

Name of Organization:

Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes

Place of Meeting :

Conference Room
Ft. Berthold Agency
New Town, North Dakota
9 September 1970

Meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. Roll Call: Nathan L. Soldier; Robert Fox; Nathan Lonefight; Vincent Malnourie; Adam Mandan; Myra Snow; and Robert Bell. Quorum present.

The purpose of the meeting was to take into consideration applications for CHR position vacancy in the Western Segment. The following applications were submitted for said position. David Little Swallow, Sr.; E. A. Smith; Guy Fox; Leroy Young Bird; Del Wayne Goodiron; Thomas Bolman; Myra Hall, Bert Yellow Wolf and Inez Murphy.

Adam Mandan moved, seconded by Nathan L. Soldier that we take into consideration those who are unemployed and those who are already employed. Motion carried.

Nathan L. Soldier, seconded by Adam Mandan that we vote by secret ballot. Motion carried. David Little Swallow, Sr., won by four votes.

Motion by Nathan L. Soldier, seconded by Adam Mandan that Gerald Keehn be our representative at Macy, Nebraska and report to the Council when he returns. Motion carried.

Motion by Nathan L. Soldier, seconded by Myra Snow that Robert Fox take in the meeting at Bismarck. Motion carried.

Motion made to adjourn, seconded and carried.

Robert Bell, Acting Secretary
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes

Meeting called to order at 10:15 in the conference room on September 4, 1970.

Roll Call: Myra Snow, Robert Bell, Philip Ross, Sr. Robert Fox, Nathan Lonefight, Adam Mandan, James Bluestone and Nathan Little Soldier. I absent, 1 Tardy-Jerry Nagel.

The purpose of the meeting is to have the Councilmen sworn in by the Superintendent and to have the Chairman of the Election Board Certify the election.

Certification: Mr. Jackson Ripley, Chairman of the Election Board, apologized for being late that they were unable to start recount right away as one of the members of the Election Board asked to be excused due to sickness in his family. The tallys were made on all five segments. Eastern segment came out a tie. A tie between Philip Ross, Sr. and Ralph Wells, Jr. The recount ran somewhat like this. Vincent Malnourie, 87 votes; Robert Fox, 83 votes; Ralph Wells, Jr. 71 votes and Philip Ross, Sr., 71 votes. The Election Board tallied the votes three times and it still came out a tie.

Nathan Little Soldier: What are the changes with the previous night's tabulation?

Mr. Ripley: Explanation of previous tabulation for the Eastern Segment was Ralph Wells, Jr. had 48 at polls and 19 absentees; Philip Ross, Sr. had 67 at the polls and 4 absentees. Three of the Segments ran so close, we had to count them over and in the ReDistrict and Judge box for the Eastern segment, we found 4 ballots in favor of Ralph Wells, Jr. This made a tie.

Mr. George Gillette: As being a member of the Election Board, we tried to rush thru on recount, but Billy Lockwood was taken away, his mother was very sick in Stanley Hospital and he couldn't help us, so we were handicapped. We recounted over, all five segments and Eastern segment, we had to recount three times and still came out a tie.

Nathan Little Soldier: The Election Board worked very hard, with no prejudice or partiality on their part and now its up to the Superintendent to break the tie.

Superintendent Mr. Keaton: The standard procedure to break a tie is to run the election over just for that particular reason.

A discussion was had by all the councilmen as to how the election would be run off. How soon can the run-off be and to set a date for the election. Allow two weeks time for absentees and same procedure as regular election, fair to both parties. In the meantime, the rest of the councilmen would appoint a temporary Chairman to conduct business till the run-off has been executed. Other segments have no problems pertaining to election, so the rest of the councilmen will be sworn in, except Philip Ross, Sr.

Mr. Jackson Ripley: Reading of the certification finished and signed by the Election Board, Mr. Jackson Ripley, Chairman; George Gillette, George Fast Dog, Sr. and John Yellow Wolf.

The Superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs sworn in the candidates as all candidates elected stand up: "I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, and will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of councilman to the best of my ability". Congratulations, you are now officially councilmen.

A discussion was had on protest or challenges pertaining to election. The \$100.00 fee was discussed and how it was interpreted in the ordinance was not clear, so would seek legal interpretation as to how it was worded.

Mr. Jackson Ripley explained that a \$100.00 fee is needed to start such action and evidence presented to the Election Board with a sworn statement from the complaining party. Also referring to the Legal Services letter, stating see Sec. 18, the \$100.00 fee must in with a sworn statement five days after certification.

Nathan Little Soldier: We would like to have the Election Board make their comments.

George Gillette: We were very fortunate enough to have Tom Owens, The Legal Service Aide, interpret to us of the election ordinance and we tried to adhere to the ordinance. So far, nobody brought any complaints or \$100.00 fee to us. If anybody comes, I would like to see the \$100.00 first before we hear any complaints.

Mr. George Fast Dog, Sr.: I can't talk English very good, so I would like to be excused.

Mr. Jackson Ripley: I feel same as George Gillette just stated. Our Legal Service Aide was with us but he didn't advice us either way.

Mr. Nathan Little Soldier: We should consult an expert to interpret and clear this matter to us as we have to go on with our business. I entertain a motion for Acting Chairman and how we are going to conduct our business.

Mr. Robert Fox: If a motion is in order, I would like to move that the Acting Chairman be Vincent Malnourie and Marie Wells as Acting Treasurer, due to the fact they are bonded. Also, be authorized to sign individual CAP checks. This is in effect till the run-off is over. 7 for, 0 opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Adam Mandan to have the final date set for September 22, 1970 for the two tie candidates. Second by Robert Fox. 7 for, 0 opposed. Motion carried. Chairman, pro tem, not voting.

Their next meeting was called on Wednesday at 1 o'clock p.m., due to important business to be conducted. Superintendent advised that the Council can operate on small business with a temporary Chairman during this period but not big things.

George Gillette: Will the present Election Board still function during this period?

Nathan Little Soldier: Definitely.

Meeting adjourned.

Secretary, Pro tempore
Hazel M. Blake