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1. **Call to Order:** Chief GN called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
 2. **Roll Call:** Gabriel Nanok, 1st Chief (**Chief GN**) Charlotte Nayagak, Member (**CN**)
 Esther Friday, 2nd Chief (**EF**) Liana Pingayak, Member (**LP**)
 Marsha Nanok, Secretary (**MN**) John Pingayak, Elder/Advisor (**JP**)
 3. **Establishment of Quorum:** Established with 5 members present with 1 elder advisor.

Also present is: Cynthia Paniyak (**CP**), Environmental Department
Andrew Boyscout (**AB**), Tribal Court Administrator
Lee Symbol (**LS**), ICWA Specialist
Kerri Tall (**KT**), CVRF Liason
Charles Katasse (**CK**), BIA Lease Contractor (*via Google Meet*)
Marlee Goska (**MK**), Izembek (*via Google Meet*)
Mark Anaruk (**MA**), Native Connections Contractor (*via Google Meet*)
Gavin Atchak (**GA**), Acting Tribal Administrator (*via Google Meet*)
 4. **Approval of Agenda:** LP moved to approve the agenda with corrections and additions.
Seconded by CN, so approved.
 5. **Appointment of:**
 - a. **Parliamentary:** CN
 - b. **Sergeant of Arms:** LP
 6. **People to be Heard:**
 - a. **CVRF-** Kerri Tall- Verbal Report given by KT.
 7. **Department Reports:**
 - a. **Administration:** Verbal report given by CP. JP asked if the payments for subsistence be expedited. GA responded that the process is already completed with both the State and FEMA, that we are in queue for approval for Federal Disaster Relief.
 - b. **Environmental:** Verbal report given by CP.
 - c. **ICWA:** Verbal report given by LS.
 - d. **Finance:** Verbal report given by CP.
 - e. **Tribal Court:** Verbal report given by AB.
 8. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. **October 21, 2025- Regular Meeting:** EF moved to table the minutes with corrections. Seconded by CN, so tabled.
 - b. **December 16, 2025- Regular Meeting:** EF moved to table the minutes with deletions. Seconded by CN, so approved.
 9. **New Business:**
 - a. **BIA Facility Lease Contract- Charles Katasse:** Verbal introduction and mission given.
 - b. **Native Connections Contract- Mark Anaruk:** LP moved to table the contract until more information is presented. Seconded by CN, so tabled.



c. PMS Contract- Colleen Timmer: The board decided to meet with CT.

10. Executive Session: EF moved to enter executive session at 7:42pm. Seconded by CN, so entered. EF moved to exit executive session at 7:59pm. Seconded by CN, so moved.

a. Izembek

11. Correspondence:

a. AVCP- Unit 9 Representative

12. Comments/Announcements:

Water and Sewer Emergency

The City of Chevak Mayor and the Acting Tribal Administrator declared an emergency after repeated power outages caused the water and sewer plant to shut down for extended periods, resulting in frozen main lines, backups, flooding, and loss of water and sewer service throughout much of the community. These conditions created serious public health and safety concerns.

Through the emergency declaration, the State of Alaska is providing two super space heaters, two jetters, and a backup generator for the sewage building. At the time of the meeting, one heater and one jetter had arrived, with the remaining equipment expected. It was noted that trained personnel will also be required to operate and maintain the equipment in order to fully stabilize the system.

It was clarified that the City of Chevak owns and operates the water and sewer system. AOP/ARAB provides billing, parts, and supply management only. All official requests related to water and sewer must be directed to the Mayor and City Council.

Community Hardship and Health Concerns

The Council discussed widespread hardship caused by the water and sewer outages, cold weather, and high fuel and wood costs. Concerns were raised about increased illness in the community, including respiratory infections affecting children and elders. Additional health and safety issues included honey bucket disposal, dump site conditions, loose dogs, and sanitation risks.

Members discussed the need to identify programs and funding to provide emergency support, including fuel, wood, food, and subsistence resources. The possibility of hiring crews to assist elders and vulnerable households was also raised.

Program Awareness and Assistance

The Council emphasized the importance of increasing awareness of available assistance programs. Members noted that many community members are unaware of housing, emergency shelter, travel, and family support services available through organizations such as RuralCAP and Bay Haven. The Board encouraged staff to improve communication and education so community members can better access these benefits.



Housing program concerns were also discussed, including past issues with BIA housing funds being controlled by outside entities, limiting the Tribe's ability to renovate or replace homes in Chevak.

Meeting Procedures and Department Accountability

The Council discussed the need to improve meeting efficiency by establishing time limits for public comments, departmental reports, and agenda items. It was reiterated that all department heads are expected to attend Council meetings to provide updates and answer questions, as attendance has declined despite previous direction.

The Council also discussed sending a formal letter to the City of Chevak requesting that City staff attend Council meetings when water, sewer, or other City-related matters are on the agenda.

Use of Funds for Community Support

The Council requested that staff identify what funding is currently available to directly assist the community, including funding that could be used to hire workers or purchase items such as food boxes, fuel, and emergency supplies. Members also requested a report on damages to fish camps and other losses that have not yet been fully addressed.

Staff were asked to coordinate with finance personnel to present a funding options report at the next Council meeting.

AVCP and BIA Contracting

The Council discussed the Tribe's compacting relationship with AVCP and the possibility of returning to direct contracting with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). It was explained that ABCP was originally engaged to stabilize the Tribe during a period of financial and audit challenges.

Staff reported that in order for Chevak Traditional Council to leave AVCP and contract directly under BIA, the Tribe must complete three consecutive clean audits. Finance staff are working with Hartford to correct past deficiencies and bring the Tribe into compliance.

Concerns were raised regarding past use of funds and housing programs, and the Council requested greater transparency and accountability.

BIA Facilities Lease

The Council was informed that a BIA Facilities Lease could provide approximately \$60,000 per year for the use of Tribal facilities. A meeting will be scheduled with BIA (Charles) to explain lease terms, reimbursement options, and the process for transitioning away from ABCP. Council members will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding funding, audits, and future contracting.



Economic and Program Development

The Council discussed the importance of strengthening internal departments so more funding remains in Chevak to support local hiring and services. Board members expressed interest in establishing a Gaming Department and continuing to expand programs that directly benefit the community.

13. Future Meetings:

- a. **January 15, 2026 at 5:30pm-** Special Meeting- BIA Supplemental Grant
- b. **January 16, 2026 at 5:30pm-** Special Meeting- AVCP Typhoon Halong Grant
- c. **Domestic Relations- First Reading-** TBD
- d. **Domestic Relations- Second Reading-** TBD
- e. **Domestic Relations- Final Reading-** TBD
- f. **February 10, 2026-** Regular Meeting

14. Adjournment: EF moved to adjourn at 8:42. Seconded by MN, so ordered.