The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
Tribal Executive Committee

Special Meeting
March 18, 2014

A special meeting of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Tribal Executive Committee was called to order by President Norman Deschampe at 9:00 a.m. at Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Vermilion, Minnesota.

Roll Call: Norman Deschampe, April McCormick, Carri Jones, Donald Finn, Karen Diver, Ferdinand Martineau, Melanie Benjamin, Curtis Kalk, Erma Vizenor, Robert Durant, Ray Toutloff sitting in for Kevin Leecy, Dave Morrison.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Gary Frazer, Executive Director, MCT; Mark Anderson, Legal Counsel, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; Wally Dupuis, Dist. 1 Rep., Fond du Lac; Brandon Benner, Dist. 1 Rep., Bois Forte; Corey Strong, Ex. Dir., Bois Forte; Steve White, Dist. II Rep., Leech Lake; Lenny Fineday, Legal, Leech Lake; Elaine Smith, Legal, Mille Lacs; Terrance Tibbetts, Dist. II Rep., White Earth; Kenneth Bevins, Dist. III Rep., White Earth; Joe Legarde, White Earth; Irene Chase, Raymond MannyPenny, Michele DeBoldt, Pete Defoe, Ray Belecourt, Juanita Anderson, Brenda Rice, MCT Staff and other interested parties.

Motion by Melanie Benjamin to approve agenda with addition. Seconded by Donald Finn.

Norman Deschampe informed the Committee that the special meeting is for allegations at Fond du Lac. Norman cited the charges with a 15 minute opportunity for plaintiff and respondent 15 minutes. In Charge #2, the opportunity for plaintiff limit 15 minutes, then respondent would have 15 minutes. The Tribal Executive Committee would then go into Executive Session.

Gary Frazer read - regular Tribal Executive Committee meeting, reads procedures for special meeting.

Kevin Dupuis read docket, referenced resolution 1055-10, stated he refused to sign document. Spoke with Sean Copeland, only 2/3 vote. Only used in removal hearing refer to White Earth letter. I voted against a 2/3 vote, why would we use a 2/3 vote. We were never informed of the 2/3 vote. Under I-64, I did what MCT constitution told me to do. Under tribal Interpretation it does not give chair the authority to make this decision; she was also responsible for making sure budgets were done in 2010 and 2011. In legal session on Tribal Council, Ordinance 1 we call it I-64. Kevin asked Mark does Tribal Interpretation exist. I had to find out by our Tribal Attorney of this voting process 6-84. No 8-84, 8-88, Mark found 8-84 and read. Kevin Dupuis that stated chair doesn’t have authority by themselves. Mark Anderson responded you can read into that. Kevin referred to Article 6 – Bylaws of Tribe which gives us our duties and responsibilities. This is it in a nutshell.

Norman Deschampe informed the Committee that next Karen Diver will respond.

Karen Diver stated in accordance to ethics, she had four months and dealt with issue. There is no process to handle this issue. On January 21, 2014, it was voted by RBC to apply 2/3 voting requirement. Kevin Dupuis at this time was not opposed, that’s all I have to state.
Gary Frazer read charges against Ferdinand Martineau – give 15 minutes.

Kevin Dupuis stated that Ferdinand was in violation of the code of ethics. Ferdinand Martineau admitted yes he violated Article 6 Sec. 1.B. and did not prepare annual budget. Kevin read statement of changes 2/5/91, which stated sole authority of finance. Financial state of band is sole responsibility of Secretary/Treasurer. He stated that Ferdinand also voted on own behalf that he violated, when voted after investigation 2/3 vote applied. There were no minutes of 2/3 consensus, it was not discussed. Code of ethics, Article 6 Section 1. exist in I-64. Job duties are part of the platform of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution, 2/3 vote we never talked about in that investigation. I asked was this a removal hearing, it was not. It was outline as an investigation, we weren’t in a removal hearing 2/3 vote. Fact of matter, there were no budgets done for 2010-1011, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution stated this must be done. Secretary/Treasurer stated yes he violated Article 6 B.

Norman Deschampe gave Ferdinand Martineau the floor.

Ferdinand stated there was a lot of discussion that took place, we did have budget prepared and accept by resolution. IHS secured grants, yes we do not have a budget, I instructed staff and RBC to continue on previous year’s budget this was audited. Audit came out fine, At State of Band the RBC voted to clear me of any violation of this matter.

Norman Deschampe stated that this takes care of all statements; Tribal Executive Committee would deliberate in Executive Session.

9:30 - TEC goes into Executive Session:

Motion by Dave Morrison to not censor Karen Diver on allegations. Seconded by Erma Vizenor. 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Motion by Dave Morrison to not censor Ferdinand Martineau. Seconded by Erma Vizenor. 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.

Meeting reconvened at 10:22a.m.

Norman Deschampe informed those in attendance of vote.

Motion by Erma Vizenor to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m. Seconded by Donald Finn. 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent. Carried.