When a motion for censure refers to documents, those documents must be provided at the time the motion is made. November twenty-second (22nd), two thousand seventeen (2017), Chairman Tibbetts submitted to additional packets at the Special TEC Meeting that were in addition to what was submitted at the October Regular TEC Meeting." That concludes the cover letter for the request to censure that was um.. moved and seconded on January twenty-fourth (24th), two thousand eighteen (2018). Jane is currently handing out the written response from the accused uh, Chairman Tibbetts.

(Ojibwe words) Today is um -- I brought out a package here today to -- to uh, respond to alleged violations against me on the -- on the um, censorship meeting that was held in Grand Portage. And I'll go through it and read it and uh, put it out for explanation and showing you that -- what actually went on. "Today we find ourselves here with multiple accusations of Constitutional violations against myself, brought forward by White Earth Secretary/Treasurer Mason to be reviewed. Please follow along with me as we -- as through the following pages of documents as I show that the actions of myself and the two RBC Committees associated with these

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allegations have in fact followed the Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa - - Chippewa Tribe and the Resolutions of the White Earth Reservation. Along with my testimony and summary of claims that have been presented, I ask that you carefully review the information in front of you and vote against this summary motion for censorship that is on the table. I will respond to each of these allegations in the order they were originally presented. All supporting documentation has been attached to the statement under exhibits. Violation of Article X, Exhibit (sic) 2(a), Malfeasance in the handling of Tribal affairs. Submitting a travel advance taking mileage for the same event in two thousand seventeen (2017). And under Exhibit A - - bear with me (inaudible). We do have it in the package that - sorry, it's not page-numbered but it's under Exhibit A. These um... the responses are travel authorization Exhibit A - -Exhibit B, June, July - - May, June, July two thousand and seventeen (2017), mileage reimbursement form. Exhibit C. Received in - - information for mileage returned. And Exhibit D, Chairman's two thousand seventeen (2017) Travel Budget Summary. As many of you in the same position may relate, elected officials rely heavily on the support of staff to keep day-to-day activities and processes flowing to allow

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greater focus on governing our respected Reservations. In this particular example, you'll see mileage was submitted for the same event twice. However, you will also see in the exhibits that I did not complete the paperwork or the requests. Exhibit A, travel authorization was presented by the White Earth RBC Executive Assistant and was signed off by Secretary/Treasurer Mason. Exhibit B, May, June, July two thousand seventeen (2017) mileage reimbursement was filled out by myself and signed off by the Executive Director. With the amount of travel occurring some months it is difficult to track and associate paperwork and rely on the support of our staff to make sure everything is filled out correctly. Had this been brought to my attention prior to what I'd brought it to yours, it would have been easily corrected as it is been now. Criminal activity typically requires - - requires malicious intent and is clearly it was not my intent to steal less than three hundred dollars (\$300) as I am being accused of. Exhibit C is a copy of the receipt information showing that I paid the money back on being mar - - made aware of the duplicate entry via negotiation of further travel payments. Exhibit B is a copy of my be - - my uh, two thousand seventeen (2017) year-end mileage budget showing I used up less than twenty-five percent (25%) of my annual budget,

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leaving seven thousand two hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$7,255) returned to the General Fund. Which is immensely different than other sitting RTC members. Violation of Article X, Section 2, Malfeasance in handling of Tribal affairs. Taking sixty-three thousand two hundred and seventy-seven (63,277) of General Fund monies when leaving office in two thousand fourteen (2014). I seconded the motion to rec - - to receive the employer's match of Social Security without any personal contribution and two hundred and forty (240) hours of PTA - - PTO knowing White Earth RTC is salaried and does not submit time cards or an hourly employee. I also 'voted to receive six (6) months of health insurance at no cost to him'. Which I did not expend. I immediately went back to work within the month. And that's - - that part is a - is a mistruth. And you will see in uh, in the uh, Article. The following Article. Response: Malfeasance and wrongdoing are misconduct especially by a public officer - - official - - or performance of an act that is now contrary to law. Under Exhibit E, White Earth RBC minutes, May twenty-seventh (27th), two thousand fourteen (2014), page two (2) of two (2). (pause) It shows that um, Scott Omlid provided information regarding the RTC PTO pay and gives an updated regarding employer's share for Social Security. Scott Omlid is our

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CFO. Social Security Deferred Compensation for Tribal Council was discussed. This will be Deferred Compensation. A Deferred Compensation account, not retired, and will be taxed at the time of payout. There was a question that was asked if it could be rolled over. Scott was going to follow up on it. Motion was made by Robert Durant to approve the RTC-owned funds set aside of the Deferred Compensation Social Security replacement for Erma, Irene, Kenneth, Terrence and Robert. Seconded by myself. Motion three-zero (3-0). Motion made by Robert to approve White Earth RTC PTO package of two hundred and forty (240) hours and six (6) months of health care. No cash payout. Seconded by myself. Motion carried. So it was a legal - - a legal vote amongst the Tribal Council. And uh, in all fairness, the sixty-three thousand dollars (\$63,000) was an accruement over six (6) months of - - or over six - - eight (8) years of employment where our RTC members were no longer able to pay into Social Security or FICA unemployment compensation." I'll go back and reread this here again, Article (sic) E, Meeting Minutes, page two (2) of two (2) article - - Exhibit E shows the decision for (inaudible) the Deferred Compensation for retiring on-going elected officials. In addition, legal representation as well as sitting

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Tribal Council members also. Reached out to officials at other MCT Bands and learned that there's already a precedence in place for Deferred Compensation retirement package with all other Minnesota Chippewa Tribes and RBCs." And this is a - - uh, all across the Nation that these things happen. And I got a form from Oneida showing that they're - - what they do. But uh, through our legal department, they um... they uh, prioritize things and showed us that these are allowable expenses. "Based on the facts that this decision is happening during a Constitutional legal meeting of White Earth RBC that prior preview and approval of legal had met an existing precedence of all - - of other MCT Bands and there was no (inaudible) malfeasance involved. Violation of Article X, Section 2, Malfeasance in handling of Tribal affairs. 'Acting ultra vires of his position and assuming authority that does not belong to the Chairman by refusing to call meeting - - to call meetings to conduct White Earth business. That's violating Article XII, Member Rights not bringing enrollment information to the TEC at - for White Earth, preventing potential members the right to vote, and/or the right to run for RBC.' My response: By definition "ultra vires" is beyond the scope of - - of legal power." And you take a look under Exhibit F. White Earth

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RBC Ordinance number I-65. (short pause) "The Chairman of the White Earth Tribal Council shall preside over all meetings of the White Earth Tribal Council except those considering charges brought against him pursuant to Article X of the Constitution. Act as Chief Executive Officer to administer the policies and instructions of the White Earth Tribal Council exercising general supervision of all other Tribal Officers and top supervisory Tribal employees. And to ensure that their respective duties are performed. To exercise powers vested exclusively in the White Earth Tribal Council". And by going under I-65 back into the Constitution and following I-65, this is - - this is allowable. Exhibit G, 'Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Article VI, Reservation Business Committee Bylaws, Section 1 and 2. RBC Committee shall by ordinance adopt bylaws of government duties of its officers and committee members and it's - - and it's meetings'. Duties and functions of all appointed - - appointed commit - committees, officers and employees of the Reservation Business Committee shall be clearly defined by Resolution of the Minnesota - - by the Reservation Business Committee. And we all swore - - we all swore under oath to uphold the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution and of the U.S.

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Constitution. So by going under the uh, Constitution and the
I-65 Bylaws, nothing more than opening the door to being
governed by our own Constitution and our I-65 Bylaws.
Exhibit K: December fifteenth (15th) letter from the Chairman
to the White Earth RBC. (pause) 'This letter is to inform you
that effective December fifteenth (15th) oh seventeen ('17), at
eight a.m. (8:00), all official business of the White Earth RBC
shall be conducted and conforming with the Ordinance
number I-65, revised. The duty and act and Bylaws of the
White Earth RBC and as required by Bylaws regular
regular meetings in the RBC shall be held on the first
Thursday of each month. Or, each quarter. March, June,
September and December. The laws Bylaws do not
authorize any further regular meetings at the RBC. Any
meetings beyond this mandatory regular meetings are
special meetings and any special meeting shall be
conducted and conforming with the ordinance I-65. Also,
special meetings may be initiated only by one of the
following methods: At any time by the Chairman upon the
request of at least three (3) RBC members or upon receipt of
a petition supported by the signat signatures of no less
than twenty percent (20%) of the resident eligible voters of
the Band. Ordinance number I-65 further limits the

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circumstances in which a special meeting may be requested.
Special meetings may be requested only if if a delay until
the next regular meeting would involve the loss of life,
benefits and property. The threshold for requesting the
Chairman to schedule a special meeting is high and the
Chairman will schedule a special meeting only if one of the
permitted reasons has been met in a request. Because
Ordinance I-65 mandates that the Chairman shall have
shall preside over all meetings of the RBC. Except those
meetings considering charges against him, the Chairman,
pursuant to Article X of the MCT Constitution may request for
a special meeting that does not involve Article X issues must
be presented to the Chairman. Ordinance I-65 authorizes
the Chairman alone to determine whether one of the limited
circumstances for scheduling a special meeting has has
been met. If the Chairman finds that a particular request for
a special meeting does not meet the threshold specified in
Article 2, Section 2, no special meeting will be held. Will be
scheduled. (pause) No special meeting of the RBC shall
take place unless the requirements of Ordinance number I-
65 have been met. And any RBC meeting may take the
take place with without complying with the requirements of
the ordinance will be subject to the participants of the

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removal provisions of Article X of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution. The prior RBC practice of holding special meetings virtually every week is not in conformity with Ordinance number I-65. And future special meetings will permit - - be permitted only in - - if the requirements of the Ordinance are met. It's my hope that the structured method of conducting the business of the White Earth Tribal government included in the duly enacted Bylaws will require us - - us to focus on the responsibilities to the people who have elected us to these positions. (extended pause) "Citing the MCT Constitution White Earth RBC ordinance above, you can see that I did not refuse to call (unintelligible) regular meetings as the accusations above clearly states. There has been no malfeasance, wrongdoing or misconduct. Nor have I acted ultra vires as Exhibits F, G clearly show my actions were following the Constitution and the Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and the White Earth Reservation. I would argue that my actions are just the opposite of malfeasance and ultra vires. Prior to my actions to stop special meetings from occurring frequently, we found ourselves in a situation where elected official - - officials were acting as a day-to-day managers with direct involvement in every program. Micromanagement. I found

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there were closed-door meetings happening where a
consensus of three (3) Tribal Council members were being
treated as a legal and binding decision-making body to our
Tribe. Multiple times each week without regard to approval
Tribe approval of Tribal budgets and stopping these
illegal meetings was held helped to elimin eliminate and
limit the the closed-door activities and provide more time
for entire Tribal Council to make a decision that shape our
future. Since December fifteenth (15th) notifica notification
from myself to the entire RBC, Exhibit K, White Earth RBC
has had had special meetings. Meetings requested on
December twenty-fifth (25 th) twenty-first (21 st)
requested but not held. And that included loss of life.
December twenty-ninth (29th) requested and not and held.
Those were the year-end signatures. February fifteenth
(15th) requested but not held to conduct necessary business.
The meetings on December twenty-first (21st) and fifteenth
(15 th) did not occur due to the lack of quorum. Exhibit M
shows the meeting request proposed, agendas and
conversations surrounding the meetings happening." We go
to Exhibit M. (pause) "This was a letter sent from Tara to the
Chairman and the committee. 'I'm requesting we discuss the
drug ep drug epidemic on this Wednesday's agenda. I

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would ask that this be an executive, not a live-streamed. 1				
want to talk about the alternate alternative actions we can				
take when dealing with this epidemic. I would like Joe				
Plumer, our legal; Mike LaRoque and Jeri Jasken available if				
it works with their schedules. Last week was bad and I'm				
proud to hear the response from our Harm Reduction				
committees but would like to see us do more. This will				
involve the (inaudible) of Tribal PD.' (pause) The following				
day she was unable to make it due to her kids being at home				
and a Christmas party. Also canceled her babysitter and the				
other two seated, our District uh, One and Two did not show.				
Myself, Umsy Tibbetts, Jerry Jasken, Mike LaRoque and uh,				
Joe Plumer were all in attendance of this meeting. That's				
I sent her a response back to her, 'the Executive Session is				
still on at nine forty-five (9:45) addressing the drug epidemic				
and loss of life. I called Fox and had him notify Mike				
LaRoque and Joe Plumer and Jeri.' Still no response until				
that evening. I have an attached letter from Chairman				
Tibbetts that we we elected RBC received today,				
December twentieth (20th) White Earth RBC official				
officials would no longer be meeting weekly. We will be				
going to quarterly meetings effectively this past December				
fifteenth (15th), the next regular schedule." So there were				

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meetings called. You know? The - - one of the biggest ones that we called was the loss of life. And due to a - - we had three (3) OD's in the same week where people lost their lives. And we had to get in and start talking about these things and getting things supported and getting our Harm Reduction Team, our - - our Behavioral Health Team, our PD and our Tribal lawyers moving ahead on this thing. As you can see in the meeting minutes, it was called and put on the agenda for nine forty-five (9:45). There was a no-show from three (3) of the Council members. (pause) "Violation, Article X, Section 2(b), Dereliction of - - or Neglect of Duty. Failing to address a grievance filed against a RBC representative without action is violation - - this violated Article XIII, the Rights of Members, Re - - Redress of Grievance. As you can see under H - - Exhibit H and Exhibit I. (pause) Tara asked what a grievance had been made - - been made on Eugene Umsy Tibbetts. Tara and Kathy did not know that there was a grievance on Eugene. On seven thirty-one seventeen (07-31-17), letter for grievance was submitted to Ken Fox. Ken then brought the letter to myself. Eugene read the letter for grievance to the RTC. Tara stated that the issues are now - - or 'how does the Council handle this grievance and what are the procedures that they need to

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follow?' And I responded by telling her that there is no - - no procedures for grievance against Tribal Council. There just hasn't - - hasn't been anything implemented or put together since - - since I've been in office. And long before that. So we did call in the Legal department. Had Joe Plumer come in. And um, made him privy to the issue here and uh, Joe's - - Joe's response was that no - - there is no grievance against the Tribal Council. They should follow a chain of command. Grievance was given to Ken Fox. The chain of command should've been followed up and distributed to all Council. Brief discussion on grie - - grievance procedures and process for the Tribal Council. Tara also stated that there's retaliation that the employee's afraid of - - that needs - - 'what needs to be addressed?' Eugene stated that he never initiated any retaliation. Kathy stated that we have standards within RBC and a policy should be put in place. And RBC should be accountable." Well, after that, discussion we told Joe Plumer to at least, you know, to work on a Code of Ethics for our - - our Tribal Council to follow. So the process is being worked on. I don't know where Joe is at with it. If he is moving forward with it. But he's so backlogged now that he hasn't really got a chance to get to it but we will - - we will come up with a - - at the bare minimum

a Code of Ethics. (pause) "Exhibit I, White Earth RBC 411 meeting minutes." That's what (inaudible)... (pause) 412 413 "Grievance. It was stated that there's not a policy in place regarding Tribal Council members." This is from Joe 414 415 Plumer's. "Tara stated that there needs to be something put into place for responding. Joe stated that other Reservations 416 have Code of Ethics in place. Joe suggested peacemaking. 417 Tara asked that Joe draft a letter for the Chairman to sign 418 regarding the incidents. We will work on getting meetings 419 set up between the parties. Joe will be present". That's the 420 421 last we heard from Joe. (laughter) 422 Mr. Tibbetts: He will - - he will follow through. Joe, I know he will. So it 423 wasn't like we didn't act on it. It was acted on as far as we 424 could take it. There's a process there that is being created 425 right now. And I don't know if any other RBC members or - -426 or RBC Bodies have grievance policies against them. As 427 elected officials. "Although the desired outcome of the 428 Secretary/Treasurer may not have been obtained, the 429 meeting minutes show that the issues was formally 430 recognized twice contrary to the accusations above. I 431 supported the drafting and implementing a Code of Ethics 432

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and a procedure. A procedure where both sides of the story

are clearly - - clearly present and - - however, will not act as a dictator making up any policies and rules as we go or abusing the authority of the Chair's position to manipulate our HR or Courts or our law enforcement." (short pause) "Violation, Article X, Section 2(b), Dereliction or Neglect of Duty. Failing to respond for clarification and direction to the RBC. Response is in Exhibit F, J and K."

"Dereliction by definition is intentional - - is an intentional abandonment. White Earth governing document Ordinance number I-65, revised, Exhibit F sets forth the process and schedule for any regular and special meetings. I re - - reiterate these provisions in this letter sent to the entire - - entire Tribal Council, Exhibit K. The accusations above accuse me of dereliction or neglect of duty for failing to respond for clarification. As Chairman, my role is to re - - not to interpret or revise any existing laws and ordinances as this letter requests in Exhibit J. Ordinance number I-65 has been in place since June of nineteen ninety-one (1991). The specifics were revisited in December fifteenth (15th), two thousand and seventeen (2017). Letter that was reviewed by the White Earth legal team and provided myself to the entire RBC. There is no dereliction or intentional

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abandonment by simply abiding by the laws that are currently in place. Therefore I do not have any authority to create new policy, process and forms to be enacted on immediately and form - - and formalized later, as the letter suggests. The opinion shared in the letter to me dated December twenty-eighth (28th) and signed by Steven Clark, Kathy Goodwin and Tara Mason, are just that. Opinions. Their own interpretation of our laws. Utilizing our laws to stabilize our government should not be labeled as "intentional abandonment" nor should it be characterized in a short-sighted or detrimental as suggested. My goal is to pres - - is to use the prescribed legal process - - processes that are in place to change the pattern and the behavior that has become the norm at White Earth. (pause) Violation, Article X, Section 2(e), Refusing to Comply with any Provisions of the Constitution or the Bylaws of the Tribe. One, violating the MCT Ordinance implementing Constitutional petit - petition in censure processes. Section 9 point 3 (9.3), documents. When a motion for censure refur - - refers to documents, those documents must be provided at the time the motion is made. November twenty-second (22nd), oh seventeen (17), myself submitted an additional package at a Special TEC meeting that were in addition to what was

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submitted at October Regular meeting - - TEC meeting. My response is Exhibit L, MCT organize - - Ordinance implementing Constitutional - - Constitutional petition and censure process. (pause) In my opinion, this accusation does not even meet the threshold of what is very specific. It specifically accuses me of Section 9.3. Exhibit L of the Ordinance states: When a motion for censure refers - refers to documents, those documents must be bro - - must be provided at the time of the motion. There nowhere in the Section 9.3 does it state that additional documents cannot be submitted. That only those referenced must be - - be provided at the time the motion is made. Ironically in the censorship accusation above, Mason refers Section 9.3. However she did not provide a copy of Section 9.3 when this -- the motion was made. Every proposed violation presented by Mason in the censorship documentation is missing. Information that is ref - - that is referenced. The first violation does not include the MCT Constitution. Which is referenced. The second violation is also referenced to the MCT Constitution. And I can go through each of them. I'll respond if the - - I will respond further with this document was submitted in error. I do choose to respond because I disagree not only with this specific claim but many of the

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procedural actions that occurred when the censorship meeting for Mason on eleven twenty-two seventeen (11-22-17). But I realize the TEC Body found itself in - - conducting business not in the common practice. I believe allowing this claim against myself would be frivolous. Regarding the specific claim, nowhere in Section 9.3 it stated that additional documents cannot be submitted. Only that those referenced must be pro - - provided at the time the motion is made. Section ten point three (10.3) of the same Ordinance, Exhibit L, states that the petitioner and the accused through the exchanged copies of the documents each intend to - intends to offer in support of their positions and written lists of each witnesses - - each intended to call. I believe this clarifies that additional documents that were submitted should have been allowed according to the Ordinance by the way of Section 9.3 and 10.3. One might argue that Section 10 hearings regarding the censorship process is not part of the Special TEC meeting and would only be a part of the RBC level hearing if a censorship was - - was passed by this Body and referred back to the Band. While I might agree with the statement, the precedent set at the TEC meeting in November Censorship Special meeting also includes - included aspects from Section 10 providing additional

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documents would be no difference than providing witnesses'			
estimony which would all be new information for for the			
Body to use to make the decision. Nowhere in Section 9			
does it state that witnesses may may be called. I believe			
hese there were multiple other procedural violations.			
short pause) I believe there were other multiple other			
procedural violations that are much more significant than the			
alse claim noted above against me to note to note them.			
The presiding official did not keep order multiple times.			
Order was lost with the irrelevant information being			
presented or unnecessary and unplanned individuals from			
he audience given the floor. Section 10.5 states that the			
Band Governing Body shall deliberate in the Executive			
Session since the TEC clearly mis (inaudible) in			
Constitutional language from both from the Censorship			
and the Special meeting with the censorship hearing.			
Exclusive sessions should have been used which may have			
ed to more deliberation and less pressure from the			
constituents in the general assembly. Outside these			
procedural variations I also feel the presiding officer led the			
- let the dis discussion with his own observations of			
nterpretations of the Constitution and that were not			
elevant. However voided very pointedly in favor of one side			

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of the conversation. Conclusion: Knowing this entire process is very time-consuming and expensive for much of us, the constituents we represent and also the rep - - the constituents that we represent, I am saddened that we have to spend so much time here on - - on White Earth's business. I truly appreciate each and of - - every one of your time today. I hope that I clearly explained my position on each of these pre - - proposed violations for censorship above. Based on the information presented, I ask for your vote to exonerate myself with the summary I presented charges of her censorship. If there are any other questions that you have for me, please take the time. I'd be happy to answer them. Terrance Tibbetts. White Earth Chairman, White Earth Reservation". And I got a list of exhibits there. Exhibits A, Travel Authorization; Exhibit B, Mileage Reimbursement; Exhibit C, Receipt Information for Mileage Return; D, Chairman's 2017 Travel Budget Summary; E, White Earth RBC meeting minutes; F, White Earth RBC Ordinance I-65; G, MCT Constitutional Article VI, RBC Bylaws, Sections 1 and 2. Exhibit H, White Earth RBC meeting minutes of August ninth (9th), two thousand seventeen (2017), pages three (3) of five (5). I, White Earth RBC meeting minutes September eighteenth (18th), oh

572		seventeen ('17), page five (5) of six (6). Exhibit J, December
573		twenty-eighth (28th) letter requesting clarification. K,
574		December fifteenth (15th), letter from the Chair to the RBC.
575		L, MCT Ordinance in implementing Constitution petition and
576		censure process. M, December twenty-first (21st), twenty-
577		nine and twenty-ninth (29th), February fifteenth (15th)
578		Special Meeting information. Again, chi miigwech for your
579		time.
580	President Dupuis:	Miigwech, Terry. Does the TEC members of the TEC,
581		have any questions or comments? For Terry himself? Or to
582		the the TEC or the general public?
583	Ms. Mason:	Mr. President? Um, can I uh can I say a few things?
584	President Dupuis:	1 I think at this time I think at this time for clarification
585		with the TEC members that each individual with the accused
586		will have the opportunity to speak at that point. I think what
587		we need to do here is ask the TEC if they have any
588		questions for Terry at this point. Um, that way we can move
589		forward with it. Um, because right now it's very interesting
590		what was written in here. And to go back to the last meeting
591		uh, some of the things that were done and and I want to
592		make a clarification before we move forward with this if that's
593		possible. We took this back to Fond du Lac and talked about
594		it quite a bit on this process that exists here. Some of the