

SPECIAL MEETING

Name of Organization: Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes

Place of Meeting : Conference Room
Tribal Building
November 30, 1979

Present : Austin Gillette, Chairman; August Little Soldier,
Vice-Chairman; Tillie Walker, Secretary; Thomas Eagle,
Treasurer; Eva Beaks, Roy Bird Bear, Theo Bird Bear,
Louis Felix, Ron Little Owl, Willard Yellow Bird.

Absent : Marie Wells.

Others : Larry Burr, BIA; Clyde Brady, Sergeant-at-Arms;
Crows Heart Brothers, Leonard Eagle, Matt Mason,
Solly Danks, Leonard Driver, Myra & Dennis Snow,
Viola Schettler.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.
Roll call; Quorum present.

EASEMENT:

The Secretary read letter to Maynard Haddeland from Reservation Telephone Cooperative concerning easement for buried cable on tribal land.

Little Soldier moved to approve easement for buried cable on E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ (1448), Section 22, T150 R92; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ (424A), Section 23, T150 R92, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ (424A0), Section 26, T150 R92, Mountrail County for Maynard Haddeland; second by Eagle. Vote: Ten (10) in favor, motion carried.

The Chairman suggested that easements be tentatively approved with final decisions made after research on easements issued.

The Secretary presented easement for Matt Mason for road right-of-way.

Eagle moved to approve road right-of-way on NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 22, T150N R92W, for Matt Mason; second by Little Soldier. Vote: Ten (10) in favor, motion carried.

Larry Burr said the BIA Superintendent can approve in two days if right-of-way is turned out and plat is done. The Tribe can give access right-of-way which is revocable.

FARMERS/LEASES:

Solly Danks expressed concern about the raise in fees for farm land. Larry Burr said Indian ranchers and farmers lease about 6-7,000 acres. There are about 30 Indian farmers and ranchers who lease farm land. Leonard Eagle said he wanted fees to remain at the 1979 rate because the farmers are having difficulty this year.

Solly Danks said a group of ranchers were in Aberdeen on November 29th and met with BIA officials. They suggested that all head people in FmHA, BIA Area Office, and the Tribal Council meet and BIA would show the Tribe alternatives to the grazing lease fee raise. He said the local BIA office is causing the problems for ranchers and farmers.

Larry Burr said the majority of lands purchased by the Tribe are from Lucky Mound and White Shield. Farm lands have always carried grazing lands in the land purchase program. The Tribe owns about 10-12,000 acres of farm land.

Leonard Eagle said he paid \$9.00 per acre when he started farming and now it is up to \$23.00. Little Soldier said that farmers at Fort Berthold are competing with one another for farm lands. Yellow Bird said that many of the farm land lease applications are from White Shield and Lucky Mound areas and bids are at \$23.00.

Viola Schettler asked if anyone had done a survey on how farmers and ranchers have done on the Reservation. She was informed the Tribe has a proposal before FmHA for an agricultural planner.

Beaks moved to set a meeting with FmHA, BIA, and the Tribe on farm and ranch matters; second by Yellow Bird. Vote: Ten (10) in favor, motion carried.

The dates suggested for the meeting were the week of December 12-20.

Myra Snow said when grazing and farm rates are set too high, local farmers and ranchers are put out of business. She mentioned tribal land which had been awarded a non-Indian at \$8.00, while Indian operators are charged higher prices. Larry Burr said the land had been put up for bid a number of times and finally let at \$8.00. Myra Snow said the Council had originally made a loan for purchase of farm land and then began buying all land as it came.

The farmers left. The Crows Heart Brothers were called on. Larry Burr said his office had written a letter on the land issue between the Crows Heart Brothers and John Fredericks, and the Natural Resources Committee will be meeting with them. He said there is no way John Fredericks can win his appeal. The Chairman said that the Council had requested that those leasing land be bonified ranchers and farmers and eliminate the speculators. Larry Burr said BIA would send out letter to make lessors aware of the policy. He reported that John Fredericks came into BIA and said that he had a lease and the former Chairperson would not sign the lease. He stated he had reported that to the Council and that Rose Crow Flies High relented and signed the lease in October but was not for the land in question.

FARMERS/LEASES Cont.:

Crows Heart asked if land is checked because fences are moved and land used without lease. Larry Burr said when land is not leased the BIA inspectors do not check them.

Little Owl inquired about the lease to Lonnie Spotted Bear in Natural Resources Committee minutes tabled on November 29th. The Crows Heart brothers bid \$16 and \$2 for farm pasture lease and Lonnie Spotted Bear's bid was \$15 and \$5 on the 80 acres. It was pointed out the policy has been if you have had the lease, you will continue getting it unless cancelled.

LOAN:

The Secretary presented loan application for Louis Felix. Because he is a member of the Council, approval must come from the Council.

Beaks moved to approve loan of \$260.00 to Louis Felix from Small Loan Program; second by Walker. Vote: Nine (9) in favor, one (1) not voting, motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT APPLICATIONS:

The resumes of seven (7) candidates for the position of Superintendent were reviewed: Andy Abieta, Lionel Chase the Bear, John Danks, Tim DeAsis, Harrison Fields, Everett Johnson and Alvin Picotte.

Eagle moved to interview all applicants for BIA Superintendent on December 11; second by Little Owl. Vote: Nine (9) in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

APPROVED: 12-17, 1979.


SECRETARY,
Tribal Business Council