

North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission
Dakota Magic Casino
16849 102nd Street SE
Hankinson ND 58041

January 12, 2022
11:00 a.m.
TEAMS Meeting/In Person

Call to Order

Attendees

Governor Doug Burgum, Chairwoman Janet Alkire, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; Chairman Mark Fox, Three Affiliated - MHA Nation; Commissioner Dr. Viola LaFontaine, Commissioner Erica Thunder, Commissioner Leander McDonald, Executive Director, Nathan Davis, North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission

Other Attendees

Reice Haase, Tammy Miller, Leslie Oliver, Kyle Iron Lightning, Marietta Kemmet, Brad Hawk, Colette Brown, Spirit Lake Nation; Cynthia Monteau, MHA Nation;

Welcome and Update from Governor Burgum and Director Davis

Prayer was shared by Elder Susie Amos, Sisseton Wahpeton.

Governor Burgum welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for their patience dealing with the technology issues. He expressed gratitude to the tribal leaders and members of the commission for their service and partnership in communicating the needs of all tribal members. Thanks to Chairman Hopkins and his team for hosting the event. Trooper Erin Quinn was introduced as the new cultural liaison officer with the ND Highway Patrol. Tammy Miller was introduced as the Chief Operating Officer from the Governor's office. Chairwoman Janet Alkire was thanked for hosting the interim legislative committee meeting at Fort Yates on January 11, 2022. Gratitude for resolution of the water issue spearheaded by Turtle Mountain, collaboration with the Department of Transportation at Spirit Lake and the signs being posted correctly for boundary lines, and the mutual aid agreement with MHA and the ND Highway Patrol.

Commissioner Davis welcomed and thanked those in attendance. Special thanks to Chairwoman Alkire for hosting the interim legislative committee meeting, and gratitude for the historical agreement between MHA and the ND Highway Patrol. Town hall meetings will be explored with Tribal Nations and law enforcement on the war on drugs; as a result of the recently completed special session thanks are given to Representative Ruth Buffalo for carrying the bill to create a missing persons database; the educational bill was also brought up during the special session and the support of economic development with MHA and Chairman Fox; a meeting with the Spirit Lake Nation with Department of Commerce resulted in Commissioner Lehman planning a visit. Gratitude for the work with the Department of Transportation and the successful collaboration on moving the signs for the boundaries of Spirit Lake Nation. Opportunities for collaboration with LifeSource on organ donation programs and with Department of Correction,

New Business

- a) Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library (Ed O'Keefe, CEO, Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation)
Mr. O'Keefe thanked the members of the commission and asked for their thoughts and comments on the Theodore Roosevelt statue that is under consideration to be displayed at the

new library located at Medora. He indicated they want to open a dialog and start a discussion on possible solutions. The equestrian statue is the issue discussion will center on and how, if any, solutions can be found. An advisory board is being formed to see if there is a way to recontextualize the statue and if it can be displayed or if it should be sent back to New York. The statue will be in storage until December 31, 2025, and if after that time, the TR Library Board has decided not to recontextualize the statue, it will be returned to the State of New York.

Melanie Moniz, MHA Nation, public gave testimony in opposition to displaying the statue.

- b) Resources for donor registration on Tribal IDs (Susan Mau Larson, Chief Strategy Officer, LifeSource)

Ms. Larson thanked members for giving her an opportunity to discuss the donor registration for increasing participation by the tribes. The program was outlined as to their purpose and service area encompassed by the program. (The PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.) Questions included if donations are used for donations and, not going to research and if donations could be designated for another Native. Ms. Larson indicated this is not possible, but a directed donation can be utilized.

Agency Updates

- a) Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation: Transformational Living Community (Dave Krabbenhoft, Director)

Mr. Krabbenhoft presented an overview of the workings of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Introduced were members of the leadership team. An information sheet was shared with the group (attached). DOCR is exploring the possibility of partnering with the Southcentral Foundation and using a grant from the Helmsley Foundation to implement the Family Wellness Warrior currently in place in Alaska, at the James River Correctional Center to try and reduce recidivism. Ileen Sylvester, Southcentral Foundation introduced those individuals who are currently involved in the program. A PowerPoint presentation was given on the program (attached).

- b) Department of Environmental Quality: (DEQ) Statewide Carbon Intensity Report (Dave Glatt, Director)

Mr. Glatt discussed the carbon capture program and the collaboration between the state and Tribal Nations. Funding for the low carbon future report was appropriated for DEQ by legislators with a delivery date of September 1, 2022. He shared various projects that could be used with carbon sequestration.

Tribal Leader Updates

Councilman Dallas Owens, Susie Amos, Mark Van Norman, Weston Quinn, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Update was given by Mr. Weston Quinn on the sports betting issue and looking into mobile sports betting and competing with companies currently able to conduct business on the reservation, but Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate is unable to go into the State of North Dakota. Councilwoman Amos shared that the greatest need is the health improvement of their people. Mr. Mark Van Norman discussed the public safety and justice program restored to build a 25-bed facility and hope to break ground in the spring and wind energy difficulties, police station needs.

Governor Burgum summarized the concerns highlighted by Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate representatives.

Collette Brown, Spirit Lake Representative

E-tab concerns with a drop of revenue of 45%, by 2020 it is at 60%. Used to have 420 full-time employees down to 202. More e-tab machines than slot machines in the state and next threat is on-line raffles for charities. Unlawful internet gambling prevents gambling on reservation boundaries. Mention was made about the DOCR's plans and partnering with that department. Tribes are a footnote in the ND Constitution and there is a drive to bring the tribes out of the footnotes. A constitutional change in 1960 removed the provisions of the original status of Indian Lands as homelands and relegated it to a footnote. A condition of Statehood was the provisions were to be enforced and not removed.

Issues shared by the representative from Spirit Lake were acknowledged and addressed by Governor Burgum.

Chairwoman Alkire, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Hosting the Tribal/State Committee was held on January 11, 2022. The meeting was very positive, and the issues discussed included water and medical issues. Standing Rock has not had a new hospital since 1962. Understanding, partnership, and vision are the three words that she feels would help in collaboration. Sometimes tribal members do not feel like they are citizens of North Dakota. There is a wish for a medical center, hospital, treatment center, wellness center and elder care. Municipal Rural Water Initiative is trying to hook up over 700 homes that do not have potable water. Roads continue and will continue to be an issue.

The concerns brought forth and shared by Chairwoman Alkire were summarized by Governor Burgum.

Chairman Fox, MHA

Chairman Fox thanked Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate for hosting, the governor for his involvement with Tribes. Concerns about the Teddy Roosevelt Library and the statue in question. Agrees that the dialogue is being sought between the State, the Library, and the Tribes. The differences in opinion on how to display the statue will vary between Tribal and non-Tribal people. The regular session and special session concerning drilling of the wells on the land was resolved. The alcohol agreement still needs to be addressed and solved. The lack of investment by the gain of alcohol sales on the reservations is a key issue. A bill passage to continue to negotiate an agreement is vital to solving the issue. E-tabs and expanding gaming in North Dakota is critical and damaging to the Tribes. The number of employed at Casino has gone from 450 to 180 jobs and competing with a \$1.8 billion dollar industry. Revenue is generated by energy. If the situation continues further economic poverty will continue to occur and then will necessitate the State stepping in to take care of the Citizens of North Dakota, i.e., Tribal members. The greenhouse project is continuing, and it will be the largest in North Dakota when completed. An inquiry from the treasurer's office to the AG in relationship to the Oil and Gas tax agreement and if the formula is correctly being applied. Medicare issue is another obstacle with being able to treat more at Good Road Recovery center, but the waiver has not been authorized by the State. Stranded land areas and the restrictions currently in place and access being denied. The commerce plan concept is promising. The Omicron variant has exploded on the reservation and is very concerning. The impact on economy and lives has been astronomical and tragic.

Governor Burgum responded and recapped the concerns presented by Chairman Fox.

The E-tabs machine industry is a big concern in the State of North Dakota the governor would like this issue as well as education be added to the next agenda.

Commission Member Updates:

Erica Thunder, At-large Commissioner

Commissioner Thunder thanked Sisseton Wahpeton for hosting and the various commissioners, tribal leaders, tribal citizens, Governor's office, and Indian Affairs Commission staff. She shared with the meeting a request from the United Nations Human Rights office of the High Commission committee on the elimination of discrimination against women for suggestions on this issue. They are particularly looking for recommendations against Indigenous women and girls and their rights, submissions are needed by January 31, 2022. Governor Burgum asked Commissioner Davis and Ms. Thunder to collaborate on these recommendations.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.