The school site lies next to the Huber land, which is a key tract because there is a spring on it. This tract I am referring to is owned by the Huber family. The spring is producing water at the rate of 9 gallons per minute. If this spring is developed it may produce as much as 18 gallons a minute.

There has been a rumor that the Huber's want to sell the property. Before going into this, I will explain. The Huber family has had to wait a long time for settlement on the land they sold to the United States for the School.

The United States Corp of Engineers bought this tract where the Twin Buttes School is now located. The money is here for the settlement from the Corp of Engineers and we expect that in about 45 days it will be ready for disbursement.

The Hubers may not care to sell the property, but if they do it would help very much if the Tribe could buy the land. The government has no use for all of it. It needs only the water and enough land or an easement on it to develop the spring and pipe the water to the school water tank. I wonder if the Tribe would buy the land if the Huber family should decide that they want to sell it.

Valentine Wells: There is a house and a barn on the property. Maybe I can write to Mrs. Huber and see what she thinks about it. I will ask her if she would care to sell the land.

Mr. Morken: You can give her an assurance that it will not be entangled again on this old heirship, because that has been settled. The family can be assured of a shorter wait if it is purchased. What is the Tribe's reaction on this?

Mr. Drissen: We can get an appraisal on it. The lands which they own are in allotments 388 and 515A, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ section 26 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35-147-91.

Mr. Morken: The weather is good and if the need for an appraisal is reported, we could get it inspected within a week. What does the council think about it?