



# FOUR BEARS NEWS

JANUARY 2013

## FOUR BEARS COMMUNITY

Volume 1, Issue 1



"Mandan Chief Four Bears"

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### FOUR BEARS NEWS REINSTATED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Marcus D. Levings, General Representative of Board.

Throughout the twelve calendar years from 1998 through 2010 a Four Bears Newsletter and Chairman Levings Newsletter was utilized for communication to the Four Bears Community within the Four Bears Segment of the Three Affiliated Tribes. Within this authored newsletter was information that was considered important to many and not so important to others; none-

theless it is "INFORMATION" provided to the Membership of the Four Bears Segment, a Segment which was established by the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes in 1986.

I have been requested by the Four Bears Community Board of Directors to reintroduce the "Four Bears News" which includes the factual and actual information that the "Community Members of the Four Bears Segment would like to

know when it comes to the official action of the Tribe".

The Four Bears News will also provide the most update information on the Membership of the Board, Meetings, Budget, Services, Annual Activities of the Four Bears Segment whom now have 850 Tribal Members Residing within the Newest Segment of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation—Respectively.

### SERVICES CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY THE FOUR BEARS COMMUNITY BOARD FOR THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH CARE 2013

The Four Bears Community Board approved the Budget for 2013 and have approved the following for the Calendar Year 2013:

- I. Community Activities:
  - Easter, Fourth of July, State Fair, Halloween, Thanks Giving and Christmas 2013.
- II. Medical Assistance:
  - \$75 - Minot, ND, \$150 -

Bismarck, ND and \$300 - Out of State

III. Eye Glasses: \$100

IV. Educational Assistance: Case By Case.

V. Cultural: As Approved by Board.

VI. Medical and Financial Subject to following Criteria:

1. Seek Assistance Social Services 701-627-4781

2. Seek Assistance Four Bears Food Pantry 701-627-2061

3. Seek Assistance from Fuel Assistance 701-627-8159

4. Seek Assistance from Four Bears Segment Office 701-627-4781

5. Four Bears Community Board 701-627-3155. Thank You Very Much.

## THE SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE AND THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

By Marcus D. Levings, General Representative of the Four Bears Community Board.

Within the last several months the Four Bears Segment having experienced much stress and trial when the tragedy's took place here Fort Berthold Reservation with the shootings and fatalities that resulted. And then not a month later a drug related hostage standoff within the Reservation as well.

The Four Bears Segment Representative and the Chairman of the Four Bears Community Board Convened a Meeting with the Staff and the Community

Board to address the issues of safety of the Four Bears Segment as well as the Safety of our Tribe as a whole.

Information was shared and expressed regarding the prevention and proactivity to prepare for the Security and Safety issues of our Four Bears Segment and provided a Prayer for a Our People, Staff, Segment and Our For Berthold Indian Reservation.

The Three Affiliated Tribes have also addressed the problems of illegal and legal drugs being abused and creating the fear and apprehension regarding

the safety of our children and our people.

Within the Same month of December 2012 the tragedy within another New Town, New Town, Connecticut where twenty-six fatalities which included teachers and elementary students.

"The Four Bears Community Board extends their prayers and thoughts for the survivors and the families of the tragedy events that occurred in New Town, North Dakota and New Town, Connecticut these past few Months of November and December 2012. Amen."

## The Four Bears Community Board to Complete the fourth 12 Plex on Brook Heights

By Marcus D. Levings, Four Bears Community Board

The Four Berthold Housing Authority and the Four Bears Segment Representative Completed the Original Brooks Heights Project in June 2000 with the initial thirty-six apartments; which were originally to be forty-eight units, however due to underground spring the fourth (12) plex was held out of

the project. What was to happen was that the last 12 plex was to be completed the next year within a more suitable area within the Four Bear Segment. That however did not take place; so at this time the Four Bears Community Board and the Four Bears Segment Representative are requesting the completion of the "Brooks Heights today with the full forty-eight units or four separate

(12) plex totaling forty-eight (48) total apartments.

With the Assistance of V. Judy Brugh, Four Bears Segment Representative of the Tribal Business Council and Ms. Francine White, Board Member of the Fort Berthold Housing Authority. The remaining 12 plex apartments should be completed in the near future.

## DECEMBER 2012 - FOUR BEARS FOOD PANTRY OPENED ITS DOORS

By Marcus D. Levings, General Representative of the Community Board.

In the Month of December 2012, Linda Driver, Food Pantry Coordinator and V. Judy Brugh, Four Bears Segment Representative formally opened the Four Bears Food Pantry and it is in full operation for services to the Four Bears Segment and the Surrounding Communities.

Food is a vital part of each and every day. Councilwoman Brugh was determined to opening of the Food Pantry and Called upon the expertise of Ms. Linda Driver to complete the task. Ms. Linda Driver worked with the State of North Dakota and Karmen Taft of the Parshall Resource Center to bring this very important service to the Four Bears Segment.

The Food Pantry hours coincide with the Four Bears Segment Staff located at the John Bird Veterans Hall from Monday thru Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

For more information please contact Linda Driver, Food Pantry Coordinator at 701-627-4781 or Leo Lockwood, Volunteering Assistant at the Food Pantry with the following telephone no. 701-627-3155.

## Historic Oil & Gas Development-Fort Berthold

### TRIBAL HISTORY IN PAST OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT

The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation are currently experiencing record economic growth since the History of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara a Federally Recognized Indian Reservation within Indian Country of the United States of America.

The Discovery of America by the Europeans and Westward Movement of Colonist and the Settlers whom the Federal Government allowed to settle within our very own Native American and Indian Lands; we have never experienced the pendulum or change in our favor until today.

The Oil & Gas Operators are now developing within Our Fort Berthold Indian Reservation; something that the Federal Government truly never thought would be possible as the Location of our Lands that remain from our Original Lands from Fort Laramie north to Fort Peck east to Devils Lake and South To Nebraska.

To being relocated to a small amount of acreage as the modern day Fort Berthold Indian Reservation; which was not enough for the Settlers whom also given the 1900's Homestead Act to taken lands once again within the Lands Set aside for the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara.

The construction of the Garrison Dam of 1950's then flooding the best lands that Our People depended on to make a living.

Finally, there after all of that the Majority of the Allotted Lands and Tribal Lands remaining were on the Hill Tops of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and the more undesirable lands that were very arid and considered unusable for agricultural purposes which was our means of survival.

Therefore the Tribe were forced to try to make a go of it without a real viable source of revenue other than a leasing of our lands to the non-Indian Ranchers and Farmers and Monetary Subsistence and Monetary Aide from the Federal Government.

The Tribe sought further Federal Assistance for Settlements and JTAC Funds which were additional federal financial assistance that is used to make up for the lost infrastructure for such things as housing, medical, healthcare and water.

The Tribal Business Councils and Tribal Officers over the years have done the best of their ability to provide for the needs which are many with the funds; which were few.

Today, however there is Hope and Promise with the receipt of fees, taxes, bonuses, royalties, contracts for services, wages from employment that has become immediately available and equate to Hundreds of Million of Dollars made only possible by the Development of our Fossil Fuels the Oil and Gas that is two miles below our Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

The Oil & Gas having been known to be beneath the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation since the early 1950's however the ability for the Membership of the Three Affiliated Tribes to develop such Oil & Gas Minerals was nearly impossible.

Due to a number of reasons; namely the non-existent of technology advances to recover such Oil & Gas Reserves at that time; not made available until the horizontal (side to side) drilling versus the traditional vertical or (straight down) drilling.

Secondly the reasons for non-development was simply that Federal Lands such as those of Fort Berthold Indian Reservation have multiple questions and challenging requirements; primarily the Federal Approvals of the Secretary of Interior.

Within that an approval of a rights of way, easements, leases and permits to drill were determined to require no less than forty-nine (49) steps to complete approval to drill an oil and gas well. That proved to be a bureaucratic process filled with federal mountain of paperwork; simply in order to attain a better way of life for our People and Tribe.

The Tax Commissioner Marcus Wells, Sr., held a Tribal Meeting in July 2006 with Ben Kitto, Superintendent of the Fort Berthold Agency which resulted in the initial Oil & Gas Bid Sale in December 2006. Which then immediately generated interest from Oil Companies to develop Oil & Gas within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

However, there still remained a final barricade the "Tax Uncertainty Question" preventing Development within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. The Tribe could Assess 11½% (5 percent gross production and 6.5 percent extraction) Tax and so could the State of North Dakota; this would mean the Oil & Gas Industry would have to pay 23% Tax to develop Oil & Gas within the Fort Berthold Reservation. THAT WOULD MEAN: "NO OIL COMPANIES WOULD DRILL FOR OIL."

### THE TRIBAL COUNCIL THEN APPROVED AN OIL & GAS TAX AGREEMENT OF JUNE 2008 AND RENEWAL JANUARY 2010 WHICH WAS THE CERTAINTY THAT THE OIL & GAS INDUSTRY NEEDED TO BEGIN THE DRILLING OF OIL & GAS WELLS

"Therefore in order to provide that Certainty; The Tribal Business Council (Levings Administration) approved the Oil & Gas Tax Agreement with State of North Dakota in June 2008 and January 2010. The Oil & Gas Industry having drilled a total of 693 Oil & Gas Wells at an average cost of \$7,500,000 per well so far; a historical economic investment into the Reservation of (\$5 Billion 1 Hundred 97 Million 500 Hundred thousand dollars.) \$5,197,500,000.00. The Tax Agreement provided that Certainty of Return on Investment for the Oil & Gas Industry and therefore Developed Trust Lands. And as a direct result receipt of bonuses and royalty monies to Elders and bonuses, royalties, fees, licenses & taxes to our Tribe."

**OIL & GAS REPORT; THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES—MHA ENERGY DEPARTMENT (September 1, 2012):**

<u>Oil Company</u>	<u>Royalties</u>
1. QEP	\$27,460,452
2. WPX	\$19,746,988
3. MARATHON	\$11,214,060
4. EOG	\$3,489,751
5. SPOTTED HAWK	\$2,746,227
6. <u>ALL OTHERS:</u>	<u>\$9,010,596</u>
<b>TOTAL CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION BY LESSEE</b>	<b>\$73,668,074</b>

	<u>2010 Royalties</u>	<u>2011 Royalties</u>	<u>2012 Royalties</u>
Allotted:	\$28,792,102	\$106,665,404	\$72,509,439
Tribal:	\$8,900,873	\$27,707,715	\$25,757,492

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**THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES  
& STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TAX AGREEMENT**

**COLLECTIONS DISTRIBUTED IN MONTH OF DECEMBER 11, 2012**

**OIL REVENUE SUMMARY**

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Group No.</u>	<u>Production Tax Paid</u>	<u>Extraction Tax Paid</u>
Non Trust	3250000	\$526,214.34	\$0.00
	3530000	\$509,504.90	\$2,141.87
	3550000	\$74,035.19	\$1,683.37
	<u>3610000</u>	<u>\$5,415,711.67</u>	<u>(\$115,499.59)</u>
Non Trust Total		\$6,525,465.69	(\$111,674.35)
Trust	4250000	\$4,464,527.21	\$5,803,885.39
	4530000	\$2,242,308.91	\$2,904,214.38
	4550000	\$437,837.17	\$569,188.30
	<u>4610000</u>	<u>\$1,045,755.25</u>	<u>\$1,359,481.87</u>
Trust Total		\$8,190,482.54	\$10,636,769.94
<b>Oil Revenue Grand Total</b>		<b>\$14,715,894.23</b>	<b>\$10,525,095.59</b>

**GAS REVENUE SUMMARY**

Non Trust Total	\$77,111.96
<u>Trust Total</u>	<u>\$58,032.00</u>
<b>Gas Revenue Grand Total</b>	<b>\$135,143.96</b>

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**Four Bears Community Board of Directors**

Four Bear Community  
Development Corporation  
Post Office Box 279  
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**"May The Good Lord Continue to Be With Us" Amen"**

**Four Bears Segment History 1986 Constitution**

The Four Bears Community Board was established and recognized as a duly approved Chartered Community in the 1970' by the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes which was in conjunction with the Development of the Drags Wolf Village. Thereafter in 1986 with the Secretarial Election of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes; the establishment of the Four Bears Segment of the Three Affiliated Tribes was enacted and the first election was held for a duly elected Four Bears Segment Representative.

The Elected Four Bears Segment Representatives and years served are as follows:

- |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1986 - 1990       | Lawrin Hugh Baker                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1990 - 1994       | Roger Bird Bear                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1994 - 1998       | Ed Hall                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1998 - 2002       | Marcus D. Wells, Jr.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2002 - 2006       | Marcus D. Wells, Jr. - Re-elected Primary 2002<br>(The First in History of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara with receipt of well over 76% of the Primary Vote.) |
| 2006 - 2010       | V. Judy Brugh                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2010 - to Present | V. Judy Brugh - Re-elected Primary 2010<br>(The Second in History of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara with receipt of over 70% of the Primary Vote.)            |

The newest segment of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation of the Three Affiliated Tribes has quickly become one of the largest populated segments with the development of the Drags Wolf Village, Bakersfield Subdivision, Brooks Heights and the development of BIA 2 "Snow Bird" and BIA 27 "Wells Road" rural routes of the areas from the Four Bears Bridge to the Blue Buttes all within the Four Bears Segment of the Three Affiliated Tribes; of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara.

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The Four Bears News is published quarterly as a public service to you the members of the Four Bears Community whom are duly enrolled Members of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara. If you have any comments and or suggestions for the 2013 Four Bears News please don't hesitate to let us know by calling 701-627-3155 and provide your input. Thank You. "Mod-Zi-Gidaz."

Four Bears Community News is now  
available on the web: [mhanation.com](http://mhanation.com)