

Santee Sioux Nation

SSN Council Headquarters

Chairman: Alonzo Denney
Vice-Chairman: Kameron Runnels
Treasurer: David Henry
Secretary: Andrea McBride

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Regular Council Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2024

SSN Headquarters

10:00 am

1. Call to order – Chairman Denney called meeting to order at 10:13 am
2. Opening prayer – Sidney Tuttle
3. Roll Call
 - a. Present – Chairman Alonzo Denney, Vice-Chairman Kameron Runnels, Treasurer David Henry, Secretary Andrea McBride, Hobu Creek District Rep Byron Tuttle, Howe Creek District Rep Carrie Rouillard, Santee District Rep Linda Whipple, and Bazile Creek District Rep Sandy Henry. All council present, quorum established.
4. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Chairman asked for motion to approve agenda
 - i. Motion made by Dave Henry
 - ii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
5. Joyce Thomas – Head Start
 - a. Joyce presented three grant applications that need approval. Joyce provided copies of the grants, she also has a COLA application but didn't have a copy available. She also has a letter of request for a waiver for non-federal share for the cola and for the budget reduction and slot conversion.
 - b. After review and discussion of the Head Start Enrollment Reduction and Slot Conversion grant application, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the application
 - i. Motion made by Dave Henry to approve the annual grant application
 - ii. Motion seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
 - c. After review and discussion of the Annual grant application, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the application
 - i. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
 - ii. Seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
 - d. Chairman asked for a motion to approve the Head Start Cola application
 - i. Motion by Linda Whipple
 - ii. Seconded by Sandy Henry

- iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
 - e. Chairman asked for a motion to approve the letter requesting a waiver for the COLA and Enrollment Reduction and Slot Conversion Application.
 - i. Motion by Kameron Runnels
 - ii. Seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
 - f. Joyce mentioned that she contacted John Penn about helping with a facilities grant submission, however he will be retiring soon and did recommend Misty Frazier. Roger Trudell also recommended Misty Frazier. Joyce just wanted to let the council know that Head Start hired Misty to help with the grant submission.
- 6. Appointment of Bazile Creek Judicial Commission Member
 - a. Larry Thomas (chair of Bazile Creek District) said they received notice from election board that there was a vacant position. Larry said the only person who showed interest was Stuart Redwing.
 - b. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to appoint Stuart Redwing onto the Judicial Commission.
 - i. Motion made by Kameron.
 - ii. Motion seconded by Dave.
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting. Motion passes.
- 7. Appointment of Howe Creek Enrollment Board Member
 - a. Robyn Hamilton stated they have no notes or documents supporting Leeann being appointed as an enrollment board member from their district, but Eliza Thomas is interested in filling the spot. Alonzo read texts from Leeann who claims she has two years remaining. Apparently Leeann resigned a couple years ago. Joe stated he remembers she resigned from the election board at the time because she voted during that time. Sid said she resigned from election but recused herself from the enrollment. Alonzo said he talked to former council members and they don't remember. Kameron recalls at the time, another council member told her that she should step down from enrollment. Kameron assumed she did because Rosie James then stepped in. Linda recalls Roger telling Leeann that she should step down and Leeann nodded but there was nothing documented. Alonzo said that Rosie did fill that position. Alonzo said it is an eight year term, but they are appointed by council. There are no minutes appointing Leeann. Alonzo suggests that we re-vote today. Kameron said that part of the problem is that they are not following the ordinances. This would eliminate the confusion. Carrie suggests we add all of them to the ballot. Waylon said it would be a good idea, but each ordinance would have to be looked at and maybe changed. Sid said one of the worries from districts is that it might take the interest away from that district. Robyn said she agrees with Sid, each district knows who is involved, etc. Larry Thomas stated that it wouldn't be all that terrible to add them to the ballot, as each district would just have an extra ballot on their table. Joe asked if that's how it would be with the council, Sid said no because that is constitutional. Alonzo brought the conversation back to the topic. Alonzo said when we had a previous meeting with the election board, it was just

talked about how we can change specific ordinances. He had asked during this meeting who had appointed Leeann and there were questions on how she got back on that board. Chairman stated that he believes boards are appointing who they want and are violating the ordinances. Alonzo asks if we would like to vote today on who they would like to appoint for the enrollment board. Council took the appointment to a vote. Eliza had 6 votes and Leeann had 0 votes 1 not voting.

- b. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to appoint Eliza Thomas on to the Enrollment Board.
 - i. Motion made by Carrie.
 - ii. Motion seconded by Linda.
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting. Motion passes.
8. Vice Chairman's Report
 - a. Kameron talked about the opioid funds that are coming out. We did receive a first installment of \$860,000 and a \$13,000 installment. There are restrictions on it and it can't be used for everything, although the restrictions are pretty broad. We could use these funds for prevention type services or cultural activities. The culture activities are whatever the tribe thinks would help with prevention. This could be used for basically anything. Kameron has been trying to work with the nutrition programs to get to a food sovereignty program going. Kameron said he doesn't have a budget or anything but does want to bring one forward. He wants to start a SSN food sovereignty program with the opioid settlement, an example would be something like healing gardens for people who are in recovery, etc. He thinks we could do something like the gardens to extend the funds.

Kameron also gave a brief update on the DC trip. It was a successful trip. We met with Deb Fischer, the only congressional person who actually met with us. Sounds like she is going to put in a \$10 million earmark in for our water project. The pavement of the Lindy road was discussed with her as well and she was asked if she could put a letter of support. She said she will offer the support needed. All the other offices we met with said that they would offer support in our efforts as well.

Kameron went to a NE commission of Indian affairs meeting, he is the chairperson for this commission. He stated NE tribes are feeling that they are being left out and that the commission is not being fair, which Kameron don't think is all the way true. The tribes commissioners aren't actually giving their tribes the updates, etc. Judy Gaiashkibos has actually done a lot for us. Looking forward we have to come up with what we want to do with state legislation next year. This year was pretty successful, we had EPC bill passed, the water bill, and the use of tribal ID bill all passed.

Kameron is an alternate delegate for the stack committee, which is Joe Biden's advisory committee. He has been attending the meetings for the past two days. He spoke for the region and he talked about the syphilis epidemic. Santee has had one case so far, however the South Dakota tribes have had numerous cases. This may be a public health emergency for this region. Kameron stated a lot of information is given at these meetings.

Kameron also wanted to use this time to inform the community about the Solid Waste Project or the new Transfer Station. Kameron said we we've applied to the USDA Rural Development for \$1 million for assistance with the Solid Waste Project. We are still trying to complete the application and hopefully soon we can get the new solid waste facility constructed. It is desperately needed, especially with the location it is currently at. The new facility would cover the eye sore as you enter Santee. This project will be funded by HIS but the Tribe will be required to pay 10% of it; this is why we applied to USDA. The facility is designed to have large walls, bays for garbage trucks, a recycling area, and a wash or water area. We did not want to move the location because the water and electricity were already there. Kameron hopes that very soon we will have a better answer on when exactly the project will begin. If you have any questions, Kameron will try to answer the best he can.

9. Treasurer's report – Dave Henry

- a. F&M – we have nine accounts here. Dave wants to close out the Department of Revenue Reserve account, which is part of the tax commission account, and transfer this reserve account into the Department of Revenue account.
 - i. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to close the Department of Revenue Reserve account into the Department of Revenue account
 - ii. Motion made by Andrea McBride
 - iii. Motion seconded by Sandy Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting. Motion passes
- b. Farm Credit Services of America – Land loan for purchase of the Jessen property. The interest is really high on this loan. Carrie asked if we have to stay or if we are locked in with this bank for a certain period and Dave says not anymore. Dave Gillies is going to put something together to try to save us some money on this in regards to the interest rate, possibly extending the loan.
- c. First Dakota National Bank – we have 18 tribal accounts, 2 lines of credit, 1 commercial loan on the golf course, and 2 Ag loans. The total of these accounts \$21,527,184. 57. The loans total up to \$3,655,374.98. One of the operating line of credit is \$750,000. The prior council had put this together for land purchases. The golf course loan is due in August, we have to pay \$1.5 million.
- d. First Dakota Wealth and Trust – A resolution was done to move \$6 million from Interstate Bank to First Dakota Wealth and Trust. Todd Woods from First Dakota said they haven't seen anything come through yet. When Dave calls First Interstate to get an update on the \$6 million move, he gets no response. In the First Dakota Wealth and Trust we have 4 investment accounts and the ARPA account here. Our total for these accounts is \$7,126,083.21.
- e. Brunswick – the tribe has 32 accounts over there with a total of \$3,254,247.91. With 6 ag loans and 2 commercial loans, with the total of loans there being \$3,211,061.76. We have 2 CDs there with the total being \$399,155.36. Carrie asked if any of the accounts interest rates could be changed. Dave said that they can be revisited.

- f. Dave stated that ST Bar Ranch hasn't provided any reports in regards to assets, etc. The report provided is a two year report that was provided by Kelli Holz a couple years ago. Dave will have Maunka and Andrea Denny work on it in the system to get it updated.
- g. Dave stated that the Businesses – Lakeview, Grocery Store, and Feather Hill, and Tatanka has collected \$75,000 in taxes. Shop EZ has paid \$208,000 in state taxes right now , but once the land by Yankton goes into trust, this will go back to the tribe. Also, Dave stated that once Tax Commission is in place we will start charging more taxes for different things, an example would be a construction tax.
- h. Alonzo asked if any questions. Linda was asking about the lease account. Dave explained that the lease account is land that is leased out, it goes into this account. Danny asked if there are stipulations with the third party revenue. Alonzo stated that anything using these funds do have to be health related. Sid asked about a project before about funding for CNA positions. Dave advised him to go see Mike Henry. No further questions.

10. Resolutions

- a. 2024-31 Absolute relinquishment of Goldie Rose Star Comes Out (needed to be on record to ratify because of the change on votes)
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-31
 - ii. Motion made by Andrea McBride
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 6 voting in favor, 1 not voting, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- b. 2024-32 Absolute relinquishment of Skye James Star Comes Out (needed to be on record to ratify because of the change on votes)
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-32
 - ii. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 6 voting in favor, 1 not voting, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- c. 2024-33 Rescind absolute relinquishment of Goldie Rose Star Comes Out (after further discussion, the council agreed that the Santee Sioux Nation does not acknowledge 'absolute' relinquishments)
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-33
 - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
 - iii. Motion seconded by Sandy Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- d. 2024-34 Rescind absolute relinquishment of Skye James Star Comes Out (after further discussion, the council agreed that the Santee Sioux Nation does not acknowledge 'absolute' relinquishments)
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-34
 - ii. Motion made by Byron Tuttle
 - iii. Motion seconded by Sandy Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- e. 2024-35 The Housing Authority and director authorized to submit 2023 IHGB application and if successful the SSTA will administer the program on behalf of the tribe
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-35
 - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels

- iii. Motion seconded by Dave Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- f. 2024-36 FTA Buses and bus facilities grant
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-36
 - ii. Motion made by Byron Tuttle
 - iii. Motion seconded by Dave Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- g. 2024-37 Lease agreement with the Society of Care substance abuse program for billboard placement
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-37
 - ii. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
 - iii. Motion seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- h. Chairman Denney asked that we go into executive session to further discuss resolutions 2024-38 Conditional relinquishment of Goldie Rose Star Comes Out and resolution 2024-39 Conditional relinquishment of Skye James Star Comes out
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to go into executive session for further discussion
 - ii. Motion made by Dave Henry
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- i. After reconvening from executive session, Chairman Denney asked for a motion to table the resolutions 2024-38 and 2024-39 until all legal issues are resolved.
 - i. Motion made by Byron Tuttle
 - ii. Motion seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- j. 2024-40 Conditional relinquishment for Greg William Firethunder
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-40
 - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- k. After further review, Sandy noticed that Greg William Firethunder's packet was incomplete.
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to rescind resolution 2024-40 due to incomplete packet
 - ii. Motion made by Sandy Henry
 - iii. Motion seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- l. 2024-41 Approval for Tribal membership for Cekia Ye Bonnes, Wakiyan Bonnes, Iktomi Tokahey Hallum Wilson, Makoa Zai Torrez-Cline, Ash Jaye Wabasha
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-41
 - ii. Motion made by Sandy Henry
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes
- m. 2024-42 Conditional relinquishment of Nola Jeanne Roller
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-42
 - ii. Motion made by Byron Tuttle
 - iii. Motion seconded by Linda Whipple
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes

11. Approval of meeting minutes – April 10, 2024

- a. Minutes were given to the Council in advance so that they would have time to read through them and prepare any questions, comments, and/or changes they may have.
- b. Chairman Denney asked the council if there were any concerns, comments, or questions with April's minutes and there were none.
 - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes from April 10, 2024.
 - ii. Motion made by Linda Whipple
 - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes

12. Adjourn

- a. All agenda items have been addressed
 - i. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to adjourn at 1:30pm
 - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
 - iii. Motion seconded by David Henry
 - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, and Chairman not voting, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea McBride
Santee Sioux Nation Council Secretary

