



SISSSETON-WAHPETON OYATE

Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

LAKE TRAVERSE RESERVATION

P.O. Box 825

Agency Village, South Dakota 57262

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Regular District Meeting Minutes Sunday October 22, 2023 – 1:00PM

BCD Executives Present:

Chairperson: Myrna Thompson
Vice Chairman: William ‘Billy’ Kohl
Treasurer: Danielle DeCoteau
Secretary: Geraldine ‘Geri’ Opsal

BCD SWO Tribal Councilperson: Susie Lydia Amos

District Members Present (71):

Quorum established by District Chairperson Myrna Thompson, meeting called to order at 1 PM.

Opening prayer given by Avina Hayes.

Motion#1: Made by Katy Hill to adopt agenda, 2nd by Lita German, ? Phoenix Ironheart, MVC.

Chairperson Myrna Thompson set ground rules to be respectful and that we need to keep order, if we disagree please be respectful and all of your voices are important. There are a lot of members here please allow people to finish sentence and raise your hands and you will be called upon in order noted. And we want to have a good meeting today. Allowed members to get plates as the food is ready and we will start the meeting in 15 minutes.

Danielle DeCoteau, Treasurers Report:

Danielle DeCoteau, Treasurer pulled up September and October on quick books, power point presentation. Showing an accurate update of activity worksheet for September and October for which she was here. Also has a breakdown of each category, shows balance of \$20,015.32. Going over reports. Sharing that the elder lady Sylvia Deutsch & her son, Jason Deutsch, Sisseton Courier, being threatened by Susie ‘Lydia’ Amos and her son, Joseph Herman Jr., and how terrified they were being threatened with the FBI showing up on their doorsteps. They said Suzy reported she’s on Tribal Council and that she had one year left & shared she had a heart problem. Audio was played of this. Danielle stated they are living in fear now and they did not deserve this as they were following their office rules. Danielle went over her cover reconciliation sheets, although some months had some overdrafts not all of them did as was shown on her sheets. Danielle reminded people that Lynn was the one in office at that time and made a double bank payment without a district motion in turn which caused a ripple effect. Danielle reported that all of what Suzy Amos tried to copy are financials that

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belong to Big Coulee District and are not the property of Suzy Amos as she and her son Joseph Herman Jr. stated. Danielle also reported there were NO voided checks as being reported on the statement, the Bank President Kelly Hanson confirmed this. Suzy Amos' Bank Reconciliation stated BCD had a \$41,806.51 overdraft in March; however, the Bank President confirmed it was -0-overdraft; Suzy Amos bank reconciliation showed that in April, BCD had a \$23,120.62 overdraft; however, the bank president confirmed it was \$7,527.04; Suzy Amos' bank reconciliation statement showed that in May, BCD had an overdraft of \$4,563.84, but bank president confirmed \$3,593.00, but stated both were only for a few days. This was the snowball effect from the unauthorized double phone payment made by Lynn Halbert. And also the Housing Development savings deposit being paid in bulk; one payment for \$44,000 and one for \$12,500 in February. Danielle DeCoteau felt that this was to discredit the new executives because these actions put them at a disadvantage from the beginning. Danielle showed the district copies of checks that were written by previous executives; no application or district approval for Home Repair for Suzy Amos' grandson but it was paid to a mortgage company of \$5,000 which is not in the home repair policy, one signature on check signed by Lynn for Suzy, Suzy writing as well as signing her own elderly checks (\$2500 & \$1500) and 3 college graduation checks written to Lynn Halbert, her daughter and Suzy Amos grandson in the amount of \$500 each, all signed by Lydia Rivera and Lynn Halbert, and again it's not in our education policy. Again, a check to Lydia Rivera to over \$671.00 for office supplies reimbursement, with one check signature, Lynn Halbert; \$1,020 to Susie Rivera for reimbursement for computer and chair, where is the receipt and where are they? Where are the motions? She said these should have all followed district policies. Danielle DeCoteau brought up the original motion where Susie requested \$30,000 for audit that was defeated in 2019 as you cannot audit yourself; and, she showed the checks as she got a second motion that got approved a month later, this time for \$25,000 for an audit. After DCA report to Tribal Council on October 3rd, Myrna requested Danielle (Sgt at Arms) to go with her to Susie's office (as a silent witness) to retrieve the USB with "audit" aka compilations for Big Coulee District, 2013 through 2017. Susie stated she had it at the August 31st regular district meeting; Motion #19 was made then that she return the USB/flashdrive as it is district property due to the district paid her \$25,000 for it. But Susie did not provide it the next day, September 1st as she stated she would. She did not give it to the District Chairperson when she went to get it and still hasn't provided it. Danielle asked for questions.

Lisa Jackson had a question and asked Danielle what you currently have on Quickbooks you will always have our applications and back up uploaded right? And Danielle stated yes, they are scanned and uploaded.

Myrna Thompson, Chairperson, stated that the deadline is November 15th – and she will do all she can to assist everyone. She asked Susie Amos where are all the documents; she admitted she has documents from 2018. She said she took this to the Feds and tried to get someone indicted but they did not take the case so she still has the records. Danielle DeCoteau asked her why does she feel the right to keep Big Coulee District documents? Susie stated she felt they didn't give her the time to do it. Lisa asked her when she would get it over here and Suzy stated she will get them to the district tomorrow (10/23/2023). Myrna stated that we were told that Susie Amos has the home repair binder. Danielle DeCoteau stated that past executives should have passed everything over in a good, organized, responsible way; not just say they were thrown in some totes somewhere. Lisa recalled helping hauling totes to the back room in the past but where are they?

Lisa Jackson said, there are several tracks here there is Personnel, Council Removal, Council and our District removal. Lisa stated the District has their own authority to handle this. LeeAnn Tallbear

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spoke and said in a perfect world it would work as such but we all know how Tribal politics work, how Brandon Adams was removed for being on social media and speaking up inappropriately and ended up resigning. LeeAnn feels that there should be criminal charges filed and especially for that mortgage payment. Suzy stated she can create another jump drive from her computer. She said there was one in a ziplock bag left here. Geri Opsal spoke and said that were only trying to do what is right, we are showing transparency, we are staying off Facebook, we are trying to get back on track and bring everything to light and we will try and help everyone find what they need for audit and we hope and recommend that you all keep copies, we want to have a great district and we are trying to do what is right, we are trying to get everything operational and follow all the motions that the district gives us, also remember God knows all, sees all, he knows when someone is lying. Let's be truthful and work together. Gerald German stated that Suzy Amos has no right keeping district documents at her home. Big Coulee District paid for these and they should be maintained here at the District center. We need to follow the Constitution and By Laws. LeeAnn Tallbear stated that we need to keep all of our business in the District, get work center pro in the budget, now that Danielle DeCoteau is uploading all documents and applications we should not go through this again. If Suzy Amos was using Quickbooks as they stated publicly at district meetings, then all the applications should be uploaded on the Quickbooks they were using. Avina Hayes spoke and said everyone needs to make copies, she asked why are they hiding them? It's not fair to the members, she stated that those that have everything need to bring them and work together, that Jesus sees what everyone is doing, that we need to work together and she reminded everyone they will be judged for their own wrongdoings. Katy Hill spoke and she wanted to remind everyone of Joe Herman and Suzy Amos' behavior and using district documents falsely. Katy Hill asked Suzy Amos and Joseph Herman why were they impersonating, getting district copies? Katy reminded that our Constitution states, "We the People"..... They need to be held accountable for this. And she wants to make a motion.

MOTION #2: Made by Katy Hill that Susie Amos, Councilperson resign or we will go through the recall petition process for removal according to the Constitution, 2nd by Dawn Godfrey, ? by Nolita Hill. 36 voted for 13 voted against, MVC.

Kristin Renville German stated that the resignation should be immediate or at least requested an answer by the end of the meeting. Victoria Dubois asked who will take council position, it was answered it will be an Interim, we will recommend to Tribal Council, then an election, if that's the case.

MOTION #3: Made by LeeAnn Tallbear upon completion of audit, any findings, to prosecute federally, 2nd by Dawn Godfrey, ? by Katy Hill, 33 for, 2 opposed, MVC

It was recommended to go to the Northern division, as Susie Amos has reported she is an informant for the Federal agents in SD.

MOTION # 4: made by Liz Hill to approve Treasurer's report, 2nd by Nadine Fredericks, ? by Nolita Hill, MVC.

Councilperson report by Susie Amos for the following dates:

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- October 3, 2023 Tribal Council Minutes
- October 4, 2023 Tribal Council Minutes

Reported the Tribe is giving the district unused ARPA funds of \$123,600.00 pending a plan of what it would be used for. Danielle asked if there are policies of how to be used, economic development? She responded yes, that just no membership disbursements. Ella had a question about the \$150,000 economic development. At this point LeeAnn Tallbear asked Danielle DeCoteau if we don't have a clean audit for one year and it's looking like we won't, that we will not be eligible for any grants that she could write for our District. Danielle DeCoteau said if they don't turn over the books, home repair, all applications, we won't have a clean audit. Gerald German had a question about hay being hauled by Langauger - asked Suzy about BIA leasing policy. Several district members can haul hay; we have Ronnie Nieland, his son Ronnie Jr. and himself, that all haul hay, that's 3 district members. In 2022, the tribe gave \$150,000 of all the business to a non-Indian. The district membership is never reported or notified to bid on. He asked our Councilperson Suzy Amos why? She didn't have an answer. The Tribe is also going to look to California to provide product for dispensaries. Suzy stated that when it was discussed she was on medical leave so she has no idea. He also asked how she would support our district members? Suzy, will you advocate for the district members? - she said no one will come to her office. Gerald German asked her to represent her district members and advocate for them. He said that Indian preference has always been a policy of the Tribe, he's wondering why it's not being followed. Susie Amos told Gerald that he should ask his brother (Tero Director), Gerald stated Tero Delray German is his cousin. LeeAnn Tallbear stated that the first words out of her (Susie's) mouth should have been, "Is there an Indian Business" first and foremost! She stated that the oath is not being followed, to always ask "is there an Indian company?" That should be the first and foremost question asked by our District representation. Danielle DeCoteau stated the Indian Preference should always be followed, and as a Council person she should always look out for the membership. She also stated that a district member said that he went to Susie Amos, our Councilperson, she did not speak on his behalf of an issue at DMC. This person that was an employee of DMC for 9 years and he ended up resigning. A council person should stand up or the voice of the people. Suzy responded and said that it was handled in executive meeting. Danielle stated the employee had already resigned by then as he did not get any help. Lisa Jackson asked Gerald if he contacted Tero, yes he called Delray and was asked how is TERO being enforced. Tribal Council doesn't follow Tero, it's oppression and not following Tribal law. CRP acres were given to the white people, they are given notice before the Indian. Gerald asked about a report from Ella about the CRP acres. Why are the Tribal members being notified a week after the white guys?

MOTION #5: by Lisa Jackson that Tribal Realty will identify an opening date to begin to receive CRP land to include hay & land after giving our tribal membership adequate opportunity to bid before they give the opening, 2nd by Gerald German, ? by Megan Cook, MVC

MOTION #6: made by Danielle DeCoteau for Council rescind the Motion #24 (10/23/23) giving Langauger the bid contract for hauling hay and bid it out to our Tribal members that haul hay. BCD has 3 district members that haul hay, 2nd by Nadine Fredericks ? by Dawn Godfrey, MVC.

MOTION #7: made by Lisa Jackson to amend the portion of the TERO ordinance 59-02-07 to change the language so the Tribal Government is a covered employer, to remove exemption from not following TERO LAW and that it requires Tribal Government follow Indian

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preference (TERO) in all contracts and services paid for with Tribal and ALL other government funds. Include that it goes through DCA in Motion to bring to Council, 2nd by Leanne Tallbear, ? by Wayne German, MVC

MOTION #8: Viva Dubois to approve Council person report, 2nd by Lisa Jackson ? Luann Phelps by MVC.

Chairperson report by Myrna Thompson:

Gave an updated District Operations report, also brought up the libel comments on FB and social media, that she will file a federal tort claim if this continues to happen. She reported that Danielle DeCoteau has received the password for our District Web page paid for to Ross Kahrahr and we will be utilizing that for District information and business.

Motion #9: by Carrie Godfrey to approve Regular District Meeting from September 28, 2023 and Executive Meeting Minutes October 3rd, 2023 and October 13, 2023, 2nd by Dawn Godfrey, ? by Samantha Dumarce, MVC.

Motion #10: by Lisa Jackson to approve Rochelle Kohl home repair in the amount of \$4,804.15 all her documents are attached made payable to contractor, 2nd by Liz Hill, 2nd by Carrie Godfrey, MVC.

Motion #11: to approve Chairpersons report by Lisa Jackson , 2nd by Dawn Godfrey , ? by Gerald German MVC.

District Secretary Report:

-0- Relinquishments

6 Youth Memberships:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Jaidyn Beaulieu Weston | 347-00024328 |
| 2. Madison Beaulieu Weston | 347-00024349 |
| 3. Dennis Duwayne Renville | 347-00025785 |
| 4. Bri Bartunek | 347-00023151 |
| 5. Ian Charles Owen | 347-00023016 |
| 6. Xaria Owen | 347-00023347 |

4 Adult Memberships:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Ethan Tiger | 347-00020011 |
| 2. Trey Bourelle | 347-00021779 |
| 3. Eliana Bernal Sabino | 347-00021960 |
| 4. Terese Frenier | 347-00020397 |

Motion #12: by Nadine Fredericks to approve Youth Memberships, 2nd by Dawn Godfrey, ? by Brenda Jackson, MVC.

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Motion #13: by Dustin Opsal to approve adult membership, 2nd by Dawn Godfrey, ? by Gerald German.

Motion #14: by Dawn Godfrey to include approved adult members for district day, waive the 6 month waiting period, 2nd by Carrie Godfrey, ? by Nolita Hill, MVC.

Motion #15: Made by Nolita Hill if your married and get in our district and divorce we relinquish you, 2nd by Lisa Jackson, ? by Carrie Godfrey, MOTION DEFEATED.

MOTION #16: made by Dawn Godfrey that age 55 and up get \$200.00 from district, 2nd by Viva Jo Dubois, ? by Nolita Hill, MVC.

MOTION #17: made by Viva Jo Dubois that all off-reservation, incarcerated , nursing home and hospitalized get the \$200 as well as follow the deadline of December 31, 2023, 2ND by Sheila Ironheart, ? by Luann Phelps, MVC.

MOTION #18: made by Avina Hayes to add on 19,600 for a total of 80,000 overall and use the 1,400 to purchase hats and gloves to be signed out by coordinator for families that need these items, 2nd by Gerald German , ? by Sheila Ironheart, MVC.

MOTION #19: made by Dawn Godfrey for Execs to borrow \$80,000 at DaCotah Bank for elderly and youth winter wear, 2nd by Nolita Hill, ? by Rhoda Ironheart Rodriguez., MVC.

Motion #20: made by Gerald German that the District is given 2 additional buffalo and with understanding that ITBC pay our locker fees for district members, 2nd by Lita German, ? by Nadine Fredericks.

Motion #21: made by Avina Hayes that if Robert Kohl can secure getting those 7 homes for our district that district members who own land can get them built or put on their land, 2nd by Ella Robertson, ? by Lita German, MVC.

Motion #22: made by John German to direct the Buffalo Farm/Natural Resources that excess live Buffalo be made available to Big Coulee District first then excess to Tatanka Fund, 2nd by Carrie Godfrey, ? by Dustin Opsal, MVC.

Motion #23: made by Lita German to appoint Dustin Opsal, to Reservation Election Board, 2nd by Carrie Godfrey, ? by Liz Hill, MVC. Dustin Opsal will serve as REB for BCD.

Ella Robertson gave Tax Report:

Ella stated when Suzy stated \$400,000 loss of tax revenue from North Dakota. Excise tax loss and tribe is having to pay taxes. Stated Commission needs to come up with new tax revenue stream, livestock, etc. SWO Code 53.

Motion #24: made by Nadine Fredericks to approve Tax Report, 2nd by Katy Hill, ? by Rita Finley, MVC.

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Lita German and Phoenix Ironheart / Youth Report:

Youth Party Saturday, October 28, 2023, 12-6pm.
Ages 3-5 , 6-12 , 13-18 categories.

Culture Night:
Fridays at 6pm.

Native culture, beading, sewing, cooking. Katie Hill volunteered to hold a sewing class. Katie Hill also stated that she wants it on record there will be NO stipends for those doing culture night including instructors and youth committee.

Chairperson asked Suzy Amos if she made her decision to resign; Susie Amos stated, 'No'.

MOTION #25: Motion to adjourn by Nadine Fredericks, 2nd by Sheila Ironheart, ? by Phoenix Ironheart, MVC.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:05PM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Geri Opsal, District Secretary

Boards/Committees/Commissions

Board, Committee or Commission	District Member	Present	Absent	Minutes
SWCC BOT	Mary Jo Keeble	X		
SWO Human Service Board	Mary Jo Keeble	X		
SWO Gaming Board	Jerry Eastman			
TZTS	Jerry Eastman			
SWO Pow Wow Committee	Ella Robertson	X		
SWO Natural Resources	Ella Robertson	X		
SWO Tax Commission	Ella Robertson	X		Report given
SWHA	Robert Kohl	X		Report given.
SWO Constitution Revision	Viva Jo Dubois	X		

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SWO Ordinance Workgroup	Michelle Brown			
SWO OEP	Brenda Jackson			
SWO THPO	Rosanne Bartunek	X		
SWO Personnel Committee	Dianne Desrosiers			
SWO Police Commission	Myrna Thompson	X		
Youth Board:	Lita G. & Phoenix I.	XX		
SWO Reservation Planning Commission	Geri Opsal	X		
SWO TERO	Billy Kohl	X		
BCD Elderly Board	Mary Higheagle/Mary Jo Keeble	X Mary Jo		

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**BIG COULEE DISTRICT
WELCOME
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
SUNDAY - OCTOBER 22TH, 2023 - 1PM
MEMBER SIGN IN ROSTER**

#71

1	Ari Opsal
2	epstill
3	Madue Medenecke
4	Samantha Wilkerson
5	Vera Heminger
6	Lita German
7	Amin Hayer
8	Richard Kopps
9	Devonna Goodteacher
10	Sylvester Goodteacher Jr.
11	Robert John Gold
12	Bob [unclear]
13	Daniel Maher
14	Danelle DeCoteau
15	Mary Thompson
16	Ken [unclear]
17	Caris Schoenrock
18	Katie Hill
19	Luth Hill
20	Suzie [unclear]

Big Coulee District
 Regular District Meeting ~ Member Sign In Roster
 SUNDAY OCTOBER 22, 2023 - 1PM

21	Dohta Hill
22	Jackie Low
23	Mercy Young
24	MM
25	LouAnn Phelps
26	Billy Kohl
27	Mijette Eastman
28	Gina Warrin
29	Scott Thompson
30	Brenda Jackson
31	Am Jackson
32	Colleen Cordell
33	Jim Grayson Sr
34	Wage Munder
35	Warrin Brennan Jr.
36	Glenn German Sr
37	Sheila Ironheart
38	Renita Goosen
39	April DeLoan
40	Ann
41	Cammy
42	Carrie Wy
43	Randy Godfrey
44	Phoenix Ironheart
45	Doreen Heminger
46	Dustin Opsal
47	Nicole Cadotte
48	John
49	Mike Presley
50	Joseph A. Roman Jr.

Big Coulee District

Regular District Meeting – Member Sign In Roster

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023 @ 1PM

51	Victoria Dubois
52	Doris Lewis
53	Robert Beer
54	Robert Robert
55	Edene Muman Owen
56	Hunter Running Hawk
57	Rolanda Quinn
58	Kristen German
59	Michael German
60	D. J. [unclear]
61	Robert [unclear]
62	Megan Celly
63	Mary Jo Keck
64	Samuel [unclear]
65	Theresa Freney
66	Xavier Ravenwal
67	Dustin Robertson
68	Rosanne Barkner
69	Rhoda Rodriguez
70	Angela Rodriguez
71	Ella Robertson
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